

# LAST BUFFALO HUNT OF THE PONCAS



The Ponca Indians are about to elect their tribal chief in the traditional manner—with a buffalo hunt, and for that purpose have purchased three bison. For the sentimentalists there is in this statement the pathetic reminder that both the buffalo and the Indian are almost extinct, and that the coming hunt will probably be the

It is intended to make a show of the hunt, and Indians from the tribes in Indian and Oklahoma Territories have been invited. Some have already arrived and erected their tipis. One of the western railroads expects to run excursion trains down to Bliss, O. T., so that the sightseers may be able to witness the event.

While the Poncas are keeping the details of their plans secret, there can be no doubt that the hunt will not compare with those of the days when there were millions of buffaloes on the plains. In those days a buffalo hunt was, in a measure, one of the most dangerous sports man or horse could enter into. Those who have taken part in these hunts have described them as being unsurpassed in the excitement they produced.

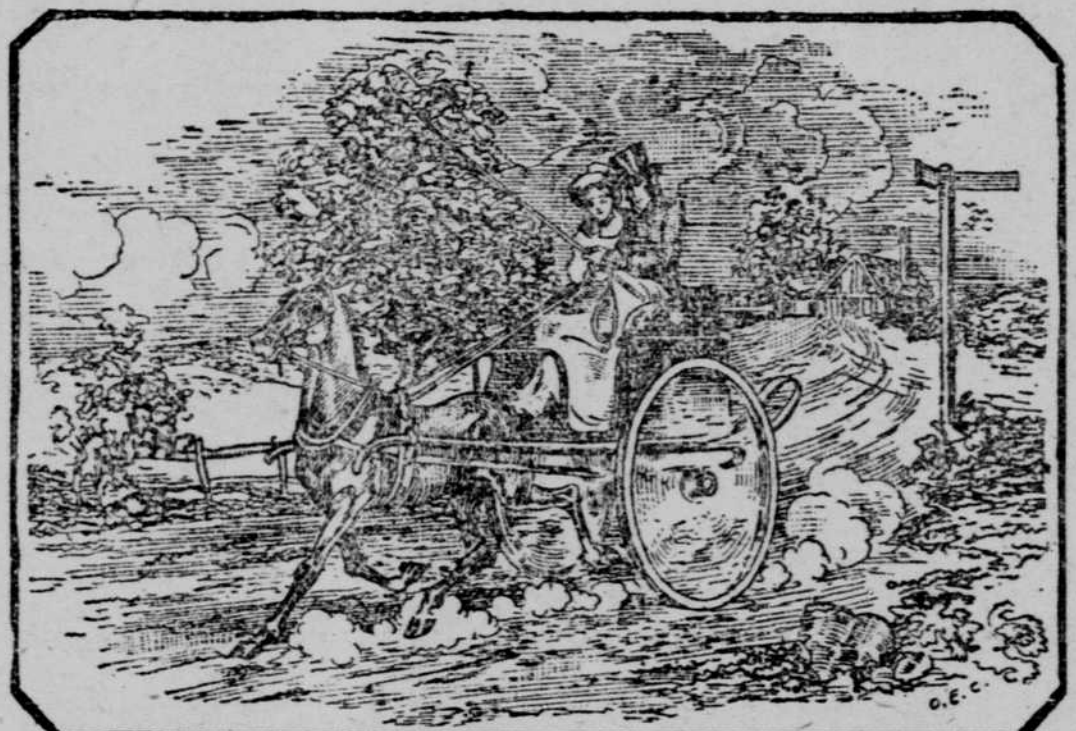
The Indians on their fleet ponies pursued their prey with swift, sure and the spectacle of an immense herd, sometimes a mile long, pursued, and it might be said, with equal justice, pursuing the hunters; dust enveloping the hunters, horses running close without being guided, and apparently entering into the spirit of the hunt as much as the riders was an expe-

pilot, and his only duty was to carry his rider safely and surely without being told what to do.

