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 Bee for the week ending Dec. 11th, 1886, was as follows:

Saturday, Dec. 11	13,243
Sunday, Dec. 12	13,050
Monday, Dec. 13	13,800
Tuesday, Dec. 14	13,082
Wednesday, Dec. 15	13,250
Thursday, Dec. 16	13,040
Friday, Dec. 17	13,045
Average	13,230

GEO. B. TZSCHUCK.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 18th day of December, A. D., 1886. N. P. FEIL,
[SEAL.] Notary Public.

Geo. B. Tzschuck, being first duly sworn, deposes and says that he is secretary of the Bee Publishing company, that the actual 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, 11,537 copies; for April, 1886, 12,191 copies; for May, 1886, 12,439 copies; for June, 1886, 12,298 copies; for July, 1886, 12,314 copies; for August, 1886, 12,464 copies; for September, 1886, 13,050 copies; for October, 1886, 12,989 copies; for November, 1886, 13,348 copies.

GEO. B. TZSCHUCK.

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

By another year Omaha's stocking should hold two or three new railroads.

SINCE Boodler McQuades conviction, Jake Sharp has been calling for a change of venue. A change of air through a trip to Canada would be a safer prescription.

OMAHA'S example of public improvements is becoming contagious. Sioux City is now footing up her record for the year and boasts of an expenditure of nearly half a million.

BROOKLYN has had another street car strike. Omaha's street cars move right along until a snow storm strikes the track when the entire outfit strikes work for from twenty-four to forty-eight hours at a time.

PRESIDENT CLEVELAND'S mother-in-law beginning to assert her rights. She does not propose to be outdone by her children at the white house in the matter of social diversions and now announces that after January 1 she will hold regular receptions of her own.

A CREAM separator in Cedar Rapids exploded yesterday seriously injuring the bystanders. Cedar Rapids milkmen should stick to the pump. It beats all the new fangled cream separators on the market and never injures anyone except those who use the milk after the process of diluting is finished.

THE real estate transfers still keep up with remarkable steadiness. There has never been a time in the history of Omaha when real estate values were so stiffly maintained at the opening of winter as they now are. Every indication points to a boom for 1887 which will discount all our former prosperity.

THE condition of the coal trade of the country is shown by the current issue of the *Coal Trade Journal* to be flourishing and highly satisfactory to the operators. There is an active business in anthracite at all points, and the sales are generally up to the list price. It has been decided in some of the districts not to make any shipments during the present holiday week, but for January the estimated output is two and a half million tons. Prices average less than last year and are considerably below those of two years ago. The improved condition of the trade is due to the increased activity in various industries, and it is said that the outlook is for an excellent season during the year 1887. The bituminous coal interest is also having a good demand, and despite the natural gas competition eastern dealers are represented to be in a happy frame of mind on the question of demand and possible profit. The Indiana, Illinois and Iowa coal operators are all very busy, and trade is reported in excellent shape so far as demand is concerned, but better car service is greatly needed. The seaboard coal pool met yesterday. Those most interested in the matter—the coal producers—are said to be firm in their belief that an arrangement can be effected for the purpose of restricting the production of bituminous coal and advancing the price.

EVER since senators were allowed to employ private secretaries at public expense there has been more or less grumbling by members of the house at what they regard as the injustice of the discrimination. It is not disputed that there is justice in the claim of senators that the secretaries are necessary and helpful to them in the discharge of their duties as legislators, nor that the secretaries should be paid by the government, just as other clerks who assist in the business of congress are compensated. But it is held that the members of the house ought also to have such assistance. Until recently no one has had the courage to make a serious move to bring it about, since such a provision would make a very large addition to the expenditures of congress. Mr. Oates, of Alabama, some ten days ago introduced a bill putting the matter into practical shape, and as he is very much in earnest it will undoubtedly be heard of again, with what result is uncertain. This bill proposes to authorize each member of congress who is not a chairman of a committee to appoint a clerk at the beginning of each session, whose name shall be placed on the pay roll of the house in which he is appointed, and who shall receive $100 a month for the time he actually serves. Even at the low salary named by the bill the arrangement would cost the government about $30,000 a month.

