

POSITION OF THE BOERS

Strong in Itself, But Surroundings Make It Easily Turned.

LATE RAINS MAKE WATER PLENTY

Dutch Lines Only Four Miles from the Main Position of Gen. Roberts' Army—Gen. White's Garrison Begins to Leave Ladysmith.

OSFONTEIN, Saturday, March 3.—The Boer position has now been fairly located as about four miles to the British front and extending about eight miles. The Boer right consists of a high, long mountain on the north side of the river, which General French shielded this morning.

Apparently the space between the mountain and the river has been entrenched. South of the river the Boer lines cover more ground. A few days ago their left rested on the high kopjes standing in the middle of the plain. They have now been extended two miles farther south, while six small kopjes stand in the plain between the center and the left and between the center and the river and form a ridge behind which the Boers move unseen. The weakness of the whole position, however, is that it can easily be turned in either direction. The country is flat and water abounds the recent rains having nearly filled all the dams.

LONDON, March 7.—The Boers in northern Cape Colony are in full retreat to the Orange Free State. The possession of Stormberg puts General Gatacre in railroad communication with General Clements at Soloesberg, for though the Boers partially wrecked the railroad it is understood that it can be quickly repaired, and thus the entrance of additional British troops into the Free State will be greatly facilitated.

From Osfontein, where Field Marshal Roberts is opposed by a good-sized body of Boers, there is still no news except reports of minor skirmishes.

The position gained by General Buller at Dordrecht is reported to be exceedingly strong. According to the Times correspondent the Boer numbers alone enabled them to retreat from Dordrecht, practically unhindered. He also reports a violation of the white flag by the Boers and that they deliberately fired at close range on a stretcher party.

General White's garrison has begun to leave Ladysmith and is arriving at the Mool river camp, where the troops will remain several days, after which they will go further south. They are emaciated and exhausted and say the road to Colenso presented scenes that exceed in horror those depicted in Dante's "Inferno." Dead men and animals are lying, mutilated and purified in the trenches formerly occupied by the Boers, and fill the air with a sickening stench. In cases where hurried burial had been attempted the rains have washed the earth away, and out of the earth stick ghastly legs and arms of dead burghers.

A dispatch from Osfontein says that according to the Boer prisoners another important British success will cause President Steyn to flee to Pretoria.

The president fleeing to Pretoria will leave a provisional government at Bloemfontein, which is likely to make peace overtures. Those Free States who do not wish for peace will help into the Transvaal and there will be a stand which most of the British military critics now point out will constitute the most difficult and deciding feature of the war. Late recent rains have afforded Lord Roberts good grass, and copious supplies have reached him. News of his advance is eagerly awaited.

RHODES SOURCE OF TROUBLE

Likely to Be a Stumbling Block in the Way of Imperialists.

LONDON, March 7.—The Morning Leader says: "Of one thing we may be certain: Cecil Rhodes, who has made up his mind that the annexation of the republics will not bring the lasting peace which our imperialists prophesy. Mr. Rhodes is so sure this will not happen that he is prepared to set to work at once on the fortifications of Kimberley."

"We incline to think that Mr. Rhodes is preparing for a possible armed conflict with the imperial faction which fought at the polls and in parliament until 1895. He is preparing to resist any attempt on our part to interfere actively in South African affairs, either in the interests of the Dutch elector, whose vote is already threatened, or the Kaffir laborer who seems doomed to virtual slavery."

"This is not, indeed, an extravagant hypothesis. Rhodes has consistently maintained a policy of 'Africa for the Afrikaner' and on his lips the latter word is synonymous with financier. He will be loyal to the English flag just so long as it continues to be a valuable commercial asset."

Must Not Cross the Line.

SAN FRANCISCO, March 7.—A special from Byson, Ariz., says: Rumors have reached here that a large body of Yaqui Indians are headed for the international line. Orders have been issued by General Merriam to the commanding officer at Fort Huachuaca to hold troops in readiness for immediate field service to be used to repel any attempt to cross the line into the United States.

