A pompous person applied to the elder Benner for a job as editorial writer. "What are your qualifications?" asked the editor. "I know all the literary men of England," replied the applicant. "H'm, h'm," said Bennett, "you must know Dickens, then?" "I was a reporter with Dickens." "And Thackeray?" "I helped Thackeray with his 'Book of Snobs.'" "And Tennyson?" "I have broken many a pipe with Tennyson." "And George Eliot?" "I roomed with him."

Absence is a tonic for love only when men and women love with all their heart and soul. When they do not, the ancient proverb is still true: "Far from the eyes, far from the heart."

If a man is satisfied with one meal a day he can afford to write poetry.

Self-made men generally act as though they were proud of their job.

Few men can argue about religion and keep cool.

One way to dodge the divorce courts is to stay single.

W. N. U., Omaha. No. 16—1904

Kites as Scapegoats.

Everybody knows the fondness of the adult Chinese for kite flying. The Korean, however puts this pastime to a use altogether novel. When the time of good resolutions comes around at the new year the Korean writes on a kite all his faults, "Evil disposition, impatience, bad words, street fights," etc. "It was so dark," says one American residing in Korea, relating such an instance, that no kite could be seen, but when he had run the string out to its full length he cut it and let it go, imagining that so he had rid himself of his enemies and could begin the new year with new courage."

A California senator, who recently returned to his home from a European tour, has been telling a story of his adventures which redounds to the credit of the London bus conductor. On a very rainy day, the senator got into an omnibus. Very soon he noticed that drops of water were pattering down upon his head from the roof. At that moment the conductor entered to collect the fares. "What's the matter with the roof?" said the damp senator; "does it do this always?" "No, sir," replied the sensible conductor; "only when it rains."

Prophet Joseph Smith, of the Mormon church, says that for a man to live with but one wife, is as bad as to be an infidel, as polygamy was commanded by God direct. If a man has a wife, and she objects direct to a second, or a third, she will be destroyed. Now will the woman be good?

Death is one thing that never fails to come to the man who waits.

Some men talk and talk, and never seem to get relief.

It is the interest of every member of the STATE FARMER'S MUTUAL INSURANCE CO. to help it along. The Company belongs to the members. The officers are their servants. Each member is only liable for his share of losses and expenses, according to the amount of insurance he carries.

Members are assessed at the end of two years, after the insurance was first written upon all their policies for the time insured, and assessment follows every two years.

We have paid our members over $60,000 in losses. Cannot you help some of your neighbors to its benefits?

B. R. STOUFFER, Sec'y.,
South Omaha, Nebr.

A woman's idea of mutual pleasure is to spend the money her husband earns by the sweat of his brow.

When a man reaches the betting stage he is at the end of his argument.

"Sardou represents a distinct type of the drama which he originated," said a pupil in Brander Matthews' dramatic literature class at Columbia university. "What description of that type do you offer?" asked Professor Matthews. "Theatrical plays closely packed with interest mark the Sardine drama," replied the young man, promptly and earnestly. "Young man," laughed the professor, "with a can opener you may yet evolve the great American play."

At an "at home" a young man came in and made his way to the hostess, greeting her and apologizing for his lateness. "Awfully glad to see you, Mr. Blank," said the hostess; "so good of you to come. But where is your brother?" "I am commissioned to tender his regrets. You see, we are so busy just now that is is impossible for both of us to get away, so we tossed up to see which of us should come." "How nice! Such an original idea. And you won?" "No," said the young man, absently, "I lost."

The war in the far east has resulted in torpedo hats, a new spring style following the interest in the east. Heavens, what if interest in the Reed Smoot case results in a fashion of plural wives.

NEBRASKA STATE NEWS

LOOK TO GOOD INSURANCE.

Complaints Pouring in from Nebraska Policy Holders.

LINCOLN—Complaints from Nebraska policy holders have been pouring into the office of Deputy Auditor Pierce at a lively rate during the last few days and as a result he has declared war on wildcat concerns. These are companies not authorized to do business in the state. They solicit policies by mail and their tempting offers have led many farmers to "bite."

