

STATE NEWS.

NEBRASKA MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS.

—Burglars have been operating with some success at Beatrice.

—Damaging prairie fires have recently visited Blaine county.

—The machinery is being placed in position in the Indianola paint factory.

—The churches of Nebraska City will hold Union Thanksgiving services.

—A. N. Patmore, of Webster county raised thirty tons of beets to feed his cattle.

—Bids for erection of the government postoffice at Fremont will soon be invited.

—Burglars made a raid at Syracuse the other night, entering several places of business.

—The first car of small grain ever sent out of Thomas county was shipped last week.

—Miss Ida Keller, a young girl living near Seward, was badly burned by a lamp falling on her.

—Talmage is doing a great deal of building and there is a scarcity of carpenters for the work.

—Very little threshing has yet been done in Red Willow county owing to the scarcity of machines.

—Three hundred and seventy-five carloads of grain have been shipped from Lyons the last year.

—The gunsmith establishment of T. P. Waiters, Beatrice, is out \$100 worth of goods at the hands of burglars.

—The postoffice at Darnall, Keya Paha county, has been discontinued. Mail will be sent to Spring View.

—James R. Smith, a clerk in a Lincoln clothing house, has mysteriously disappeared. No cause is known.

—In a railroad accident near Millard John Reed, an old engineer of the Union Pacific, was instantly killed.

—The only hotel in Concord is being moved to Dixon, the Lew town two miles north of the Short Line railroad.

—Diphtheria continues to spread in Nebraska City, and it is possible some of the schools may be ordered closed.

—A Kearney man complains because the coal dealers of that city mix soft coal with hard coal and sell it for hard.

—Henry Mueller of Columbus died last week from lock jaw. He was an Odd Fellow and also a member of the fire department.

—Charles F. Hammond, of Lincoln, was convicted of outraging his twelve-year-old daughter and sent to the penitentiary for life.

—A chemical laboratory is being fitted up in the high school building for the use of the pupils in the high school at Syracuse.

—The big elevator at Talmage is nearing completion. It is one of the best equipped elevators on the line of the Missouri Pacific.

—Charles Baxter, a ten-year-old Omaha boy, while trying to catch a ride on a motor car fell under the wheels and was killed.

—There has been shipped from Cozad up to October 23, 122 car loads and by the end of the month will aggregate almost 200 cars.

—The elevators at Wallace are taking in 3,500 bushels of wheat daily, and yet the farmers say that threshing is only fairly commenced.

—Rev. and Mrs. John Hewitt of Lincoln celebrated their silver wedding last week. Some very elegant presents were received.

—Rev. W. H. Bass, pastor of the Congregational church at Fremont, has received a call to an Omaha church at a salary of \$3,000 per year.

—Work at the Lyons brick yard is nearly closed for this season. Over 1,000,000 brick have been manufactured and shipped from the yards.

—John Cornelius and William Beuschaten were arrested at Kearney for shooting recklessly while out hunting

and wounding a farmer's boy and girl.

—The Nebraska Manufacturing company reports orders for cob pipes six weeks ahead, although they are now turning out pipes at the rate of 6,000 daily.

—Rev. Samuel Alexander, late pastor of the Trinity Methodist church of Omaha, has severed his connection with that denomination and joined the Presbyterians.

—Hog cholera is prevalent in Lancaster county. Mr. Alfred Peterson has lost over fifty head of fine shoats. The disease will probably exterminate his entire hog crop.

—A contractor who is building the new school houses in Beatrice has drawn \$2,500 and left for parts unknown. His bondsmen are in tribulations over the matter.

—The school board of Fremont has decided to make some arrangement for the surplus of scholars. Two or three buildings will be leased until the city provides its own structures.

—Blood poisoning caused by a wound to the hand from a piece of galvanized wire, resulted in the death of Ezra White, a well known business man of Crete. He was 72 years of age.

—The approach to the wagon bridge across the Beaver, west of Loretto, fell in last Sunday while a herd of cattle were crossing. Some of them fell into the water, but no serious damage resulted.

