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THE MAILS.

C. & N. W. R. R., 6:30 a. m., 2:40 p. m
C. B. & Q. 6:30 a. m., 2:40 p. m.
C. R. I. & P. R. R., 6:30 a. m., 2:40 p. m.
O. & St. Joe 6:30 a. m.
S. City & P. 6:30 a. m.
U. P. R. R., 11:40 a. m.
O. & R. V. to Lincoln, 10 a. m.
B. & M. R. R., 8:40 a. m.
O. & N. W., 7:30 a. m.

OFFICE

C. & N. W. R. R., 11 a. m., 11 p. m.
C. B. & Q., 11 a. m., 9:30 p. m.
C. R. I. & P., 11 a. m., 11 p. m.
C. B. & St. Joe., 11 a.m., 11 p. m.
U. P. R. R., 4 p. m.
O. & R. V. from Lincoln, 12:10 p. m.
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do	8:15 a. m.	12:20 a. m.

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Last year an excursion sailed clear to the Pole
And suddenly dropped into what seemed like a hole
Where wonder of wonders they found a new land,
While fairy-like beings appeared on each hand.
There were mountains like ours, with more beautiful green,
And far brighter skies than ever were seen,
Birds with the hues of a rainbow were found,
While flowers of exquisite fragrance were growing around.
Not long were they left to wonder in doubt
A being soon came they had heard much about,
Twas Santa Claus' self and the story all say,
He looked like the pictures we see every day.
He drove up a team that looked very queer,
'Twas a team of grasshoppers instead of reindeer,
He rode in a shell instead of a sleigh,
But he took them on board and drove them away.
He showed them all over his wonderful realm,
And factories making goods for women and men
Farriers were working on late great and small,
To Bunce's they said they were sending them all.
Kris Kingle, the Glove maker, told them at once,
All our Gloves we are sending to Bunce,
Santa showed them suspenders and many things more.
Saying I also took these to friend Bunce's store.
Santa Claus then whispered a secret he'd tell,
As in Omaha every one knew Bunce well,
He therefore should send his goods to his care,
Knowing his friends will get their fair share.
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A CURIOUS TRADE.

GRAPPLING FOR VALUABLES—SOME OF THE THINGS THAT ARE BROUGHT TO THE SURFACE.

The New York Sun publishes the following interview: "Yes, sir. I'm a grappler and searcher for lost valuables, and though perhaps I shouldn't say it, no man about the harbor is as sure of finding a ring, watch, cane, body, billard table, piano, or anything else that lies at the bottom of the river, as I am. For why? Simply because I am the son of Henry Linesburg, who was for fifty years acknowledged to be the best wrecker, grappler and searcher in America. My father dug all the East river ferry slips; raised 36,000 bars of railroad iron that was sunk off Whitmore's stores; recovered no end of anchors that were supposed to be lost; made $50 an hour for twenty hours at a stretch by fishing up eighty-four iron plates, weighing 1400 pounds each, that were made for the first iron monitor by Delamater, and died lamented by many. He had an ancient head, he had—an ancient head. I'm his son."

Mr. Linesburg paused to get a light from the stove of his small shop in Tillary street, Brooklyn, where he was talking with the reporter, and then leaned back in his chair with the expression of a man who has thoroughly defined his social status and feels that it is unimpeachable. He is rather small, but sinewy and tough in appearance, and he speaks deliberately and quietly, and looks directly in the eye of a person when speaking. Not an old man by any means, but one whose life has been one of exposure and hard work from childhood.

"I've been in the profession of grappling since I was a wee kid under my father," he continued, "an' have been in the business myself for twenty years. You've heard of my skill. It ain't skill so much as 'tis knowledge. You may think it strange, but I know every hole, crevice, rock or notch in the bottom of the East river from Corlear's Hook to the Battery, an' along the Hudson to Spuyten Duyvil creek. If you drop a three cent piece overboard I'll find it for you, likewise an anchor."

"You must have brought some queer things to light in your time."

