THE DAILY BEE.

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THE BEE PUBLISHING CO., Props.
E. ROSEWATER, EDITOR.

A. H. Fitch, Manager Daily Circulation, Omaha, Nebraska.

THE Union Pacific claims a foul because it has been hit below the belt.

IF the Omaha Belt Line folks really mean business, let them now begin to make the dirt fly.

LATE advices from Council Bluffs state that Mayor Vaughan has simply been snowed under, and that he will soon be thawed out fresher than ever.

MONTREAL is suffering from the small-pox as much as if it were the cholera. It is said that there are over 1,000 cases in the city. Business is almost entirely suspended.

IF Omaha capitalists cannot build that road to the north and northwest sections of Nebraska, then the next best thing is to have it constructed by some railroad company, either by the B. & M. or the Missouri Pacific.

IT isn't always safe to call a man a dead-beat. An editor of Chicago has been sued for criminal libel for applying that epithet to a man, because he owed sixty cents, a bill of which had never been presented to him for payment.

THE democrats of Mississippi have inserted in their platform a plank to the effect that there shall be no discrimination on account of race, color or previous condition. This, coming from Mississippi, is very encouraging. Now let them practice what they preach.

J. STERLING MORTON was an honored guest at the banquet tendered to Judge Tree, the minister to Belgium, in Chicago, the other evening. Mr. Morton sustained his reputation of being an elegant after-dinner talker. He responded to the toast, "The Great West," in his happiest vein, but he could not resist the temptation of giving the protective tariff policy a rap from his free-trade standpoint.

ENGLISH customs are evidently not appreciated in California. Ex Senator Sharon, who recently entertained the English Sir Thomas and Lady Hesketh, who is Sharon's daughter, received from his lordship a bundle containing suits of servants' livery. He sent them to his residence at Menlo Park, and when one of the servants ventured out in the stockings and colors of Europe, he was mobbed in grand style by the boys of the neighborhood.

THE *Pall Mall Gazette* of August 5th contains a notice of the Grant obsequies in Westminster Abbey "by an American in the congregation," who enlivened his sprightly paper by repeating characteristic comments overheard among the audience. The closing comment was: "The practical side of the listeners found a droll illustration in the remark of one shrewd-faced elderly American on his way out: 'I'll bet that minister's figuring on going over for a lecturing tour.'" The prophecy has, sure enough, come true. That minister, Canon Farrar, has since announced his intention of coming to America, and has accepted an invitation to lecture.

THE suggestion that parents mark their children with their names in indelible ink somewhere upon their bodies is a practical idea worthy of consideration. In the first place it would tend to lessen the crime of kidnapping, which is becoming so prevalent. In case of a child being kidnapped and kept concealed for years the identity could be established by the marks upon the body whenever such a child should be discovered. In the next place, the branded name upon a lost child would enable the police authorities to immediately discover its parents and return it to its home. There certainly can be no harm in thus branding children, and in many ways the custom, if adopted, would be likely to prove a safeguard. There is no more harm in putting the name of a child in India ink upon one of its arms than there is in vaccination, which leaves a mark or brand.

IF the city council, as a board of equalization, cannot raise the assessment valuation, it can at least take steps to have the several hundred valuable lots, which are now illegally exempted under the pretense of railroad right of way, put upon the assessment roll and appraised at a fair valuation so that they can be made to contribute to the city revenue. We venture to say that there is in the vicinity of a million dollars' worth of real estate in this city to-day that is wrongfully exempted from taxation. The Union Pacific, for instance, has a large number of lots that are leased out for lumber yards, elevators, coal yards, warehouses, and other purposes, and not a cent does the company or anyone else pay upon that property, simply because it is included in the right of way, notwithstanding it is outside of the legal limit of 100 feet. If all this property were assessed, as it certainly should be, the city revenue would be materially increased. If any information is desired as to the number and value of lots illegally exempted, it can be obtained from the records, or from the files of the BEE, which a few months ago published a detailed statement of such exempted property.