Bill Against Duties on Paper.

WASHINGTON, March 7.—Representative De Vries of California has introduced a joint resolution for the repeal of duties on white or printing paper and the material from which it is made and directing the attorney general to proceed under the anti-trust law against those maintaining a monopoly in such paper and materials. The resolutions recite that the existing duty of \$6 per ton greatly aids in the maintenance of the monopoly; that the price of paper has been increased 60 per cent.

IMPRISONED MEN DOOMED

Between Eighty and Ninety Still in the Red Ash Mine.

CHARLESTON, W. Va., March 8.—Hope for the rescue alive of the eighty or ninety miners believed to be still entombed in the Red Ash mine, the scene of yesterday's explosion, has been practically abandoned.

A number of dead bodies were taken from the shaft after 11 o'clock last night, and, although the working party is unremitting in its efforts to reach the part of the workings still cut off it is feared they will be too late to save the entombed workmen.

HINTON, W. Va., March 8.—It is almost a certainty that forty-two lives were lost in yesterday's explosion at the Red Ash mine. The cause of the explosion is unknown, but is supposed to have been caused by a miner entering the unused room in the mines with an open lamp. There were forty-two men in the mine at the time of the explosion, and if it had occurred twenty minutes later the loss of life would have reached 150 or more.

The names of those supposed to have been in the mines at the time of the explosion who are as yet unaccounted for are: Sam Sheff, Pohn Clair, Andy Pritt, Quit Stewart, Ed "Fobbie," Robert Jones, Granville Holmes, Sam Shew, Junius Sanders, Bill Sledge, Vale Edgars, John Stone, Ed Harper, William Holmes, Ed Haverich, William Haverich, Alfred Collins, Tobe Collins, Charles Fouts, N. C. Ramsey, James Washington, Newville Douse, John Douse, Berry Tucker, Rolston Holmes, Charles Downey, Edward Downey, Ernest Long, Thomas Long, Carl Downey, Late Long. So far twenty-nine dead bodies have been recovered; only the following have been identified: B. B. Long, John Day, Joe Elliott, Mat Quarles, Sam Jackson, James Hackney, boss driver, and William Day.

The others who have been taken out could not be identified. The work of rescuing is being pushed as rapidly as possible, but the afterdamp being very strong, men can work but a few minutes at a time.

MINE VICTIMS ARE SEVENTY.

This the Conservative Estimate of Those Killed at Fire Creek.

FIRE CREEK, W. Va., March 8.—Rescuing parties continued working hard at Red Ash mine today in removing debris and securing the bodies of the victims of the explosion of yesterday.

Scenes of distress among those hunting their missing friends are undiminished. The work of the mine continues night and day and it is still impossible to give the exact number of the victims or to identify the bodies that have been recovered.

The most conservative estimates of those connected with the mine place the killed at seventy and there are others who insist that the number of victims will be found to be greater.

A report from the rescuers at the mine after 8 o'clock tonight was that thirty-four bodies had been removed, twenty-nine being dead and five seriously injured. Those rescued alive are:

Carl Downey, John L. Day, Joseph Elliott, John Kane and Harry Dawson. The surviving miners and others estimate that there are at least thirty-nine miners still entombed. General Manager Howell says there are only thirty-six still in the mine. The estimate of the latter would indicate that there were seventy killed and five injured, as it is conceded that all of those still in the mines are dead.

None of the mines in this district is yet working and thousands of people visited the scenes of the Red Ash disaster today. Some of the dead bodies have been shipped to the former homes of the victims. Many funerals were held here today and many will be held tomorrow.

BULLER ADDRESSES THE ARMY.

Praises the Courage and Tenacity of the Troops.

