PICKED UP ABOUT THE CITY.

Latest News of the Union Pacific Brakemen's Strike.

THE SITUATION IN WYOMING.

An Insurance Suit in the District Court—A Crazy Boy Wanders Away—Police Matters—The Federal Court—Odds and Ends.

The Strike.

There was but little change yesterday in the condition of the strike of the brakemen on the Union Pacific No additional men have gone out. The strikers are causing the company a good deal of trouble at Cheyenne and Laramie by pulling coupling pins from moving trains, and interfering with the crews who are willing to do the work. An attempt to take an orange train out of Laramie Monday was frustrated by the strikers, who run the engines on the turn table and killed them. The strikers took a freight conductor, who was going to take his train out of Cheyenne, from the passenger train and held him. All is quiet on the Colorado, East Nebraska and Ogden divisions, and no trouble is further expected. The strike is confined to the division between Cheyenne and Laramie. A rumor prevailed yesterday that a general strike had been ordered by all of the brotherhood along the entire line of the Union Pacific, but up to a late hour yesterday no such action has been taken.

NOTES AND PERSONALS.

J. C. Lewis, traveling agent of the Souix City & Pacific, is in Omaha.

Mr. G. B. Sheppard, who has been correspondent clerk in the general superintendent's office of the Union Pacific for a number of years, has resigned to accept a position in the First National bank, and has been succeeded by Mr. A. O'Connor.

The overland passenger No. 2, of the Union Pacific, came in from the west yesterday on time. The roadmaster acted as brakeman from Laramie to the east Nebraska division.

THE IOWA GRANGER.

How He Comes to Omaha to Indulge in His Sprees.

The morning police docket had been waded through, and Judge Stenberg leaned back in his chair, puffing a mild Havana. "It is strange" he remarked to a reporter who was sitting near him "how many cases of intoxication I have from the state of Iowa. Nearly two-thirds of the prisoners arraigned before me for drunkenness are from that state."

"How does that happen?"

"Well, you see, those fellows are penned up over there in the prohibition stalls, without anything to drink, and they become desperate about once in every two or three years. Then they break for Omaha with from $25 to $500 in their pockets, and they do not rest until they have spent every cent of it here. All the old topers in western Iowa head for Omaha whenever they want to have a "good time." I have always noticed, too, that the average Iowa man when he does get on a spree invariably reports that he has fallen in with a man who got him blindly intoxicated and then robbed him. Sometimes the Hawkeye man will come here with a pocket full of cash, say $400 or $500, and he never rests until he has spent every cent of it on whisky and women. When he gets through with his spree he is the most pitiable object one could imagine, a perfect wreck in body and mind. We put him in the dark cell and give him from two days to a week to sober up in. When he is straightend out, he has, of course, no money left to pay a fine, and I send him back to his Iowa home, with instructions to keep sober for at least the next six months. He goes back and regales his friends with an account of how he "saw the elephant" in Omaha. When the prohibition law in Iowa is repealed, the Hawkeye granger will perhaps learn to let Omaha whiskey alone."

HAIL TO THE CHIEF.

Affectionately Raised by the Gallant to Their Former Comrade and Commander, Gen. Crook.

The officers of the Fourth infantry paid their compliments to Gen. Crook at the Paxton hotel Monday The Fourth infantry band under the direction of Prof. Nevotti were in attendance, and assisted greatly in making the evening one long to be remembered by all who participated. The officers were all in full dress and comprised the following: Gen. W. P. Carlin, Col. J. F. Kent, Maj. W. H. Powell, Maj. J. Morris Brown, Maj. C. J. Von Hermann, Capt. T. F. Quinn, Capt. Jos. Keefe, Capt. J. W. Bubb, Lieut. Butler D. Price, Lieut. T. C. True, Lieut. L. A. Levering, Lieut. F. B. Andrus, Lieut. A. H. Brown and Chaplain McAdam.

The balcony of the elegant office of the Paxton was filled with army officers and their ladies. A number of the staff of the headquarters of the department of of the Platte was also present, among whom we noticed Gen. Crook, Adjt. Gen. Breck, Surgeon McParlin, Maj. Terrell and others.