THE Pennsylvania anti child-labor law, passed by the last legislature, is now being enforced and will have a very desirable and healthy effect, particularly in the coal regions, where thousands of children are employed at full hours and starvation wages. The law forbids the employment of boys under fourteen years of age in mines and under twelve in coal-breakers. In the Grand tunnel coal region 400 boys below fourteen will be relieved from work; in the Shenandoah there are from 1,000 to 1,200 boys affected by this act; in the Monongahela 1,000, in Wilkesbarre over 1,000, and fewer in other localities. The law is opposed by ignorant parents who have begun to depend more or less upon the earnings of their children, but the more intelligent miners heartily approve the abolition of child-labor. The object of the law is to give the children an opportunity of acquiring at least a common school education, instead of growing up in ignorance and being worked to death like slaves. In connection with this reform, education ought to be made compulsory and more school-houses ought to be provided, as there is a lack of educational facilities in the mining regions which have been so long neglected in this respect.

ISN'T it about time for our $2,000 railroad commission secretaries to take another junketing tour? The Union Pacific, the Sioux City & Pacific and other roads are anxious to get as good a send-off at the hands of the secretaries as that given by them to the B. & M. system. Besides the people would like to know how many pump-handles, windmills, platforms, crossings and depots there are that ought to be recommended for repairs on these lines. Searching out such important defects in the railway system of Nebraska is about all that our commissioners deem it their duty to do, while such trivial matters as exorbitant rates and discriminations are considered hardly worthy of notice.

THE English, with their usual stupidity, are not able to see that great change in the spirit and policy of our government which Mr. Curtis declares must be patent to everyone. A London weekly remarks upon the removal of Mr. Bret Harte from his consulship: "Few things are more objectionable in the present workings of American politics than the principle which, on the accession of one president, removes from every office in the state the officials who have been appointed by his predecessor. * * * It does seem as if a system were self-condemned indeed which, in obedience to a ridiculous and corrupting routine, deprives of his office one of the most brilliant and distinguished of American citizens."

THE insurance commissioner o Wisconsin has discovered evidence which, it is claimed, tends to show that about seventy-five insurance companies are doing a surreptitious and illicit business in that state. He estimates their collections the past year at $700,000. If Nebraska had an insurance commissioner, a somewhat similar condition of affairs might possibly be unearthed in this state. The insurance business in Nebraska has grown to such proportions that it should be put under the supervision of a vigilant commissioner, and the next legislature ought to create some such office as commissioner or examiner of insurance. There is an overproduction in this industry, and the people of Nebraska need protection.

DOUGLAS COUNTY has at different times been unable to find accommodations for her insane patients in the state asylum, owing to the fact that the institution has been crowded. This would not have been the case, however, had not the insane patients of Wyoming territory been confined in the asylum. And now Douglas county is called upon to pay a delinquent insane par capita tax, covering a period of over fifteen years, and amounting to $36,000 This can hardly be called justice. It is pretty safe to say that the commissioners will not pay the tax until the question whether they are legally bound to do so is definitely settled by the courts.

THE census of Dakota, which has just been completed, gives that territory a population of 413,199. She has enough population to entitle her to admission to the union as two states — North and South Dakota. A strong effort will be made next winter to secure her admission either as a whole or divided. South Dakota is very anxious to become a state, and that half of the territory can make a showing that will entitle her to two representatives in congress. But we are afraid that Dakota will have to change its politics before it can expect any favors at the hands of a democratic congress.

GEN. CROOK'S scouting parties have given Geronimo a very lively chase, until at last they have reduced his forces by killing ten or twelve members of his band. It is not likely that Geronimo will cause much more trouble, as he is himself wounded, and in escaping he was followed by only a very few warriors. He left his wives and children behind.

THE Pike's Peak railway, which, it is expected, will be in operation this year, is the most notable piece of track in the world. It will mount 2,000 feet higher than the Lima & Oroya railway in Peru. It is now in operation to a point over 12,000 feet above the sea level. The entire thirty miles of its length will be a succession of complicated curves and grades, with no piece of straight track longer than 300 feet.

AN effort is being made to prove the chief of police in St. Joe guilty of immoral conduct. In most western cities proof in such cases would not be demanded, as the citizens generally take it for granted that the average chief of police is about "the wickedest man in town."

THE latest report from the presidential camp in the Adirondacks is that Grover Cleveland is not half so sick as the army of impatient and disappointed office-seekers. As a matter of fact, he is doing quite well. He continues to fish, while Dr. Ward cuts bait.

THE fact that an additional doctor has been summoned to Willis' pond, in the Adirondacks, leads us to believe that Grover Cleveland is catching fish so fast that Dr. Ward needs an assistant in taking them off the hook and re-baiting it.