Mr. Pierce has notified the public in a statement that the Mercantile Fire Insurance company of Chicago, which has been flooding the state with circulars, is not authorized to do business in Nebraska. The American Underwriters of Chicago is in the same shape; also R. A. Potter & Co. of Chicago, and the Union Fire of Chicago. None of these companies are authorized to solicit in Nebraska or Illinois. The following other companies are not authorized to do business in this state: Security Fire of Chicago and the Firemen's Fire of Chicago.

Policies in "wildcat" companies are void in Nebraska, but a policy in an unauthorized insurance company, which has complied with the provisions of the insurance brokerage section of the laws, may be recovered on. None of the companies named have complied with either the insurance or brokerage sections of the law, consequently their policies are void under the statute, which reads as follows:

"All fire insurance policies issued to residents of this state or upon property situated in whole or in part in this state by companies, corporations, associations, partnerships or persons who have not complied with the laws of the state, unless procured under and by the provisions of this act, are hereby declared void."

WIFE DESERTER SENTENCED.

Hunter Gets Six Months in the Penitentiary.

NEBRASKA CITY—John L. Hunter, who was arrested and brought back here from Carbon, Ia., charged with wife desertion, was taken before Judge Jessen and pleaded guilty. He could not give bond for the support of his wife and children, so he was sentenced to the penitentiary for six months. This is the first conviction in this county for this crime, although it is the second case that has been in the courts here.

The county assessor has returned nearly all of the schedules to his deputies in the country precincts to be corrected and the value of live stock raised.

Promised to Be Good.

DAKOTA CITY—Upon promise to the court that he would provide for his wife and family and be a good and true husband, the case against William Salisbury in Judge Eimers' court was continued for thirty days and Salisbury was released from custody on his own recognizance in the sum of $200. Salisbury was arrested and placed in jail on complaint of his wife that he had failed to maintain and support herself and their children and that he had wilfully abandoned them.

Sustained the Demurrer.

LINCOLN—The district court has sustained the demurrers of the state in the Boyd county land cases. The attorneys for the settlers immediately asked leave to file amended petitions, and this was granted. Attorney General Prout has returned from Boyd county. The cases now go over to the next session.

THIEVES ON PASSENGER TRAIN.

Relieve Discharged Soldiers of Eighty Dollars and Decamp.

NEBRASKA CITY—H. A. Jennings was robbed of $80 near this city on the Missouri Pacific passenger due here at 12:40. Jennings and two other men were in a game of cards and when they drew near this city one of the men covered Jennings with a gun while the other relieved him of $80. The man with the gun kept Jennings covered till the other was safely off the train and then he, too, took to the woods. Jennings stopped off and reported the matter to the authorities, but so far the police have been unable to find the robbers.

Big Fire Crackers Barred.

GRAND ISLAND—At the meeting of the city council an ordinance prohibiting the sale of fire crackers of greater dimensions than three inches in length and half an inch in diameter the sale of dynamite canes or other dynamite exploding contrivances, and of blank cartridge pistols, was passed on its first reading.

Carl Markow Drowned.

LINCOLN—Word has been received by the Lincoln relatives that Carl Markow, second mate of a trans-Pacific ocean merchantman, was drowned in the harbor of San Francisco. Few details of the accident have as yet been learned. Mr. Markow was well known in Lincoln, having visited in this city at several different times. Two brothers and two sisters of the drowned man are residents of this place. Mr. Markow had expected to visited his Lincoln relatives during this spring.

Buried Like White Child.

RUSHVILLE—The little 10-months-old baby of Luther Standing Bear, the interpreter, died here, and Rushville witnessed an Indian funeral. The little mite, who was born last year in England, was arrayed in pink and reposed in a beautiful white casket, obtained from the local undertakers. The remains were laid in the Fairview cemetery, Rev. Niken of the United Presbyterian church conducting the service. The procession numbered several conveyances and sixty braves in uniform.

THE STATE IN BRIEF.

Farmers about Waverly have decided to build an elevator.