The Christmas Holiday.

A day which the Christian world has observed, with increasing reverence and gladness, for more than fifteen centuries, does not now need to have its character and spirit explained, nor to be commended to the devout interest and joyous regard of all Christian people. It does not matter that the exact date of Christ's birth has never been and cannot now be determined, nor that in the dawn of the Christian era another date in another month was observed in commemoration of that event. To the more than four hundred millions of living Christians it is sufficient that the authority of ages has for all time established the 25th day of December as the anniversary of the Saviour's birth and made it the most sacred of all holidays, as it is also the most joyous and the most universally honored.

The recurrence of Christmas is an invitation to sentiment. Of all the days in the year it is greatest in its influence upon the sympathies, and in its power to call into activity the kindly and humanitarian instincts of our nature. Not aggressively, but with an irresistible force, it breaches the walls of selfishness, penuriousness, and every form of mean and narrowing disposition, letting in upon the better part of man the warm and radiant sunlight of generosity, gentleness and good will. The heart is hard-frozen indeed that cannot be thawed by this melting and tempering influence. That nature is a most unenviable one that finds no pleasure in the exuberant joy of childhood or the earnest gratitude of age for the remembrances of affection or friendship, and can see no recompense in the blessings of the poor for the gifts of charity. Wisely understood, the promptings and tendencies of this season are all beneficent, and no one can err in yielding to them as means and opportunity permit.

In no other country, certainly, is the Christmas holiday so generally and generously observed as in this favored land, and the present season seems to be exceptional here in the interest and munificence which characterize it. From all the centers of trade there have been reports during the past few days of an extraordinary demand for all lines of goods to which the attention of purchasers is specially directed at this season. The postoffices and express offices of all the larger cities have never before handled so large an amount of matter at the holiday time as they have been called upon to do for the past week. In our own city dealers in all departments of seasonable goods have had a most satisfactory business, and in most cases the amount of dead stock to be carried over will be comparatively small. All this is gratifying evidence of the general prosperity, which there is favorable promise will be still more marked and extended a year hence.

In full sympathy with the spirit of the day, we extend to our readers the season's greeting and heartily wish them all "A Merry Christmas."

The Texas and Omaha Road.

The present management of the Union Pacific road have planned a number of feeders to their main line, and it must be evident to all that they must build largely to be able to hold their own in the territory west of the Missouri. To build most effectively to this end would it not be well for Messrs. Adams and Callaway to consider the scheme that has been urged for the Texas road as a south west extension of the Union Pacific system?

An air line to the northeast corner of the Panhandle of Texas from two or three favorable points on the line of their road will show the advantages they possess for building the line we have indicated.

Should the Union Pacific build from Valparaiso to Texas the distance would be 350 miles, from Central City 330 miles; from Grand Island 315 miles; from Kearney Junction 290 miles.

To start the line from Valparaiso would save the cost of bridging the Platte, and would probably secure a richer agricultural belt in Nebraska and Kansas, and would give Omaha the shortest line to Texas. From Kearney Junction would require less mileage to build, but would be the longest line from Omaha. Remember, gentlemen of the Union Pacific, that the cattle of Texas must be packed in a cold climate, that all efforts heretofore made to pack beef in the south by the refrigerator process and artificial ice have failed, and that some point in a colder climate will get the bulk of this business. Why not Omaha? Our climate is as good for the purpose, or better, than the climate of Chicago, while we are nearly five hundred miles nearer the grazing lands of Western Kansas, New Mexico and Texas, while in no other direction can you build with greater advantage to your road, or where the new line would prove of such advantage to Omaha.

Other Lands Than Ours.