ALTHOUGH Hastings has been declared by Governor Dawes to be a city of the second-class, it is by no means a second-class city. Any place that can maintain as good a base ball club as that of Hastings must be a first-class town.

THE newly-appointed surveyor-general of Nebraska seems to be a very offensive partisan—to Dr. Miller. It is not at all likely, however, that Mr. Gardner is disturbed in the least by the kick from that source.

PRESIDENT CLEVELAND still refuses to answer the question "Who is that misfit judge?" The question is liable to become as common as the conundrum, "Who struck William Patterson?"

OTHER LANDS THAN OURS.

Since the prorogation of parliament there has been quite a calm in the political affairs of England, and the government, statesmen, and politicians are taking a rest. Gladstone is recreating in Norway, where he is bracing up no doubt for the coming campaign, it being generally expected and urged by the liberals that he will make an effort to regain power for himself and party. He has been followed to Norway by the queen and the prince of Wales, who are seeking a brief rest from the cares of government.

The prorogation marks the close of the legislative term of one of the busiest and stormiest parliaments of which English history bears record. Its achievements in practical legislation outrival those of the great parliament elected in 1868, exhausting and harassing to national interests as the labors of that body of practical reformers were. The three Irish land acts passed since 1880 exceed in importance the earlier and experimental measures passed in 1870. The franchise bill and the scheme for the redistribution of seats have armed two millions of the queen's subjects with the ballot and accomplished little less than a revolution in the representative system. The disestablishment act is not to be compared with these radical measures of electoral reform whereby the English democracy has been permanently entrenched in power. At the same time an immense mass of general legislation has been disposed of since the last elections. The ground game, corrupt practices, bankruptcy, patents, national debt, agricultural holdings and many other measures have been enacted and new rules of procedure have been passed for the dispatch of business in the commons. No other parliament has ever accomplished larger results; and the liberals can rightly claim the credit for an unprecedented display of industry. One of the basies, it has also been one of the most exciting, disorderly and angriest of parliaments. Faction has been arrayed against faction, business has been repeatedly blocked through organized obstruction, party discipline has been dispensed with, the leaders on both sides have been reviled by their own followers, and it has been from beginning to end a period of storm and stress. Perhaps the best thing that can be said of this parliament is that on supreme occasions it has risen to the highest levels of patriotism and statesmanship. In the crisis which followed the assassination of Lord Frederick Cavendish there were signs of self-possession in every quarter of the commons. In the debates following the bombardment of Alexandria and the Penjdeh episode there was a complete effacement of party lines. The franchise and the seats bill could not have been passed, if there had not been a wise conservatism exhibited on both sides Patriotism triumphed over party feeling and the result was a larger and more thoroughly digested measure than any ministry could have produced alone without an understanding with the opposition. Finally, the liberals instead of retaliating when in opposition for factious treatment received by them from the conservatives have resisted the temptation and set an excellent example for her majesty's opposition in the next parliament.

The forbearance of the liberals and the energy displayed by the ministry in the closing weeks of the English parliament are no doubt rightly attributed to the near approach of the elections. Neither party was willing to go before the voters with a record of impeding or delaying necessary legislation. Hence more was accomplished in a few weeks than the privious tory ministry had accomplished in years. This affords a strong argument in favor of the American system of short sessions. The septennial act permits English legislators to shirk their duties for years, without the constituents being able effectively to show their displeasure. More frequent elections will probably be one of the reforms that will ultimately follow the enlargement of the franchise.

The most remarkable result of the quarrel between Mr. Parnell and Michael Davitt is that it has given the London Times occasion to declare that "the Irish are a practical people." This is a view which any organ of English opinion would have scouted a few years ago. But nothing succeeds like success, and Mr. Parnell's demonstration that he can do what he likes in parliament has not been without its effect, though he has not yet demonstrated what he likes to do. Until he had shown what could be done by the organization of the Irish members the tone of English comment concerning him was very much what it now is concerning Davitt. He was an impracticable and visionary peron.

