



Banks, whose officers pride themselves on their exemplary methods of doing business, are occasionally guilty of conduct that, to say the least, is peculiar. In the last two or three years there have been several instances where employees of the banks in this city have been detected in stealing—and sometimes the amount has not been small; but not in a single case did the bank officers turn the culprit over to the law. When it was possible the thief was made to disgorge. The affair was kept absolutely quiet; the employee was allowed to resign and go on his way, possibly to become a bigger rascal. Is it right for the banks thus to turn dishonest employees on to an innocent public? Why should bank officials any more than merchants or other business men, protect scamps who ought to be exposed in their true light?

The charity organization society is again under public consideration. Certain persons have criticized Mrs. McCormick and statements of alleged sufferers have been published in which it was said that Mrs. McCormick insulted and abused them. The society in turn has shown that these people who have been interviewed are professional beggars and unworthy of further help. The society, to date, has a good deal the best of it.

The following from the *World Herald* is an object lesson for Lincoln:

ACCOMPLISHED IN JANUARY

State Fair located at Omaha.
Armour decides to come to Omaha.
Harney Street Theater.
Crawford's Douglas Street Theater.
Omaha Cooperage Company Factory.
Mo. river improvement appropriation \$75,000.
Terminal Co. decides on extended improvements.

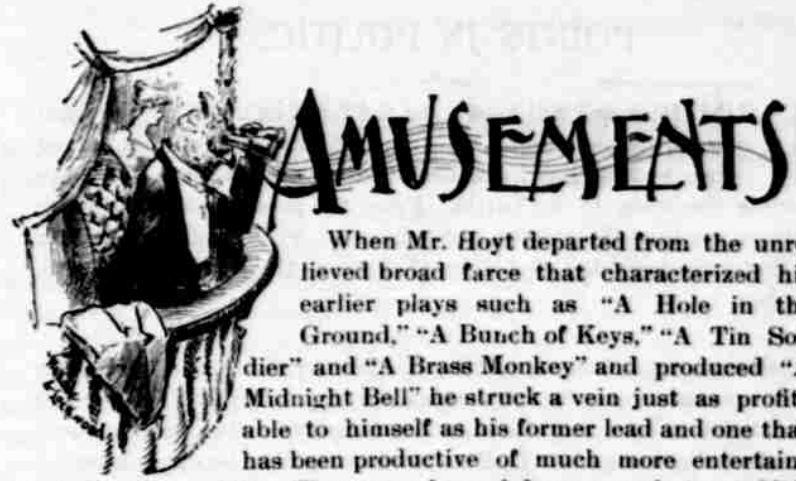
What will February Bring Us?

There is a picture of John M. Thurston in the February *Review of Reviews*, and one of W. J. Bryan in the current number of the *Arena*. The congressman writes about the president's currency plan in the *Arena*, and the editor thinks Mr. Bryan has a great future before him.

All of the newspapers in the city, with the exception of the *Journal*, opposed the Green & Van Duyn bond contract with great earnestness. Of course it was not to be expected that the *Journal* would say anything. The newspapers are often accused of corruption and with acting contrary to the best interests of the city. They are not all that they should be, but if the majority of citizens were as honest and alert and outspoken and active as the newspapers in the public interest, the city would be a great deal better governed than it now is. It was the newspapers, backed by the mayor, that prevented the bond robbery insofar as it has been prevented.

Lincoln continues to be a good place to rest. There is a kind of somnolence in the air. People fall asleep and do not wake up in years. Some of them never wake up. Ease and quiet are nowhere so easily obtained. The Lincoln rest cure is becoming famous. There are people who would like to see the town noted for something else; but they are nervous, fractious spirits, and to use a reasonable slang phrase, "they don't cut any ice."

There is a city election approaching. Who will nominate and



When Mr. Hoyt departed from the unrelieved broad farce that characterized his earlier plays such as "A Hole in the Ground," "A Bunch of Keys," "A Tin Soldier" and "A Brass Monkey" and produced "A Midnight Bell" he struck a vein just as profitable to himself as his former lead and one that has been productive of much more entertainment for the public. The spots of toned-down comedy in "A Midnight Bell" were a relief after the unremitting slam bang of "A Brass Monkey." "A Texas Steer" and other plays that have followed from Hoyt's pen partook of this new element, though heaven knows they are all noisy enough. "A Temperance Town," one of Hoyt's latest productions, which was given its first presentation in this city at the Lansing theater Wednesday night, is in keeping with Hoyt's more recent efforts. It has a semblance of a story to tell, and the characters do not slide down stairs on a piano or come through a hole in the ceiling. The play is rather hard on the prohibitionists, but that fact has not affected its popularity in the slightest degree. Mr. Hoyt never sends out a poor company. This one contains some competent people—in one or two instances they are quite up to the highest Hoyt standard.

The dark haired villain is not the only stage conventionality. Lincoln theater goers who have witnessed the recent delectable productions yclept society dramas or comedies, of which we have had a rather large dose, may have noticed that in every play there was a sweet girl with some evidences of intelligence who was in love with an idiot youth. Now young ladies with hearts to give away do, as we all know, some very strange things. But it is beyond comprehension that sensible young women should make themselves door mats to be walked on by such imbecile creatures as we have lately seen in "Men and Women," "The Girl I Left Behind Me," etc. These creatures are mere grotesque caricatures of humanity, and yet the *ingenue* is desperately enamored of him. If you saw "The Girl I Left Behind Me" you will at once realize the absurdity of these amatory idiots.

This is a time when novelties are popular. Why not take advantage of the desire on the part of the public for something new by reversing things? Have the youth clever and rational. But the object of his heart's desire make a girl who stands in the middle of the stage with mouth wide open and tongue sticking out. Have her face resemble a pumpkin with slits in it for mouth, eyes, etc. and have her as dumb as a clam. In fact, make of her a hopeless idiot at whose feet the intelligent young man worships with an adoration that knows no bounds. But probably this kind of thing wouldn't go very well after all. The public may prefer to see men do the idiot act. And the soft headed youth who is somebody's darling will stay in the procession along with the dark "complexioned" villain, the deserted wife in the long gray cloak, the benevolent uncle with mutton chop whiskers, and "ze Frenchman" with the goatee.

elect the ticket—the people or the wirepullers? If the people do not do it they should not squeal when city affairs are not conducted as they would have them.

The labor involved in studying and deciding upon the merits of a stock yards bill must be something appalling. The house committee on Miscellaneous Corporations has only two or three bills before it yet after five weeks has not yet been able to report on the stock yards bills in its hands.

It is said that the Grand Army will probably hold no state reunion this year on account of the hard times, but will leave the task of renewing patriotism and promoting the interests and social pleasures of the old soldiers to the county and district reunions.

The custom of each senator of appointing a pretty female clerk is not one which has a tendency to call out complimentary remarks either about the senators or their clerks. Many pretty, shell-like ears would burn if they could hear the flippant indelicacy of tone and tenor pervading the conversations about the senators and their clerks.