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OMAHA'S MILITARY POST

Bistory of Fort Omaha-Description of the Grounds and Buildings.

HOW THE BOYS IN BLUE LIVE

In Times of Peace a Holiday Life-Their Duties, Amusements and Pay-The Officers' Quarters -Dress Parade.

[Written for the Omaha Sunday Bee.]

The post now known as Fort Omaha, was established in 1868. It was then styled Sherman barracks. In the same year, by a general order, its name was changed to Omaha barracks. In 1878, by a general order of the division of the Missouri, the name was a third time changed to that of Fort Omaha. When the next change, either by general order or other means shall take place, may not now be determined.

THE FORT

comprises thirty-eight building used as residences for officers, places for the transaction of regimental business, store houses and manufactories of all kinds required for local repairs.

The quartermaster's and subsistence stores are furnished from this city by contract. There are two wells, one eightysix and the other twenty-six feet deep. From these, water is pumped to a reservoir situated on the bluff's northwest of the officers' quarters. This reservoir has a capacity of 88,000 gallons. The bottom of this cistern is 104 feet above the bed of thepump. The supply of drinking water, at present, however, is secured from the city water works.

THE GROUNDS occupied by the fort comprise eighty-two and a half acres. These, in the main, were purchased by the government, on August 26th and September 4th, 1868, and March 29th, 1882. The price paid on the first two dates was about \$100 per acre. This was paid to a man named Seymour, through Augustus Kountze, then of Omaha, and now of New York, Besides the ground purchased by the govern-ment, at the time of the estabishment of the fort, a tract of land was bought by a number of Omaha citizens, each of whom contributed \$100 to the fund required. With this money about forty acres were pur-chased and granted to the government, to be used for military purposes, but with the proviso that, in the event of the site being vacated for the original pur-poses, it would revert to its donors. The purchase by the government had not been made in the most satisfactory manner, at least to some of the military gentlemen who were most directly interested in the The sale had been effected a matter long time before congress made the re-quired appropriation to pay for the ground, and for a time it looked as if the officers would be compelled to make good the amount required, out of their own pockets. The appropriation was finally made and the erection of the fort was proceeded with. Since that time

THE HISTORY OF THE POST has been a varied one, indeed. At intervals of about five years' movements, or rather alleged movements, have originated me inconceivable manner, the object of which has been to deprive Omaha of its dearly cherished military institution. These movements have led to meetings, and the meetings to resolutions, and, later, to committees sent to Washington to protest against the outrage. As a con-sequence of this vigilance, the fort still remains.

Six years ago, the government refused to make any further allowance for im-

kitchen, the dining room, the boiler which heats the hospital by means of twenty two radiators and the cell for sick prisoners, for the accommodation of soldiers, who while under sentence may fall sick and require skilled atten-tion. On the second floor are two large wards with four smaller ones, capable of accommodating thirty two patients. The building was creeted as above mentioned and cost in the vicinity of \$50,000. On the cast side of the enclosure are the tin-smith's shop, the ice-house, the club room for enlisted men, the school

house, coal house, guard house, quarter master's store house, the engine and bath house. In the club room the men play pool and billiards and if so inclined, indulge in a glass of beer. This is open only during the day. In the kept In the bath are accommodations for ten south, bathers, one apartment being provided for each company, and two for extra

pecasions. THE GUARD HOUSE is a one-story brick building, immedi-ately south of the main entrance to the grounds. It is 30 6) feet will an addition 12x25 feet. It faces the parade ground and is protected on the front by an ample porch. On a wark before the entrance, a sentinel is always on duty. He is dressed in fatigue uniform, with polished rifle and gloved hands, and as he walks back and forth, instinctively endeavors to im-press the visitor with the dignity and importance of his position. Other soldiers unge around as if keeping sympathetic company with an unfortunate com rade whom they know to be, but yet, whom they can not see, within the walls. This house contains four large and four small cells, a sink and wash-room and two rooms for the non-commissioned officers. The cells are iron-barred and the floor is of two sections of wood between which is a layer of iron. The windows are barred outside and inside, are covered with more closely wrought iron guard with openings of not more than an inch This effectually shuts the in size inmate off from the kindly donations of friends, such, perhaps, as a bottle of beer or a flask of bourbon, articles that are not unappreciated by heroes in durance In this place, a lamp burns all night, Before it, a sentry parades all night, and

nise

with these precautions, and the roughribbed walls of the place, the most ingen ious inmate has as yet to announce that he has baffled all and made his escape. Soldiers are contined here for the missing of calls, drunkenness, desertion or, while under sentence of some court martial, are waiting transportation to the military prison at Leavenworth. Fifteen men act as guard, each serving two hours

on and four off. To the north of the main entrance is the quartermaster's and the

COMMISSARY STOREHOUSE. This is a brick building, two stories in height and thirty-four feet wide by one hundred and fifty-seven in length. The quartermaster's stores occupy about twohirds, those of the commissary, the remainder of the building. In the former may be found almost everything required in a first-class hardware store; in the latter, everything one might expect except of a perishable nature, in a grocery. Following the drive on the east northward and turning to the west.