—Mrs. Catherine Harper, of Custer county, has commenced suit in a St. Louis court to get possession of an estate in that city valued at \$50,000, left by a man named Botts, recently deceased.

—Charles Golley, a saloonkeeper of Hartwell, has finished eleven months imprisonment for selling liquor without a license. When the town went "dry" he refused to discontinue the business.

—While Frank Morse, a Boyd county commissioner, was absent from his ranch, M. Schultz, Riddisberger and two sons, tore down and were removing his stables when discovered. They were arrested.

—A single packing firm in South Omaha killed and packed over 6,000 head of cattle last week, breaking all previous records. In addition to the cattle killed they also slaughtered 2,500 sheep.

—The graded school directory issued by State Superintendent Gandy shows the number of teachers employed in Nebraska's third class cities as follows: Beatrice 40, Grand Island 37, Nebraska City 33, Hastings 30, Fremont 30, Kearney 29, Plattsmouth 25, South Omaha 25.

—At the meeting of the Nebraska Congregationalists, held in Fremont, President Perry reported on the condition of Doane college. His report showed the number of students in the preparatory department to be fifty-one against sixty last year, total attendance in all departments, 185.

—Mrs. D. A. Booth of Fremont died suddenly at her home the other day during the absence of her family. She was found lying dead on the floor. A post mortem and inquest was held and a verdict rendered that death resulted from heart failure.

—A stranger driving a team of black horses and top buggy stopped at Millard Thomas' house, four miles south of York, one night last week, and asked to stay till morning. The request was granted and after putting the horses in the stable he went back to the house. A neighbor who had come over to Thomas for a calf, came in the house and asked for a rope, when the stranger grabbed his overcoat and hat and ran from the house and disappeared, leaving the outfit with Mr. Thomas. The team was undoubtedly stolen and is now in the hands of the sheriff in York.

Diffidence is, perhaps, quite as often the bid of vanity as of self depreciation.

SHE CARRIED THE CHALLENGE.

A New Orleans Mother's Share in a Duel That Didn't Come Off.

A party of old-timers were yesterday assembled in the clerk's office of the Civil District court, discussing the halcyon happenings of ante-bellum days, says the New Orleans Times-Democrat. The topic of discussion from a contrast of the gallantries and suavities of those days as contrasted with the present gradually drifted into the topic of dueling. Many good stories were told, when Judge B. put a climax to the reminiscent mood of the party by telling a story which turned the subject into a channel in which he stood pre-eminently alone.

"Have you ever heard of a duel between men in which a woman acted as one of the seconds?" queried the judge prefatorily.

There was a common shaking of heads and the judge continued:

"Well, I have. I knew all the parties intimately. It was this way. You see, Jacques De Bossuet had a bete noir in the shape of old Jules Maurin's son Anatole. Anatole was jealous of Jacques in more ways than one, and he took every opportunity of angering him. Never sufficiently to give Jacques a *casus belli*, but just enough to be very disagreeable. Jacques bore it as well as he could until finally one day, when Anatole had made himself more than usually disagreeable, Jacques saw sufficient cause to fight and forthwith challenged Anatole. Now the latter was a friend of the De Bossuet family and refused to fight on the plea that he had the greatest respect and admiration for Jacques' aged mother, and that if a fight came off it would kill that lady. Jacques hearing of this went to his old mother with tears in his eyes and said to her: 'Mother, you have been the cause of great sorrow to me. You are the unwilling object that stands between me and the satisfaction of my honor.' 'My gracious, my dear son, how can that be?' answered his mother. 'I would do anything for you,' Jacques explained. 'Do you want to fight this man?' said Mrs. DeBossuet. 'I do,' said Jacques. 'It is the desire of my life.' 'I will take the challenge myself,' answered the brave old lady starting up; 'write your challenge.'