DURBAN, March 8.—General Buller, in a general order regarding the relief of Ladysmith, says: "Two forces during the last few months have striven to conquer this conspicuous garrison and splendid determination to maintain the honor of the queen and the country. The Ladysmith garrison for four months held that position against every attack with complete success and endured many privations with admirable fortitude. The relieving force had to force its way through an unknown country, across unfordable streams and on almost inaccessible heights, face a fully prepared, well armed and tenacious enemy. By the exhibition of the truest courage, courage that burns steadily beside flashing brilliantly, it accomplished its object and added a glorious page to the history of the country."

"Ladysmith was successfully held and relieved and the soldiers and soldiers, colonial and home born, who had done this were united by one desire and inspired by one patriotism." The order congratulates both forces on the martial qualities displayed and thanks them for their determined efforts. General Buller also sympathizes with the relatives and friends of the gallant comrades who have fallen.

House Mourns Another Loss.

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 8.—The house was in session but twenty-five minutes today, adjourning out of respect to the memory of the late Representative Harmer of Pennsylvania, "the father of the house," who died yesterday. The usual committee was appointed to attend the funeral.

More Soldiers Buried at Arlington.

WASHINGTON, March 8.—The remains of sixty-six soldiers who died in Cuba were buried at Arlington cemetery today with military honors. The bodies of about 500 soldiers who died in Cuba now rest in this historic spot. The officers at Fort Myer had charge of the services, which were very simple. A Protestant and a Catholic clergyman read the burial service, "taps" were sounded and a volley fired over the graves.

All problems are so simple to those who are not asked to solve them.

TRIAL MUST PROCEED

A Continuance for Dinsmore is Absolutely Refused.

THE CASE TO COME UP MARCH 12

Judge Sullivan Declines Even to Hear Argument for Postponement—Prisoner Taken Back to Kearney—Disastrous Wreck on a Union Pacific Branch—Miscellaneous Nebraska Matters.

LINCOLN, Neb., March 12.—Frank L. Dinsmore was taken before Judge Sullivan, and his attorney, Norris Brown, asked for permission to present arguments for a continuance of his case beyond next Monday. Judge Sullivan would not even allow the motion to be argued, but said at once: "I told you that this case would be tried on March 12, and March 12 it shall be tried."

It was not ten minutes from the time Dinsmore was taken from the cell to apply for a continuance until he was returned with a refusal. S. I. Funk, sheriff of Buffalo county, and Special Deputy Arnold then took the prisoner to the train, and he was conveyed back to Kearney, where he will be held until today. The case is attracting wide attention and many visitors will be in the city this week for the sole purpose of hearing the trial. Dinsmore took his refusal for a continuance very calmly.

Wreck of a Stock Train.

BEATRICE, Neb., March 12.—The special stock train on the Union Pacific which left Kansas City for Valparaiso, Neb., met with a serious accident at Rock Cut, seven miles southeast of Beatrice.

Thirteen cars left the track, two loaded stock cars were overturned and one lumber car was completely wrecked. The tops of the cars had to be torn off to let the cattle out. Many cattle were badly injured and several had to be killed. Four cars are complete wrecks on either side of the track. Rails were broken and bent and ties for 200 yards were ground into splinters.

The accident was caused by a broken flange on the head stock car, the wreck occurring in the center of the train. None of the train crew were hurt. Wrecking crews were sent from here and Marysville.

Program for the Unveiling.

COLUMBUS, Neb., March 12.—With favorable weather this city will entertain a very large crowd next Thursday, that being the date chosen for the unveiling exercises. The monument recently erected in Frankfort park to the memory of the soldiers of the civil war will be formally accepted by the committee and then officially turned over by Baker post to the city.

An extensive program has been arranged and all railroads have made a reduced rate for the occasion. Department Commander J. E. Evans, Governor Poynter, Adjutant General Barry and other distinguished visitors will be here and take part in the exercises. Grand Army posts from a number of towns in this part of the state will be here.