THE NORTH BARRACKS are passed. These are of frame, 40x25 feet in size, each comprising a sleeping and mess-room and kitchen for a com-

pany. The dormitory is supplied with iron beds ranged beside each other, and with woven wire mattresses. Adjoining each is a movable locker, in which the Soldier deposits his little possessions On the wall at the head of the bed are hung such articles of use or ornamentation as the feeling of the occupant may suggest. Now it is a picture of a celebrity, again a pair of boxing gloves. This man hangs up his banjo, and that one the base ball club with which he has made the home run that defeated the rival nine, that awarded him the honor of being the best player in the regiment. provements because it owned only part of Opening off this is the mess-room. Here, ne tables, as white as those found in : New England kitchen, extend partly across the room. From these the sol diers eat their wholesome meals of fresh meat, potatoes, beans and coffee The kitchen opens from each end, and two cooks preside over an immense army range, which enables them to supply the hungry mortals without, who are dways in excellent appetite. AMUSEMENTS. Around these barracks the soldiers, un less when engaged upon special duty, or in exercise or amusement, spend their time. They read, smoke, tell stories, swing clubs, write letters or work on ome nicknack to fill up the time. There are several base ball clubs among the companies, each with its uniform, and some containing time players. On the day on which my visit was made to the place, one of the nines had met and vanquished a club from town. It was a hot day, but the work was hotter, and when the soldiers concluded the game, they looked as sun-bronzed as if they had passed through an Apache campaign. In the evenings there are company frol ics, and it is not an unusual matter to see a purse formed, the contents deposted with a neighboring saloon man, and forthwith in return to note a keg of lager beer wheeled to the quarters for convivial discussion. This liberality is intended to withdraw soldiers from lounging around the saloons which infest the old entrance to the grounds. THE TROOPS. In these barracks are quartered E, A, H and B companies. To the south of the parade ground is another line of barracks, built in the same uniform style and dimensions. These accommodate D C and F companies and the regimenta band of twenty-two pieces, under the leadership of Mr. Wedemeyer.

services are held twice every Sunday. asked my escort if many of the soldiers attended the exercises. He langhed, and said he did not know. He had been in the post two years and had never been present at divine worship. He guessed there not many soldiers who went to church. A Catholic priest from Omahe visits the fort twice every month and says mass. My informant told me that most of the religious men of the garrison attended these exercises

The chapel has a stage, and in winter dramatic performances are given upon it. Formerly, also, the place was user for dancing, but latterly, a vacant hall in another part of the post, substituted out of a feeling of respect for the original idea of the little place. Following the west avenue toward the

THE OFFICERS' QUARTERS are passed. Some of them are new, others show recent improvements, while

others still bear the impress of an infirminstinct, the more intelligent of them ity superinduced by bad care and old age. They are nearly all painted in dark find the serfdom and army life of their brown. Each has a porch, and in front a ittle garden spot, which, however, is but rarely improved. The gables of the struc-tures are turned from the avenue, and the effect of the whole is that the archi-tect originally intended to make the houses keep a single file, but suddenly change them to a company front. The first residence is that of Col. Wheaton, commander of the post. This is situated in the northwestern part of the square ien. Crook was its first occupant. of brick and most solidly constructed. Commering at the south end of the avenue the occupants of the other quarters are: No. 1, Second Lieutenant Abner Picker-ing; No. 2, Captain Abner Haines, Jr.; No. 3, First Lieutenant Wm. A Aber-No. 5, First Lieutenant O.B. A Morace B. Sarson; No. 6, First Lieutenant Rich. I. Earle No. 7, First Lieutenant Sidney E. Clark, R. Q. M. and P. Q. M.; No. 8, Captain Rob. B. Ben-ham, assistant surgeon, U. S. A.; No. 9, M.; No. 8, First Lieutenant Luther S, Ames, AC.S. No. 10, H. S. Hoskin, A. A. S., U. S. A. No. 11, Captain Henry Catley: No. 114, Second Licutenant II. H. Benham, Sec-ond Licutenant V. J. Brumback, Second Lieutenant Thos. H. Wilson, Second Lieutenant Wm. M. Wright; No. 12, Cap-Lieutenant w.m. M. wright, No. 13, Captain James Ulio; No. 13, Captain Wm. Mills; No. 14, Captain A. S. Daggett; No. 15, Major Edmond Butler; No. 16, Major J. M. Brown, surgeon U. S. A and post surgeon; No. 18, Captain C. A. Dempsey; o. 181, Captair, H. C. Cook; No. 19, First Licutenant John Kinzie; No. 20, First Licutenant F. T. Van Liew; No. 21, First Lieutenant C. W. Rowell, adjutant Sec-ond infantry and post adjutant; No. 22, Second Licutenant C. D. Towsley; No. 28

W. T. McAdams, post chaplain. South of the southern line of barracks there is a heterogeneous collection of structures, occupied and used by all kinds of people and for all purposes. They are the

USUAL APPENDAGES OF A FORT, and comprise the quarters of laundresses, the ovens of the baker, the shambles of the butcher, the forge of the smith, the table of the carpenter, the stalls of the hostler, the shed of the wagoner, and the place in which the deep-toned monsters of war are housed from elemental ttack.