The event of the week in foreign politics is the resignation of Lord Randolph Churchill from the British ministry. This step of the dashing leader of the tory progressists seems to have been a genuine surprise to all parties. Ostensibly taken on account of disagreement with his cabinet colleagues regarding war and naval expenditures, there seems no doubt that the prompting motive lay deeper than any dispute regarding the requirements of the budget. The BEE's cable dispatches of Friday indicate that Churchill believed himself cramped by the mossback members of the tory party which surrounded him and felt that his future was imperilled by the policy of a ministry with which he could not agree but for which as a minister of the crown he was held to a personal responsibility. There is no doubt that Churchill is by instinct a democrat. He is keen enough to note that the entire tendency of British politics is towards democracy and that in the onward movement of liberalism, conservatism must either prove itself elastic enough to yield to the pressure or break in the attempt at resistance. An opportunist from policy Lord Randolph has noted the rising storm of discontent with Lord Salisbury's government and prefers to stand from under while he may obtain some credit from resigning rather than to await the inevitable removal by vote of parliament. The general impression is that Curchill's resignation is the death blow of the ministry. Attempts will doubtless be made to fill the breach, but the fact remains that the only capable leaders of the tories in the lower house will no longer occupy a seat on the government benches to set the note of conservative sentiment and audaciously answer liberal assaults by still more daring attacks on the opposition.

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The recent fall of the Freycinet ministry brings out more strongly perhaps than ever before the absurdity of keeping up the English parliamentary system in republican France. In the first place M. de Freycinet was defeated by a majority of only 13 in a vote of 511. But the important fact to be noted is that of the 262 opposition deputies 173 belonged to the right, leaving only 89 republicans. Of the 249 deputies who supported M. de Freycinet, every one was a republican. Now it is a well-known principle of the right, or monarchists, to cast their solid vote against a ministry whenever there is any chance of overturning it, wholly regardless of the merits of the question under discussion. The right wishes not simply a change of ministry, but a change in the form of government, in a word, a revolution. Thus the very essence of the English parliamentary system is vitiated. According to English custom, M. Grevy should have invited one of the leaders of the right to constitute a new ministry. But he was very careful not to do so. The republican party clings to a regime that is quite impracticable in France, observing it in certain particulars and departing from it in others. The Third republic is weakened at home and laughed at abroad because it obstinately persists in trying to acclimate a foreign governmental growth that cannot take root in the soil to which it has been transplanted. We believe that France will be forced sooner or later to adopt at least the cabinet feature of our American federal institutions, and when that day comes, the reactionary parties will surely lose heart and the sickly republic will be pronounced out of danger.

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The demand of the German government for an increase of the army, with an increase of taxation to defray the additional expenditure, is vainly resisted in the reichstag. In order to stimulate the patriotic zeal of the German people they are assured by the German newspapers that an offensive and defensive alliance is in process of formation between France and Russia; that the names of the negotiators are known in the war office, but that it is not advisable to give them to the public. To this alliance the organs of Prince Bismarck attribute the overthrow of Minister De Freycinet, who was of altogether too peaceable a temperament to favorably respond to advances from Russia that might lead the French republic into a war with Germany. Thus excited by apprehensions of danger from formidable enemies on their right and left, it is not strange that the German people so cheerfully consent to an increase of military strength and to additional burdens of taxation. Nor will it be strange, after the military preparations shall have been made, if the present condition of suspense shall be suddenly changed to actual war. Semi-official Berlin newspapers are discussing favorably a proposal to cover the expense of increasing the army by imposing a tax upon incomes of 6,000 marks and upward. The *North German Gazette* expresses the hope that the members of the reichstag, after learning public sentiment during the recess, will be ready to vote for the military bill with alacrity.