The Fourth Infantry band, which, next to the band at West Point and the marine band, is admitted to be the best in the United service, gave the following programme in their usual excellent manner:

1. Serenade, "Soldier's Dream." ..Ripley.
2. Selection, "Faust,".....Gonoud
3. Spanish Fantasie.....Missud.
4. Moonlight Medley .....Wadsworth.

The evening was spent in a pleasant intercourse between Gen. Crook and the officers of the staff and the Fourth Infantry, which regiment served for years with the general in the campaigns against the Sioux and Cheyenne Indians in this department. Gen. Crook expressed much regret at the order transferring the Fourth from this departm ent to that of the Columbia, and gave utterance to the hope that the change might yet be deomed inadvisable.

Among the distinguished gentlemen from abroad were Senator Wyck, Hon. Geo. W. Dorsey, Fremont; N. W. Wells, Schuyler; ex-Senator Kinkaid, O'Neill; Lieutenant Goodin, Seventh Infantry; Jno. F. Lawrence, Church Howe, of Auburn; W. Munger, of Fremont; Judge Brewer, Hon. Chas. A. Holmes, Johnson Co., Marshal Bierbower, A. T. Richards, Fremont; P. O. Hawes, Judge Applegate, Johnson Co., Hon. N. S. Harwood and Lieutenant Robinson.

Run Away.

About 7 o'clock Monday evening, shortly after C. E. Mayne had left his residence for a drive with a new team of 4 year old colts, the latter became frightened while being driven up Leavenworth St., near Park ave., and ran away. They became unmanageable and ran away, throwing Mr. Mayne violently out of the buggy, knocking him senseless. It was fully five minutes before he regained his consciousness. The horses were caught on the corner of 23d and Farnam Sts. The buggy was completely destroyed. The colts escaped with but slight bruises, but no doubt will feel the effects of their race for several days.

HYGIENE AND HOLIDAY.

The Commendable Objects of a New Amateur Athletic and Recreative Society.

For several days some of the leading sporting men of this city have been engaged in forming a new sporting association under novel circumstances. The idea comprehends a society of about thirty members and the object is the friendly meeting, for both recreation and exercise if the members on certain days, after the confining and sedentary labor to which they are subject. They will play ball in summer and in winter indulge in the exhilaration produced by gymnasium divertisement. In ball playing the sides will be selected at random after the old style of choosing sides, and each side will wear the uniform used by the members so selected on that day. There are twenty of these suits. Ten are of drab gray, the other ten of maroon. These sides will be exclusively composed of members of the association and the result is expected to be not alone exercise but also enjoyment and delightful intercourse.

The association is officered as follows: Ed. Leeder, president; H. A. Parrish, vice-president; W. B Kennedy, second vice-president; John C. Morrison, manager and F. M. Bitterson, secretary and treasurer.

The charter members of the association are Ed. Maurer, L. B. Lawrence, W. W. Donnelly, Geo. Kay, Robt. Sexauer, Frank Kenniston, F. B. Carleton, Jas. O'Neill, Frank Parish, Geo. Fleming Andy Moynihan, L. O. Hibben, Ed. Leighton, C. F. Baker, J. Maloney, Jas. Kilkenny, Prof. P. J. Fallon, Frank Parmalee, Wm. Bear, W. Smithson, J. Murdock, E. D. Pratt.

There are few organizations in this city which promise more in the way of both healthful exercise and amusement than that above outlined, and the character of its members gives every proof that it will not only run through the summer, but even extend into the winter.

An Insurance Case Against the City.