The feature most interesting to the average civilian, is THE DRESS PARADE

of the companies composing the garri This takes place generally at about son. sun down. It is always a beautiful and impressive spectacle. The heat of the day has died away. The light air of the evening rustle through the trees. The tall box elder and cotton woods on the west cast giant shadows athwart the parade ground, while the tops of those in owned by Russian Jews. the east are tipped with gold. The pa-rade ground stretches to the east like an employed in the smelling works, and some of them commanding the best extensive spread of emerald velvet, the little inequalities noticeable during the day, softened by the distance and the waning light. There is a beauty in the scene which thrills the spectators who throng the avenues on all sides. There is little talk save in low tones, because the burder has called the special skilled labor wages: A few of them are employed in the packing houses, while by far the majority of them are day laborers on contrast jobs, railroading, grading, street sweeping, etc. he bugler has called the assembly. Companies are being formed on the north south sides of the square, their dark and light blue uniforms contrasting with the green of both blade and leaf. Stately officers are walking to assume command. The roll is called, and the meanual of arms is gone through. The adjutant, straight as Apollo, and filled with the pride that he is the cynosure of every eye, followed by two orderlies, to the music of the band, walks to the middle of the ground and forms the line Another burst of martial music, The commander appears, a long white plume falling in curves from his helmet crest The companies begin to march. They advance in columns of four, and in con pany front wheeling into line, some with the precision of automatons, others with much less regularity, until seven companies face the commander. There are big and little men in each comthe former occupying pany, the right, the latter tapering to the left. The regimental band in blue, marches up and down in front of the line, the drum-major in a panoply of red, white and gold, with a bearskin chako as large as bruin himself, and a mammoth staff which he juggles with ease, as he marches in front. There is no man prouder than a drum-major. There is no prouder drum-major than this one. Caesar in review never assumed the majesty which graces the bearing of this mortal. He is alone in his gorgeousnes and unapproachable in his dignity. It is well, perhaps, that this is so, because his notoriety is but short-lived. The line is put through the manual of arms. Mus kets are raised and lowered with gloyed hands. When touched by the latter, the sound of buckle and strap is like an instantaneous fail of rain upon a garret roof, or against the window-pane. The gloved hands are busy describing move-ments, which may hardly be detected. They all work with precision and ease, and denote the effort of the tactician. Th officers form in line, and young and old. light and heavy, at a rapid stride march forth to salute the commander. They are well-formed and military in bearing, although some show the effect of weight of years. These are unmind-ful of the glances of the fair ones who occupy barouche and coupe and carriage, while the younger ones not too slylv look from beneath their whitecrowned helmets to where the brighteved beauty may be beaming her smiles The salute over, the buglers sound the retreat, the band plays, and the compan es march to their quarters. Some of the Others with carriages roll to the city. their occupants wait for the concert. Back to town go the visitors, buggy, anb. coupe, carriage, some aiming to lead in the line. Past groggery and den, past garden and farm, the vehicles whirl, until at length the military road is reached. Here giant poplars line the way, allowing intermittent pencits of sunnight to gild with gold the rolling pageant, and forming a vista of won-The distance frous extent and beauty. is shortened by congenial companionship, the beauty of the scene, and the visit of the day, and almost before it is appre-ciated the lights of the city are reached and the party is again in Omaha E. A. O'BRIEN.

THE ITALIANS OF OMAHA.

Facts About a Peculiarly Interesting Class of Ottizens.

WHO THEY ARE WHAT THEY DO.

Characteristics of Italy's Sunburned Sons-Fruit Peddlers-Musicians-Fortunes Made From Small Beginnings.

convenient street corner, are

a very few years from beginnings smaller [Written for the Omaha Sunday Bee.] than the sums spent by the young man The little bootleg-shaped country of of the period on a single champagne supper on a night out with the boy Italy, sun-kissed and sea-washed, has furnished the larger dities of the United States with a peculiarly interesting class of citi-REPORTING FORTY YEARS AGO. zens. A people of natural commercial

Interesting Reminiscenses of an Old-Time Stenographer.

who have made comfortable fortunes in

Indianapolis Journal: "I suppose native country unbearable, and each am the oldest stenographer in this part year thousands of them make their way to America, and are not slow in taking of the country:" said J. J. Henderson. agent in this city of the Adams express advantage of the opportunity afforded company, "when I say stenographer I them of selecting their own method of making a living. Five or six years ago mean it, for phonography, the system of short hand writing now current, had Omaha was the home of less than a dozen Italians, but they are quick to realize the hardly been introduced when I learned stenography. Of course it has been many advantages offered in a growing city, and years since I practiced it. I was living to-day there are nearly four hundred of at Buffalo and began learning it in 1348, them in our midst, engaged in almost all of the different lines of commercial life being taught by a friend who advised me to learn it, Mr. Hicks, who at one time and in most of the various kinds of manuni labor. They form a distinct class of citizens, little known and understood, was a reporter on the London Times. He afterward went to Washington and was but they bear acquaintance well. on the Congressional Globe, that mauso-Italy, with a military apprenticeship that employs their younger years, and no _eum of national speech makers. In 1850 l got an engagement to report in the Canprospect but a life of serfdom thereafter, adian parliament. That was in the stirthey are a listless, lazy class, but they undergo a complete change when the adring times of Mackenzie and Papineau. vantages of a free man are opened to I came back to Buffalo the same year. I them and they form one of our most then got a place as reporter on the But ENTERPRISING CLASS OF CITIZENS.

