THE DAILY BEE. PUBLISHED EVERY MORNING.

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For Six Months
For Three Monibs
The Omaha Sunday Bun, mailed to any

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All communications relating to news and editorial matter should be midressed to the Euron or the Bas. BUSINUSS LETTERS! All business letters and remittances should be addressed to Tue Bes Puntasing Consay. Onana. Drafts, checks and postoffice orders to be made payable to the order of the company,

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

THE DAILY BEE.

Sworn Statement of Circulation.

State of Nebraska, s. s. County of Douglas, s. s. 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. 31st, 1883, was as

Monday, Dec. 29 18 Tuesday, Dec. 27 18
 Tuesday, Dec. 29
 13 100

 Wednesday, Dec. 20
 13 000

 Thursday, Dec. 30
 18 175

 Friday, Dec. 31
 13 125

Average. 13.288

Subscribed and sworm to before me this 1st day of January A. D., 1887, N. P. FEIL, Notary Public.

(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, 1896, was 10.578 copies, for February, 1896, 10,598 copies; for March, 1896, 11,597 copies; for April, 1896, 12,191 copies; for May, 1896, 12,439 copies; for June, 1896, 12,298 copies; for July, 1896, 12,314 copies; for August, 1896, 12,444 copies; for September, 1896, 13,030 copies; for October, 1896, 12,089 copies; for November, 1896, 13,348 copies; for December, 1896, 13,27 copies.

Geo. B. Tzschuck. GEO. B. TZSCHUCK.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 1st day of January A. D. 1887.

[SEAL.] N. P. FEIR, Notary Public.

OMAHA closed the year twelfth in the list of clearing houses. Little towns like Sioux City should take due notice and govern themselves accordingly.

AGEE, the dodo from Hamilton county, failed in his ambition. Agee's career as speaker of the senate was the club which knocked him out of time in the house.

THE Vanderbilts have contributed \$2,000 to the Logan fund. They will probably double the amount in contributing to the funds to defeat Warner Miller in New York.

THE election of a senator will not take place before the 18th inst. . The gentlemen who have figured out the result to a dot are respectfully invited to ponder over this prediction.

RURAL constituencies will be kept fully posted through the BEE concerning the votes of their representatives on vital issues. There will be no chance for the skulkers to dodge behind the record.

Ir the Burlington railroad is to dictate and control Nebraska legislation, the fact might as well be made clear first and last. As soon as it is made known the people will prepare to apply the remedy.

MR. CLEVELAND is likely soon to have another important federal office to fill Justice Woods, of the supreme court, is not likely to resume his seat upon the bench and his death may be looked for at any time. He was appointed in 1880 and hails from Georgia, but is a republican. Why would not Allen G. Thurman make a worthy successor?

THE attention of the mayor is called to our filthy atleys. There is an unusual amount of majarial illness in Omaha just at present and more diptheria and scarlet fever than there should be under ordinary conditions. The sanitary ordinances should be enforced promptly. A single epidemic of disease would be a costly payment for official carclessness.

FROM tables prepared by the American Grocer it appears that the wholesale cost of staple articles of food were, with one or two exceptions, lower than in 1885. Higher prices have ruled for some of the luxuries, such as coffee and canned goods, but as the advance was made mostly during the last quarter of the year, it has not, to any appreciable extent, influenced the cost of living. Consumers never before commanded a greater variety of food, and of such a high quality, as in 1886. Wages are good, and the buyer can get more for them to-day than at any previous time in a generation. Certainly there is no cause for grievance so far as the food supply is concerned. Sugar has declined 1 cent per pound; rice, 1@11 cents; tea, 2@3 cents; butter has averaged 4 11-16@24 cents per pound higher: cheese, 14 cents higher on medium and lower grades; eggs, 1; cents per dozen lower; pork, \$1.50 per barrel lower; lard, dent per pound lower. Flour has averaged \$4.43 per barrel for straight winter wheat, being the lowest average price on record. Wheat sold at an average of 1@2 cents per bushel above the cost for two preceding years. Canned goods range from 10 to 20 per cent higher for most

THE name of Robert Lincoln has not been prominently mentioned as a possible candidate for United States senator to succeed General Logan, and he may not desire the honor. But we are disposed to think if the selection of the republicans of the Illinois legislature should fall to him the country would applaud the choice. This not a matter of mere sentiment, or because anybody regards Mr. Lincoln as likely to greatly distinguish himself as a statesman, if opportunity affords, but rather for the reason that he is not a self-seeking politician and is probably quite as much in sympathy with the people, being somewhat nearer to them, as any of the gentlemen who are known to be candidates for the vacant senatorship. The portfolio of war secretary offers in this country no opportunity for statesmanship, but we believe Mr. Lincoln performed its routine duties satisfactorily. He is a good lawyer, a thorough republican, and a quiet gentleman, who would wear the senatorial mantle with dignity and a due regard for the obligations of the position. There is no other man in Illinois whose selection as the successor of Logan would be so acceptable to men of all The New Speaker.