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Stanley's summons to Europe, it is now believed in New York, was not from the king of Belgium, but from private parties in Great Britain who are getting up an expedition for the relief of Emin Bey. Emin Bey is a German naturalist, one of Gordon's bravest lieutenants, holding the support of Gondokoro (or rather Wady Ly) 900 miles above Khartoum on the borders of Uganda. His story so far is the story of Gordon himself. He has appealed for relief for two years past, and very urgently for a year; the last letter received from him was early in July, and expressed his determination not to abandon his post, although in the midst of thousands of hostile savages. Since then the news has come of the murder of missionaries in Uganda, and the determination of the king of that country to block the threatening advance of civilization. It is the duty of the British to relieve Emin Bey, as it was to relieve Gordon, but after their failure to send help to the garrison in Khartoum there is no hope of a better fate for that of Wady Ly. This private expedition was talked of and its leadership proposed to Stanley before he left England, and he said while here that he had not entertained the proposition because there was no assurance of success in the arrangements. He submitted, however, a plan of operations, and it is now asserted that the McKinnon who telegraphed to him was not the agent of the king of the Belgians, but a Glasgow merchant, who is ready to spend $60,000 in carrying out the plan.

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The republican coalition in Spain formed at the moment of the last general elections, and composed of "federalists," or those who would like to see a United States of Spain and of "progressive democrats," has just been dissolved. It is an important event, for it separates the moderate from the radical elements of Spanish republicanism. The falling out happened over a discussion as to the future policy of the coalition. The chairman of the executive committee advocated the abandonment of the revolutionary measures and a strict observance of what the laws require. But the friends of Senor Ruiz Zorrilla, the arch agitator, were in a majority on the committee, and the moderate chairman felt called upon to retire, which means the end of this unnatural union.

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It is authoritatively stated that Mr. Parnell is convinced that the position of the Irish tenants is worse now than when he introduced his anti-eviction bill. He will lead a strong attack upon the whole policy and action of the government toward Ireland at the opening of the coming session of parliament.

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Later returns from Manitoba show that the Norquay conservative cabinet will have a majority of about five, instead of the seventeen in the old house. This indicates more than it proves. Mr. Norquay is a half breed conservative who has stood by Macdonald, and he was therefore able to swing the Metis nation to the tory side in the provincial election—a feat that he will not be equal to when the Dominion elections come on. The English speaking constituencies were strong against the tories and so it is running all through Canada. The date of the general election is still a secret.

ABOUT a month ago the Cleveland *Leader* started a fund for supplying every poor family in that city with a turkey dinner on Christmas day. It proposed to raise $2,000, supposing that the number of families that would apply could not exceed 1,500. Up to last Tuesday, however, the applications exceeded 1,900, and the total was expected to reach 2,500 requiring an outlay of $3,500, which has probably been subscribed, as the fund was within $500 of that amount three days ago. Cleveland is a rich and prosperous city, but this movement of the *Leader* has developed the fact that it is also the home of a great deal of poverty. Besides the very commendable result of making ten or twelve thousand people happy to-day in the possession of a substantial and sufficient dinner, the disclosure of poverty ought to be effective in inducing the prosperous classes to contribute more generously to the work of organized charity. In this way the *Leader's* movement will be not only of great present good, but may prove far-reaching in its benefits.

PROMINENT PERSONS.

Kate Field has $100,000 worth of telephone stock.

President McCosh is sitting to the Hungarian artist Munkacsy; so is Mrs. Joseph Pulitzer.

Senator Hearst owns the San Francisco Examiner, and it costs him a deal of money to keep up the organ.

Captain Jack Crawford is now custodian of the Fort Craiz military reservation. He was in Denver last week.

Munkacsy, the Hungarian artist, says the white house is "one of the most beautiful and artistic buildings in the world."

Tiffany, the rich New York jeweler, began business in that city in 1837 with a small stock of stationery, selling $4.98 worth the first day.

Thomas Nast, the cartoonist, wears a scarf pin of his own design, representing the union of capital and labor in the shield of the United States.

Colonel Daniel S. Lamont has taken out a policy on his life. This is extravagance. The rates of insurance on a president's private secretary must be as exorbitant as on a lumber yard.

Alexander Mitchell will be succeeded by his son when he retires from the presidency of the Wisconsin Marine and Fire Insurance Company bank in January. Mr. Mitchell has been connected with the bank forty-seven years.

Miss Anna Dickinson has for several months been watching at the bedside of her infirm Quaker mother in West Pittston, Pa. Her pecuniary resources are said to be nearly exhausted, and it is announced that she will take to the lecture field again.