Time was, within the memory of many living men, who are not so very old, either, when the American bison, or as he will perhaps always be called here, the buffalo, existed in the western country in numbers incalculable. Between the eastern range of the Rocky mountains and the Mississippi river they roved in herds so large as to seem impossible to one who never saw them. There is a well-authenticated story that the garrison at Fort Kearney actually fired their canon at an immense herd once to prevent them taking the fort in a rush. Many officers and cavalymen who were stationed on the frontier years ago tell of traveling for month at a time and never being out of sight of their countless numbers. The bison was particularly numerous in Kansas at one time, owing to the fact that the buffalo grass was there most plentiful. At times the plains were a solid, moving mass of monsters; as far as the eye could see they were visible in enormous numbers. Trains were often delayed while a herd crossed the



## The Last of Gretna Green.



A Scene That Was Common Enough a Century Ago, When Eloping Couples Sought the Aid of the Gretna Green Blacksmith in Joining Them in Matrimony.

last to be witnessed on the western plains.

There are a little more than a handful of the Poncas left; if the white man ever found a good Indian, which some claim to be an impossibility, the Ponca was a near approach to that ideal. The tribe was part of the Sioux nation, and the original home was near a branch of the Red river and Lake Winnipeg. The Poncas have always enjoyed a reputation for being very peaceable. They were driven from their Red river home by their old enemy, the Chippewas, who forced them beyond the Missouri river. Following them up closely, the Chippewas drove them away once more, when they joined the Omahas, which alliance has had the effect of preventing their annihilation.

Although a part of the Sioux nation, the other tribes kept up a relentless war upon the Poncas, as did the Pawnees, Osages and the Kansas Indians. What these wars left, smallpox and the white man's vices nearly finished, and from a total of about 6,000 there are only about 600 now. The remnant was placed on a reservation, near the mouth of Niobrara river, in Nebraska, and here their ill-luck followed them. This time it was not their Indian enemy, but the federal government which failed them. Uncle Sam neglected the terms of the treaty made with them, and once more they became nomads, forced to the hunt for subsistence.

Forty years ago, when Chief White Eagle was chosen, there were about 6,000 in the tribe. Only eight survive of those who hunted the buffalo at his inauguration. The Council of Advisers consists of ten, and since he can no longer draw the necessary quorum he has retired, and his son, Horse Chief, takes his place at the head of the tribe.

In accordance with the traditional laws of the tribe, the chief and his advisers are selected in a buffalo hunt. The coming hunt will bear little resemblance to that of forty years ago. The arena was the boundless plains; now it is to be an inclosure 3,000 feet long and 1,500 feet wide. Then it took place with herds innumerable; now three bison from the Goodnight ranch, in Texas, will furnish the sport.

rence never to be forgotten. So fascinating did the chase become that the more it was indulged in, the keener grew the enjoyment, until, as some hunters will confess, it finally became a passion. In the eagerness of the chase every muscle quivered, every nerve was at its fullest tension, every faculty was keenly on the alert, and the excitement brought with it the glow of health and the vigor of



youth. When the firing began the reins were dropped over the horse's neck and not touched again by the rider until he was through firing. The horse had to avoid obstacles in his path without suggestion from his rider. If there was a hole in the ground, he must detect it and jump over it; a rock, he must overcome it in the same manner. He was the

into the eyes, mouth, nostrils and ears of the prisoner.

"The process was then wound up by what is known as the 'truth finder,' a sort of wooden forceps by which the temples of the prisoner are compressed. This was too much for the man. He confessed a lie.

"I was glad to be free a few days later, however, that the torturers had been removed from office for their unseemly work."—Louisville Herald.

### Appropriate.

One summer when William Carey was at Narragansett Pier he was invited to a dance where the guests were requested to appear as characters from the Bible.

The coming party was being discussed at the Casino when a young man, who was an object of general ridicule because of his habit of padding his legs when in golf costume, said to Mr. Carey: "What would you advise me to go as?"

"Oh," answered Mr. Carey, "I think 'the fattest calf' would be about right for you."—New York Times.

tracks of the Union Pacific railroad. At one time they roamed all over the country. Naturally migratory, the Indians knew their wandering habits, and followed them. They were in those days of the greatest value to the Indians. They supplied nearly all of their food, and millions were slaughtered each year for the sustenance of the red man. Not only did the buffalo supply food, but furnished the robes and hides for clothing and dwellings.