A good start has been made by the lower house of the legislature in the election of an honest man for their speaker. Honesty is always desirable, but it becomes a public necessity in a position where its absence can be made to work irretrievable disaster to the interests of the people of the state. Hon, N. V. Harlan, of York, who will preside over the house of representatives in the present legislature, is a man of brains, a lawyer of ability and a legislator of experience. More than all these he is a citizen of unquestioned integrity, of fixed convictions and of sterling faith. Under his direction the people of Nebraska can be assured that there will be no occasion when the lowest arts of the politician can clash with the interests of the state. He can neither be bought or bulldozed. He won his election through the respect which he awakened in friend and foe and comes to his office unhampered by pledges or promises which might embarrass in the future the

exercise of his own honest judgment. The efforts of the railroad brigade to defeat Mr. Harlan's election because he represented a constituency which pledged him to General Van Wyck's candidacy were fruitless. The brood of small bore politicians headed by Dado Agee and the perennially fresh Newcomer were shelved by a rousing majority in favor of the man from York. The organization of the legislature shows that the confederated monopolies failed in their plans of control at the outset. It remains to be seen whether they will succoed any better in the future.

Sowing the Wind.

Ten years ago to denounce corporation abuses was to be denounced as a red handed rioter and a consciousless dema gogue by the brass collared organs of the monopoly. To-day the merciless exactions of the corporations are responsible for an inter-state commerce bill, for planks in both party platforms condemning the outrageous swindling and extortions of corporate monopoly, and for a public uprising which has converted twothirds of the press of the country to the side of the people. The attempts of the railroads to

control legislation in Missour through the election of a notorious capper of Jay in the place of Senator Coekrell is awakening a storm of indignation in that state. In Ohio the combination of two gigantic monopolies to raise the price of coal by throwing all the miners of the Hocking valley out of work and restricting production has fanned the opposition to corporation methods into a flame of hatred. In Nebraska the action of the confederated monopolies in linking hands to throttle needed remedial laws, and to control the election of a United States senator in less powerful as a boomerang against their interests. In the end the people rule. Wealth and the corrupting touch of giant corporations may for a time obstruct the full expression of the popular will, but the revulsion is inevitable. It is for the corporations to see that it does not prove disastrous. In the words of the Springfield Republican, "the railroads are simply sowing the wind when they step outside their legitimate functions and undertake to control legislatures, congress and the courts, or to force up staple prices. Already the socialists | Every vestige must be destroyed and the are pointing to them as the first place to secure state control, and their corruptions and high-handed regulation of rates leads men who are not at all socialists to sympathize with the idea. If, by and by the railroads reap the whirlwind it will

be fruit from their own seed." Penny Whistles and Van Wyck. While the penny whistles organs of democracy in Nebraska are piping a shrill tune of straight out democracy and fire in-the-air in caucus, the leading demo cratic newspapers throughout the country are giving serious and thoughtful consideration to the senatorial contest in this state and the duty of the Nebraska democracy in connection with the caudidaey of General Van Wyck, Such spokesmen of the most intelligent party sentiment look upon the question from a national standpoint. They set the valuable public services of Charles H. Van Wyck against his fealty to republicanism, which is unquestioned, and urge his re election upon the democratic minority as due to the best interests of good government. Recognizing the fact that with the Nebraska legislature overwhelmingly republican in both branches there is no chance for the election of a democrat, these journals urge their party representatives in this state to combine with the Van Wyck republicans in assuring the return to the senate of an honest and capable man in the person of the senior senator. The St. Louis Post-Dis patch has this to say on the subject:

The opportunity to elect Van Wyck is the first chance the Nebraska democrats have ever had of rendering the country a real service, and we hope they will not throw it away. Of the so-called democrats in the senate there are few who have done more than Van Wyck for the cause of the masses against the monopoly bosses. If there is any democrat is Nebraska who has the will or ability to do more for that cause, he will cer tainly advise the democrats that the election of Van Wyck is obviously the surest and best thing in the cards for them.