A False Charge.

Nebraska City News.

Out of curiosity the Omaha Republican asks why the people are blind to the fact that Van Wyck "has been untrue to his party, untrue to his pretenses, and untrue to every friend he ever had." The charge that Van Wyck is untrue to his friends is false. He would go down to defeat with them rather than win by selling them out.

The Art to Please.

Joel Benton.

You may boast the wealth of Cresus, you may have a Cæsar's power,
And the fame that wins the future may be your easy dower:
But if one modest quality you cannot add to these,
Your case is poor and pitiful; I mean the art to please.

'Tis tact that parries eloquence, a famous poet said,
For it's not the wisest intellect that always gets ahead;
There is a mild persuasion which plays so well its part,
It baffles pompous phrases and defies the speaker's art.

Since life is full of friction, and our paths are sore beset
By obstacles that hinder us, 'tis better not to fret,
But try the gentle manner, whatever comes to tease,
And practice with suavity the helpful art to please.

Cotner & Archer's add. to South Omaha—cheapest and best property in that vicinity—for sale by C. E. Mayne.

HOLDREGE HAPPENINGS.

Sudden Death of a Prominent Farmer—The Salvation Army.

HOLDREGE, Neb., Dec. 24.—[Correspondence of the BEE.]—A farmer named Lee, living a few miles in the country, died Sunday. He was a prominent man. He had been suffering for a long time from pulmonary disease, but was not thought to be near death. Sunday morning he arose as usual and walked out around the yard. Immediately he began bleeding at the lungs and died in a few minutes. He was buried at the cemetery here by the G. A. R. on Monday.

The Salvation Army has struck town and are holding meetings at the court house, which are addressed by a reformed gambler named Graves, but as yet they have awakened but little interest.

A committee from the county board of supervisors has been checking up Treasurer Halleren's books and find all O. K.

Subscriptions are being received for stock in a building and loan association. About 400 shares at $200 each have been subscribed and the work has only been in progress a few days. The town is filled with public spirited men, and all worthy enterprises receive prompt encouragement.

A party of surveyors, said to be of the Kansas City & Omaha railroad, have been running a line through this county from east to west, but the survey does not come within eight miles of Holdrege. It is hoped that our townsmen will not rest supremely content with the B. & M., but will endeavor to secure this road if it is built, as it would be a great detriment to us should it not come to our village.

The M. E. Sunday school Christmas festivities will take place on Christmas night. Also the Trombone band give a grand ball that evening.

Messrs. Morse, of the Trenton, Neb., Register, and H. Theo Wilson, of the Curtis Record, are both in the city visiting friends.

Mrs. Creighton's Death.

The death of Mrs. Catherine Creighton, the wife of Mr. Joseph Creighton occurred yesterday morning at her late residence, corner of Seventeenth and Cass streets. She has been sick for some weeks past, and it is believed that her death occurred from consumption. She was fifty-seven years of age, and has lived in this city for many years. The funeral will occur at 9 o'clock Monday morning at Holy Family church.

C. E. Mayne's prices are always the best and his terms are always the easiest. Go to his office and buy a lot in Cotner & Archer's add. to South Omaha for $250 to $500, that will double inside of a year.

Cotner & Archer's add. to South Omaha—cheapest and best property in that vicinity—for sale by C. E. Mayne.

THE HAPPY FEAST OF FEASTS.

How It Will be Celebrated in This City.

To-day is Christmas. It will, of course, be celebrated in many and various ways. Those who are well supplied with the world's goods and surrounded by admiring friends, will probably celebrate the day in an ideal manner, while those who bow beneath frowns of fortune will doubtless feel the weight of their infliction, and allow the cheerful feast with but repinings and regret. The day however, will probably lack the elemental severity which generally characterizes the close of the year, and this fact will doubtless be appreciated by the unfortunate ones, to whom the greetings of the season will come with but keenest appreciation of the misery of their lot. In all the churches and in other places of public assemblage the several managements have provided for the celebration of the day as may appear from the following:

AT TRINITY.