The French elections takes place early in October, and the electoral campaign is now well under way. The struggle lies between the opportunists, under the leadership of M. Ferry, and the radicals, under M. Clemenceau, while the reactionists, under which title are included the monarchists, imperialists, and their various subdivisions, appear to be holding the balance of power. The question is, whether the latter incongruous elements will unite with the radicals to overthrow the moderate republicans or opportunists, with the simple object of unsettling the present condition of things as much as possible. The opportunist creed is that the present government is the safest that France can have, that the country is prospering under it, and that any decided change or innovation in their domestic policy would be fraught with danger to the whole form of republican government. M. Clemenceau has announced the radical platform in a speech at Macon, demanding a progressive income tax, separation of church and state, and the election of all functionaries by universal suffrage. Of course nothing can be further from the desires of the imperialists and monarchists than such a platform as this. They are so blinded by hate and opportunism, however, which they believe alone makes the republic possible, that they are willing to go to any length to overthrow it. If this extraordinary alliance is consummated at the polls, M. Ferry has come to the front again apparently very slightly damaged by the violent denunciation to which he was subjected at the time of his downfall, while the radicals have practically dropped the Tonquin incident as an issue and are making the fight on questions of domestic policy. Aside from all other considerations, however, Mr. Ferry can "point with pride" to the fact that he is the only man since Gambetta who has been able to secure anything like a permanent working majority in the French chamber. The question which the October election will decide is whether M. Ferry shall come back to power.

Germany has not studied the history of England's colonizations for nothing. There is a fine flavor of British high-handedness about the account of the controversy between the sultan of Zanzibar and the German residents of that country. The German admiral undertook to adjudicate this controversy. In the true spirit of a British seadog he decided it in favor of his own countrymen, and in effect notified the sultan that if he did not acquiesce in this decision his palace should be bombarded by a German squadron. The sultan, it is needless to say, has acquiesced. Moreover, the German press remarks that the test of the friendly relations now existing between England and Germany will come when England acts upon the German demands touching the east African coast. To the unregenerate mind there is something pleasant in the notion that the power that was for long the unchallenged swashbuckler of the seas is about to be confronted by another swashbuckler quite as careless as himself of the rights of others, and even thicker of skin. This demonstration on the coast of Zanzibar is but another sign of Prince Bismarck's activity in colonial ventures. At the outset he disclaimed any intention of increasing the responsibilities of the German Empire. He was willing to encourage mercantile enterprise and to provide foreign markets for the industries which he was promoting by the policy of protection. He expected to grant charters to trading companies and he promised to support the settlements made by German colonists with subsides to steamship lines and displays of naval force. He supposed that private enterprise could be depended upon both for the establishment and the government of colonies and settlements. But it was not long before he discovered that he had organized a popular movement and that Germans favored the extension of their maritime empire. This last demonstration will probably excite great irritation in England. The sultan of Zanzibar has long been considered an ally of British traders and explorers. His good-will has been shown many times in promoting mercantile enterprises as well as in manning the expeditions of Livingstone, Cameron and Johnston. English pride will be touched since he has been compelled by threats of a bombardment to withdraw his garrisons and to acknowledge German supremacy. But the urgent necessity of maintaining friendly relations with Prince Bismarck will prevent a display of resentment on the part of the government. The feeling in Madrid against Germany is so bitter as to cause alarm. Fears are entertained that hostile demonstrations will be made against the German embassy and in consequence a guard of police guard the building. Germany offers, with refreshing coolness, to submit the claim of Spain to the Caroline, to a commission. It is expected that a patriotic demonstration against Germany will be made in Madrid on Sunday.

Every day makes plainer the absurdity of calling Afghanistan and Persia independent states or dealing with them as anything but the puppets of the greater powers which press upon them. Ever since the Russian advance to the vicinity of Penjdeh and the Zulficar pass the Muscovite forces have made almost as free with Persian soil as if it were their own. There has not been a time in months, in all probability, when there were no Russian soldiers on the Persian bank of the Heri Rud. The Russians have drawn supplies and laborers from Persia and used Persian roads for transport trains. On the other hand, it is stated that England has induced the Shah to order the construction of a military road from Bushire to a point on the Afghan frontier in the vicinity of Herat. Of course England is to pay liberally for the building of the road. In violating the principles if not the forms of neutrality between possible belligerents and in playing the humble cat's paw of a foreign power this act on the part of the Shah beats anything he has ever done for Russia. Bushire is the best port on the Persian gulf, and a military road leading back to the Afghan frontier could only be constructed for the plain and undeniable purpose of facilitating the sending of a British army across Persian territory to Herat.

