THE DAILY BEE.

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THE BEE PUBLISHING COMPANY, PROPRIETORS. E. ROSEWATER, EDITOR.

THE DAILY BEE.

Sworn Statement of Circulation,

State of Nebraska, | s. s. County of Douglas, | Geo. B. Tzschuck, secretary of The Bee Publishing company, does solemnly swear that the actual circulation of the Daily Lee
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 Dec. 17
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13.230Subscribed and sworn to before me this 18th day of December, A.D., 1886, N. P. Fett., ISEAL! Notary Public.

ISEAL:

South Public.

Geo. B. Tzschuck, being first duly sworn, deposes and says that he is secretary of the Bee Publishing company, that the serval average daily circulation of the Daily Bee for the month of January, 1886, was 10,378 copies, for February, 1886, 10,595 copies; for March, 1886, 11,597 copies; for April, 1886, 12,191 copies; for May, 1886, 12,314 copies; for July, 1886, 12,314 copies; for August, 1886, 12,439 copies; for July, 1886, 12,314 copies; for August, 1886, 12,439 copies; for September, 1886, 13,030 copies; for October, 1886, 12,080 copies; for November, 1886, 13,348 copies.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 6th

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 6th day of November, A. D. 1886, [SEAL.] N. P. FEIL, Notary Public.

BOODLER McQUADE will eat his Christmas turkey in Sing Sing with Boodler Jachne. Two of the gang of municipal bribe takers now wear striped suits with eight more to follow.

GENERAL GORDON'S death at Khartoum nearly two years ago is finally confirmed by a letter from the Mandi himself. The official confirmation was unnecessary but the time taken for its receipt reminds us of the slowness with which "official" news travels sometimes even in America. The press invariably beats red tape.

UNDER the proposed metropolitan charter the Omaha board of public works will have more power and greater responsibility than the city council. If the delegation ratifies the work of the charter committee it cannot be too careful in guarding all the points to prevent the board from becoming a source of jobbery and arbitrary power.

THE close of the famous Campbell suit is a drawn battle. The verdict of the jury relieves each party from the charges brought by the other. It does not, however, relieve the public from the conviction that the English aristocracy is a school of vice, which, for the public benefit, should be shorn of their political privileges and their-position as the assumed leaders of manners and morals.

Is thing their amended articles of in corporation covering Northeastern Nebraska, the Elkhorn Valley line only announce to the public what they have long contemplated in private. The move towards Yankton is to be made to cut out the Missouri Pacific extension and the proposed advance to Hastings and Seward will be in retaliation upon the Burlington for its invasion of the northwest. It is not probable that the prospect of these competing branches will prevent the opposing roads from continuing construction. The railroad situation in Nebraska is one of dog cat dog. The contest between the roads which has for so long been fought on paper, will now be fought out with cold steel rails.

RATES may rise and rates may fall but that remarkable monopoly, the Standard Oil company, holds the whip hand even over the railroad companies. A suit has just been entered at Louisville by an oil dealer against the Louisville & Nashville railway company and the Standard Oil. The great oil monopoly was engaged in driving out of business one George Rice, of Marietta, O., a competitor in the trade, and according to its usual system had enlisted the railroad company on its side Mr. Rice produces a letter from an agent of the Standard Oil company to the railroad complaining that rates had not been put up high enough on Rice and winding up with the sentence "Please turn on another serew." The result was a charge of \$63 for a shipment of seventy barrels made by the dealer while the Standard was charged only \$39.90 for the same service at the same time. Such instances as these turnish the best of arguments for the necessity of an interstate commerce regulation bill which will regulate for poor as well as for the rich.

BILLS were introduced in both houses of congress on Monday providing measnres for extirpating pleuro-pneumonia and other cattle diseases. They authorize the appointment by the president of a commission, to which ample powers are given for investigation, the establishment of quarantine, destruction of infeeted or exposed animals, and such other proceedings as may be required. Provision is made for paying the owners of animals killed, \$160 being named as the maximum for those with pedigree and \$60 for those without. Penalties are provided for obstructing the commissioners, concealing the disease, and for transporting or delivering for transportation diseased animals, knowing them to be such. The senate bill appropriates \$1,000,-000 to carry its provisions into effect. It is a comprehensive measure and is understood to have been prepared, as also the bill introduced in the house, by representatives of the Consuldated Cattle Growers' association formed a month ago in Chicago. The opinion was general at the late convention of carttlgrowers and veterinarians that the aid of the general government was absolutely necessary to the most effective work for stamping out cattle diseases, and the bilis presented are in response to that view. Such a measure should be passed, and a thoroughly capable commission appointed that will perform the duties carethe government against loss and be no