Christmas services at Trinity Episcopal cathedral will be as follows:

Children's Christmas Festival, Christmas eve at 7 o'clock.
Early Celebration Holy Communion, 8 a. m.
Morning Prayer, Sermon and Second Celebration Holy Communion, 11 a. m.
Evening Prayer ..... 5 p. m.

The music will be as follows:

Processional—Hymn 19.....Reading
Venite.....Humphrey
Te deum Laudamus.....Flurio
Jubilate Deo.....Cooke
Introit—Anthem—"O, Zion that Bringest Good Tidings."....J. Stainer
Kyrie Eleison.....Gounod
Gloria Tibi.....Tillis
Hymn 22.....Willis
Gloria Patri.....Cooke
Offertory—Nazareth—(Bass Solo Mr. France.).....Gounod
Sanctus.....Taylor
Hymn 210.....Dykes
Gloria in Excelsis.....Old Chant
Recessional—Hymn 17.....Mendelssohn

Prof. J. E. Butler, Organist and Choir Master. E. M. McDonald, Director.

This music will be repeated the Sunday following Christmas.

AT ST. BARNABAS.

The Episcopal churches in the city will to-day aim to make their services as attractive and joyful as possible. At St. Barnabas church to-day and to-morrow the music will be elaborate and will be a main feature of the worship. The music which will be rendered has been procured by Mr. East, the organist, from the composer, Rev. G. F. Cobb, M. A., and has never been used in this country. Mr. Cobb is a composer of known merit, and took his musical degree from Trinity college, Cambridge, which fact guarantees the worth of all his productions. His music is used extensively in the English churches in the mother country. The choir at St. Barnaba's will number fifty on Christmas day, and the Sunday following, and has been in training for some months for the Christmas services. No doubt they will render the service as finely as the character of the music deserves it should be rendered. The following is the musical programme:

MATINS AT 11 A. M.

Processional hymn, No. 20.....
Special psalms 19, 45 and 85.....
Te Deum.....Dykes
Jubilate.....Matthews
Introit—Christmas Day, Psalm 8.....

SUNDAY.

Gloria in Excelsis.....Stainer
Anthem—Christmas Day—"Let Us Now go Ever up to Bethlehem".....Hopkins
Sunday—"Arise, Shine for Thy Light is Come".....Elvey
Communion Service, C major.....Cobb
Recessional hymn, No. 18.....

SUNDAY EVENING 7:30 P. M.

Processional hymn, No. 20.....
Psalms—26th Evening.....
Magnificat Nunc Dimittis.....Cobb
Anthem—"Let Us Now go Even Unto Bethlehem".....
Recessional hymn, No. 18.....

An effort is to be made to raise the remainder of the church debt, and it is to be hoped it will be successful.

WALNUT HILL SUNDAY SCHOOL.

The pupils of this school will assemble in the Christian church this evening to pick the fruit of the Christmas tree. There will be music, recitations and a good time generally.

CATHOLIC CHURCHES.

Christmas will be celebrated in the Catholic churches of the city with all the solemnity peculiar to the commemoration of this great festival. At the cathedral of St. Philomena solemn high mass will be celebrated at 5 o'clock in the morning. This will be followed by a succession of masses at 7, 9 and 10:30 o'clock. At the latter hour, Pontifical high mass will be celebrated by Rt. Rev. James O'Conner. He will be assisted by Rev. P. F. McCarthy, deacon of the mass, Rev. M. A. Colaneri, subdeacon of the mass; Rev. F. Boyle, deacon of honor, and one of the young scholastics of Creighton college will act as sub-deacon of honor. Rev. F. Carroll, of the cathedral, will appear as master of ceremonies. The ceremonial of a pontifical high mass, is one of the richest and most impressive in the Catholic church, and is never carried out except upon the most solemn of festivals. The effect will be heightened by the attendance of about twenty altar boys each of whom will be attired in the purplices, soutanes and capes used by them on important religious festivals. In addition to these, the music of the choir will be under the direction of Miss Fannie Arnold, the organist. The number of the singers has been increased and the accompaniment of the mass, Mozart's Twelfth will be rendered by Hofman's orchestra. There will be no afternoon or evening service.