In Afghanistan England is even more reckless of the nominal sovereignty of the ameer. She furnishes money to pay his troops, engineers to fortify his strongholds, and directs the disposition of the forces she arms and drills. At present, in the vicinity of Herat, Afghan villages are being razed by the direction of British officers, in order that, in case of a Russian siege, the houses may not be used for shelter. England pays the people whose homes are destroyed for their losses, and the whole work is being done solely because the British government wishes it. Of course nothing would be possible in a really independent state, and an open protectorate might as well be established over Afghanistan at once, letting Russia have a slice of the ameer's territory in Afghan-Turkestan. Sooner or later either war or diplomacy will bring the Russian and British frontiers together, and the sooner this comes to pass the better. Then there will be no more opportunity for ambitious officers commanding on the border to presume upon the uncertain character of the boundary or the weakness of the power confronting them. Dreary diplomatic disputes about trifles and lawless frontier affrays will cease together, and an overt act on the part of either power will be decisive.

Is Peru never again to be at peace? We have news by telegraph of another tragedy in the conflict between the government and the insurgents. For five hours Lieutenant Colonel Bustomente held his position against the rebels. Then his ammunition gave out, and there was nothing left but the bayonet. The charge was bold, but not successful. When he saw that all was lost he deliberately shot himself on the field. As a sea captain goes down with his vessel rather than live to be blamed for disaster, so Bustomento preferred death to possible dishonor. The South American republics closely resemble boiling cauldrons. The people live in a land of earthquaker, where at any moment their houses may come tumbling down about their heads, and the spirit of the tornado and cyclone seems to have found its way into their temperaments. It is a long struggle from chaos to civil order, and while it is in progress knives and machinations and gunpowder make up a general tragedy.

ECHOES FROM THE STREET.

—"I am glad to see that there is some prospect of the Belt road being built after all," said a prominent man upon learning of the result of the injunction case of the Union Pacific against the Omaha Belt railway company. "It is said that Jay Gould is behind Mr. Clark, but the people of Omaha don't care a straw who the man is at the back of this scheme so long as the road is built. I understand that Mr. Clark and his associates mean business, and propose to proceed with the work of constructing the road to an early completion. At least that is the impression which they have conveyed to the public. They can't begin too soon to suit the people of this city. I am told that the reason Jay Gould is in the enterprise is that he wants the Belt line for a Missouri Pacific entrance into Omaha, as he is tired of having the Missouri Pacific depend upon the Union Pacific for terminal facilities. It is also hinted that Gould intends to extend the Missouri Pacific into northern and northwestern Nebraska, using the Omaha & Northern Nebraska franchise. This latter enterprise, you will remember, was squelched for the time being, together with the Belt line project, by the Union Pacific. The Omaha & Northern Nebraska franchise is in the hands of Mr. Clark, and Jay Gould knows its value—he knows a good thing when he sees it."

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—"The Belt project is intimately connected with the scheme of making a grand boulevard and a chain of parks," continued the same gentleman who seemed to be pretty well posted. "When the belt is completed, it will encircle the city, and afford rapid transit to the dwellers along the boulevard and in the vicinity of the parks. To encourage the purchase of residence property along the Belt and boulevard, a five-cent fare will be made, and numerous stations with handsome depots will be established at frequent intervals. The men interested in the Belt and boulevard enterprise have every confidence in Omaha becoming a city of 200,000 people in a few years. They are largely interested in residence property along the line, and in conjunction with other property-holders they will realize handsomely from that investment and at the same time render a valuable service to the city."

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—"The central depot of the Belt line will be in the immediate vicinity of the Canfield house, opposite the Union Pacific headquarters," continued our informant. "An ordinance has just been granted to the Belt line company to run its track, along with the B & M., from block 99—that is, at Douglas and Eighth streets—along the foot of the bluffs in a northwesterly direction to Chicago street, parallel to the Omaha & St. Paul track. Do you see the connection? The belt will run only a short distance east of the Canfield house. Perhaps the B. & M. will have a passenger depot in that vicinity, and a union depot would not be among the improbabilities. The right of way has been granted on condition that the Belt line track be built and operated within two years. So you see there is a definite time fixed for the completion of the enterprise. It is a big scheme and no mistake."