"Must I? True, I must. I have. A good many years ago Captain Jacobs, of the second precinct, notified me to come an' see him. 'Linesburg,' he sez, 'look for a stiff.' 'A mystery,' sez I. 'Ded mystery,' says he. I began next day at dawn, an' within three hours I found a coffee bag at the foot of Little street, Brooklyn. In the coffee bag was the right leg and thigh of a woman. She had been quartered, and I found one quarter. That is all. It's a mystery yet, and I have no more idea of it's solution than a babe unborn. Nor do I know how Captain Jacobs came by the information that made him set me on the search. The other three-quarters was never found. They must have been burned or buried, for they were nowhere in the harbor."

"Might——"

"No, they mightn't be in the harbor, for I looked. That settles it. My father (now dead) once found a box of complete burglar's tools in the New York slip of the Fulton Ferry, and you may take my word for it they were beautiful. I never saw a more elegant and finished kit in my life. The find created a big excitement among the police at the time, as it was hoped that it would lead to the conviction of a gang of burglars that crossed the ferry the night before. It didn't. It was only a mystery.

"I've picked up more women along the river than you can shake a stick at. Looking for a diamond ring that some lady dropped overboard, and find some lady that a ring had—or no—that won't twist exactly—but I've found an awful sight of females in this old harbor. They kinder take to the water, you know, and when I find one I tow it gently to a dock and tie it fast, and then notify a police. The police take her to the morgue, she is buried in Potter's Field, and there's an end to it. Lord! what books and books of mysteries."

"How do you find the smaller articles?"

"Several days ago a well-known merchant in Fulton street, Brooklyn, named Jewell, fell over the for'ard chain of a Catharine ferryboat. As he fell, his watch, which was a very valuable one, jumped from his pocket, the turquoise shell chain broke, and the watch rolled into the river. I went down to the slip in a rowboat and dropped a pair of tongs twenty-six feet long into a hole I happened to know near the end of the pier and fished up the watch, clapped it into sweet oil, and sent it back to its owner. The tongs are just like oyster grapplers, only finer, and I knew the tide swept all heavy articles into the hole when the ebb set in."

The Montezuma Valley.

The Durango (Col.) Southwest

While there is a great deal of arable land in the numerous river valleys of southwestern Colorado, the old home of the Aztecs, the above-named valley is the sole district whose acreage is sufficiently great to insure a large agricultural community. This valley, forty-five miles west of Durango, has about 100,000 acres of land, which can be brought under an irrigating ditch, the water being taken from the Dolores river.

Traces of occupation by a race that lived here in what is for America antiquity, in the form of ruined houses, broken pottery, ditches, etc., meet the enquirer at every turn. For many years past the former harvest fields of the Aztecs have been ranges for cattle, but recently the Aztec Canal company was incorporated, with 40,000 shares of stock, par value $25 per share, to convey water from the Dolores river, two miles above "Italian ranch," for mining, milling, and irrigating purposes. It is intended to throw a flume of pipe across Lost canon, and conduct the water of Lost canon creek and the Rio Dolores to the summit of the divide between the Dolores and the head of Montezuma valley. From thence three ditches will be taken northwest, southwest, and southeast, respectively, in order to accommodate all portions of the valley. The length of the main ditch will be about eight miles, and the height of the point of distribution above the valley about 1,300 feet.

Huge forests of cedar, pinon and pine adorn the valley proper from cold north winds, while in the central portion of the valley are huge coal strata South of this great valley is a gigantic area of farming land extending to the San Juan river, which can be made equally valuable if water is conducted on it from that stream. Montezuma valley and the adjoining territory comprises about 300,000 acres of land which can be made the garden and orchard of the state; for the altitude varies from 4,000 to 7,000 feet above the sea, snow seldom falls, and soon melts, and homes for half a million people can be had by irrigating. The San Juan and Dolores river will furnish an abundant supply of water during the months of April, May, June and July, as that is the period when the snows are disappearing from the mountain ranges, which bound the valley on the north and northeast.