Secretary Roggen, chairman of the state board of public printing, deserves hearty commendation for standing between the tax-payers and the tax-eaters. The state printing contracts have been for years rotten to the core. The prices charged have been outrageous in the extrone, and have only been secured by a combination between the bidders under an agreement to divide the spoils. Sevral years ago when an investigation was in progress the Omaha Herald end of the ring hastily skipped to California rather than to face the legislative music and the other cogs in the machine were badly polished during the exposure. Secretary Roggen this year determined to do his best to protect the state at any and all hazards. While he could not entirely frustrate the scheme of a printing pool made up of the various concerns who were bidders for the general state printing, he has point blank refused to let a contract for printing the bills and incidental work of the legislature for which the Lincoln Journal was the sole bidder. Believing that it had a monopoly of this business, that shameless concern had put in a bid which was 130 per cent, higher than the amount for which it did the same work two years ago. At that time Journal patriotically offered to do this class of printing during the session for \$6,000. As there was a neat little profit of some \$3,500 in the work at those figures no one had any idea that they would be raised for the next session. The Journal, however, evidently thought the margin too small and put in a bid for \$14,000. Secretary Roggen has decided very properly to let the legislature order its own printing of bills and legislative reports wherever it may see fit. If it deeides to give it to the Journal at an enormous price above what it is worth it can

Blocking the Thieves,

then shoulder the responsibility.

Better Building Needed. One of our contemporaries is clamoring for ten story buildings in Omaha because Minneapolis has them. We don't want them. Six and seven story structures will be quite high enough for safety and large enough for profit. Land in Omaha is not yet so dear as to demand such towering structures. Every city which has gone into the sky scraping business is regretting it, and the tendency now is ih the other direction toward moderately high buildings, substantially constructed well lighted and ventilated and easy of access in every part. We can afford to be content with six and seven story structures located on ten story foundations and walls and built to stay.

What Omaha with all other western cities needs most of all at the present time is better architecture and construction. There has been too much attempt at cheap display and gingerbread work and too little regard for interior convenience and exterior solidity. The building that is substantial, safe and convenient and at the same time attractive in appearance is the one which finds the best class of tenants and brings in the best returns on the investment. While the elevator has to a degree anthilated distance and brought the fifth and sixth stories within easy reach of the street it has greatly increased tire risks. To reach even seven stories in height is a severe task for water works and fire steamers. Beyond that distance fire protection is an experiment. There is ample room for improvement in the change from our low, squatty and commonplace looking business blocks to six and seven story buildings whose designs bear the stamp of originality and which from foundation to cornice are constructed of solid materials and with honest workmanship.

Proposed Financial Legislation. There have been introduced at the present session of congress quite a score of bills proposing financial legislation. Nearly all of these relate to providing the national banks with a new basis of circulation and to making other provisions with regard to the system. Most of these measures will undoubtedly die in the committee room, where so many ambitious efforts of crude statesmanship are every year consigned to oblivion. A few may be heard of again, but with the exception of one or two they are all unworthy of serious consideration. There is no subject with which congress has to deal that the average congressman so well likes to dabble in as a financia question, and there is no other question that the average congressman knows less about or is less able to comprehend.

One of the important bills introduced is

that of Mr. Hewitt, which is designed to

enable the treasury to dispose of the sur plus, in the event of the probable failure of congress to keep down the assured accumulation by reducing the revenues. This bill provides that the secretary of the treasury may anticipate so much of the interest of the funded debt of the United States as may be in excess of 3 per cent per annum. If all the holders of the 4 and 44 per cent bonds should avail themselves of such an offer, the treasury would be enabled to use \$75,000,000 or \$80,000,000 in anticipating the interest of the public debt. It is provided that the interest upon the amount paid shall be computed at the rate of 3 per cent. per annum, reinvested quarterly, so as to secure to the United States the benefit of compound interest thereon. Thus the government would lose nothing in the transaction. The bondholders would be left with a bond bearing 3 per cent. Interest, but the cash payments would be a full equivalent for any premium that the bond would bear in the market. It is further provided that these reduced bonds shall be received by the comptroller of the currency as security for the issue of circulating notes of any national banking association, and as they would undoubtedly rule somewhat above par it is provided that the banks are to be given their par value in notes, lustead of 90 per cent., as now required by law. In view of the possibility that the holders of bonds may not generally accept the anticipation of interest, authority is given the secretary of the treasury to deposit, with any national banking association any portion of the money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated, upon secur ity of an equal amount of bonds or other indebtedness of the United States, such special deposits from the treasury at no time to exceed \$100,000,000, and to be subject to call upon such notice as the secretary may prescribe. Thus two ways are provided for disposing of the surplus and converting it from an idle accumulation to the public use. In the one case it would go directly to the

people upon terms which would protect

disadvantage to the bondholders. In the other case it would reach the people through the banks, being fully secured by the deposit of bonds or other forms of government indebtedness. At the same time the question of providing a security for the national bank circulation is temporarily met with entire fairness to those institutions. Of course the measure is intended only as a temporary expedient to tide over the treasury until the next congress can deal with the surplus question, should nothing be done at the present session. It is certain that the surplus will be increased if the revenues are not reduced, and it is important to find some way to dispose of it in the public interest. This is the object of Mr. Hewitt's

