BANQUETING STENOGRAPHERS.

The "Shorthand" Brotherhood Have a "Round-Up" at the Millard.

A Very Enjoyable Time Among the Boys Who Learned to Write by Looking at the Marks on Ten Sheets.

Saturday evening was lively and interesting at the Millard, the cause being the annual banquet of the State Stenographers association. The organization is not a large one, but is composed of a genial party of gentlemen, who, with a few invited guests of the press, sat down to a social dinner.

President Shropshire presided, and after discussing the vials as only a hungry reporter, with the poor free lunch routes of Omaha fresh in his mind, knows how to do. A programme of literary and social exercises was introduced as follows:

President Shropshire gave an address, speaking of the joys of good fellowship and congratulating the club.

Ex-President Bell made a speech on the life of the club and the pleasures of its banquets.

H. G. Stripe reported his visit as a delegate to the international convention.

B. C. Wakely gave a picturesque and fascinating address upon the æsthetics of short-hand

Treasurer Points spoke of the social aspects of the organization.

W. E. Annin described "some of the peculiar pyrotechnics relating to the R hook."

F. M. MacDonagh read a clever machine poem.

Al Sorenson spoke upon the profession in this city and its future.

Homer Stull, Esq., gave his observations on the Pacific coast.

Vice President White remarked upon the development of the art in the west.

Secretary Haynes made an address upon the demands for the services of the profession.

The Herald representative and several others made brief speeches.

Those present were J. S. Shropshire, president; C. W. White, vice-president; J. B. Haynes, secretary; J. J. Points, treasurer, and Homer Stull, John T. Bell, M. J. Grevy, C. L. Maine, G. W. Loomis, Jas. T. Mullen, B. C. Wakely, Al. Sorenson of the Republican, W. E. Annin of the Bee, F. M. McDonagh of the Watchman, and the city editor of the Herald.

A very amusing feature of the evening was the introduction of a mock menu, gotten up by Mr. Bird Wakeley, which was a very clever piece of work and caused much merriment.

The hotel "did themselves proud" in the bill of fare served, and proved conclusively that they "know how to keep a hotel." This was neatly acknowledged at the close of the entertainment in expression of compliments to proprietors of the house, and also to Mr. C. E. Smith, the superintendent of the dining room, who is universally conceded to be the best man in that position ever in Omaha. The affair was in all respects a most enjoyable one, and will long be remembered by all who were so fortunate as to be present.

"YOUR LUCK."

Rev. W. J. Harsha's Lecture Last Evening.

Judg. 18:6. "Before the Lord is your way wherein ye go."

In the passage from which the text is taken we have an interesting recital. The Danites through their own carelessness and crimes had lost the inheritance God had given them in Canaan and had started out to find one for themselves. On the way northward they find a young Levite, an acquaintance of theirs, happily ensconed as the spiritual adviser of a certain rich man. He had a change of raiment and ten shekels of silver a year, together with his food. They desired to know of him the secret of his success, for they would like to be equally fortunate. The Levite intended to give them a delusive answer, but in reality he propounded a great principle and and a true explanation of many things in life, when he said: "Before the Lord is your way wherein ye go."

"It is just my luck," says the young man or woman. And you have plenty of proverbs to quote out of the different languages of the world. "The English aphorism is: "It is better to be born lucky than wise." The Arabic proverb is: "Throw a lucky man into the Nile and he will come up with a fish in his mouth."

Now it must be confessed that there are certain things that look like chance; and they give excuse for speaking of a lucky or an unlucky man. I will mention three of these:

1. Differences in apparent happiness.

Some are rich and some are poor. We must all cross the sea of life, but some sail in yachts elegantly furnished and cushioned, while others must battle with the waves on rafts. A young man looking at the apparent differences in the happiness of the different grades of society is apt to consider the rich lucky and the poor unfortunate. But this is an erroneous conclusion. The rich may not be happy, the poor may not be unfortunate. There are bickering and jealousies in elegant homes; and there is much real happiness among the honest, devout poor.

2. Seemingly accidental things upon which life turns.

This is another cause for speaking of luck. Apparently little things change our whole course in life. The opening or the shutting of the door may save us from accident. And so we say one man was lucky because he escaped and another unfortunate because he suffered. But this conclusion is also erroneous. There are no little things in life. A day that seems of little importance may not really be so, for after we pass it we find that it has changed our whole lives. We learn the importance of things from experience, hence before we have had experience of a particular thing or a certain day, we must not undervalue either. Beside all this, the most minute things are governed by the power of God. Even the curling clouds are governed by law; and God's law embraces apparently accidental things.

3. Sudden gain or loss.

If a man suddenly acquires a fortune you call him lucky. If he loses what he has been slowly accumulating you say he is unfortunate. The Levite gets his ten shekels a year, the Danites lose their possession; but in these cases—in all cases—God is the ruler of the world, and the changes of men are under his control. He brought the Levite to the house of Micah for the purpose of compelling him to preach the gospel to his master of the Danites. He allowed the Danites to lose their possessions in order to punish them for their past faults, and to prepare them for future blessing. Thus He rules men through events. Not a sparrow falls without His notice. Not a thing happens to us, in the way of punishment or reward, without containing the purpose of God to warm or encourage us to Christian living and happiness.