Buffalo hunting was a science, and was only to be engaged in safely by those who thoroughly understood the methods of their prey. In the hunting, as has been stated, the horse was a quantity of no insignificant importance. In killing these animals the hunter rode boldly into the fleeing herd, his horse running only as fast as the buffaloes. Then, selecting the animal desired, he fired directly behind the fore shoulder, as this was the tenderest place, and a shot entering at this point was most likely to strike a vital part. This threw the buffalo down, and after the hunter had exhausted his ammunition, or had selected a sufficient number, he returned and killed those he had already wounded that were left lying on the prairie.

With the Indians the hunt was much more simply conducted. They did not always penetrate a herd, but often followed it and picked off the animals in the rear. The hunt for which the Poncas have made such elaborate preparations will, of course, be a tame affair compared with the hunts in the days gone by, and, of course, the sixty braves left upon them will not at first attempt a killing, or the sport would be of short duration. In any event, the last buffalo hunt is one of great interest, and as the hunters are now scarce and costly, they without fear be called the last. They also, the breaking-up process of the Indian relations is nearly completed. In a few years the hostile red man will be a legend, he is fast succumbing to civilizing influences, his hunting grounds are blossoming with populous, thriving towns. The Poncas are most likely about to inaugurate their last chief, as well as to hunt for the last time the monarch of the plains.—Philadelphia Ledger.

### The Song of Songs.

I have no wish to tell in song Of splendid victories at sea; Let them to whom great gifts belong Exult o'er war's wild revelry. There may be epics still to write When Homer's cantos are forgot, And fame may be for them who smite The laye to tell how heroes fought.

Let them whose talents are supreme Go steep themselves in classic lore, And in ecstatic trances dream And sing the splendid legends o'er In measures worthy of their praise. Whose academic souls demand Such flowery odors and lofty lays As only they may understand.

For me no splendid, lofty flight Beyond the vision of the throng, But O that it were mine to write The simple, homely little song That in the hearts of high and low Is ever sweetly lingering. The common song that men know And only lack the words to sing.—S. E. Kiser.

### The Retort Courteous.

Sergt. Ballantine relates the story of a barrister who had been supplanted by Adolphus, an Irish lawyer. In a fit of spleen, remarked to Adolphus: "You remind me of the three B's—blarney, bully and bluster." Instantly the Irishman retorted: "You did not complain of my (b)ees until they sucked your honey!"

### THIRD DEGREE IN ROUMANIA.

Sweating Process by Which Confessions Are Forced From Prisoners.

"The prisoners in our country are treated like kings and princes as compared with those of Roumania," said John T. Ekalis of Portland, Me.

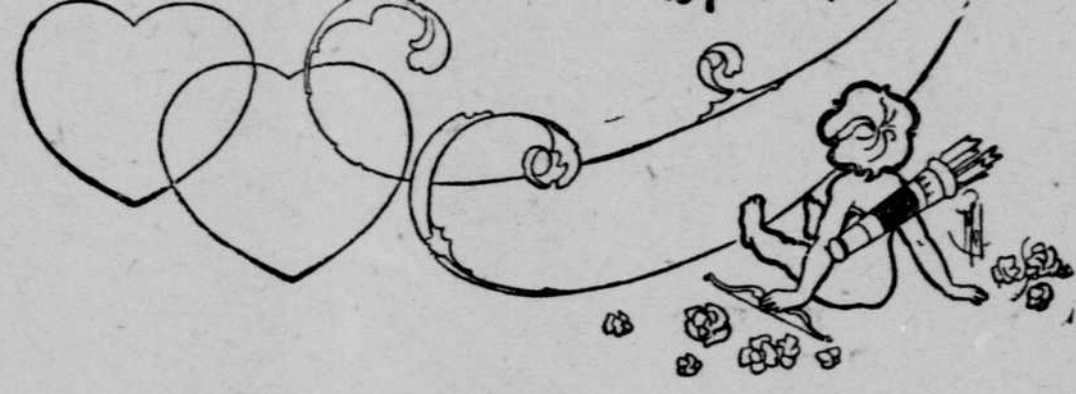
"I chanced to be in Roumania about six months ago and saw a man arrested. Being curious, I determined to watch and learn what they did with him. He was not tried and released the next day, as he would have been in this country, but was subjected to medieval tortures. He was whipped with the so-called sand sausage, a bag filled with wet sand. This instrument of torture inflicts terrible pain, but leaves no marks whatever on the body of the culprit.