Smallpox Near Decatur.

DECATUR, Neb., March 12.—Dr. Ross of this city reports a case of smallpox nine miles northwest of here on the reservation. The name of the patient is Gallup. The doctors here were busy vaccinating many residents of Decatur.

Will Impound County Judge.

CULBERTSON, Neb., March 12.—Articles of impeachment were drawn to be filed against C. W. Shurtieff, county judge. The complaint consists of about twenty specifications, leading with his neglect to seal the ballots after the Brown-Crews contest.

Shade On Goes to Kentucky.

EWING, Neb., March 12.—Shade On, the 6-year-old pacing stallion, with a record of 2:10, and owned by Mr. J. N. Kay of Ewing, was shipped to Louisville, Ky., via the American Express company, March 8, at which place he is leased for the coming season. Mr. Kay accompanied him.

Will Raise Sugar Beets.

CULBERTSON, Neb., March 12.—Ed Ewel, representing the American Beet Sugar company of Grand Island, was in the city. The company has leased land to plant thirty acres of sugar beets for itself, while the farmers have contracted to plant over 100 acres.

Arrested for Stealing Coal.

AINSWORTH, Neb., March 12.—Detective Fred M. Hans of the Fremont, Elkhorn & Missouri Valley railroad brought in five more men from Long Pine for stealing from the railroad company's yards at Logn Pine. They were brought before Judge C. W. Potter and pleaded guilty. Frank Farrer was fined \$5 and costs, John Harris, \$5 and costs; Samuel Oliver, \$20; A. White, \$5; Z. Musfelt, \$10 and costs.

Don't get into the habit of relating your troubles to your relations.

His Arm Amputated.

NEMAHA, Neb., March 12.—The right arm of Johnson P. Hoover has been amputated on account of a cancer. Hoover is a prominent farmer and stock raiser.

To Sue for Shortage.

COLUMBUS, Neb., March 12.—The county supervisors have instructed the county attorney to proceed against the bondsmen of J. W. Lynch, the county treasurer, whose original shortage was \$30,000, but which was reduced to \$13,000 by Lynch.

FARMER TAKES STRYCHNINE.

Mixes the Deadly Poison With Whisky and Dies Singing.

LINWOOD, Neb., March 10.—James Koutulck, a Bohemian farmer living a few miles south of this place, committed suicide by drinking the contents of a bottle of whisky with which he had previously mixed a quantity of strychnine.

Koutulck came into town about 10 o'clock in the morning and spent some time among the stores settling a number of small bills. His wife came into town later and urged him to accompany her home. This he refused to do, and after some words she left him and went home alone.

Koutulck then went to the drug store and purchased a small bottle of strychnine, saying that he wanted it to kill rats with. He then bought a half pint of whisky at the saloon and went out to a shed near the railroad track, where he evidently mixed the two. Returning he met his brother-in-law in front of the saloon and offered him a drink out of the bottle, which he refused. He then drained the bottle, corked it and threw it away. In a few moments he fell to the sidewalk and was carried into the saloon. He lived about twenty minutes and was singing as he was dying.

Hot Springs Sanitarium.

OMAHA, Neb., March 10.—Captain H. E. Palmer, who has been in Washington for the past two weeks as the representative of the national Grand Army of the Republic in the interests of a national sanitarium at Hot Springs, S. D., has returned home for a few days.

"The bill is now in elegant shape," Captain Palmer says. "It has been unanimously recommended by the house committee, and will be taken up by that body in a week or ten days. There is now every reason to believe that it will pass the house. I'm success in the senate is assured because two bills of the same character have before this passed the senate, and its members are now only waiting for the house bill. Pettigrew and all of the other western senators are preparing to take it and make an effort to push it through the senate on the same day it passes the house."

Telephone Rate Case.