If you mean therefore by luck that there is a fixed principle in this or that man's life by which he is more or less fortunate than his fellows, irrespective of his own endeavors, I must seriously differ with you. Napoleon believed in his star, but God brought him to the appropriate punishment of his ambition. The Scotch have a proverb to this effect: "Put your finger in the fire and then say you are unlucky." If a man does right, obeys the laws of God and never uses apparent misfortunes for a stepping stone to success, that man has nothing to do with luck. He has only to do with God and himself.

But there are some who trust their future life to chance. They say if I am to be saved I will be, and I will let the matter take care of itself. What height of folly is this?

God has provided a way of salvation for all men who will accept of it. You are required simply to accept and mold your life in accordance with the pure teaching of Christ. This is not a new assent to dogma, it is the taking of a sublime motive for the shaping of your whole life. The love of Christ is to constrain you. The life of Christ is to be reproduced in you. And what He said in Galilee and Jerusalem you are to do, in lesser degree, but in sameness of principle in Omaha. There as He was lifted up to His Father, so shall we have be caught up to the glorious heavens when our life work is complete. Lift your hearts up to the face of your God. Even the Irish forgot their rebellion when the fair young face of the royal wife beamed upon their island; and now that the Christ is yearning for you alone and is looking down upon you from the sky, why will you not cease to oppose and learn to love His blessed gospel, which is the good news of free pardon to those who will repent. Take the atoning work of Christ to be your justification and the life of Christ to be your pattern.

Let us therefore aim higher than simply to appear cold and austere. Let us study to aid in the advancement of humanity and the increase of baled information. Let us struggle to advance and improve the world, even though in doing so we may get into ungraceful positions and at times look otherwise than pretty. Thus shall we get over the ground, and, though we may do it in the eccentric style of the camel, we will get there, as we said before, and we will have camped and eaten our supper while the graceful and dignfied pedestrian lingers along the trail.

Works, not good clothes and dignity, are the grand hailing sign and he who halts and refuses to jump over an obstacle because he may not do it so as to appear as graceful as a gazelle, will not arrive until the festivities are over.

Corralled at Denver.

One William Bell, who is wanted at North Platte for stealing two certificates of deposit from Lemuel Hastings, was arrested at Denver a day or two since. The certificates were for $1,000 and $600 respectively, and were stolen several months ago. About two weeks ago Bell tried to negotiate the certificates at the First National bank of Denver, but told so thin a story that the cashier refused to advance the money on them. He afterwards offered one of them at a boot and shoe store, and it was retained by the firm until he should return and redeem it. He failed to show up again, but the description of him thus obtained enabled the officers to capture him a short time after. He will be held and turned over to the sheriff of North Platte.

A BRIGHTER OUTLOOK.

The Iron and Steel Men of Pittsburg Not Alarmed.

A Fair Trade at All the Mills.

Special to the Philadelphia Press.

The iron and steel manufacturers of this vicinity seem to be in a more cheerful mood to-day over the prospects for the future of the trade. One gentleman who is largely interested in the manufacture of both iron and steel, made a statement that is entirely at variance with opinions heretofore expressed.

He said: "I think that forty dollars per ton is as much as steel rails ought to be sold for. The mills can make money at that price, and higher rates are repressive of railroad building. The railroads give employment to 1,000 workingmen, where the Bessemer rail mills give employment to one. These steel rails can be produced at Pittsburg for thirty-two dollars per ton without lowering wages a single dollar. Bessemer pig from the ore in the ground to the metal in the pig can be produced for eighteen dollars per ton without reducing wages, and fourteen dollars additional will more than pay the cost of making rails. It will not do, however, to continue to pay the Lake Superior iron ore monopolists $10 per ton for ore delivered at Cleveland, which does not cost them over $4.50 in actual outlay. At $40 per ton there should be a profit of $8 per ton on steel rails. If your mill produces 100,000 tons per year, you have a profit of $800,000 per year upon an investment of $2,000,000. Forty per cent premium is not so big as it might be, 'but it will do.'" It was reported during the day that a great reduction of force was intended at the Wayne Iron and Steel Works. Mr. Brown, one of the proprietors, when spoken to concerning the report, said: "In my opinion it's a case of great cry and little wool. The Bessemer men have been producing more than can be consumed, and, of course, they must call a halt for awhile, but I can't see how that should affect the general iron trade. I know that we can't complain of business, for we have enough to keep us busy. The report you speak of doubtless originated from the fact that we may soon lay off our puddlers for a while. That is not on account of dull trade, but because we can produce more puddle bar iron than we can use, owing to our big steel product. We are now accumulating a lot of puddled iron, and it is our custom to hold up until we reduce the pile. Taking the situation all in all, I would report the trade healthy, although some little depression may exist on account of the crops of this year not yet being moved."

Mr. A. F. Keating, president of the Manufacturers' association that was organized during the strike, said: This is not a mill in Pittsburg that is now rushed with orders, but every pound of iron now being manufactured is being consumed, and I call that a fair business. This is usually the dull period in the nail trade, but, on the contrary, we find a busy time this season. [illegible] the average customer in [illegible] a car of iron now, wants it delivered just as soon as possible, but no one shows any disposition to stock up. You know croakers can easily pull down business, but they can't build it up again, so the best way is to go ahead and in a very short time it will be seen that some of our forks have gone more than half way to meet trouble. I have not heard of one mill where anything like a stoppage is expected, but instead, all report a fairly active condition of trade."

Members of the firms of Shoenberger & Co., Moorhead, McLain & Co., and Laufman & Co. expressed the same opinions.