"This particular prisoner was tortured in order to wrest from him a confession whether or not the result of an act had been the result of a preconcerted conspiracy. He denied it and was then treated to the joys of the 'ash bag'—that is, his head was put in a bag filled with ashes. The jailers beat with a stick upon the bag, causing the ashes to penetrate

## A PROPOSAL

Softly you speak as a harebell, red,  
Lips to the breeze o'er its virgin bed.  
"Yes," is your answer? Ah! fairy bliss  
Haveth its wand in command at this!  
Come to me, dear! Let me read your eyes!  
Closer, my own! Is this Paradise?  
Clasp those white arms—'tis a woman's part—  
Now pay Love's toll! Why? You stole my heart!  
Love is divine! There is naught amiss!  
Yield, to me, dear one, your first love-kiss!  
Ah! This is Heaven, enough for me—  
Youth and the firelight, your lips—and Thee!

Byron Williams



With Mrs. Margaret Parker of Clifton Hall, Westmoreland, who died a few weeks ago at the age of 88, the last of all the hundreds of brides who were wooed and carried away across the border to Gretna Green disappeared, and one of the most romantic chapters in Cupid's history was finally closed.

It is just sixty-one years ago since Mrs. Parker was carried borderwards swift as an impatient lover and horses' feet could take her, and for more than forty years she led an ideally happy life with her romantic husband. Mr. Parker, it is interesting to note, was no novice at runaway weddings, for he had made one previous trip to Gretna Green with the daughter of Col. Youngson of Bowscar, who was just on the eve of being sent to India to be married to a young army officer. On this first adventure the fate father, in true fiction style, gave hot chase and arrived at the scene of the bridal a few minutes too late to disappoint his son-in-law.

Another interesting survival of the romantic days of elopements was Caroline Margaret, dowager marchioness of Queensberry, who died quite recently at the age of 87. The marchioness was the youngest and prettiest daughter of Gen. Sir William Clayton, bart., who objected strongly to Lord Drumlanrig's ardent wooing of his 19-year-old child. What could the young lovers do in face of such implacable opposition but hurry away across the border, where obdurate parents could safely be defied?

So one night in early June, 1840, Miss Caroline and her lordly wooer mounted their horses and never rested until the obliging blacksmith at Gretna Green had made them one.

The marchioness always retained her romantic notions. Years after her own runaway match her maid ran off with the coachman, also on a matrimonial errand. The coachman borrowed the marquis' favorite hunter for the journey and unfortunately lamed him, with the result that Lord Queensberry in his wrath dismissed them both. Whereupon the marchioness interceded—and successfully—on behalf of the young couple, reminding her lord that "you would not have minded

how many horses you lamed when you eloped with me."

At Gretna Green every facility was offered for the invading lovers. Impromptu parsons were plentiful; and if the blacksmith was by chance engaged, the ferryman, the tollkeeper and landlord of the village hostelry were all ready and eager to assume the priestly role and pocket a welcome fee. Indeed, the tollkeeper—the first "priest" an eloping couple would be likely to encounter—did the best business of them all, untiring, so it is said, as many as 200 couples in a single year, a record which made the blacksmith, who has had too much of the credit, green with envy.

It is said that half the British peerage derives its origin from one or other of these border unions; and, although this is doubtless an exaggeration, there are scores of aristocrats today who would have been nonexistent but for the temptation Gretna Green offered to their headstrong ancestors.

Many an embryo peer of the realm has stood before the improvised altar in the blacksmith's shop or tollhouse and left in a happy man. The houses of Villiers, Coventry, Paget, Fane, Beauclerk and many another noble and historic name have had their destinies shaped in the Dumfriesshire village.