The Phœnix Insurance company, of Brooklin, has commenced an action against the city of Omaha that will decide, in a measure, the liability of an insurance company's receipts to municipal taxation. The petition of the plaintiff alleges that between April and June in 1885 the local agents of the Phœnix returned for the purposes of state and county taxation a list of the gross amount of premiums received by the company's agent here in 1884 and paid the state and county taxes thereupon. The city clerk in making the city assessment roll from the county assessment erroneously entered the gross amount of the company's premiums and the city council thereafter levied taxes upon the same, which taxes were paid in December 1885, in the sum of $278.33. The petition alleges that at no time in 1884 were the gross premium receipts the property of the company, but belonged largely to the agents of the said company in payment of commissions and in amounts returned to the assured by the cancellation of policies; and that after the payment of agents' commissions, rebates, lossess and other expenses, but a small portion of the gross receipts belong to the company Furthermore, that the levy for city taxes is ordinarily made upon an assessed valuation which is about one-third of the real valuation of the property but that the plaintiff's property was assessed at the full value thereof; that the gross receipts of the company on premiums can not be legally assessed as real or personal property. Therefore the company prays a judgment against the city for $278.23, the amount of the taxes illegally assessed and collected, and the costs of the suit.

He Was a Gambler.

The general run of court martial cases which come up before Col. Burnham, advocate general of this department, are uninteresting. In most instances the offenders are soldiers who have indulged in a spree or perhaps committed some petty offense, for which the punishment is nothing more than a few days in the guard house with possibly a trifling loss of pay.

A little out of the ordinary run is the case of a sergeant who has just been committed at Fort Russell for running a gambling hall. The unfortunate man is James Merton, and he is, or rather was up to a few days a sergeant in company H, Ninth infantry. He was arrested for running a faro game in his private quarters which managed to swallow up the earnings of many of his fellow soldiers In addition the charge was preferred against him him that his game was fraudulently conducted, that his "layout" was a "crooked" one, etc., etc. The case attracted no little attention and was bitterly fought by Merton. However, upon a caseful court martial trial, he was found guilty and sentenced to be reduced to the rank of private, with the loss of $50 of his pay. So far as is known the case is the first of its kind in this department.

Their Silver Wedding.

Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Shammel celebrated their silver wedding at their residence on Twenty-fourth and Pacific streets, Monday. There were many friends in attendance, and Mr. and Mrs. Shammel were the recipients of a large number of handsome presents, notable among which was an elegant and costly china tea set, presented by the employees of G. S. & J. S. Collins, Mr. Shammel being foreman af the mechanical department of that establishment, also an elegant set of cups and saucers from Laura Sham mel; fine castor set from Mrs. J. M. Lewis, and others too numerous to mention. Among those present were Mr. and Mrs. Meyers, Mr. and Mrs. Kellor, Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Lewis, Mr. and Mrs. Hackthorne, Mr. and Mrs. Minlens; Mr. and Mrs. Schinker, Mrs. Malone; Misses Johnson, King, Feenan, Rowdorosky, Shannon and Eckhart; Messrs. Greener, Engarnan, Whitte, Broadhurst, Keefe, Meyers, Thompson, Sauter, Metzger, Seitelzer and many others. The affair was one one of the most pleasant that have taken place for some time, and the host and hostess are to be congratulated upon their success in entertaining.

Mysterious Disappearance.

The case of the disappearance of a sick boy w'o has been lying ill in a hut on the bottoms was reported at police headquarters yesterday. The young man's name is Anton Schaab, and for weeks past he has been sick—so ill, in fact, that he has been unable to leave his bed for a month. His sister has been "working out" and supported him as best she could with her scanty earnings. On every opportunity she would visit him, see that his wants were attended to, and bestow upon him the best of a sister's care. Of late, however, he had grown worse, instead of better, and had begun to show signs of aberration He imagined that some enemy was pursuing him to hound him to death, and it was with the greatest difficulty that his sister could induce him to remain indoors. On Sunday, when she went to visit him, he was missing, and the most careful search has failed to reveal his whereabouts. He has undoubtedly wandered away, and it is feared that his delusion may have led him to commit suicide.

Halford Sauce makes cold meats a luxury.

The Street Railway.

Superintendent Smith, of the Street Railway company, said yesterday that the company would have to relay two miles of track this year in the districts which are to be paved. "Beyond that," he said, "I can't tell you what we shall do in the way of track laying. There are some schemes afloat, but none of them have assumed definite shape. Nothing has been decided about the branch to South Omaha."