Fairfield changed from dry to wet at the recent election.

If deputy assessors in Lancaster county do not list property at full cash value they will lose their jobs.

W. J. Willeford's residence at Tobias was destroyed by fire. The loss was about $1,200, partially covered by insurance.

The contract has been let on the new system of water works which will be constructed in Spencer, and work will begin immediately.

The State Board of Public Lands and Buildings a few days ago awarded the contract for the erection of the hospital at Milford to H. T. Ward of Tecumseh, for $18,690.

A two-headed sheep is the latest acquisition to the museum of freakish animals in northern Nebraska. It came to Norfolk from Emerick and is being prepared for mounting.

Detail plans of the normal school to be erected at Kearney are on exhibition at the office of State Superintendent Fowler. Bids for the erection of the school will be opened April 26.

Mrs. Sarah L. Blair, sister of Ezra Rogers of Auburn, dropped dead at the home of her nephew, Alvr. Rogers. She was in her usual health, having walked from the home of her brother.

The town of Auburn is much wrought up over the sudden disappearance of Robert Watson, who has left a wife destitute. A saloon business which he had is in the hands of creditors.

A prairie fire started in the eastern part of McPherson county and driven by a hard wind swept the country for thirty miles, nearly to the North Platte river. No casualties have yet been reported.

Sunday evening saw the close of a five weeks' series of successful evangelistic meetings in Norfolk under the leadership of Rev. Milford H. Lyon of Chicago and his singer, Mr. Coulter, resulting in 450 converts.

Deputy county assessors in Lancaster must list property at full value. So announced County Assessor Miller. He called a meeting to investigate the reports that the officials were following the methods of last year.

William T. Turley, the Grand Island man who was sentenced to seventeen years in the penitentiary for murder in the second degree, was granted a stay of sentence pending a hearing on his appeal from the lower court.

Heroic efforts on the part of Sterling's fire brigade and a heavy rain saved Sterling from what might have been total destruction by fire. As it was, four store buildings and most of the contents were destroyed, entailing a loss of nearly $15,000.

A petition is being circulated by the W. C. T. U. in Grand Island asking the city authorities to have all screens removed from saloons, to close up promptly at 12 o'clock each night and to remove offensive signs from the windows and doorways.

The Burlington bridge, nearly a mile long, spanning the Platte river between Grand Island and Phillips was found to be on fire. Section men from Grand Island and Aurora were sent and short before noon got the fire under control, with the aid of farmers.

Payson, youngest son of John T. Marshall, was seriously injured on the head with a baseball bat at the school grounds in Panama. He was carried to the office of Dr. Was, who made an examination and found the skull to be fractured. An operation was performed on the head with good results.

F. J. McGee of Fremont, Ralph Oshton of O'Neil and Milton N. Dodds of Omaha have been appointed railway mail clerks.

Jane Abbott, librarian at the Fremont library, has been elected librarian of the Public library at South Omaha and will probably enter upon her duties at that place soon. Miss Abbott has made a specialty of library work for many years and was at one time acting librarian of the North Carolina State library.

Edward A. Reimers died at the Sioux Falls (S. D.) penitentiary last week. The Reimers, father and son, were sentenced to five years in the Sioux Falls prison by the United States court for wrecking the First National bank of Neligh, Neb., the elder Reimer, "C. A.," being the president of the bank and the son the assistant cashier.

Alarmed by the numerous capitol fires, Representative Sweezy of Webster county will have a bill to present to the next legislature to appropriate

[redacted]

being three miles west of Pawnee City, were stolen Sunday night near the Catholic church. Mr. Oltman's son drove the team in and tied them near the church. His overcoat and two robes disappeared with the rig.

Prairie fires were started by locomotives near Bassett and near Long Pine. A high wind whipped them along for fifteen miles and finally ran them into a creek. At Bassett an army of men went out to fight the flames. No serious damage was done

Tree's Wonderful Vitality.