LINCOLN, Neb., March 10.—The Yelzer telephone rate case has been set for hearing before the State Board of Transportation at Omaha April 12. As the action of the district court of Lancaster county in refusing to restrain the board from fixing or regulating these rates has twice been affirmed by the supreme court it is not probable that there will be any further delay in the hearing unless the telephone company carries the case into the federal court. The Yelzer case is similar to the railroad rate cases, which have been considered by the board during the last few weeks and involves practically the same question of law, and as the Board of Transportation has been restrained by Judge Munger from reducing railroad freight rates there is a possibility that the telephone company may apply for a similar injunction.

Disposition of Wakelin's Property.

NEBRASKA CITY, Neb., March 10. The will of Wilson Wakelin, the farmer who murdered his wife and then committed suicide at his home near Brock on the night of February 25, was offered for probate in the county court here. The will was dated April 28, 1898, and was witnessed by Charles Horn and E. C. Yont of Brock. By its terms his son, Ira C. Wakelin, and daughter, Mrs. Clara Huston, were each given eighty acres of land and were to share equally in the balance of the property, after \$500, his bequest to his wife, was paid.

Capital City Notes.

The First State Bank of Hemingford, with a capital of \$5,000 has filed articles of incorporation with the state banking board.

Captain Hardigan of Fairbury has been detailed by Adjutant General Barry to muster in company C of the First regiment, Nebraska National guard, at Beatrice.

Negotiations are in progress for the sale of the Lincoln Gas company to eastern capitalists. The price offered is 40 cents on the dollar for shares of stock. The company is capitalized at \$1,000,000, and bonded for \$300,000.

Vote Down the Proposition.

GRAND ISLAND, Neb., March 10.—The people of this city and county voted upon the proposition to levy a special tax of 5 mills for the purpose of erecting a court house. Only 500 votes out of a total of 1,400 in the city, were cast, the country vote coming out strong, however, and being against the proposition almost unanimously. In the city the proposition carried almost two to one, but the vote being small the majority was overcome by one or two townships.

Burglars Still Enjoy Liberty.

YORK, Neb., March 10.—The bloodhounds brought here from Aurora failed to trace the burglars who robbed Harry Hopkins' store. The burglars broke a window in the rear of the store and stole \$25 in money and an English sovereign over 100 years old and a gold watch. The hounds traced the burglars to the mill pond, near the ice house, and there lost the trail.

Dinsmore Trial Is Set.

LINCOLN, Neb., March 10.—Dinsmore, the alleged murderer of his wife and Laue at Odessa last December, was brought to this city from Kearney, the district court being in session here, in order that his attorneys might file a motion for a continuance. The motion was filed by his senior counsel, Norris Brown, and at once overruled by Judge Sullivan. The case was set for trial next Monday. Dinsmore was returned to the Buffalo county jail, to remain until that time.

THERE'LL BE NO GATE

The Application of Yelzer of Omaha to Be Turned Down.

PAYMENT OF INSURANCE SHORTAGE

A Number of Companies Send in Remittances—State Treasurer Issues a Call for General Fund Warrants—Miscellaneous Nebraska Matters.

LINCOLN, Neb., March 8.—The secretaries of the State Board of Transportation recommended dismissal of the application of John O. Yelzer of Omaha asking for an order compelling the Burlington railroad to place a gate in the fence between its depot and that of the Union Pacific in Omaha. The secretaries assert that a gate in the fence between these two depots would greatly endanger the life of passengers and other people who might take advantage of the short cut.

Several more payments on the insurance shortage were made by insurance companies, bringing the total received up to date to \$3,200. Among the remittances received yesterday was one for \$58 from the Williamsburg City and Fire Insurance company of New York. This company asked the auditor to explain why the claims of the state were not presented to the insurance companies at the time the shortage was discovered. Several requests for similar information have been received at the auditor's office, most of them coming from companies that do not understand the complications which led up to the final decision of the supreme court.