One of the most historic and romantic of all elopements was that of John Fane, tenth earl of Westmoreland, with pretty Sarah Child, the only daughter and heiress of "Old Child," the wealthy banker of Orley Park. It was the daughter of the union, Lady Sarah Fane, who brought the Child money bags to the noble house of Jersey, and in many another case has Gretna Green introduced new blood and wealth into England's great families.

True and False Ambition.

True ambition is the eager desire for something above one, and better; false ambition seeks what is below one, and worse. Many men are proud of their ambition, without stopping to consider its object. By as much as a true ambition is honorable and ennobling, a false ambition is ignoble and corrupting. There is the greatest need to distinguish between the two.

Powerful New Poisonous Drug.

Lucasell Scott of England has recently published some startling facts about cyanid of cacodyl. It is a white powder, melting at 33 degrees and boiling at 140 degrees, which, when exposed to air, gives off a slight vapor, to inhale which is death. Its effect is so powerful that Mr. Scott states that he has seen the one-mililonth part of a grain of the drug instantly kill four dogs when they were introduced into an airtight cage with it. While but little known, it was made many years ago by a noted French chemist, Cadet. He combined potassium acetate with white arsenic, producing a fuming liquid, oxid of cacodyl. This, when combined with cyanogen, a radical of prussic acid, produces cyanid of cacodyl, thousands of times more poisonous than the pure prussic acid.—Albany Medical Annals.

Name Gun for Kaiser.

One of the twelve-inch guns of the Italian warship Brui is to be named "Wilhelm II." after the kaiser. It is the first compliment of the kind paid to anybody outside of Italy.

Good Scheme of Colored Women.

It has remained for colored women in Los Angeles to devise a new form of philanthropy. They have proceeded to organize the Southern California home association and floral investment company. The object is to provide a pleasant home for aged negroes and orphans of the colored race.

The support of the home is to be derived from the sale of carnations and other flowers. The old people and the children, not being strong physically, could not be expected to perform hard labor, but the growing of flowers for the market will supply them with light and profitable occupation and they will find themselves amid pleasant surroundings and with comforts.

Progress in Malay States.

With railways leading up from every port, with telegraph lines everywhere, and the telephone much employed, the Malay states residents are in a nowise behind the times nor out of the world. They are so up to date, in fact, that the stage coach has been supplanted by the automobile.

## NEBRASKA STATE NEWS

### SETTLERS DEFEND TITLES.

Several Answers Filed in the Boyd County Land Cases.

LINCOLN.—Defendants in the Boyd county land suits have filed answers asserting that they settled the property in controversy in good faith. They allege that they have complied with the law, and ask the supreme court for relief. Stephen W. Tanner, A. T. McCright and Frank Bedner have filed answers.

After setting forth that the land was a part of the Fort Randall military reservation, the settlers assert that the board of educational lands and funds authorized ex-Land Commissioner Jacob V. Wolfe to proceed to this reservation and select certain lands as indemnity school lands, and that among the lands so selected were those occupied by the defendants.

prairie; that the said Jacob V. Wolfe did not intend to select in behalf of the state of Nebraska any lands in said reservation actually occupied by any settler, but not knowing the section lines or the section corners or the and by mistake, selected the premises occupied by the defendants as indemnity school lands. That he thereafter reported the said lands to the secretary of the interior, and advised him that he had selected the same in behalf of the state as indemnity school lands, and it was so recorded upon the books of the department of the interior.

The answers contend that the legislature of 1901, learning of the plight of these settlers, adopted an act for their relief, calling upon the land commissioner to execute a deed of relinquishment. Pursuant to this act, the deeds were signed by the governor and sent to Washington, and the government now stands ready to give other lands in lieu thereof. The defendants ask that they be adjudged the equitable owners of the land, and that the case of the state of Nebraska be dismissed.

### REPORT OF THE TREASURER.

Mortensen Says No More Bonds Will Be Bought.