At the annual meeting of the stockholders of the company Monday, the following directors were elected: S. H. H. Clark, Guy C. Barton, Frank Murphy, W. A. Smith and W. A. Marsh. It was decided to double track the red car line as far north as Seward street, thus adding greatly to the facilities for travel. The directors of the company subsequently held a meeting and elected the following officers: Frank Murphy, president; Guy C. Barton, vice president; W. W. Walsh, treasurer; J. E. Wilbur, secretary; W. A. Smith, superintedent.

Omaha Real Estate Men.

A large number of real estate agents responded to the call for Monday's meeting at the board of trade rooms for the enrollment of members and the election of officers for the ensuing year of the Omaha Real Estate board.

Ex-Senator Alvin Saunders was elected president; Geo. P. Bemis vice president and Edwin Davis treasurer, the election of secretary being postponed until Tuesday evening, May 11th, at 8 o'clock, when the board will meet at the same place and its various committees selected. The most important committee will be the one chosen for encouraging the locating of manufactories in our midst and a strong one it is intended to be, the prime object in organizing the board being a desire on the part of Omaha's best real estate men to do all in their power to build up the city, and knowing the most important factor towards accomplishing that object is the building up of factories hereabouts.

Mormon Converts.

The 182 Mormon proselytes from Europe who passed through Omaha Sunday night, arrived at their destination this morning. Most of them—something over one-half—are from England, the rest being Danes, Swedes, etc. They are totally in ignorance of the kind of life they are to lead, having an idea that they are about to enter some sort of lower heaven. Even the more intelligent of the proselytes, in conversation with a reporter for the BEE who questioned them, showed the wildest ignorance of the Mormon religion, and the duties which would be expected of them. There are about six of these parties brought over from Europe every year, some of them numbering 500 or 600 souls. This party was the first of the season. Another one will probably pass through Omaha the middle of June or the first of July.

Wants Her Husband.

Marshal Cummings yesterday received the following letter from a woman who is evidently in distress:

CHICAGO, April 30.

To Mr. Jailer—Will you please let me know if you received a letter dated 27th for my husband, George Bell, confined in jail. I received no answer and I am very uneasy, as I am very sick and have four little children. I don't understand why he is in prison. His boss and some people here, that know him will do what they can for him. I would like to near from him, I know he feels very bad for us. Tell my husband to write to 231 South Clinton street, Chicago, Ill., and oblige a poor sick woman.

Yours respectfully,
MRS. MARY BELL.

Please let my husband answer this right away. The babies send their love to him.

Neither the city or county jail authorities know anything about such a man. An effort however will be made to locate him in this city.

April Weather.

Signal Service Office Polack has prepared his report of the weather for April:

The range of the themometer during the month of April, has been a wide one, from 84.6 degrees on the 22d down to 17.8 degrees on the 6th; the month averag ng 3 degrees warmer than for the same month last year, and 3 degrees cooler than for the year 1883. Ten days have been marked with a rainfall of more than one-tenth of an inch, and the total rainfall during the month of 6.34 inches is larger than for any April during the previous fifteen years. There have been nine clear days, fifteen fair days and six cloudy days. Light frosts fell on the 5th and 27th, and three thunderstorms have disturbed the equanimity of many people during the month.

Will be Released.

Gen. Crook has issued an order for the return of Private Cecil E. McDowell, of company G, 7th Infantry, who for some time past has been in confinement at Fort Russell, Wyo. McDowell deserted the service of Uncle Sam on Jan 12, 1885, and was apprehended in Denver, Col. more than a year after, (in March 1886. He will be restored to the service without trial upon condition that he forfeit all pay and allowances due him at date of desertion, that he make good the time lost thereby, and that he refund to the United States all expenses incurred in his apprehension and delivery at Fort D. A Russell and the cost of transportation to the station of his company at Fort Washakie, Wyo., to which place he will be sent.

A Little One's Fall.