State Treasurer Meserve has issued a call for general fund warrants, registered from 54,370 to 54,770 inclusive, payable March 13. The total amounts to \$42,000.

He Wanted Railroad Tickets.

PLATTSMOUTH, Neb., March 8.—George S. Lee, a temporary night operator for the Burlington & Missouri, at Louisville, decamped, taking with him tickets to the value of \$550. On the train from Omaha for Kansas City, while en route to Plattsburgh a young man tried to ride on a ticket good from Pacific Junction to Kansas City, made out at Louisville. Conductor Lantz would not take it. He was suspicious and at Plattsburgh wired the agent at Louisville, who said the ticket was stolen. He got an officer and searched the train, but the bird had flown. He was seen going southward. Sheriff Wheeler boarded the Missouri Pacific afternoon train and caught him getting on a train at Union with a ticket for Auburn. On searching him he found twenty-four round trip tickets between important cities in this country and as far as Toronto. He also had an Adams Express company money order for \$25, payable to C. M. White at Kansas City, enclosed with a letter signed by C. B. Turner to White. He was easily identified, when captured, he broke down, cried and confessed.

Bank Building Burns.

INDIANOLA, Neb., March 8.—The State bank building was completely destroyed by fire. The loss of the bank is fully covered by insurance, and it will rebuild immediately. The loss will not interfere with the business of the bank. The fire started in the Reporter's office in the bank building. The bank and fixtures are nearly a total loss. Dr. McKechnie's loss is \$600, insurance \$200; Reporter loss \$870, insurance \$500.

Commissioners' Action Disliked.

CULBERTSON, Neb., March 8.—The impeachment and unseating of W. A. Stewart, county clerk of this county, by the Board of County Commissioners of Hitchcock county have met with a protest by a mass meeting of citizens held at Culbertson. About 300 attended the meeting and resolutions were passed denouncing the action of the commissioners and calling upon the district judge to immediately call a session of the court for the hearing of the impeachment.

Falls Heir to a Fortune.

NEBRASKA CITY, Neb., March 8.—Maurice Baumgarten received the news that by the death of his mother in Denmark that he had fallen heir to 100,000 crowns. He will leave at once for the old country to claim his fortune. He has been a resident of this city for years, being a poor man had to labor very hard to make both ends meet. This fortune will enable him to live very comfortably in his old home.

George Ray Gets Ten Years.

SOUTH AUBURN, Neb., March 8.—George Ray, whose trial for the murder of Frank Cheesman came to an end yesterday, when the defendant withdrew his plea of not guilty and pleaded guilty to manslaughter, was sentenced this morning by Judge Stull to ten years in the penitentiary. He was immediately taken to Lincoln by Sheriff Cole.

Signing Indians for Buffalo Bill.

CHADRON, Neb., March 8.—William Liddard, known all over this region as "Rattlesnake Pete," who is Buffalo Bill's right hand man in north Nebraska, is working among the Sioux Indians filling the Indian delegation to accompany Cody's Wild West show to the Paris exposition. He has consent from the government and is selecting both civilized and blanket Indians.

Omaha Plant Left Out.

CHICAGO, Ill., March 8.—Incorporation papers for the consolidation of Armour & Co.'s interests into one corporation are expected to be filed with the secretary of state at Springfield tomorrow. The plans for this move have been under way for the last month. All the branches of Armour will be included in the deal, barring the Omaha and Kansas City packing houses and the wheat branch of the company. The last figures given out by those interested in the consolidation stated that the capital of the company would be \$20,000,000.

WATERING THE LAND

HOW IRRIGATION IS PROGRESSING IN IDAHO.

Heterogeneous Arid Regions Being Rapidly Transformed Into Gardens—Farmers' Societies in Many Instances Own the Irrigating Works.

(Boise, Idaho, Letter.)