These are manly words. They bespeak both common sense and patriotism.

Rismarck's Grand Coup.

The rumor of a Russo-German alliance seems at last fully confirmed. Dispatches to the London Times announce that the terms of the treaty have been fully agreed upon and that De Giers and Bismarck have exchanged pledges as to its fulfill ment. In return for a promise of neutrality in case of a war between France and Germany, the German chancellor pledges the empire to keep its hands off should war ensue between Russia and Austria over the Balkan question. This is a double stroke of diplomacy. It assures Germany against French aggression on the east and destroys all hopes on the part of Austria that a beginning of operations against Russia in the spring would have at least the silent support of her German neighbor. The effect upon both nations has been most marked. France through her ministry has declared that the policy of the republic is pacific. The leading journal in Vienna considers the situation so desperate that it advises Austria to submit and to let Russia work its own sweet will in Southeastern Europe rather than to tempt the czar to precipitate a

conflict now. Bismarck's master stroke seems to as-

sure at least for the present, the peace of Europe. Continental combinations must now change. England and Austria have virtually committed themselves against Russia and her allies, and Italy sides with them, so that in the event of war it is probable that either Austria, Germany and Italy will fight against Russia and France, or else that France and Germany will change places in the respective confitions, with Greece upon the side of Russia against Turkey.

A Bill That Ought to Pass, Among the measures to which the at tention of the United States senate will be presently directed, the bill of Mr. Beck to prohibit members of congress from acting as attorneys for railroads is not the least important. This bill was introduced late in the last session and encountered considerable opposition on very shallow grounds, failing of action in common with some other measures which certain senators deemed desirable to have deferred. It was made a special order and should have come up at an earlier date in the present session, so that with its accrued rights of precedence it cannot much longer be held back from consideration. It will undoubtedly meet the same specious arguments in opposition that were offered when the bill was first discussed, and if any way can be found to give it turther postponement that way will unquestionably be adopted.

The course already pursued regarding this measure, entirely proper in its character and honest in its purpose, has been sufficient to convince the people that many senators, if not the majority of that body, are involved in the service which the bill proposes to deprive them of. The opposition, however well masked behind plausible sophistries, is fairly judged by the public to have its source in obligations for which the railroad corporations of the country have already paid liberally. It is as plain an acknowledgment as could be desired that crtain senators are now in the pay of railroads, and that they are unwilling to abandon this source of emolument and perhaps also of political advantage. With respect to some of those who went on record in opposition to the bill, an attempt was made to avert or mitigate the inevitable popular verdict upon their self-convicting course, but it was of no avail. Nor can anything they or their apologists may say hereafter remove this verdict if they maintain their attitude of hostility to this bill. They can vindicate themselves only by reversing their former action.

The people believe that this bill ought to prevail. They are convined that a great deal of consideration and favor which congress, and more particularly its upper branch, has for many years shown the railroad corporations of the country, were due largely to the evil which the bill proposes to remove. They place of General Van Wyck will be no | believe it to be impossible to secure the proper consideration and the just protection of their interests, when coming in conflict with the mercenary interests of the great corporations, so long as the latter have their paid servants in the halls of legislation. They believe that this evil has be come so serious, after years of toleration, that it demands the most heroic treat ment. No half-way remedies, that as sure only a mitigation of the ill effects of the cancerous growth, will be acceptable. It must be cut away root and branch, way closed against its reappearance Only in this way can popular confidence in the national senate, now greatly im paired, be restored. The bill in question promises this consummation, and for the honor of congress and the security of the people it ought to become a law.

Iron and Steel.

The bulletin of the American Iron and Steel association reviewing the iron and steel industries of the country for 1886. furnishes a very gratifying exhibit of the business during last year in these important branches of the nation's industry and commerce. There was a well-maintained activity throughout the year, and in every department the results were considerably in advance of the preceding year, toward the close of which the improvement had begun which was continued through the succeeding year. The production of pig iron, Bessemer steel and steel rails, and open hearth steel, was greater in 1886 than in any other year in the history of these industries. The manufacture of steel rails reached the great total of 1,500,000 gross tons, over half a million tons in excess of the preceding year's product, while other departments of steel manufacture show equally large gains. Referring to the figures of iron and steel production, the bulletin says: "They are marvelous in their mere magnitude, but more marvelous still in showing our progress as iron and steel producers in one year." Ten million tons of iron ore were produced during 1886, and about one million tons were imported. Our total importations of iron and steel, however, were considerably heavier in 1886 than in 1885 Notwithstanding the greatly increased demand prices advanced but slightly, and the advance was made gradually.