Monday between 6 and 7 o'clock, a little girl about 14 years of age, in getting off a north-bound car on Sixteenth near California street fell to the pavement and became unconscious. She was carried into Anderson's tailor store, when Dr. Lanyon attended her. It was found that she had suffered no dangerous injury, and upon being revived started for home. She gave nobody her name, neither could it be ascertained how she happened to meet with the accident which for some time was considered fatal.

Old Folks Concert.

The members of the Seward street M. E. church will favor the people of North Omaha with a regular old-fashioned "Old Folks Concert" on next Monday evening, 10th inst. All the singers and those taking part will be artistically attired in the costumes of a century ago. This will be a good chance for the young people to see how they conducted singing bees in the days of "Auld Lang Syne." The price of admission will be the same as it was at the last sociable, notwithstanding the announcement to the contrary.

The Pierce Disappearance.

Detective Charles Emery has received a letter from Frank Castetter, of Blair, regarding the disappearance of E. C. Pierce, the well known undertaker of that place. Mr. C. says that the parents of Mrs. Pierce have come on here from Vermont to assist in the search. The relatives of the missing man still cling to the belief that he has not committed suicide, but believe that he wandered away in a fit of temporary aberration.

Police Court.

Leon Lamboard and John Nelson were fined $5 and costs in police court yesterday for drunkenness. Albert Maloney and P. M. Hart charged with a similar offense, were released. S. Rope, who was arrested for beating his wife, was fined $5 and costs.

John Fitzgibbon was held on a charge of highway robbery. Nothing about the circumstances of the case is known by the police.

THE TENTH STREET BOOM.

An Old and Well Known Dry Goods Establishment Changes Hands.

John Linderholm Succeeds Peter Wiig at the Latter's Tenth Street Store, and Will add Greatly Thereto.

Late last evening it was rumored in the dry goods circles that Mr. Peter Wiig, the veteran dry goods merchant of South Tenth street, had sold out his entire stock to a gentleman from Essex, Iowa.

Upon further investigation this morning it was found that Dame Rumor once again was telling the truth. Mr. Wiig has sold his entire stock amounting to about $37,000 to Mr. John Linderholm, of Essex, Iowa, a gentleman in every sence of the word and well and favorably known in western Iowa and throughout the greater portion of Nebraska. Mr. Linderholm will add quite extensively to his stock, having already ordered about $50,000 worth of new dry goods, millinery, gents' furnishings, boots, shoes, etc. When this lot of new goods are in it will compare favorably with any establishment in the city.

Mr. Linderholm is a man of means, having a large store in Central City, Nebraska, in which is about a $30,000 stock and as much more in another store at Ogallala. The latter store is in the charge of his eldest daughter, who will give up her position there to take the general management of the Omaha store. Mr. Linderholm's youngest daughter will act in the capacity of cashier. He is now building another brick store at Grant, Neb., which he will stock to its full capacity. His property in Iowa having been disposed of Mr. Linderholm's will now make Omaha his future home. He has the reputation wherever he has stores of being "a terror to low prices." This is easily accounted for as having so many stores to look after, he buys in the largest quantities at lowest possible prices, thereby enabling him to make the closest prices on earth. He is a pusher and will give the Omaha people a few profitable pointers on how and where to buy goods. He comes highly recommended, and together with his estimable family will be a valuable acquisition to both social and business circles of Omaha. The numbers of the the store are 414 and 416 South Tenth St. Let more such men get to the front.

The Federal Court.

In the U. S. circuit court yesterday Judge Brewer ruled on a number of unimportant equity cases. Damages in the sum of $500 were awarded N. C. Clark, against M. K. Lewis, for an infringement on a patent.

Judge Dundy, of the district court, was able to assume his official duties yesterday, and called the grand jury at 2 o'clock.

Might Have Been Worse.

Engine No. 92, attached to a train of freight cars, was derailed yesterday by a plank which had been placed across the B. & M. track at South Twenty-third street. The cars fortunately were not thrown off the track, but the engine was badly smashed. Fortunately, no one was injured. The plank which caused the mischief was evidently put on the track by some person with evil intentions.

Three Foot Races.