A bill of like intent, though different in its provisions, was introduced in the senate by Mr. Aldrich. This authorizes the secretary of the treasury to receive 4 and 44 per cant bonds and issue in exchange therefor bonds bearing interestat the rate of 21 per cent per annum, paying the holders a sum equal in each case to the aggregate present worth at the time of exchange of the portion of the several quarter-yearly payments of interest from which the United States is released by such exchange. This bill would involve a larger disbursement from the treasury, provided all bondholders accepted the offer under it, than would the Hewitt bill, and in naming a lower rate of interest for the exchanged bonds it would be more likely than the latter measure to fail of its object. It is doubt fut, however, whether either plan would be largely successful so far as the bondholders are concerned.

A Great Natural Gas Field.

The people of Ohio have reason to feel secure in the position of that state as third in the union in population and wealth, and to confidently anticipate its further progress and prosperity. According to a recent report of Professor Orton, of the Ohio Geological bureau, the natural gas field of the state is commensurate in extent with its geographical limits. The geological formation belongs to the silurian age. In the neighborhood of Cincinnati it fies 500 feet below the surface, andat Toledo at a depth of 1,100 to 1,200 feet. The greatest developments of oil and gas have been around the towns of Lima and Findlay, in the northwestern part of the state, not far from Toledo. Valuable developments have, however, been made at other points, a Cleveland paper having recently reported the development of a most promising natural gas well near that city. In the Lima region the production of oil has exceeded that of gas, and fifteen joint stock companies are now operating for its development. In the Findlay region the natural gas territory has an extent of twenty-six miles in length by sixteen miles in breadth, and of the twenty-seven gas wells that have been opened only two have failed. The daily production of the most prolific is 13,000,000 cubic feet of gas, others produce 10,000,000 feet, and for the rest the daily average is somewhat less. This gas, by reason of its abundance and cheapness, has banished all other materials of illumination as well as all other fuel for domestic purposes and manufacturing. The demands of the community are supplied "" ut restriction. The charge is of K month for its use for cooking, \$1.50 a month for heating and 30 cents a month for lighting the whole house. Still the people regard hese rates as extravagant and have been agitating an organized resistance to them. The cost of sinking a gas well is about \$1,500, and nearly every considerable manufactory in the region has its own well.

An extraordinary industrial growth has naturally followed this gas development, and almost every day new enterprises are springing up, or going into this territory from less favored regions. The supply keeps up steadily, and so great is the extent of this natural gas territory that there is no longer an apprehension of the exhaustion of the product. At various other points prospecting and boring for natural gas are being actively pushed, and the report of the state geologist will doubtless have the effect of increasing explorations and activity m this direction. The manufacturers of Cleveland and the Mahoning valley are every day feeling more urgently the need of this cheaper fuel, which now gives Pittsburg so great an advantage, and they will not be sparing of effort to find a supply if it exists anywhere in con-

tiguous territory. If natural gas shall prove to be inexhaustible in the territories where it is now developed and developing, there is certain to be a radical change, in the not remote future, in the conditions of competition which may be in the nature of an industrial revolution. The battle will be between the manufacturing centers that have this natural fuel, rather than as at present against the foreign manufacturer, who having to rely upon a dearer fuel will no longer be regarded with terror as threatening to usuro the Ameri can market and destroy home industries if not shut out by a tariff wall. With augmented and cheapened production, against which England, Germany and Belgium, with their higher-priced fuel cannot compete, the favored manufac turers of America may become as earnest in demanding the removal of the tariff obstruction as they now are in urging its retention, and the most persistent in asking enlarged and cheaper transportation facilities in order to get their surprus products to the markets of the world. There are great possibilities in the natural gas development if it shall continue and hold out.