The improvement in the iron and stee ndustries was due largely to the great increase in railroad building, which was more than double that of the previous year and exceeded 7,000 miles. Regarding the outlook for the current year, the pulletin says it is very favorable for general business and especially so for the industries of which it treats. Railroad building promises to be even more active this year than last. The opinion is also expressed that prices must not advance, in order to prevent such an influx of iron and steel in 1887 as we have rarely if ever experienced. The active and healthy condition of the iron and steel industries of the country is always reassuring, and there is in the exhibit of last year's business and in the outlook for the current year abundant reasons for indulging most hopeful anticipa-

CONGRESSMAN JIM LAIRD is posting back from Washington with his feet turned toward Lincoln and the state capital. Mr. Laird has of course been interviewed. That is a little indulgence which he never permits himself to forego. To the warm-hearted reporter, Jim unbosomed himself in a burst of confidence and proclaimed it as his opinion that Van Wyck was working hard for a caucus believing it to be his only salvation from the political death to come. By the time Congressman Liard perspires a little of the Washington bug juice from his system he will probably learn enough to know that he was slightly mistaken.

The Business Situation. diamonds in her ears. The condition of trade during the past week has been subject to no material

change. The movement in wholesale lines has been comparatively small owing to holiday observances and the diversion of attention to other business incident to the close of the year, But commercial interests throughout the country are on a better footing than they were a year ago, and merchants everywhere are looking hopefully forward to a resumption of healthful activity early in the new year. The improvement that has taken place within the last six months amply justifies the confidence and cheerful forecast of business men, and all the signs of the times favor the expectation of sustained activity in trade and a further expansion of industrial enterprises during the coming year. There has been very little activity in the cotton or wool markets the past week. Cotton prices are a shade stronger, as a result of some contract covering over the holi days and the expectation of a lighter run of receipts this week. The movement to the ports has been smaller than it was one week ago, but in excess of the corresponding period last year. Wool has continued very dull, and there is less confidence among holders of fine fleeces and territory clips, but other descriptions are very firmly held. Manufacturers are buying eautionsly and are evidently awaiting developments in the goods trade, which is about entering upon another season. Prices of heavy woolen and worsted fabrics for next season's trade, will probably be fixed during the next week or ten days, but indications at the moment point to little if any advancfrom the figures current a year ago.

The grain trade has been exceptionally netive for the holiday season, although quieter than it was in the earlier weeks of the month. Values have been well supported and closed strong and higher. The rise in wheat prices has been 11 cents per bushel in Chicago, and 24 cents per bushel on the seaboard. The strength is due in part to speculation, but the speculators for a rise have had substantial backing from the strong foreign advices and the improved condition and prospects of the export trade. A very large business has been done in wheat for export since the middle of November, and in addition to the liberal shipments of the past month the contracts put out at that time call for heavy clearances from all Atlantic ports during January and February. The business of the past week has been comparatively moderate, but was much larger than had been expected during the holidays, and this, together with the knowledge of large export engagements already outstanding and the disturbed condition of political affairs in Europe, has enabled the bull interest to retain control of the market in spite of persistent hammering by bearishly inclined traders in Chicago. Corn prices have advanced 1 to 1 cent per bushel owing to the moderate interior movement and the rise in the markets for hog products, but there has been little speculative activity and only a moderate trade on foreign orders. Provisions have been active speculatively, but the legitimate trade movement has been seasonably quiet. The Chicago market shows not advances for the week of 52; cents per barrel in pork and 321 cents per 100 pounds in lard, which were due chiefly to speculative buying, stimulated by light receipts of hogs and the reduction of packing operations in the west. Exports have about equaled the volume of the same week last year in meats, and show an in crease of 2,000,000 pounds in lard.

The first reports from the Texas drouth district, upon which some doubt was thrown by subsequent dispatches, evidently did not in the least exaggerate but rather understated the extent of the calamity and suffering there. We have seen a private letter from a resident of the district which states that the situation is most deplorable, and the writer says: "God only knows how the many unfortunate people of this section can be cared for during the winter." A dispatch from Fort Worth of January 3d stated that 27,600 persons, spread over twenty one countles, were reported to be in des titute condition. In each of these coun ties there had been a partial, and in many parts a complete, failure of all crops. There was already an imperative need of food and clothing, and this of course grows steadily more pressing. A relief bill was introduced in congress before the holiday adjournment, and of course the state legislature will make some provision. There will, however, be a demand upon the charity of the country, and the case seems to require a prompt and generous response. A population of nearly thirty thousand wanting all the necessaries of life makes an extraordinary requisition upon public charity, but when the necessity is known to be real and urgent the liberality of the American people will not fail.