Fred Cunningham, an amateur foot runner, well known in the east, has made arrangements for a series of three races with Dan J. Ross, of this city. The first will be a quarter of a mile in distance, to be run on May 23, the second will be one-half mile, to be run on May 30, and the last, which will occur June 6, will be one mile in distance.

When you come to Lincoln, stop at the Commercial Hotel, if you want home comforts. C. W. KITCHEN, Proprietor.

Traveling Masons.

The meeting of the Grand Commandry of Masons took place at Fremont yesterday A number of Omahans went to that city on the morning train, among them were A. B. Smith, grand commander, W. R. Bowen, Chas. Needham and Gustav Anderson.

Postoffice Receipts.

According to Postmaster Coutant's report for the month of April, the receipts were:

Stamps sold	$9,139.16
Envelopes sold	1,644.72
Postal cards sold	1,025.86

THE PRESIDENT'S BETROTHED.

Miss Folsom's Acquaintance with Mr. Cleveland Related by Her Uncle.

Boston dispatch to the New York Herald: "No there is no doubt about it, President Cleveland is soon to marry my neice, Miss Frankie Folsom."

This was in answer to a direct question put by your correspondent to Mr. H. F. Harmon, flour merchant of State street, Boston. Mr. Harmon is an uncle to Miss Folsom, as your correspondent entered his office he was in the act of sealing a letter which he had just written to that interesting young lady.

Continuing, Mr. Harmon said:—"It was our intention not to announce the engagement until some little time before the wedding, but unfortunately it was made public by a breach of confidence on the part of friends in Buffalo. I think I know who made the first statements concerning the wedding in that city, and although we are not assured as yet we will undoubtedly learn in time."

"I have just been writing a letter to Miss Frankie," he added. "It is now nearly time for her to be preparing to return home."

Mr. Harmon was then shown the article about the president and Miss Folsom published in the Herald yesterday, and after reading it carefully and evidently with much interest, said: "Yes, that is substantially correct."

"Do you know," asked the correspondent, "if your niece has heard of the many rumors in circulation here in regard to her approaching marriage?"

"I have no doubt," said he, "she has learned something. I was engaged in writing her, as you entered, that the cat was out of the bag, and giving her a little of the gossip she may expect to hear on returning home. We frequently receive letters from her about the trip. She writes often and her letters are particularly bright. She has a brilliant descriptive style and is an enthusiastic observer. Among the many rumors that have appeared was one to the effect that the expenses of her European trip were paid by Mr. Cleveland. There is not a particle of truth in it and I do not see how it ever originated. It was Miss Folsom's intention to announce the engagement in due time before the wedding, but to her, as well as the entire family, the premature statements concerning it are a great surprise. As I have said, there were but a few who were let into the secret, and some one was evidently unable to hold it. At last accounts Miss Folsom was enjoying the best of health. She enjoyed the visit to Italy very much, the only drawback being her mother's illness in Genoa, where she was taken down with a fever."

THE ACQUAINTANCE.

"Can't you tell me something about the acquaintance of Miss Folsom and Mr. Cleveland?" the correspondent asked.

"Yes, I may as well tell you all I know now, I suppose. Others have spoken and others will speak. It had better come from some one who knows. There is certainly nothing in all this that either Frankie or Mr. Cleveland need be ashamed of. There is no reason, so far as I know, why they should not love each other, or why they should not marry. Frankie will make him a most excellent wife, and there is every reason to believe that he will be a model husband. Miss Folsom's acquaintance with President Cleveland forms a romantic story. Her father was one of Mr. Cleveland's warmest friends, and, owing to his business relations as a law partner, was intimately acquainted with the family. Frankie at a very early age gave promise of great beauty. As a child she was loved by every one who knew her. She was frank in manner, warm hearted and very beautiful. When scarcely knee high she was particularly friendly to 'Uncle Cleve,' as she called him, and in after years held him as one of her dearest friends and advisers. Then came her father's death, with its attending changes. I have no doubt if he had lived he would have been much gratified at the marriage. It has already been told how Miss Folsom passed her school life. She was an ambitious student and deservedly popular. One of her strong characteristics was her modesty. She was entirely unassuming in manner, possessing none of the conceit and hautuer of which so many young ladies are victims."