The Business Situation. The condition of trade during the week past has been favorable according to reports from the principal business centers. Clearings show increased business, which is particularly noticeable in retail trades affected by the approaching holidays. Wool has attracted little demand except for the immediate wants of the looms. Holders are not urging business at the expense of prices, partly because of a prevalent expectation of improving trade next menth and partly because seaboard stocks are owned by dealers who bought them at comparatively full prices and cannot afford to let the market go lower. The proportion of consigned wool awaiting sale in the eastern markets is very small this year. The dry goods trade is seasonably quiet, but a good many orders are being recorded for the future delivery of fabrics adapted to the spring and summer trade. The market as a

good position as regards supplies and the outlook for sustained strenth in prices.

Upward of 3,500 tons of steel rails have been sold, chiefly by Pennsylvania mills and there has been continued activity in all kinds of rolled iron. The entire iron trade is in good shape, and the general tendency of values is upward. Bearish influences have been at work in the grain as well as in the stock markets during the week, and the price of wheat, which has been principally affected, is 4 to 15 cents per bushel lower than it was at the close of last week. The partial withdrawal of speculative support on account of the stringency in the money market and the weakening of confidence among holders by increasing receipts of winter wheat, the promise of a further increase in the visible supply, and the expectation of a lull in legitimate demand until after the bolidays, have contributed to this result. The export demand has been very fair, and cansiderable business has been done at all Atlantic ports. The presence of this demand and the continued strength of foreign markets have prevented a more serious decline, but have not exerted sufficient influence to sustain or advance the market. Corn prices are 1 to 2 of a cent lower owing to iberal receipts at Chicago and the weakness in the wheat market, but there is little pressure to sell this cereal, which confronts the prospect of an increasing home consumption and an early improvement in export demand. There has been comparatively little speculation in corn, s the attention of operators has been argely directed to wheat. Hog products have ruled stronger under moderate receipts of hogs at Chicago. The hometrade distribution of provisions keeps up

the corresponding week last year. Ir is to be hoped that the city council will go very slow in letting any contracts for future paving or curbing for which no money is available and no bonds have yet been voted. The plea that the city will suffer by delay will not satisfy the taxpayers. We always favored pushing pubic improvements and we propose to adhere to our policy in the future. There s, however, a limit beyond which it is not safe or prudent to go, and the council should draw the line at that point.

well, and exports of lard, exceed those of

WE do not know to what extent Senator Manderson's chances for re-election two years hence are to be advanced by the vindictive warfare which his rejuvenated Omaha organ is waging upon Senator Van Wyck, but we do know that there is not a single vote in the coming legislature which Manderson can influence one way or the other.

FVIE rooms have been engaged at the lincoln hotels for Jim Laird. Jim has been known to spread himself over several beds when in a hilarious condition. We are only surprised that Jim hasn't nired more rooms, since the B. & M. india-rubber fund is large enough to stand the draft.

Par Fond is beginning to pose as the only decent and honest member of the city council. Pai is a jewel that ought to be set in solid brass mounting.

PROMINEM PERSONS.

Mrs. Manuing is mentioned this season as the favorite of the cabinet ladies. Evangelist Moody will hold revival meetings at Ithaca, N. Y., In January.

Holland and Belgium has been remarkable for social and official attention.

Senator McPherson of New Jersey was a well-to-do butcher twenty years ago. He is a millionaire now.

Kate Field holds \$100,000 worth of tele phone stock, and can afford to shake up the Mormon monster occasionally, whether she hurts him or not. Congressman Hitt of Illinois five years

ago was stenographer for a house committee, but he married a woman with cash and he entered the political arena. John Peter St. John is lecturing in Iowa

in behalf of three interests: First, for a good admission fee; second, to advertise himself; third (and incidently), for the temperance cause. Ben Butler has discarded his black slouch

hat, and now appears crowned with an enormous beaver hat, such as is worn by the frontiersman. It gives his comical figure the appearance of a fancy perfumery bottle with a huge stopper. Susan B. Anthony declares with some thing approaching ghoulish glee, that when women have the right to vote they will not

affiliate with either of the present political parties, but will east their ballots for the purest men who offer without regard to their political views. Henry M. Stanley can well afford to forego even the profits of a lecture tour in this coun-

try at the bidding of the king of Belgium.

He receives \$20,000 a year acting as the figure-

head called vice-general of the Congo state.

and is said to exercise a wonderful influence over the untamed Africans. Big Business on a Small Capital.

New York Tribune. Hill, the Chicage "plunger," selling 50,000. 000 bushels of wheat on only \$5,000 capital greatly resembles the democratic party and the disproportion between the task of running the government and its stock on hand of brains and patriotism.

An Object of Compassion.

Boston Record.

Mr. Cleveland's ambition is for a second term. He had it in his power to force the democrats to nominate bim. That is gone, He now depends simply upon their love. He will have to go still lower to get that, and then it is not worth having. We pity Mr Cleveland.

Blithe Christmas Joseph Whitton.