"And she did. She took it with her own hands. She handed it to Anatole. He protested; she insisted. She taunted him with cowardice. He blanched. He saw that she was desperately in earnest, and he left the room with pale cheeks. That night he fled the city and never returned. Jacques was forever rid of his cowardly enemy. That is the only instance I have ever heard of in this city where a gentlewoman brought a challenge with her own hands."

THE ORIGIN OF TEA.

Growing From the Eyebrows of a Prince of India.

According to a Japanese legend, the origin of tea is thus traced: An Indian prince named Darma, of a holy and religious character, visited China in the year 516 A. D. for the purpose of instructing the celestials in the duties of religion. He led a most abstemious life and denied himself all rest or relaxation of body and mind. At last tired nature rebelled against such treatment, and thoroughly exhausted, the prince fell asleep. When he awoke he was so mortified at his weakness that in order to purge himself of what he considered an almost unpardonable sin, he cut off his eyebrows, considering them the instruments of his crime. They fell upon the ground and each individual hair became transformed into a shrub, which eventually came to be known by the name of tea.

Prior to that time it had been unknown, but Darma quickly discovered the agreeable property of its leaves, which endowed his mind with fresh powers to master abstruse religious principles and prevented sleep from closing his eyes at inopportune moments. He recommended its virtues to his disciples who in turn sang its praises to all whom they met. In a very short time its use became general throughout the celestial kingdom, from which it gradually extended to all parts of the earth.

Darma's memory is perpetuated in Chinese and Japanese drawings by the representation of a rude figure of an old man standing in the water, with a reed under his feet and one of his eyebrows sprouting out into a tea leaf.

In connection with the introduction of tea into England a very amusing story is told of a certain titled woman who had been presented with a pound of the finest green tea. She had no idea of its proper preparation and consequently boiled the entire quantity and served it up with melted butter as an accompaniment to a roast of beef. She was not pleased with its appearance and gravely informed her guests that although it had been cooked several hours it was simply impossible to make those foreign greens tender!—Detroit Free Press.

Where the Banana Grows.

In South America the banana is not thought of as a luxury. In fact, it takes the place of bread and meat and vegetables among a large part of the people. Every garden has its banana patch, just as we have our indispensable rows of potatoes. On the Isthmus of Panama the cars spin past hills covered from base to summit with the beautiful broad-leaved plants, their great clusters of fruit hanging from the stems just under the leaves. The banana plant looks something like an immense calla lily. Its stems are made up from the leaves, so sheathed or folded around each other and hardened as to sustain the weight of the mass of foliage above.

It will in some localities attain a height of twenty feet. When two years old it bears fruit and then dies, but a number of young shoots spring up from the base of the old stem, so it continually renews itself, and the farmer, who is usually an Indian or negro, has no trouble, except to keep the weeds and the old withered trunk cleared away from the growing plant. Even the trunk is of use, for it contains a fibre almost as soft as silk, which can be woven into the most exquisite muslins. Indeed some of the dainty India muslins are made of this very fibre.—Harper's Young People.

Childish Faith.

An example of childish faith, of a kind dull age wears away, was seen last summer. A little boy was sitting in the yard of an old country homestead; on either side of him sat a huge dog, patient and loving. The sun shined down scorchingly on the trio, and its rays were uncomfortable. Shading his eyes with his curved hand the child looked skyward and said, "Put in that sun, please." The sun shined brightly and the little fellow repeated softly, "Please put in that sun, man up in the sky, it hurts my head." Just then over the face of the blazing orb there sailed a white summer cloud, then another, and the yellow blaze turned suddenly to a hazy, restful gray. Turning to the dogs, the little boy, putting an arm around the neck of each, said, "Did you see the sun pulled in, Romeo and Chieftain? When you wants anything, if you is good, and you asks God for it, he gives it to you. The sun hurt my head and I asked him to put it in, and don't you see how he did reach out and put it in for me?" The dogs looked wise, leaned their heads lovingly towards the diminutive little theologian, and, whatever might have been their belief, kept an inscrutable silence.—Providence Journal.