Most of the people who farm in the rainfall regions suppose that the irrigation of land is a complicated process and that the art of doing it can only be acquired after years of experience, whereas, as a matter of fact, it is about the easiest and most simple work the western farmer has to do. In most cases the children attend to it under the direction of their parents, and any boy of 10 or 12 can do a man's work when it comes to irrigation.

The western farmer is wholly indifferent as to rainfall. He doesn't depend upon it in the least. The water that interests him is that which flows down into the valley from the melting snows in the mountain ranges.

These waters he diverts into great canals which run along the rim of the valley about the irrigable lands and are tapped at stated intervals by what are called "laterals" or sub-ditches which flow from farm to farm and out of which the farmer takes the water for his fields. In some cases the waters of these mountain streams are acquired by the community of farmers along their course, each one holding as many shares of stock in the co-operative canal scheme as he owns acres of land, and being entitled to so many inches of water for every acre of his ownership. This is the usual plan. But when the construction of the main canal, owing to engineering difficulties, is too expensive a piece of business for the farmer to afford, irrigation companies undertake the work and build the canal into portions of the country where large areas of land are to be reclaimed.

These irrigation companies are "common carriers" of water and furnish it for a nominal price per acre per annum to the farmer. Sometimes these irrigation companies own large tracts under their ditch which they sell in small farms with the water right, to settlers at a nominal price per acre. In other instances they do not own land at all, leaving that to be acquired by the settler under the various acts of congress.

Perhaps no portion of the Union is now making such active progress in irrigation development, or is receiving so large a quota of immigrants as southern Idaho. There are millions of unoccupied acres in that state which only await settlement to become as productive as the lands upon the Nile. Efforts are being put forth by the state authorities to bring the advantages of these lands to the notice of the eastern farmer, and the several railroads of the state are engaged in the work.

Perhaps the easiest and the best way to acquire information is from the General Passenger Agent of the Oregon Short Line at Salt Lake City, from whom conservatively prepared pamphlets descriptive of irrigation methods and containing reliable information about the various localities now open for settlement, are being mailed free.

The time is certainly not far distant when the unoccupied public domain of Idaho will be entirely taken up, a condition which will be most unfortunate to those who delay taking advantage of the rare opportunities now offered.

Household Bookkeeping.

A prominent Eastern manufacturer, with a \$10,000 a year family on his hands, undertook to establish a system of bookkeeping in his home. He bought a gilt edged, kid covered account book and all that went with it. He explained single entry bookkeeping to his wife, and she agreed to keep the accounts as directed. There were only two entries in the book when the husband banished it. They were: "Received \$250 from M—" "and spent it all."

Shoo, Fly!

Street fakery are selling models of house flies so natural that, when they are fastened on a necktie, the impulse of the friend of the man wearing the fly is to brush it off. Then the fly wearer laughs, and—that is the joke.

Municipal Bath Houses.

Under a state law the voters of New York cities may direct the municipal authorities to erect a public bathhouse. Buffalo provided one in 1897 at a cost of \$14,800. It was used last year by 81,793 persons, and its running expenses cost the city \$2,370.

The Sympathetic Queen.

Rev. Arthur Robins, chaplain in ordinary to Queen Victoria, says of the queen: "Nothing could be more touching than the personal concern her majesty has in the condition of every member of her household. Every home of every retainer has something in evidence of the sovereign's sympathy. Not the humblest servant can be sick or sorry without her solicitude finding some expression of commission suitable to each individual case, and many is the time that I have seen the royal lady in her own carriage making her own inquiries at some humble sufferer's door."

"Uncle John" Should Have It.

John Campbell, of Warren, O., a first cousin of the president and familiarly referred to as "Uncle John," is a candidate for postmaster at Warren. He is the proprietor of a famous eating house and is said to bear a remarkably close resemblance to the president. His father was a brother of the president's mother.

Runs His Elevator for Fun.

William B. Bradbury, the millionaire hotel owner of San Francisco, amuses himself for an hour or more every day by running the elevator in his hotel.