O blessed day! • blessed time! What though, with each return, the gather ing rime Shows whiter round my brow? What though the wrinkles there, Furrowed with thoughf or the rude hand o

Thou find st are deeper now? O blessed day! O blessed time! Dear to the beating heart of every clime, Thy coming and thy cheer

As when no furrowing care dared trench my

In days of youthful year. Jay Gould's Methods.

Richmond Whig. When Mr. Gould watered Western Union tock to almost double its actual value, and then shaved the wages of thousands of emdoyes in order to declare a dividend on the tock thus watered and bull it in the market, e was engaging in a deliberate robbery for his own financial aggrandizement. It is the prevalence and shameless repetition of these gigantic frauds that breed discontent among the people, multiplies the causes of disquietude, and converts thousands of honest and industrious wage-workers into rank communists. The supremacy of Jay-Gouldian whole is firm, with cotton especially in a | has about reached its zenith in this country,

expression to an indignant public senti-

Waiting at the Door.

It is poor comfort, perhaps, for Dakota to stand at the door of the union ringing the bell or admission so long as the entrance is rded by a democratic majority, but our adice is to keep on tinging until the bell gives out, and then sit down on the doorsill till they swing open the door.

Fighting Opera Companies.

Chicago Herald, It would be a pleasure not easily to be described in words to see an opera company once which had no black eyes or dirty linen to exhibit. Is such a thing possible? Judging by the record it might be said that to hope for it would be a waste of time and strength, but there are people who nevertheless believe that the time will come when the managers, the directors, the stockholders and the high-price performers of an opera company will be able to go through the country without getting into a single The people who figure in opera as man-

agers or performers do not, on close inspection, appear to differ materially from ther human beings. They have an art which has been more or less carefully cultivated, but so have thousands of other people who never sang a note and never intended to sing. However excellent their work on the stage may be, they are not more to be praised than are many other people in their own peculiar lines. Their prominence relieves them from none of the amenities of life, but rather imposes upon them the more inexorably. Skilled as they are and talented as some of them may be, they are still at their best nothing more than masters of their own business, and are not entitled by that fact to put on greater airs than the masters of any other business. It appears however, that the man or woman who ean fiddle or sing imagines as soon as next thing to be done is to demonstrate to the world how uncivil a so-called great performer can be. If their peculiarities do not take this direction they force on greasy fiddler to the painted prima donna, through the entire range of performers, one would suppose from their bickerings that every person connected in any capacity with an opera organization was prepared at a minute's notice to engage in anything, from a ten-round knock-out to a hair-pulling match. It is a disgraceful state of affairs and one which, if continued, will bring the whole

profession into disrepute. It is probable that these fights grow out of the enormous vanity of most of the people engaged in performances on the yric stage. The reason for much of his vanity does not appear, but it cannot be denied that if these exponents of art would learn some of the commonest rules of good breeding they would have omething to be proud of which is not discernible at this time.

SHE WAS A PRETTY CIRL.

A Stage Coach Adventure Which Surprised a Vigilant Guard.

"Well, what I started out to say was that Jimmy had a deal with a mighty pretty girl once." said a resident of Dil lon, M. T. to a New York Sun corre-spondent. "He was down in Virginia City and was to escort a treasure coach through to Helena. The country was full of tough citizens—that was before the boys tied up the gang by the neck—and it was known that stages with money aboard were almost certain to be at tacked. On the coach coming up was a young lady in deep mourning, about the prettiest girl that we had ever seen here, and as there was no treasures aboard Jimmy got pretty well acquainted with ie could not have been more than twenty-six or twenty-seven years old, and she was that handsome that when she got to the tavern at Virginia City the boys went into the dining-room and ate an extra supper all around just for the chance of seeing her. Jimmy had learned something about her. She told him that she was a something widow and that her errand was to find Colonel Savage, who was said to be in this section. He was her uncle and the administrator of her father's estate, and

business matters made it necessary that she should see him. Jimmy didn't know any such man, but he said he might be around for all that. That evening he was very attentive to her and most of the boys hung about the place half inclined to be

jealous. "The next morning just as the stage was about to start and Jimmy with his shot gun was standing by its side, the treasury box having been screwed on and

the driver being in his seat, the young woman came running up, exclaiming that she wanted to return and would be ready in ten minutes if the stage would wait. The driver grumbled, but Jimmy yielded, and the girl soon made her appearance. There were no other passen-gers. After she had been scated the boys stepped up, hat in hand, and said goodby, while some of them—Jack Fergus was one of them, I remember—went so far as to express regret that she was not to stay longer. She laughingly replied that she might return, and waved a little handkerchief out of the coach window as