falo Courier, at the munificent salary of \$3a week. Little or no attention was Of the three hundred and fifty or four hundred male Italians in Omaha about paid to local matters in the papers then, fifty are engaged in the fruit business and their sun-browned faces, beaming and my service not being in demand even at \$3 a week, I went into an office good naturedly from a hole in the wall to study law. About the 7th or 8th of June, 1851, President Fillmore with his or from the side of some box stall on a th cabinet, started on a tour through the United States. A telegram came from Thurlow Weed to the editor of the first that greet the early risers, and their places of business are not closed until midnight or after, when Express, saying that Daniel Webster, then secretary of state, would speak at Buffalo, and he wanted a verbantim reonly the policemen, reporters and bums are abroad in the land. The stock of these fruit stands is gauged by the capital port of the speech. Word came to me, of the owner, and varies from the and I said I would take it. The presibasket of bananas judiciously scat-tered over the bottom of the push cart, dent and the cabinet arrived. Mr. Webster spoke in the court house park in the controlled by the beginner in the busi afternoon during a soaking rain. N. K. ness, up to the full line of fruits, cigars Hail, postmaster general, held an um-brella over me while I took Mr. Weband confections that comprise the stock in trade of the established business man ster's speech. Solon Robinson, of the New York Tribune, was the only other stenographer there. It was not difficult They conduct their business a good deal like other people. The "worm i' the bud" in their pears is turned down or to take the great orator. A rapid longconcealed by a tissue paper wrapper for hand man could almost get him verthe same reason that the small strawbantim, so deliberate and measured were berries are always found in the bottom of his periods. I can repeat the opening the box. Regular customers and sentences of that speech to-day purchasers with a critical eye can find as good fruit at the notes were soaked through, and I had to dry them before they could be transcribed. Italian's shop as elsewhere and the un-The telegraph was very little used in that suspecting victim, and the man who day, and the speech of the greatest Amer-ican of his time, instead of being put wants a basketful for a dime is imposed upon by the Italian the same as he is by upon the wires, as in this day is done with the utterances of much smaller men, The Italians do not, as is generally supwas put into the mail and sent to the Albany Journal, and there published two posed, have a monopoly upon the street fruit trade. There are two classes of days after it was delivered. This report these dealers. The Italians own all or resulted in my going upon the Journal, which was then conducted by Thurlow nearly all of the street corner stands, on Weed. I did not remain long, but rethe business streets are principally turned to Buffalo.

"In 1852, when I went back to Buffalo," continued Mr. Henderson, "we had the day. Morse line of telegraph from New York to Buffalo, and also the House line. From Suffalo west were the O'Relly and Speed who invades the territory of a fellow merchant! If the injured party is big enough he promptly proceeds to thump lines, operated in opposition to each other. The Associated Press was then other. n the hands of Craig & Co., of New York. They furnished all the western

THE NEWSBOYS OF OMAHA.

both hands. His brother Moses Baudo, employed by Peycke Bros., has also made a real estate 'spec' that has plac d him in possession of dollars to the amount of several thousand. The Venutos—Anto-nia, doseph and Raphael—who have a Something About the Unordained Ministers Who Spread the Gospel of News. monopoly on the musical business, have laid aside neat fortunes. Charley Lagomarcino, the good natured, who owns the confectionery and fruit establishment at THEIR LIFE AND HABITS No. 1,1204 Farnam street, commenced

business without any capital about six years ago and now, while he persists that he is a very poor man, would laugh at an offer of \$20,000 for his property interests Their Pleasures and Amusements-Row They Work and What They Earn-A Boy Who Owns Real in Omaha. These are a few of the men Estate-Life in a Dry Goods Box, Etc.

> [Written for the Omaha Sunday Bee.] An article on the newsboys of Omaha HARRY HUNTER. o be comprehensive in its scope would have to be strong out to a length distasteful to the average reader in these days of torrid weather. Some limited idea, however, of the life and habits of the young

street Arabs who sell the daily papers. may be given perhaps in brief space. THE NEWSBOYS. There are about twenty boys who

make a business of seiling daily papers. About half of these sell morning papers The other half are too lazy or too independent to make the exertion which the selling of both morning and evening papers involves. Of the score or more boys who sell in the evening all but five or six seil the BEE alone, for to use the expression of one young merchant, "dat's de only paper dat sells worth a continental in de evenin'." Promotly at five o'clock the morning newsboys begin to gather about the different offices, and by half past five they are "stocked up" and commence to patrol their various beats with the cry, 'Here's yer mornin' BEE, Herald or Republican." They keep on the jump until : bout nine o'clock, or at the latest ten or half past, when all their papers are disposed of. A good, active boy can sell easily twenty or thirty papers in a morning, and as many or more in the evening, even without any particular sensation to cause an unusual sale. The evening boys begin their labor about four or half past, and by seven or eight o'clock have dispose I of all their papers. Some of the boys filt in the hours between

the issue of the morning and evening papers by blacking boots, and thereby add considerably to their earnings.