MR. POPPLETON failed in his endeavor to commit the charter committee to the scheme of having the city printing let without regard to the circulation of the paper in which it was printed. Mr Poppleton as a lawyer was doubtless so well acquainted with the method of publishing notices of applications for divorce in obscure sheets in order to defeat the enus of justice that he was desirous of transferring its beauties to the adminis tration of the city government.

THE Union Pacific attorney who has attended to that corporation's legislative business for years is once more on hand at Lincoln reinforced by that bloated blatherskite, Paul Vandervoort, and by Cinim Adjuster Manchester. Of cours the Union Pacific is "out of politics. For all that it takes a lively interest in the organization of the legislature.

That overwhelming majority against Van Wyck which was expected to ma terialize in the preliminary organization of the legislature failed to put in an ap pearance.

DR. MILLER's young man finds that the democrats of Nebraska are not made of putty to be moulded at will by the demo cratic capper of the monopolies.

PROMINENT PERSONS

Judge Gresham is very particular about hi clothes and always looks neat. Mrs. Gen. McClellan has realized \$10,000 from the sale of her husband's book.

Colonel Fred Grant has several paintings which are the work of his late father. H. Victor Newcomb, the Wall street financier, is worth \$8,000,000, and looks like a

Scotch terrier. Miss Fortesque wears half a dozen superb

diamond rings on her right hand and two big Robert Downing, who is playing Spartacus

at the Star theatre, New York, used to run a

tobacco shop in Washington, D. C. The late grain operator, William Newton Sturges of Chicago, made \$600,000 by daring speculations during the Russo-Turkish war Mrs. George B. McClellan is suggested by the Detroit Free Press as a deserving subject of the nation's bounty in the shape of a pension.

George W. Childs, of the Philadelphia Ledger, has an income of \$500,000 a year, and no man in the country makes better use of his money, Ben Folsom is established in the United States consulate at Sheffleld, England, and

has had his new cards engraved. He only gets 52,500 a year. John F. Smith, a Philadelphia typefounder, has distributed \$100,000 among various charitable and educational institutions

in that city during the past year. Henry Grady editor of the Atlanta Constitution, who created a sensation by his speech in New York at the New England dinner, is young, has piereing black eyes and black hair and is a pecultarly graceful orator.

Daniel E. Bandmann claims to be worth \$500,000, yet he continues to paralize andiences in dime museums throughout the country claiming to be actuated by a desire to give the masses of the people a chance to study Shakespeare I"

Why They Oppose Van Wyck,

It is a significant circumstance that the Lincoln Journal should oppose Van Wyck because of his democracy, while the Omaha Herald is at the same time fighting him because of his ultra republicanism. The truth of the matter is that politics have little to do with either the Journal's or Herald's opposition to Van Wyck; they are against him because he cannot be relied upon to vote for jobs and schemes of the monopolists.

A Hard Man from Chicago.

Chicago Times. Fred Wittrock appears to have been a pretty hard man. He was not only a coaldealer and a train-robber, but also a valued contributor of the St. Louis papers.

New York World. A returned missionary says that "the west is a pretty rough place." He claims to have seen afty men drunk before breakfast. He lived in one of those prohibition

Should Swear Off.

Chicago Times. The czar of Russia should swear off. It loesn't look well in a czar to be trembling on the verge of the jim-jams and to go round carrying a head so swollen that he can't get his crown on.

McGillienddy on the Fight.

St. Paul Pioneer Press. Ex-Agent McGillicuddy and his friends of the Indian Rights association propose to make life a burden for the Indian department officials who were rash enough to cast reflections on the agent's honesty while at Pine Ridge, They say that the charges must either be proved or retracted.

1886-1887.

Hannah Moore Kohane in Chicago Times, I closed a closely-written book last week, A yolume which no eye but mine will seek Among the folios laid away: H on each page I did imprint fair flow'rs Or deeds, or naught but leaves of wasted hours.