An increase in the state funds and nothing in the conscience fund—these were the two features of the monthly and semi-annual reports of the state treasurer, just issued. There is also a big increase in the permanent funds. Mr. Mortensen stated that he was not looking for any more outside securities for the investment of the school funds. The report follows:

| Funds               | May 1, '04   | May 31, '04  |
|---------------------|--------------|--------------|
| General             | \$ 7,067.80  | \$ 10,244.02 |
| Permanent school    | 131,878.94   | 296,235.26   |
| Temporary school    | 340,088.47   | 170,006.95   |
| Permanent uni.      | 1,247.40     | 2,212.40     |
| Agr. Col. end'w'm't | 3,983.21     | 13,168.22    |
| Temporary uni.      | 15,239.52    | 46,958.21    |
| Hospital insane     | 1,739.23     | 46,958.31    |
| State library       | 3,182.35     | 4,407.55     |
| University cash     | 18,203.31    | 17,452.96    |
| Normal library      | 178.45       | 176.45       |
| Normal endow'm't.   | 209.59       | 1,709.00     |
| Normal interest     | 2,054.29     | 2,144.29     |
| Inheritance tax     | 4,208.55     | 4,597.36     |
| Pen. special labor  | 2,348.15     | 2,346.15     |
|                     | Balance      | Balance      |
| Penitentiary land   | 3,585.60     | 3,585.00     |
| Agr. & Mech. Arts   | 5,452.51     | 5,040.01     |
| U. S. Ex. station   | 3,032.83     | 2,473.29     |
| Total               | \$548,906.87 | \$858,993.60 |
| By cash on hand     | \$ 1,015.43  |              |
| By cash on deposit  | \$84,979.17  | \$858,993.60 |

### Child Falls Thirty Feet.

BANCROFT.—The 2-year-old child of Mr. and Mrs. D. Leap fell from a window in the third story of the Watson building to the ground, a distance of thirty feet, and was uninjured. The ground on which the child fell had been recently covered with blue glass sand, which made a spongy cushion.

### Refuses Requisition.

Governor Mickey refused to honor the requisition for the return of Dr. W. H. Disbrow of Creighton, to Whatcom, Wash. The executive decided that the Washington authorities wanted to get service on Disbrow in a civil action.

### Corn Rotting in Ground.

HUMBOLDT.—Showers continue in this section at irregular short intervals, and some of the farmers are becoming discouraged in their work of replanting the corn, which the long-drawn-out wet spell has caused to rot in the ground in many fields.

### Tilden otos School Bonds.

TILDEN.—At a special election held here bonds were voted to put up a new \$6,000 schoolhouse. The bonds carried by an overwhelming majority. The building is to be completed by October 1.

### New Yorkers Got Bonds.

LINCOLN.—Koonitz Bros. of New York secured \$65,000 of municipal lighting bonds offered for sale by the city. The firm made a bid of accrued interest and a premium of \$1,079.75.

### Will Prosecute Parents.

LINCOLN.—The constitutionality of the new compulsory education law is to be tested in Lancaster. County Attorney Caldwell is now drawing up complaints against several Lincoln parents on request of Truant Officer George W. Davenport. Many of the cases of disappearance from school come from among the Russians, who have a habit of taking their children from school early in the spring in order that they may work in the beet fields. In the fall they do not return until long after school begins.

### Court to Interpret Report.

LINCOLN.—The Bankers' Union of the World Insurance company cannot continue business in Nebraska until the supreme court has interpreted the report filed several days ago. The report has been inspected by Expert Examiner Wiggins, Auditor Weston and Deputy Auditor Pierce, and they have decided to present the report to the supreme court for interpretation and review. The report was made to show that the infringements of the insurance laws have all been corrected.

### NEWS IN BRIEF.

Greenwood will have a public celebration on July 4.

Miss Josephine Abbott, principal of the Hartington High school, and Mrs. S. J. Athan, assistant principal, who were recently re-elected for the coming year, have resigned to accept other positions.

The frog leg industry promises to beat out the beef trust in Norfolk. Rudolph Resenke, a lad of 10 years, is earning no less than \$3 a day killing frogs and selling them. He gets upwards of 25 dozen a day from the lake banks.

A comparison of the assessors' schedules in Beatrice with those of last year shows a general increase in valuations. On business blocks the increased valuation seems to be fairly proportioned, and while all such blocks will pay a higher tax for this year, the increase seems to be about evenly distributed.