HIS EARNINGS. It is a mistaken idea entertained by many people that the newsboy, work as he may, can earn but just barely enough

to keep body and soul together. The fact is, on the other hand, that a smart, active newsboy carns as much or more than the average dry goods clerk. It is no uncommon thing for one of these bright youngsters to make \$8 or \$10 a week, or even as high as \$14. Ten dollars a week would be a fair average for the most active of the newsboys-and those owning the most lucrative corners. His profits are small to be sure, for he makes but two and a half cents on each paper. But then his sales are quick, es-pecially when he has anything to cry out in the way of a sensation. During the presidential election, and for days thereafter, it is no uncommon thing for the newsboys to make from \$4 to \$8 per

> THE NEWSBOYS' "BEAT." As already intimated, each boy has his

"beat" or corner, on which he is allowed sell. Woe to the unprincipled newsboy

DEATH OF FATHER BERGIN. A Prominent Eclesiastic, Formerly of Omaha, Dies in St. Louis.

9

Rev. John F. Borgin, S. J., vice president and chancellor of the St. Louis university, and formerly of Creighton college in this city died at the novitiate of the Jesuit fathers at Florissant, Mo., on last Tuesday evening shortly before 11 o clock. Father Bergin was ill for several months preceding his death, and this sad event was not nitogether unexpected. The illness which resulted fatally was consumption, the result of a cold the contracted last April. He grew gradually worse, but still remained at his position in active discharge of his onerous duties. During the month of June his illness took a bad turn, and it was deeided by his physician to have him leave the university for Florissant, where it was thought he would scon improve. He left the college about a week before the commencement exercises were held, but the fresh country air could not build up his shattered constitution. Despite the care given him by the medical profession and the members of the order, he continued to grow worse every day, bear-

ing his pains and sufferings WITHOUT A MURMER, until Tuesday night, when he calmly expired, with several of the Jesuit

fathers at his bedside. Father Bergin was born in Cincinnati about thirty-years ago, and went to St. Louis with his parents when less than five years of age. His father, Michael Bergin, engaged in the upholstering business, and succeeded in building up a large and paying establishment. His reputation for honesty and integrity won for him a large circle of friends both in business and social life. Mr. Bergin and his wife were devoted members of the Roman Catholic church, and when John, their he enough eldest son, was old to attend school b Louis university sent to the St. Louis university where he remained for about six years, proving a very successful student. He evinced a strong desire to become a priest, and his wish was readily granted by his parents. He was admitted to the novitiate at Florissant, where he completed with eminent success the course prescribed by the fathers in charge. By way of con-tinung his studies for the holy office, he was next sent to the Jesuit college at Woodstock, Md., afterwards

STUDYING AND TEACHING

at the Cincinnati, St. Louis and Creighton college in this city, colleges. While at the St. Louis university in the capacity of professor and scholastic he was made prefect and placed in charge of the playgrounds and study-hall. While in this position he merited the respect and love of all the pupils attending the university at that time. Ever kind and courteous, and willing to help along all the students falling behind their classes, he established a rep-utation which will always be remembered by those attending the institution at that time. On completing his theological and other studies, and attaining the requisite age, he was ordained in February, 1885, together with several other scholas-tics, by Archbishop Kenrick, the solemn ceremonies taking place in the old College church on Ninth and Christy avenue. In the summer of 1885 arrangements were made to place Father Schapman, who was the vice president of St Louis university, in charge of the new Jesuit church at Kansas City, and the newly ordained Father Bergin was selected to succeed him. The position was one which required precise udgment and ability to perform considerable work, and no one was thought more competent to fill it than Father Bergin. Although not quite thirty-one years of age, he was assigned to fill the position, he being the youngest

the ground on which the fort stood. This caused the owners of the other acres to vest the title absolutely in the government.

It was one of the dark days in the his tory of the fort when the headquarters of the department of the Platte and the staff of officers were removed from the city to the post. The order emanated from Gen. Sherman and caused a great deal of dissatisfaction. It deprived the officers of many pleasures of city life and compelled the civilians to make long and tiresome trips to the post when business call them thither.

This transfer caused the erection of a brick building for the residence of the commander of the Platte, which, by the way, was inaugurated with one of the most notable sociable gatherings ever as-sembled in Omaha. Many of the old sembled in Omaha. Many of the old rookeries which had been used as officers quarters since 1868 were repaired and enlarged, and the gailant gentlemen and their families adapted themselves with military resignation to their changed for tunes. A new brick headquarters build ing was also erected, and then the work of the department was done, until in fluence was brought to bear upon Sher man to not insist upon a strict compli ance with his order, requiring the officers to reside at the post, and forthwith they came trooping back to civilization and social pleasures.

Seven years have elapsed since the issuance of the Sherman order, or rather, since it was put into effect. Nothing of a serious nature affecting the post has occurred since, with the exception of the move lately made to transfer the fort to some point obout ten miles from Omaha. This is probably the most formidable move that has ever taken place And yet, there is not much reason to fear that it will be more successful than its predecessors, at least not until the sentimon of the people is more pronounced in its favor than it is at the present time.

LOCATION OF THE FORT.