—"Talking about the Canfield house reminds me that Mr. Clark became an unwilling owner of that property," said our talkative friend. "How's that?" we asked. "Just before he left the Union Pacific," replied he, "he bought the property for the Union Pacific, it being the intention at some day to make use of it for a grand union depot. It was also contemplated to purchase the Cozzens house property in order to have sufficient room, but before this arrangement could be carried out the change of administration in the affairs of the Union Pacific occurred. The new administration intimated to Mr. Clark that his purchase of the Canfield house was unauthorized, and if it was just as convenient to him he could refund the money that he had paid for it. Without any hesitation Mr. Clark went down into his vest pocket and handed over $12,000, and took the Canfield house off the company's hands. He immediately remodeled the house at some considerable expense, and now receives a rental of $3,600 per year, or ten per cent interest on $36,000. You can't buy that property to-day for $30,000. The Union Pacific treated Mr. Clark, as I am told, in almost the same manner in regard to the Belt line. To-day he holds possession of the Belt line, and stands ready to pay to the Union Pacific whatever money it has put into the enterprise. You see the Union Pacific has virtually forced Mr. Clark into what may be called 'a fat take'."

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—"Give us a rest," said Mr. Higgins, and Marshal Cummings is accordingly giving him arrest once a day. "Talking of Higgins," said a leading business man, "it strikes me that Marshal Cummings is turning prosecution into persecution. When an officer carries a warrant in his pocket all day, and then serves it after midnight for an alleged offense committed on the previous night, in order to get the offender behind the bars and put him to great inconvenience in furnishing bail, it looks like persecution and spite. He could just as well have served that warrant during the day. Higgins may be wrong, and I think he is, but nevertheless he is only charged with misdemeanor, and he is not going to forfeit his bonds or run away. I endorse the marshal's efforts to enforce the law, but I do not endorse anything that looks like spite work, persecution, or vindictiveness. If Higgins is wrong a jury will say so, and he will be punished accordingly, but there is no necessity of thrusting him or any other saloon man or restaurant keeper into jail, like a common thief and outlaw, especially at a time when the chances are that he cannot secure bonds for his appearance."

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—The ladies of the Women's Christian Temperance Union have placed in prominent locations in the business center, attractive water-barrels, painted red, white and blue, and furnished with faucets and drinking-cups. These barrels—it is almost unnecessary to say it—are filled with ice-water, and are well patronized by the thirsty population. We venture to say that these barrels prevent many a poor and thirsty man from spending his nickels for beer. They certainly supply a long-felt and much-felt want in this city, for if there is anything a man hates to do, it is to go into a saloon and coolly ask for a drink of water.

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—"Hurrah for the red, white and blue!" exclaimed a half-tipsy fellow as he stopped at one of the Womens' Christian Temperance Union's water-barrels. "That 'er combination of colors is rather (hic) significant. The color-the red-reminds me that I am painting the town a deep crimson. The white (hic) shows me how I'll look when I am bleached out, and the blue is indicative of my feelings when I am (hic) sobering up. I am going to surprise myself by taking a snifter of that 'er 'licker,' and I (hic) propose to sober up and surprise my friends of the W. C. T. U. God bless 'em for their noble work. Here's how!"

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—While the W. C. T. U. ladies have kindly provided for the thirst of man with an ample supply of ice water in barrels, Jim Stephenson deserves no less credit for placing a public drinking fountain for horses on the sidewalk in front of his livery stable on Harney street. It is one of the best fountains made. There is no overflow of water whatever, as it flows down the center of the fountain through a pipe, after it reaches a certain height, and runs into the sewer. It cost a hundred dollars.

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—The amusement season at Boyd's opens with "The Devil's Auction." We suppose that the old name for sheol will be auctioned off to some second-hand purchaser of mild and almost obsolete profanity.

MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC.

Jeffreys Lewis will appear as the heroine of "Dark Days" in San Francisco, October 12.

The perennial Lydia Thompson will begin her new tour of the United States in January.

Jules Levy, the cornet player, is employed between acts in playing a cradle song for his recently acquired baby.

Clunie's new opera house at Sacramento will be opened August 31st. It is described as a "magnificent temple of amusement."

The Madison Square Garden has been leased to Wm. Eaton at an annual rental of $75,000. It will be used for circus and other entertainments.