In the churches of the Holy Trinity, Eighteenth and Izard; St. Mary Magdalen's, Dodge near Seventeenth; St. Patrick's, Castellar and Fifteenth; St. Stanislaus, South Thirteenth; St. Patrick's, Bellevue road, and in Creighton college, the services will be the same as on Sunday.

WEST OMAHA SCHOOLS.

The public schools in West Omaha precinct closed for the holiday vacation yesterday. There are three, one on Lowe avenue, near Mercer avenue, another on the corner of Eureka and street and Mercer avenue, and the third in the old Methodist Episcopal church south of Leavenworth street. The teachers are, Charles A. Goss, Miss Nettie Pritchard and Miss Parrott. Appropriate exercises were held in these schools yesterday, and although impromptu, they all passed off were satisfactory. At Mr. Goss' school Miss Manne Ryley, Miss Mary Kinsley and Miss Katie F. Ryan distinguished themselves in very fine recitations.

The pupils were surprised and grieved when they learned that Mr. Goss had resigned his educational charge intending to begin the practice of law in Omaha. His departure will be a great loss to the school interests of the county. His success in West Omaha has been really wonderful, fully corroborating the statement of County Superintendent Bruner, that Mr. Goss passed the best examination of any one he has examined since he has been in office.

ST. PHILOMENA'S.

On Yesterday afternoon the following programme was rendered by the children of the above school in the hall on the corner of Ninth and Harney streets.

Address.....Miss L. Paynter
Chorus.....Gloria in Exilus Des
Recitation.....Four Thousand Years
Song.....My First Music Lesson
Miss G. Whiteside.
The Cadets Picnic.
Scene I. On The Way To The Grove.
Recitation.....The Baby's Stocking
Miss M. Crombie.
The Cadets' Picnic.
Scene II. At The Grave
Recitation.....Moral of the Golden Ciborium
Miss M. Beckler.
Solo.....The Shephard Boy
Miss Annie Garvey.
The Cadets' Picnic.
Scene III. The Return.
Recitation.....Erin's Flag
Miss J. Croft.
Tableaux—Marble Statuary—Gleaning Scene From Ruth and Naomi—St. Philomena.
The Navitity.

THE CONCORDIA SOCIETY.

The Concordia Singing society will, this evening, give a grand Christmas concert and ball at New Masonic hall. A Christmas tree will be one feature of the affair.

THE TOBOGGAN SLIDE.

To-day the slide of the toboggan club at Twenty-sixth and Poppleton avenue will be formally dedicated. A splendid day of sport is anticipated by the members and their friends.

SHOOTING THIS MORNING.

There will be a sportmen's tournament, opposite the Athletic park on Sixteenth street, this morning, commencing at 10 o'clock. Live birds, American clay birds and blue rock pigeons will be the game.

MRS. PARSONS.

Mrs. Parsons, the female anarchist, will speak in the annex of the exposition building this afternoon at 2:30 o'clock.

OFFICES.

The county and city buildings will be closed to-day.

The postoffice will be closed until 12 o'clock, when the delivery usual on Sundays, will take place. The carriers will make but one delivery and that will be in the morning.

CHUNKS FROM COLUMBUS.

The City's Prosperity—How Her Politicians Stand.

COLUMBUS, Neb., Dec 21.—[Correspondence of the BEE.]—Columbus, the town where George Francis Train located the "center of the universe," and banking on the belief of his queer philosophy, purchased many acres of property to be laid out in town lots, holds its own generally speaking, and grows perceptibly larger as the years come and go. While poor Train's predictions proved as false and fickle as the prognostications of Professor Foster, the Iowa weather crank, and while Columbus can never secure the capital of the United States, it will always remain a prosperous, thriving little city—a representative Nebraska town. Many men of state prominence live here—the Hon. G. W. Post, and the defeated democratic nominee for governor, the Hon. J. E. North. Mr. North does not feel that he is any the worse for having been a candidate, but goes along in the even tenor of his way, resting easy and contented. His hope in the last campaign was only to secure a respectable vote from his party. No man was more anxious to see General Thayer elected than his opponent, Mr. North.