A curious incident occurred during the gale at Hansworth, a short time ago, says a Scotch paper. A large tree was blown down across the roadway. A number of men were told off to remove the obstruction, which they commenced to do by lopping off some of the larger branches. After about half a ton had been thus removed, the tree began to lift itself from the ground, and as soon as a little more weight was taken off it sprang into a vertical position, which it retained despite the subsequent rough weather. It was found that the roots had been stretched, but not broken, and were sufficiently elastic to pull the trunk after it had been relieved of some of its weight.

Value of Carrier Pigeons.

The best carrier pigeons are worth several hundred dollars in the market, and some cannot be purchased at any price. During the annual pigeon show in New York last year $200 and even $300 was refused by the owners for some of their choicest pets. The average exhibits were valued at $25 and $50. Prices, however, do not stand in the way of the pigeon fancier today, for excellent homing pigeons can be purchased for $5 and less. One can start a loft with half a dozen breeders, and within a few seasons have all the birds desired.

Tons of Diamonds.

It is estimated that the total world production of diamonds up to date approximates 85,000,000 carats. As we are not in the habit of weighing our diamonds by the ton, we are in some doubt concerning the proper system of computation, whether troy or avoirdupois, long ton or short ton. According to the system used by those who do weigh their diamonds in ton quantities, the result would be in the neighborhood of twenty or twenty-five tons of sparklers now appearing as factors in the joys and the miseries of a world which has substituted diamonds for the beads and the wampum of its ancestors.

"I am disgruntled," said Senator Foster recently: "I'll never give money to a street beggar again as long as I live. There was a very pitiful-looking beggar in the avenue, a few minutes ago, and, my heart going out to him, I stopped to hand him a few small coins. I had difficulty, I admit, in finding my change, but was that any reason for the beggar to frown at me and say, impatiently: "Hurry up, sir, I've lost several customers while you've been muddling over them pennies.

What a "Yeggman" Is.

The word "yeggman" is now eligible to dictionary honors. It has court authority. In a recent damage suit at Lynn, Mass., the plaintiff set forth that by calling him a yeggman the defendant meant "that the plaintiff was a desperado, a criminal, a night burglar, a tramp burglar, a crook, a freebooter, a murderer, a man who posed as a tramp in the daytime and was a burglar in the nighttime."

A well known actor was telling his sixteen-year-old son, who he considers very immature and young for his age, that he ought to be doing something for his glory and his country. "Why, when George Washington was your age, my son, he was surveying the estate of Lord Fairfax." The boy thought a moment, then he replied, quietly: "Well, when he was as old as you, pa, he was president of the United States."

Where do you put your shoes the last thing at night? In the same place, and are you a crank about them being there? Also a sign of age. Some people get so they can't sleep unless every piece of wearing apparel is put in the same place night after night.

It is always a sad moment when Titania rubs the lotion off her eyes and notices Bottom's ears for the first time.

An Easy Way To Do It.

Mineral, Idaho, April 11.—Mr. D. S. Colson of this place has something to say which will be of interest to many men. Mr. Colson claims to have found a simple way to get rid of pains in the back, Sciatica or Rheumatism. He has cured himself and so claims personal experience in proof of his method.

Mr. Colson says:—

"I had awful pains in my hip. They got so bad at last that I could hardly walk. I tried several things, but got no relief till I began to use Dodd's Kidney Pills and I had taken but a few of these pills till the pain left me entirely.

"Dodd's Kidney Pills certainly did me lots of good and I consider them a great medicine."

The remedy that cured Mr. Colson is the same that has been making such sensational cures of Bright's Disease, Diabetes, Dropsy and Rheumatism all over the country. The name of the medicine is Dodd's Kidney Pills.

To be well preserved a woman, like fruit, needs a good deal of sugar in her composition.

Many a man who marries an heiress lives to regret monkeying with a get-rich-quick game.

There's something radically wrong about a woman who isn't fond of dress parade.

Most men like to give out the impression of knowing more than they care to tell.

When a man is unable to make a living at anything else he is eligible for a government job.

That which is within one's grasp, yet unobtainable, makes our greatest sorrows.

A man is never satisfied until he attends his own funeral.