The fort is beautifully situated. The country west and south is rolling, while eastward, and toward Omaha it is nearly The parade ground is of course the niost attractive part. It comprises about thirty acres, and for about two-thurds of its width it is almost level, gently ascending thence toward the west meets the road running north and south. On a gentle plateau rising from the road and running parallel to it are situated the officers' quar-ters. From these a view may be had of the parade ground, even when in summer, the magnificent row of box elders is green with its luxuriant foliage These trees line the grounds, and shade both lines of the avenue, rendering it cool and shady in the mid-day heat, an calmly suggestive of pleasure and rest when swaved by the light winds of evening.

BUSINESS QUARTERS

North of the parade ground are situated the hospital and post head-quarters. This is a brick building, three stories high, 53x148 feet. It contains the business place of the commanding officer the quartermaster, adjutant, the ser geant-major and the regimental printer. This position is filled by one soldier, who besides attending to the work of the regiment also does that of the entire post. In the basement is the postoflice post. In the basement is the postoflice, pre-sided over by M. Cody, and here money orders, registered latters and postal notes may be mailed. There are basides, the ordnance, clothes room, the library the librarian's private room, the general court-martial room, the private apart-ments of several of the clerks as also that the leader of the band, Mr. Wede meyer;

These rooms occupy the western half of the building. In the eastern end and the first story are located the hospital, the rooms of the first and second class stewards, two rooms for the storage of medical supplies, the officers ward, the medical library in the post sergeant's of-In the basement are the hospital

SOLDIEUS' PAY. These soldiers are paid every two months, receiving at that time \$25.75. Their clothes are issued to them, but if a

man draws in excess of the allowance it is deducted from his wages; if less than the allowance, he is credited with the amount and is given it on his retirement from the army. Their term of enlistment is five years, though some of them be come so fascinated with the life that they re-enlist upon the conclusion of each term. I saw a number of men who had almost grown grey in the service, and yet they were in but the prime of life. One of these wore five bands of white across the coat-sleeve at the wrist, and across the confisiency at the wist, and each of these denoted five years of ser-vice. In all, he had spent more than a quarter of a century in the habiliments of Uncle Sam. The wages of the private are \$12.87 per month; corporal, \$15; sergeant, \$17. A second lieutenant receives \$1.400 a year a first lieutenant receives \$1,400 a year, a first lieutenant and chaplain \$1,500, regimental quarter-master, adjutant and captain \$1,800, a

major \$2,500, a lieutenant colonel \$3,000, a colonel \$3,500, and a general \$5,500. It a colonel \$3,500, and a general \$5,500. is said that military men seldom grow wealthy, and it is generally believed that such is the case. One soldier, perhaps, such is the case, his money. When he such is the case. One soldier, perhaps, in a dozen saves his money. When he gets his wages he uses them in canceling the indebtedness he has contracted dur-the indebtedness he has contracted during the two months it is required to earn them. With the officers, social entertainments, desire for novelty, together with the certainty of uninterrupted employnent, do not conduce to that thriftnes which amasses wealth.

North of the northern barracks is

A ROW OF PRETTY COTTAGES, six in number. These are occupied by non-commissioned staff officers with their

In the first of these resides families. Hospital Steward Howard; in the second, Post Quartermaster Sergeant D. Tuttie; Regimental Quartermaster, Sergeant Allison; Com-missary sergeant, Davidson, and Regimental Sergeant Major Stacer. On the drive, nearly opposite the commander's residence, is situated THE CHAPEL

This is 37x37 feet, and in it religious

The Bustle on Fire.

York (Pa.) Age: A comical incident occurred at a lawn party the other even ing. A certain well-known lady sat down on a Chinese lantern and set fire to her dress. Several gallant young men sprang to her rescue and extinguished the flames but not before the back part of her bustle and dress had been badly damaged. The unfortunate lady was compelled to sit on the floor in a very undignified until some one brought her a cloak to hide the deficiency.

There is no organization among the While most of them Italians as a class. are from southern Italy, they are from different dialect-speaking provinces, and perhaps less than one-tifth of the number in Omaha speak the same language. For instance, J. H. Cuneo and Charles Lagomarcino are from Genoa, and car converse with the majority of the Omaha Italians with difficulty except in French, which most of them speak more or less fluently. The Italians accumulative faculty well developed and most of the Omaha Italians are PROPERTY OWNERS. The installment plan linds great favor

more pretentious trade smen.

while

the huckster wagons

A half dozen of Omaha's Italians are

with them, and a majority of them are making monthly payments on real estate investments in different parts of the city. About a dozen Italian families own the own houses and live in a little settlement lown on South Thirteenth street. The live economically, though their appear ance of untidiness and their squalid surroundings are due to a natural habit and not to a lack of means. They are of a peaceful disposition, Catholics in religion and are generally very careful about the education of their children. They invest their earnings in property, ar generally very temperate and seldom tig ure in police court transactions. They are strong in their domestic nature, and those who are not married are saving their earnings and making a home for beauties who are to be imported from the land of song. There is

A STRANGE CONTRAST by the way, between the Italian sexes While the majority of the men are below the average stature and have anything but a robust appearance, the women are nearly all of a larger build, generally good looking and healthy. The Italians as a class are NATURAL MUSICIANS,

and the majority of those whose work gives them any leisure at all are adepts with the violin or harp. There is an as-sociation of them under the management of Frank Motta and brother, who con tract to furnish harp or violin music for entertainments of any character. Then there are solitary harpists, who after each day's work manage to pick up a good many stray dimes in the hotel rotundas and on the street corners wher their efforts find appreciative hearers. The Italians have but little interest affairs of government and while they own property and pay taxes, like other citizens, but few of them have availed themselves of the privilege so dear to the American heart, the right to vote and pass party resolutions. Few of them have taken out naturalization papers, although in obscience to law and respect of the rights of others their exam-ple could well be emulated by certain more pretentious classes of citizens. In a quiet way a number of Omaha trained by certain Italians have accumulated property that makes them

ABSOLUTELY INDEPENDENT.