Insurance Auditor Pierce has received the report of the Bankers' Union of the World which was called for by the supreme court. Insurance Examiner Wiggins is now checking the statements off and it will be published as soon as verified. Detailed statements of all information required are given in the report, and it is claimed that all the corrections to the court have been made.

Miss Katherine M. Shepherd of Holdrege has received a verdict of \$7,500 against the Lincoln Traction company in the district court. Miss Shepherd was injured by a fall caused by a car starting as she was stepping from it. It is alleged that the base of her brain is injured, and that the trouble is spreading, threatening to cover the entire brain area and cause impaired mental power.

Jacob Goldberg, alias Edward King, alias Quinn, wanted at Kalamazoo, Mich. for burglarizing a general merchandise store at Belding, that state, has been identified as one of a trio sentenced a few days ago in police court at Fremont. Sheriff Bauman worked a confession out of him and later telegraphed the sheriff at Kalamazoo, who is now on the way to take his prisoner back.

Miss Eva Thompson of Lincoln, received letters from her brother, D. E. Thompson, and Mrs. Thompson, telling of their arrival in Brazil. The party sailed from New York April 5, and reached Rio de Janeiro April 23, after a decidedly rough voyage. Mr. and Mrs. Thompson went on at once from Rio de Janeiro to Petropolis, where the headquarters of the United States minister to Brazil are located.

At Lincoln Judge Waters, ordered that Frank Suters, a 14-year-old boy, be sent to the Beatrice institute for the Feeble Minded. The boy has been attending the public schools in Lincoln for the last five years, but has failed to advance further than the second grade. He stuttered badly and it is said that his schoolmates teased and harassed the boy considerably to detriment of his disposition.

According to the report of Labor Commissioner Bush, the products of the packing houses of the state reached a grand total of \$73,453,031.74 for last year. The total capital invested in this business is \$3,660,455.54, a large percentage of it being in Omaha and South Omaha. During the year 2,629,586 head of live stock of all kinds were killed. Of this total 2,319,943 were hogs, 549,425 cattle and 760,217 sheep.

The Plattsmouth board of education has elected Miss Amelia Martens to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Miss Margaret Farley. Miss Mamie Lacy of Weeping Water has been selected to take Miss Laura Kinkead's place.

William Ernst, one of the popular stock raisers of Johnson county, was injured by an infuriated bull. The bull hooked him in the face, inflicting a deep gash.

Miss Jessie Mac's, a servant girl employed at the home of Dr. J. W. Bullard, in Pawnee City, attempted suicide by swallowing carbolic acid. The family was out in the evening, and when Mrs. Bullard returned about 6 o'clock the girl was found lying on the floor in an unconscious condition. Dr. Bullard at once began work and finally succeeded in restoring consciousness. It is not thought she will recover.

Frank Fox of Fort Crook made a deliberate attempt to commit suicide. He took off his coat and vest, neatly folded them up and laid them aside. Taking a razor, he then attempted to cut out his heart, but the blade glanced on his ribs. Several ugly gashes were made before the groans of the man attracted attention and he was disarmed, all the time making an effort to cut himself. Fox was taken to the hospital at the fort, where his injuries were attended to.

Sheriff Carrig of Platte county took Carl Smith to Lincoln to enter upon a three years' sentence for horse stealing. Smith was convicted at this term of court of stealing a team belonging to J. F. Seims, a farmer who lives in Grand Prairie township.

The Odell Independent Telephone filed articles of incorporation with the county clerk. The capital stock of the company is placed at \$10,000, and the incorporators are John E. Murphy, Thomas W. Stanoschek, Frank J. Truxaw, J. B. Renard, Arthur Williamson and James Colgrove.

Two brakemen in the employ of the Northwestern railroad, running out of Chadron, were hurt last week. Fred Vanoccken and William Schroeder each had a foot pinned, the former so severely it had to be amputated. Both are at Deadwood hospital at present.

While descending from a windmill tower at his home, J. E. Howland of Silver Creek fell about thirty feet, fracturing a wrist in two places and receiving a severe bruise on one side. He was rendered unconscious for a time, but it is not thought he was injured internally.