it rolled away. That was the last we ever saw of her. Jimmy was inside of the coach with her, and we all thought that ie was the luckiest chap that ever struck Montana. But let me tell you something. than six hours after that pretty little darling sailed out of Virginia City Took-

ing as sweet and gentle as a lamb, she was holding one of Jimmy's big pistors to his ear, and he was looking two ways for Sunday. I am afraid he wasn't watch ing things as close as he ought to have done, but nobody blames him in those days. We'd see a woman like that about as often as we would a flock of angels, and Jimmy was only a man. He rode on the inside of the coach most of the way until about the middle of the afternoon, when he got out. Then she complained of ioneliness and fear, and after a while after there was a velley and a yell, the horses coming to a sudden halt. Jimmy's hand was on his gun, and was just on the point of he got inside again. Not many minutes making a jump, when the fair one by his side raised one of his revolvers, which she quickly removed from his belt, and with a savage 'no, you don't!' leveled it at his head. For a second Jimmy didn't at his head. For a second Jimmy didn't know which way to turn, but it was only a second. The driver was a good and he was already at work with a Coir's revolver. Without hesitating Jimmy tried a dangerous experiment. As he held his shotgun, its muzzle pointed to the window where the girl sat, he saw at a glance that to fire it would not kill her, it could be discharged so as to scare the life out of her, providing she was not a regular wildcat, which he didn't believe she was. A good deal quicker than I can tell he pulled the trigger, at the same mo-ment reaching for the revolver which the young woman held, kneeking it out of hand. The crash of the gun was terrille, and as it went of not more than eighteen inches from her nose it paraiyzed her. She fell back bling his irons dead faint and Jimmy grabbling his irons dead faint and Jimmy grabbling his irons was on the ground in a jiffy. Well, the minute the agents saw him in lighting trim they took to cover and he after them. They kept up a hyely firing for a few moments and then Jiminy went back to the stage, expecting to find the girl there, but she had disappeared. The driver, who had mounted his box and was holding the lines in his teeth while

and Judge Gresham's decision but gave legal | he stood guard with two big revolvers, had not seen her leave, but it was evident that she had crept out very stealthily and made a short cut for the timber. On the floor of the stage was a little gold tassel which had been lost from the young woman's watch-chain, and Jimmy picked it up and were it for a long time. After satisfying himself that the agents had a fizzle of it he drove on and made the rest of the trip in safety.

CHRISMAS TREES.

The Evergreen Messengers of Santa Claus' Girts.

Most of the grocery stores and commis sion houses of the city are displaying a large assortment of Christmas trees of all varieties, sizes and prices. Some of these trees are very small, with scarcely room enough for the presents of Santa Claus, even when he is in his most stingy moods. Others are larger and really fine specimens of evergreens or pine trees. The smallest sell for 25 home society and immediately shipped cents, the other sizes ranging in prices up to \$1.50, which will purchase a magnificent specimen. The very large sizes such as these used for Sunday school cei brations, are of course, worth more say \$4 or \$5. These trees are cut in Wis-consin, Michigan and the northern lum-ber countries. Very few of them are cut in the vicinity of this city. With each tree a small iron standard is sold, which holds the tree firmly by clamps. These ell for 25 and 50 cents.

"Christmas trees are becoming more and more popular every year," said a dealer yesterday. We expect to sell a large number of them this year. They are inexpensive, and at the same time give a better show for the display of presents, than does the old-fashiones stocking plan.

TWO BIG EVENTS.

The Charity and Elks' Balls in January and February.

Arrangements have been completed for the grand annual charity ball to be held January 14, 1887, in the exposition building. It promises to surpass anything of the kind ever held here before. The committee of arrangements is work ing hard to insure the success of the event, and there is no doubt but that the affair will be well attended, Especial preparations are being made for the decoration of the west pavilion. Instead of waxing the floor, which at its best is never in first-class condition, it is proposed of to lay 2,000 canvas. The ec yards of canvas The committee, consisting of R. C. McClure, T. G. Ma-grane, Frank Colpetzer, I. W. Miner, George Mills, W. F. Beenel and Joseph Garneau, jr., appointed last week to con-

duct the arrangements for the Elks' first annual ball February 7, has organized by decting R. C. McClure chairman, T. G. Magrane, secretary and Frank Colpetzer reasurer. The ball will be a very selecaffair, and tickets will be sold to the gentlemen at \$5 each. A gentleman holding one of these tickets is entitled to take as many ladies as he chooses.

HASTINGS OR PUEBLO?