The most noted of these is Mr. Giacomini, of the Thirteenth street bank. He came to Omaha about twenty years ago. is the oldest Italian resident the city. With remarkable of the city. With remarkable foresight he planted his earnings in city property, and as a result is to day a very rich man, being rated at over a quarter of a million do-lars. John B. Cunco, the Thirteenth street grocer, has been in the city about ten years and by strict economy and ju-dicious investments has acquired a prop erty valued at \$25,000 at least. Joseph Fiorelli, of the Paxton barber shop, who styles himself "the bestes barber in de world" has quietly laid aside over twenty thousand doltars for a rainy day, and it will be a rainy day when he stops adding to his accumulation. Adam Baudo, who is employed in the Smelting works, has invested his earnings in such a way that owns five acres of valuable land adjoining the city and pan't more than ing two sheets at a time by a 'prentice to count his thousands on the fingers of the newspaper office.

but their reports never went west of Buffalo to the lake region though they sent reports to Pittsburg, which came on west to Cincinnati and St. JOUIS

"The O'Reily and Speed lines having each but one wire running through a pretty wild country from Buffalo to edo, with no railroad communication between those points, it was difficult to keep the lines up, and they were fre-quently down two or three days a week. The press of Cleveland, Toledo, Detroit, Chicago, Milwaukee, and other points were solely dependent on these opposition lines for all market and news re-ports. Gram merchants had for years relied upon private dispatches on which to conduct their business, and those were o unsatisfactory that the grain dealers of those cities asked me to furnish them with a daily report of New York and Buffaio markets and ocean steamer news. This I did for a compensation of 25 cents for each city, in addition to telegraphic charges, and they wouldn't pay any more.

"This arrangement worked so satisfac torily that the newspapers of those cities relied solely on those telegrapic patches for their market report. Mr Stewart, then managing man on the Chicago Tribune, consulted with Rufus King, of the Milwaukee Sentnel, and with the Milwaukee Wisconsin, De-troit Tribune, Toledo Blade, Cleveland

Plain Dealer, Cleveland Leader, and, I think, the Sandusky Register. They agreed to authorize Mr. Stewart to employ me to furnish the papers with a daily report of the news, which had to be in he telegraph office before 6 o'clock in the evening. What do you think of that, in these days when telegraph news ran nearly all night? He agreed to pay me \$1 a week from each nowspaper for my rvices. I began sometime in the middl of the summer of 1852. The first week l sent dispatches by the Speed line; the wires were down between Buffalo and Cleveland for two or three days, and the newspapers failed to get their report. Then the O'Reilly line was tried, and I was soon in trouble with that. Both lines were so anxious for the business that they allowed us to fix our own rates of compensation. The first week's ex-perience with the O'Reilly line was no better than that with the Speed line had been. On my com-pensation of a dollar a week the Cleveland Leader cut me off fifty cents a week for two weeks on account of the week for two weeks on account of the wires being down, although I had pre-pared and placed the matter in the telegraph operator's hands. I have letters n my possession now from Emery Cobb. who was then general manager of the telegraph office in Chicago, in which he says that he has been in the Chicago Tribune office day after day to collect my \$6 for six weeks' service, but the Tribune says it hasn't the money to pay. That reads a little strange now, when the

Tribune is paying out hundreds of dol-lars for specials at nearly every crossroads in the north-west.

"In those days the telegraph offices did not send reports to the newspaper offices by messenger boys. In the Buffalo office, when the report came the newspaper re porters came and set down and wrote it. while the telegrapher read it from the paper. Matt Buell was an operator at Buffalo, and we thought it a surprising Buffalo, and we thought it a surprising thing when he would drop the paper for a minute or two and read by sound. He didn't dare stay away long from the paper, however, for fear of losing some-thing. As late as 1837, when President Buchanan's message came, over the wires, I remember that I, with reporters of the other papers, sat in the Buffale office and took the message as the oper-ator read it to us from the paper machine. in that day they didn't think of writing out the report for the newspapers. We took the message as he dictated it, sendmissing.

the transgressor in a manner befitting an apostle of the great John L. If, on the other hand, the pirate is too large for the other man, the latter promptly gathers some of his friends to his aid, and thus backed up "sails into" his adversary However, instances of such transgres sions are tare indeed. There is a sort of unwritten law among the boys on this subject which is tacitly respected and obeved. The best corners in the city are re-

spectively the postofile corner, (Fifteenth and Dodge.) Fifteenth and Douglas, Fif-teenth and Farnam, the Paxton corner, Thirteenth and Farnam and Thirteenth and Douglas. These various beats are held by the boys accord-ing to the length of time they have been selling papers, the oldest boys always being given the best. The post The postoffice corner is held, for instance, by: newsboy named "Hunchy," (on account of his crippled back) who has sold in Omaha for four or five years past. He is seventeen years old and is regarded the of the local fraternity. The leader younger boys are allowed to sell papers the corners which are less frequented and consequently do not afford such a hvely trade as those held by the older boys. If a newsboy for any reason quits the business he sells his corner to the highest bidder. A choice beat frequently

brings from five to ten dollors.