The San Juan extension of the Denver & Rio Grande railway will pass through the great valley en route to strike the Utah Southern, a controlling interest in which has recently been brought by the directors of our plucky little narrow gauge.

Seated in sight of the eternal snows of the Sierras, but 8000 feet lower, this great valley will produce fruits, wine, hay and vegetables in abundance and thousands of happy homes will dot its undulating surface, when water, that source of vegetable life, shall bless the soil by its presence. Right here, let us ask why Colorado was not included in the list of states and territories named in the "Desert Land Act?" Is there any reason why Colorado should be excluded from the benefits of that act? Every one knows that irrigation is necessary here in order to produce a harvest, and we trust that Senators Teller and Hill will see to it that the residents of Colorado shall have the same advantages enjoyed by our neighbors.

IOWA BOILED DOWN.

A ladies art club has been organized at Kokuk.

Smallpox has broken out in Dayton, Webster county.

The doctors in Davenport charge fifty cents per arm for vaccinating.

The Greenfield schools have been compelled to suspend for want of coal.

Over 1000 postage stamps were sold in Marshalltown on St. Valentine's day.

Woodbine is talking of offering a bonus for the location of glucose works there.

The new distillery in Iowa City consumes or uses up 1,500 bushels of corn daily.

One gang of Clinton's new lumber mill will be ready for operation about April 15th.

There is considerable talk in Jefferson county of building a new court house at Fairfield.

The demand for land in Harrison county for farms this season is beyond all precedent.

The first undertaker's convention ever held in the west took place at Iowa City on the 23d.

A new oil factory in process of construction at Dubuque, will commence active operations in about four weeks.

In digging a well in Webster City, recently, the ground was found to be frozen to a depth of five and one-half feet.

Elkader is sorely afflicted with diphtheria, and many families are leaving the town to avoid exposing the children to the disease.

G. Casper, a somnambulist, fell down a stairway the other night in Des Moines while sleep-walking and injured himself quite badly.

It is contemplated to connect the Dubuque and Dakota railroad with the St. Paul system at Waudena, thus giving Dubuque the direct advantage of another line.

Burlington is enjoying the prospect of a busy building season, about to open. It is said that the contractors have all the orders they can tend to already.

The proposed Des Moines and St. Louis railroad to connect with the Wabash will be constructed as soon as the frost leaves the ground. Three routes have been proposed but none decided upon yet and the towns on each are in great suspense.

The National Butter, Cheese and Egg association will hold its annual convention in Cedar Rapids on the 21 prox. Representatives from all parts of the United States interested in the dairy business will be present.

A Chicago drummer snow bound at Sioux City, attempted to commit suicide in a bagnio at that place the other evening. He swallowed about half an ounce of laudanum, but the prompt administration of powerful emetics saved his life.

LeMars is agitated over a question involving religious teaching in the public schools. A child of a Mr. Leahy refused to enter the room where the school exercises of the day were opened with religious ceremony. The teacher expelled the child for refusing, and the school board sustained the teacher. Mr. Leahy means to call the attention of the courts to the affair.

An effort is being made to organize an association, the object of which is to celebrate the introduction of Odd Fellowship in America. The district will embrace Clinton, Jackson, Jones, Cedar and Linn counties, and perhaps others. A meeting will at once be called, to perfect the organization and to make arrangements for the celebration to come off next April.

Story of a Broken Heart.

New York World.