A Question Which the Western League Must Decide. It is probable that before Hastings

admitted into the Western league, she will have a hard fight to make, Mr. George Kay, of this city, has written to the secretary of the league concerning the matter, and that official states that the majority of the clubs now composing the league are in favor of the admission of Pueblo instead of Hastings. It seems to be the general opinion that Pueblo would sustain a series of games better than would Hastings. At any rate the matter will be thoroughly discussed at a meeting of the league to be held soon, either in Omaha or Lincoln.

Hastings claims th member of the league, having been admitted last spring by a vote of the majority of clubs. Mr. Kay states that it is true that Hastings was so admitted, but with the condition that she put up the \$500 forfeit money. This, it is claimed, the Hastings men have never done, though they have been requested to

Active Good Templars. Monday night quite a number of mem-

bers of Life Boat lodge, No. 150, and their friends assembled in the North Presby terian church to listen to the Rev. Scott of Sutton, Neb., who was the lecturer of the evening. Mr. Scott made an earnest speech and related some interesting bits about the liquor traffic. Mr. Scott said as to the money that from the sale yearly went into the school fund, " do not want to educate my children with money that has brought ruin and disgrace to some mother's heart or some family circle." The speaker was rightly enthusiastic when he said that, if all saloons were closed, we would not have a gambling hell in the city, and would be spared the unspeakable pain of seeing families robbed of happiness and purity Mr. Scott, in concluding, made an ele quent plea to the audience to join heart, hand and abilities to fight the saloons After the lecture was over, a mass meet ing was held in the basement of the the church.

Found With Oleomargavine

On next Friday, at 9 o'clock, Collector Calhoun will sell four fikins of olcomargarine, containing about 115 pounds, which were seized by the government be cause the packages containing the material were not marked according to law. The property was seized in the early part of November, and, as the law prescribes, thirty days' notice was given to all per-sons who might have anything to say against its forfeiture to make the same known. No claim having been made the property was forfested, and on next Friday, the ten days' notice of sale, remired by will have expired by law, and he material will be duly knocked down to the highest bidder. The officers feel that Johnson is an innocent party, having bought the oleomargarine from in this city, who represented to him that was butter. He escapes the penalty in this instance, because of the early date in which the discovery was made, but it will be a fine and imprisonment for any person who is hereafter caught in the ame predicament.

Whimsical Wills. William J. Haskett, a lawyer, who died in New York, left a will, containing this

I am informed that there is a society composed of young men connected with the public press, and, as in early life I was connected with the papers, I have a keen recollection of the toils and troubles that bubbled them, and ever will bubble, for the tokers of the world in their pottage caidron, and, as I desire to thicken with a little savory borb their thin broth in the shape of a legacy, I do here bequeath to the New York Press Club of the city of ew York \$1,000, payable on the death of Mrs. Haskett.

Monsieu r Colombies, a Parisian merchant, died leaving a bequest of £1,200 to a lady who twenty years before had refused to marry him, "through which," states the will, "I was enabled to live independently and happy as a bachelor The following very whimsleaf bequest was from a Scotch newspaper: "Some

years ago an English gentleman be queathed to his two daughters their weight in £) notes. A liner pair of pa-per weights has never been heard of, as per weights has never been beard of, as the elder daughter got £51,200, and the Younger £57,314

ZOO'S ATTRACTIONS

Two Young Bears From Siberia Added to the Attractions.

KANGAHOOS AND WALLABYS.

A Carpenter Street Monkey and Ris ! Caged Companions.

Philadelphia Times. There were everal distinguished arrivals at the Zoo yesterday. The most notable guests that registered were two polar bears. They used to play hide and seek with Arctic travelers in snowy Northern Siberia and were captured three months ago by a small band of exited Russian peasants. They were sent to St. Petersburg, where they were bought by an agent for our here in a big iron-bound cage. The last polar bear of the Zoo died in 1884. His death was due to paralysis, the result of a bolt of lightning, which struck and instantly killed his partner on a stormy morning in the spring of 1882. When the new Arctic bruius were released from their travelling box they simultaneously leaped into the pool of water that forms the centre of their new quarters. A good cold bath was a great luxury to them after their long imprisonment. Head Keeper Byrne baptised them, Frank and Minnie, in honor of two friends, Like grizzly bears they are treacherous and will not be friendly. Bread and milk is their main diet, varied by an occasional dish of five pounds of fish each.

It would make Magistrate Bob Smith the friend of the oppressed wives, indig-nant if he should see how Frank, the new Siberian arrival, is treating his better haif, Minnie. He not only gives her periodical beatings, but frequently confis-cates her fish or bread and milk. He is a domestic autocrat. His conduct is in withering contrast to that of George, the handsome stalwart king of the garden, who capers about his better half like a leonine cavalier, and always allows her the first piece of old horse. It was just about ten years to the day since the rival of the first pair of polar bears which were killed by the lightning stroke, when their successors were put in the pit. They promise to live long and prosper, as they are but four years old, are in good health and have come to the country at the proper season to become acclimated for coming hot waves.