'HIS HABITS AND AMUSEMENTS. As a general thing the newsboy does not save up much money. He has ample opportunity to do so, to be sure. His earnings, as have been seen, arc considerable, while his expenses are light. He pays no attention to the fashion, and therefore squanders no money on stylish dress or high living. But he is fond of going to the theatre, and spends a deal of money in that way. "Crap shoot-ing," a species of gambling, already no-ticed in the BEE, fascinates him, and he frequently loses in playing that game the earnings of a week. The the earnings of a week. The base ball pool rooms are his especial de light. He contributes regularly to their support. Sometimes he wins a good sized stake, but more frequently "blanked." Tobacco and, it m he i Tobacco and, it must be confessed, liquor, cause frequent outlays on his part, and form a heavy item of expense in his cash account. So that alto gether he has little inclination to save. Besides, in many cases he is obliged to turn in all or nearly all of his wages to his parents, who are fre quently depend almost entirely his earnings for support. upon There

is one, bright active newsboy here, ever, who is an exception to the rule and is saving up his money by the safest process, a real estate investment. He bought a city lot in one of the additions some time ago, and has been making monthly payments on it ever since. He now has t nearly paid for. That boy is bound to make his mark in this world. HOW HE LIVES.

The life of a newsboy is not in all respects pleasant to contemplate Some-times he lives with his parents, who are respectable, fairly well-to-do people But more frequently he is com-pelled to hunt his lodgings in barns, dry goods boxes and structures of that sort. A large, spacious dry goods box, provided with a little hay, is to him a bonanza, and he can accom-modate himself to it with astonishing case. For, be it understood, the newsboy believes in spending as little as possible on food or lodging. If he had but 35 cents in his pockets he would go supper-less and sleep in a spacious less and doorway rather than miss a seat in the gallery at some blood-and-thunder theat rical performance. If any one doubts that the newsboys, and their companions the boot blacks, are regular patrons of the theatres, let him take up his station at the gallery door some night and watch the motley throng filing in. Ten to one that not a lamb of the flock would be

A. J. KENDRICK.

IN THE VICE PRESIDENT'S CHAIR. The same zeal and energy which car ried him so successfully through

father ever placed

career as a scholastic, entered into his work as vice president, and the manner in which he discharged the duties of the position won for him the respect and esteem of professors and pupils. He was a thorough scholar and an eloquent and able speaker.

Cut down, as it were, on the very threshold of a useful career, his death will be regretted by all with whom he ever came in contact, either as a scholastic or priest.

His father died in August, 1878, and left his establishment in charge of Michael, his second eldest son. AT CREIGHTON COLLEGE

Father Bergin was connected with Creighton college in this city for three years. He had charge at different times of the second and first humanities, and the class in poetry and rhetoric. The latter was the class with which he was last associated, when in 1884 he left the city for St. Louis. He was one of the most valuable professors which Creighton college had had up to that time. His educa tion was complete in all he was called upon to give instruction, while his method of imparting information was not less remarkable for its success in accomplishing the work which devolved upon him. With a class in the first years upon him. of a new collegiate institution, which required judicious handling to both see and opreciate the advantages of a classical ducation, Mr. Bergin wrought education, Mr. Bergin wrought with wondrously happy re-sults. Its members became devoted to their studies, pursued them with gratifying industry, so much so that when he ceased his connection with them they had advanced even beyond the standard required in the examination for pro-

With his students, Father Bergin was both a teacher, a companion and friend. He presided over them in class, associated with them at their homes and took part n their recreations and their games.

As a scholar in English literature, Father Bergin, for a young man was somewhat remarkable. His knowledge of the early classics of the language was extensive, while that of later works and those of the imes was scarcely excelled by any memper of his order.

He was a writer of exceeding brilliancy and force, and now and then wove nto poetry a number of pieces of remark

able grace and beauty. As a speaker, he was ornate, earnest and effective, and displayed the reason-ing power of a logician with the ease and dignity and grace of a natural orator who had studied the beauties of his art. Than him, there had ip to his time, no been more popular member of Creighton's faculty. Though of easy and rather retiring disposition, he was generally known among the friends and patrons of the institution and as generally respected and esteemed. His death will be sad and unexpected intelligence to all his friends, because, when last seen in Omaha, he appeared as f he was blessed with health and strength to realize in a long and useful life, the anticipation of his friends and the utilization of both his acquirements and natural gifts.

Father Bergin's death will prove a hard blow to his mother, four brothers and two sisters who survive him. They took a pride in his success in the sacred calling, which he preferred to the high position his talents and ability would have raised him to in any worldly pro-

The funeral took place at 10:30 clock Thursday morning at the novitiate at Florissant. I colebrated in Requiem mass the chapel Willi the presence of the mem-bers of the order and the mother, brothers and sisters of the deceased. Follow-ing the services the remains were in terred in the cemetery on the grounds.