The National theatre in Washington, destroyed by fire last winter, is rapidly rebuilding at a cost of $120,000. It will be opened in October.

Emma Abbott's agent informs a listening world that the lady has grown quite fat and that she walks six miles a day to keep down her flesh.

W. W. Cole has purchased from James A. Bailey his interest in Barnum's circus. The price paid is said to be $500,000. Mr. Bailey is to retire from the business.

Maggie Mitchell will produce her new play, "Maggie, the Midget," for the first time in New York city during her engagement at the Grand Opera house in November.

Mme. Modjeska is return to America early in September, opening her season in Easton, Pa., on October 5, and she will play in New York during the month of January.

Both men and women are fond of theatre going in the country. The women like to go to the society plays to see how the actresses dress, and the men to the variety plays to see how they don't dress.

Miss Rose Coghlan will begin her career as a star actress at Providence, R. I., September 28. Her repertory will include "Our Joan," "Masks and Faces," and a new drama by A. R. Cazauran.

Great preparations are being made at the New York Thalia theatre for the production of Bartley Campbell's popular drama "Siberia" on August 24. The entire stage, seventy-two feet deep, will be used for the display of the scenery.

Mr. W. E. Sheridan intends to make "Louis XI." the principal feature of his repertory this season. He is having elaborate scenery manufactured for the Scott-Delavigne-Boucicault play, and his associates in the cast will include Louise Davenport, Frances Field, John T. Malone and W. L. Lloyd.

Augustin Daly's company has returned to New York from a very successful trip to California. The receipts of the Daly company during their four weeks' stay at the Bush Street theatre in San Francisco reached to within a trifle of $30,000, making this by all odds the largest engagement ever played in that house. The company open in New York early next month.

The directors of the New York Academy of Music have received a dispatch from J. H. Mapleson closing a contract for a six weeks' season of Italian opera, beginning October 26. The terms agreed upon are not known. One of the conditions imposed is understood to be that admission shall be reasonable, $3 being mentioned as the highest price. Over £50,000 will be spent this summer on the redecoration, refurnishing and general renewal of the Academy of Music.

The amusement season is now in full blast in New York. The preparations for thus opening the season have been rather rushed on, and several of the theatres have started much earlier this season than ever before, or at least for a long time back, probably for the reason that those places which have been doing business regularly through the summer have met with very great encouragement. This has indeed been the most profitable summer in theatricals that has been recorded for at least ten years.

Pretty much all the actresses in America who are already stars or are desirous of reaching that elevated professional altitude appear to have settled on M. Sardou's drama called "Andrea" as the vehicle through which they are to ascend. Miss Minnie Maddern opens in New York in an adaptation of it at the Lyceum theatre, Monday. Kate Claxton follows in another adaptation at the Madison Square theatre on the 1st of September, and Miss Coghlan is the third of the lot with a version of "Andrea" in her satchel. She will make it a leading feature of her repertoire.

The new Chicago opera house, which was opened to the public last Thursday evening, is an exceptionally fine specimen of theatre construction and a notable addition to the list of Chicago playhouses. It is an opera house only in name, being intended mainly for theatrical performances and not likely to see much grand opera. The new theatre occupies the chief part of a substantial, plain brick building ten stories high, situated on the southwest corner of Clark and Washington streets. Massive stone piers support the weight of the building between the foundation walls and give it a solidity which it is believed will prevent the slightest vibration in the structure. The theatre rises to the height of six stories. Its seating capacity is 2,250, or about 200 greater than that of any other theatre in Chicago. The stage has a depth of fifty feet, the rigging loft is seventy feet high, and the curtain opening is thirty-six feet wide.

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Getting the Mitten.

I met her in the summer time;
The fields were bright and glowing,
The birds and bees were all achime,
The brooklet gayly flowing.

The daisies nestled at her feet,
She seemed so light and airy;
My heart went forth in rapture sweet—
The little winsome fairy.

I left her in the autumn time,
The flowers their leaves were taking,
The birds and bees were out of chime,
And my poor heart was breaking.

Oh, what, indeed, so sweet as love,
When one is badly smitten?
I begged from her a tiny glove
And got, alas! the mitten.
—[Roxbury Advocate.

Business Failures.

NEW YORK, August 21.—Business failures during the past seven days were 177, against 178 last week, and 189 the week previous to last.

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