In the way of improvements, an electric light plant is among the latest. The B. & M. is building a line direct to Omaha, from which the citizens expect to derive some benefit. Others who are on to the "pooling" system of alleged competing lines fail to see just where the benefit will come in.

THE POLITICAL COMPLEXION

of Platte county is democratic, but because of a combination this year our republican will be in the lower house at Lincoln—the Hon. Geo. D. Bowman. He is a lawyer of no mean ability, and his constituents justly expect some good work from him. In an attempt to interview him "on the situation," I found him to be very reticent. Enough was learned, however, to make the statement safe that he did not consider Van Wyck guilty of treason—as the hide-bound organs have intimated. He rather favors a caucus, and believes the senatorial contest will be of short duration. He went on to say that as nearly as he could ascertain, the Miller democrats were exerting every effort to drive the Van Wyck-pledged members into caucus. On the question of the railroad commission farce, Mr. B. thinks that unless more power is given the members of the board, the object of its creation will never be realized. Like all new things, he was aware that as yet it was not in perfect "running order," and thought the report from the commissioners might suggest valuable amendments.

HON. JOHN SULLIVAN,

not the Boston gentleman of pugilistic fame, but a lawyer of Columbus, is the democratic member. Like a majority of legislators elected this fall, he, too, refused to respond to any questions I asked him. After the fact is demonstrated that a democrat stands no more chance to be elected to the United States senate than Church Howe stood to go to congress, Mr. Sullivan will be found voting for Van Wyck. Hon. J. W. Fuchs, of Platte Center, float representative of Platte and Colfax counties, will be found to possess the same views. He thought that "this winter would be the time to find out how a man stands on all questions."

It is a fact that every member is bored almost to death by representatives from the different schools of politics in the state. The anti - Van Wyck crowd have canvassed the state two or three times in the hope of changing some member. Taking all this into consideration, with the further fact that a thousand women and twice as many men are daily writing letters to the members applying for clerkships, it really looks as though a legislator's salary should commence immediately after election, and continue to the middle of the next summer.

Two years ago there were about fifty

GIGGLING GIRLS

who had little else to do than sit in the gallery and chew gum at $3 per day. They called themselves clerks. This year something in the neighborhood of six or eight hundred are making vigorous efforts to do the same.

AL FAIRBROTHER.

Cotner & Archer's add. to South Omaha contains 104 lots which C. E. Mayne has agreed to sell in 30 days, and to do this the prices have been placed very low. Go and investigate. For sale at $250 to $500 each on easy terms by C. E. Mayne, N. W. cor. 15th and Harney.

C. E. Mayne's prices are always the lowest and his terms are always the easiest. Go to his office and buy a lot in Cotner & Archer's add. to South Omaha for $250 to $500, that will double inside of a year.

A cashier in a New York bank is the victim of a peculiar belief. Every night at 10 o'clock he walks up Fifth avenue to see whether or not a certain millionaire's front door has crape tied to it. For over four years he has made this nightly journey. He doesn't know the millionaire, nor any reason why his death should be expected. Yet he has a superstition that when he discovers the crape he looks for, on that same night some gaeat good fortune is to fall to his own lot. He has tried to shake off this feeling, but it will not depart.

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A new musical affair, the humanitiphone, was recently exhibited at a church fair in Worcester, Mass. The instrument consisted of young ladies, representing the tone of the scale, arranged behind a screen, showing only their heads and shoulders. They wore white masks reaching to the mouth, and around the neck of each was suspended by a ribbon the number of the scale represented. A young lady stood in front, who, with a wand, played tunes by pointing to the one whose number was the tone wanted, which was promptly uttered. Rounds and other pieces were sung, making a unique and amusing affair.

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