The officers of the seizure room in the custom house have been for several days awaiting the return of Mrs. Ray Gordon, a Philadelphia milliner, who arrived in this city by the steamer Britannic on Jan. 31. She had as baggage two trunks, two boxes, and two hand satchels, which were passed by Officer Hays, of the custom house squad, after a cursory examination. Inspector Voight noticed that her hand satchels were not "chalked," and insisted upon examining them. Finding in them a package of ribbon and another of lace, Volght sent the whole collection of baggage to the seizure-room of the custom house. Mrs. Gordon promised that she would come to the custom house in an hour's time, and went to Krueger's Hotel, No. 397 West street, to get, as she said, something to eat and a short rest. Here she said she wanted a room at once. She was shown a room, and frightened the porter by exclaiming: "Give me a pair of scissors—quick." He declared that he had no scissors, and she replied: "Well, give me anything that will cut." Afraid that she was about to commit suicide, he went down and informed the proprietor, who went up himself, and, being informed by the lady that she merely wished to rearrange her dress, lent her the scissors. In an hour Mrs. Gordon came down stairs, returned the scissors, and went to the custom-house. Here meantime packages of lace had been found sewn into the linings of dresses or hidden in old shoes. On one undergarment 200 yards of edging had been basted, and dresses were foided lengthwise with pieces of silk and velvet in the folds. The following seizures were made: 108 yards of silk, 162 yards of silk ribbon, 29 yards of silk lace, 49 yards of piece velvet, 12 yards of velvet embroidery, 155 yards of woolen dress goods, 473 yards of cotton edgings, 317 yards of cotton lace, 1 lace handkerchief, 1 lace shawl, 35 pieces of bead embroidery, 3½ yards of lace trimming, and 10 packages of artificial flowers. Mrs. Gordon did not return to the hotel in West street, and as she had carried of the key, Mr. Kreuger became anxious, and on Wednesday sent for the police of the Charles Street Precinct. Detectives Flanagan and Dilks opened and searched the room. Under the mattress of the bed they found 199½ yards of pink and brown silk, and red, black, bottle-green, pink, and blue silk of a very expensive kind, suitable for millinery work, the whole weighing thirty pounds. It was sewn together in such a way as to form an interior petticoat and the broad lace straps were yet attached which had passed over Mrs. Gordon's shoulders and suspended the smuggled goods. The goods were taken to the station house, and on the same evening an elderly man called at the hotel and asked to be shown to the room. He had the key, but on some pretext was put off. On the evening following, the 31 inst., Mrs Gordon herself came. On reaching the room she at once flung back the bed clothes, and, finding nothing, sank into a chair and cried, "This breaks my heart!"

It is supposed that she has gone to Philadelphia.

A Loud Call.

A man kicked up a big row on the the most fashionable street in Galveston. He was tried for disturbing the peace and quiet of a neighbor. The accused denied having been so vociferous, and testimony was heard on the subject. A gentleman in the neighborhood swore: "I should say he raised a row. My house was four blocks away, and he whooped so loud that my oldest daughter quit reading the testimony in the Christiancy divorce suit and went to the window to see what was the matter, so you can judge for yourself what a fuss he must have made."

"That settles it," said the recorder, and he found the man guilty, and ordered him to be put to work on the streets for disturbing the peace and quiet of the whole neighborhood.—[Galveston News.

"Send 'Em Right Up."

Detroit Free Press.

A citizen in the northern part of the city, who always orders his groceries early in the morning, so that they can go up by the first wagon out, but who has been disappointed a hundred times in receiving them before noon, made another order the other day, and said to the grocer:

"Will these groceries go right up?"

"Oh, yes, unless the wagon breaks down, or the horse is taken sick."

"Will they be at the house within an hour?"

"They certainly will, unless something happens to one of the clerks, or we have to turn in an alarm of fire, or there is a sudden death in the store."

"All right, though I haven't the least idea you will get them up there before noon."

Noon came and the groceries had not reached the house. At 1 o'clock the gentleman entered the store and asked:

"Did the wagon break down?"

"No."

"Horse taken sick, or anybody drop dead?"

"No."

"Have a fire here, or anything happen to a clerk?"

"No."

"Then why didn't my groceries go up."

"I will tell you," placidly replied the grocer. "You hadn't been gone ten minutes when I was drawn on a jury, and just as I was going out my head clerk announced that he was to be married at 10 o'clock. We sell No. 1 goods—try to fill all orders promptly—keep prices at the lowest notch, and once in a while we have to disappoint some one. Your order will go right up by the first wagon."

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