THE ENGAGEMENT.

"Do you know at what time their engagement took place?"

"No, I do not," said Mr. Harmon, smiling. "She would, no doubt, tell me were I to ask her, but it is, as you must realize, a delicate matter even for an uncle, and a loved one, as I believe I am, to touch upon. Mr. Cleveland was very friendly disposed toward Miss Folsom from the time she was a child, but about three years ago his attentions commenced to assume a more serious aspect. Although very reserved in manner, it was evident he now cared far more for the woman than he had in former years for the child. When Miss Folsom and her mother visited the white house last year considerable talk was made regarding a possible engagement to the president, but not until the announcement of the marriage was recently made was any further report put in circulation. I think I may safely say you can travel a great many miles before you will find a young lady of greater beauty and accomplishment than Miss Folsom. She has sound common sense, and is in every way worthy of the position she will occupy. I have no doubt it will be very embarrassing for her to know of the thousands of varied rumors that are being circulated regarding her. It will be especially so if she happens to see any of the newspaper cuts printed over her name. There is not the semblance of a likeness in any of them."

Mr. Harmon then took from the drawer in his desk a cabinet photograph of the much talked of young lady, and your correspondent agreed with him that no likeness of her had yet been printed. Her beauty has not in the least been overrated. The chin is broad, nose straight and forehead high over the nose, but low over the temples.

Before returning the picture to his desk Mr. Harmon looked at it fondly and then said, "Good day."

CHAT WITH A BRAKEMAN.

Cincinnati Sun: "Brakeman? Yes. What of it?"

"Just wanted to know how the old thing works."

"Works! Well, it works all right with an old-time crew, but get one of these aggravatin' greenhorns in and nobody knows the result till it's settled."

"Don't the new-comers catch on readily?"

"Readily? No. Warily would be a word. I will try to tell you how they do it. The whistle blows for brakes and all hands scramble for them. The greens, always having the snap, start from the caboose. I think I see one of them warily feeling his way up the ladder to the roof of the first car and contemplating the prospect in abject terror.

"Forcible expletives from the rear impel the progress of the recruit, and as he contemplates the yawning chasm between the first two cars he ever jumped, horror is written on his face and reluctance halts his step.

"Yes, it's common. They all look at the fearful leap, grit their teeth, make a wild jump that lands them about the middle of the next car, and thereafter attack duty with the confidence born of such experience."

"Where are you recruiting the brakemen from?"

"Almost without exception from country towns. The kids, in defiance of law and marshals, disport themselves about the trains while passing or shifting till the habit becomes a passion, and maturity makes its gratification possible.

"Accidents? Well, they are largely due to either carelessness, drunkenness, or over-confidence—chiefly the latter. An occasional funeral is promoted by the snapping of a brake-chain; again, without warning, a train parts at a critical moment, but on the whole brakemen make no specially foremost figure in railroad fatalities.

"Yes, in one way we're tough, but we work hard for small wages, and when we relay we do it hilariously."

"Suppose you have had many close calls?"

"Well, the fact is we're on the ragged edge about every minute of running time. Of course, we take no thought of such things, but no doubt our lives or limbs are imperiled unwittingly dozens of times every trip."

"How does it so often happen that old-timers are either killed or maimed?"

"Just because the older the hand the more reckless he becomes. Habit makes the dangerous duties of the railroader as routine and common-place as those of a carpenter.

"That fellow with his hand enveloped in a dry goods store is an example. He has been twenty years on the road, and ten of them a conductor. Of course, with ordinary care he could couple cars for ten hours at a stretch without serious risk, but familiarity breeds contempt for danger, as for other things, and in that way he lost half his right hand.

"Once a railroad man always one? Yes, that's about the extent of it. There is a fascination about the life and its varied experience which is rarely shaken off and scarcely ever sought to be voluntarily. Official advancement is about the only thing that ever finally divorces a twister from the wheel, and that sort of thing happens with a rarity like the discovery of a new planet."