FOUR NEW KANGAROOS.

"Ah, there!" was the slang salutation of Stonewall Jackson, the veteran and oquacious parrot, a pet of the late Signor Blitz, when a quartette of kangaroos, four "amoosing cusses" from Australia, took up their quarters in the snake house vesterday. The immigrants from the intipodes are of a neculiar type of bush-

tailed kangaroos and came direct from a little town seventy miles from Melbourne. The jumping animals have a quiet and subdued appearance, but are pugnacious. They are natural collar-and-elbow wrestlers and had several bouts yesterday afternoon. They seem nettled by the reception given them by Stonewall Jack son. He seldom uses profane language but yesterday be slandered the friends of Artemus Ward in a style so vigorous that it would have made an Arizona editor

owl with impotent envy. The kaugaroos were accompanied by wo cousins, Australian wallabys, the only specimens of their kind in captivity Their cage is next to that of the inguana,

which, by the way, is in a surly mood.

He is a big, drab-colored offshot of the
lizard family, that was sent from India a few months ago. He is a epicurean with a very dainty palate. As the number of bounded over the footlights to themselves on first nights increased, the price of Jacqueminot roses went up and the society, in order to avoid bankruptcy, had to change the bill of fare. The ignana is a mean-looking, bustle-backed creeper and at first objected, but finally had to come down to bananas or starve. An ob ject of interest in the snake house is a large landscape of an Indian forest, which is being painted by Keeper Thompson, who is a natural artist. It will soon form the background of the anaconda and python cage. The work is so well done that the big reptiles will no doubt be deluded and try and curl their fat bodies about the imaginary trees, while they will have an ampitious struggle in endeavoring to crush the life out of a

counterfeit presentment of "Stonewall Jackson. PEARS FOR A BABY BEAR.

Head Keeper Byrne was atraid that Daisy, the cute cub bear, was going to die on Friday. She was sick, but yester-day she had recovered and was in a frisky Daisy is a great favorite, and had she died hundreds of little patrons of the garden would have mourned her loss, while it would have inspired Low-water Muldoon, the poetical keeper, to write

an obituary poem.

Photographer Charles Crowthers and Artist J. N. Hess had a busy time at the Zoo yesterday leveling the camera at the leading objects of interest. An old broken-footed mule had been brought to the garden to be fed to the animals, sur-prised the keepers and his former owners by the vitality that he displayed while photographer and the artist were prging him to pose for them. When Head Keeper Byrng dropped that Carpenter street monkey into the mammoth cage of former cocanut throwers at noon yesterday be didn't intend to stat a riot. But it is a matter of history however. About a dozen of alleged relatives of our ancestors tried to knock out the little stranger and he was only saved by the keeper and a thick pole The settlement of the monkeys at the Zoo has the pugilistic craze as much as any of the padded shouldered about Eighth and Vine streets. John L. Sullivan, the heavy-weight champion, makes daily additions to his list of victime, but Keeper Bryne believes that Dominick McCaffrey, the blue-nosed baboon, with recover his lost laurels. Dominick Mc Caffrey was boss of the monkeys until about four months ago, when he was knocked out by John L. Sullivan. Since then they have had several fights and Mo Caffrey held up his end with credit every time. The old gray-haired monkey, known as Jem Mace, was swinging slim little Tommy Warren by the tail on Fri-day when Dominick McCaffrey went for him and almost knocked him silly. terday Mace waited until John L. Suilvan took his daily nap, when he jumped on him from the top of the cage and as most chewed off the remaining strong of John, L. Sullivan's tail. As a result the keepers of the monkey house expect to soon bury the undiplomatic Jem Maco-

Buckingham Notes.

The second of the series of meetings now in progress at the Buckingham an-der the leading of Rev. T. B. Hillen was well attended last evening. The interest of the previous meeting being well sustained. Rev. Hilton speke carnestly from Rev. 21, 7.—"He that overcometh shall inherit all things,"—dwelling most upon the necessity of firm resolution upon the part of all who would build a noble Christian life, taking the position that those who from the ranks of mora men and women, step into the Christian church, need this determination of pur pose as certainly as those who attempt to rebuild upon the rocky foundations of Christ's love, lives well nigh wrecked

In summing it was tersely remarked, "God gives the grace, but man must supply the grat."

Meeting this evening as annumeed.

mount that the house will be in opera I a relative. F. W. Guay. Pres. I entrated asthe best Saraparita with market.