No one save God and I can say. If many a page is blurred with wishful tears

Or from some turned-down leaf stern conscience rears Its hand and points at dismal stains; I to erase may but a all power and skil Remotsefully my heart in tears distill

On memory's page the mar remains Yet from crooked lines and careless blots I'll reap a profit that will aid me grace The white and gilded, spotless page

Of a new book with fairer lines and pure, High aims and loftier thoughts, that will endure

The glaring light of any age. Ideal deeds, from which will softly rise Most fragrant incense, borne beyond the skies On neseen and unwearled wings, O powers invisible! with all thy might

Aid us to keep from blemish, mar, or blight, The spotless book the New Year brings. STATE JOTTINGS.

Fullerton piled up \$24,800 in improve ments last year. The new Lutheran church at North

Platte was dedicated last Sunday The Knox County bank building, just completed in Creighton, cost \$10,000. A street railway company, with a car l of \$50,000, has been organized in Nor-

Recent obituaries are convincing proof that an non est man is one of the "noblest

The Barnum house at Nebraska City has been sold to a Beatrice gentleman for \$11,000. The Fremont creamery turned out 342,715 pounds of butter last year, an in-

crease over the preceding year of 51,951 pounds. Some hungry sneak in North Platte chilled by the snail pace of "sweet charity." stole \$100 of the poor fund held

in trust by Fr. Conway.

Dan Miller, a Burt county boy of eighteen, attempted to greet the new year with a gun was caught and cuffed by a blizzard and frozen to death. Street cars, water works, railroads, a

bridge over the Missouri, and new manu factories will develop and take practical the growth of the year in Nebraska City.

Mrs. Annie O'Rourk, of Plattsmouth received the neat New Year's present of \$3,000 from the family estate in Milwau kee. A purse of that size is profoundly useful within checking range.

The Oakland Independent, under the management of of the Henry boys, is a typographical beauty. The New Year's greeting, on tinted paper, showed commendable snap and enterprise. "Reflection of An Ola Bachelor" is the

title of a story in a Burt county paper. Reflections on An Old Bachelor doubtless intended, but printers will persist in marriag the gems of great A local mathematician estimates that

Grand Islanders chew more than they drink, basing the calculations on the fact that there are twenty-six grocery and provision stores in the town to twenty five saloons. The I. m. gives coffee grains and cloves a prominent position in the chewing column, and omits the gam action of the girls.

Cupid called the turn on three pairs at Ulysses last Wednesday. The arrowing scene took place in the Congregational church. The ceremonies started with Frank Stiles and Miss Jennie Concannon eing made man and wife, followed by J. Hankins and Miss Nellie Wright, and Professor Lobdell, of Friend, and Miss Nettie Concannon. The triple tie was the holiday event in the town, and there is some talk of beating the record by organizing a four in hand,

An Omaha kid, while cutting a swell among the rosy gals of Columbus, gave an exhibition of the latest caper in waltzing in one of the town stores. He was circulating around like nutmeg on a 'smile" when he kicked the basement from a stock of ink bottles, and measured his length on the floor. The bottles conveniently spilled themselves of his frame, deluging his duds from his tooth-pick toes to the fur on the collar on his He took the night freight for Omaha.

The State of Trade.

Special telegrams to Bradstreet's report a moderate decrease in the total volume of general merchandise moving. This is regarded as seasonable, yet the distribution from first and second hands, at Chicago, St. Louis, Kansas City and elsewhere exceeds that at like periods in preceding years. Leading retail lines have been very active, owing to the stimulus of the holiday season. Mcrchants look ahead to an improvement in the wholesale demand after the middle of January. Money is generally easier than one week ago, except at Boston, where rates are 1@2 per cent higher; at Chicago where some dealers in staple goods have been seeking accommodations to meet payments due on purchases; at Milwan-kee and Kansas City, where requests for funds from interior banks continue to

The falling off in the general trade and speculative movements during the week is shown in the bank clearing from thirtytwo cities specially wired to Bradstreet's The decline in the aggregate for the week is \$253,000,000, but against the like week in 1835, the total shows a gain of \$207,554,000. New York's clearings fell away \$232,000,000 this week as compared with last, the greater portion being due to a decrease in speculation; Boston's de clined \$6,800,000, Chicago's \$5,100,000, San Francisco's \$2,800,000, Baltimore's \$1,300,000, Phitadelphia's \$100,000 and ouisville's \$1,600,000.
The New York stock market furnishes

a very small volume of business, owing to the holiday season. The liquidation occasioned by the recent decline is sub stantially completed, and the news of the week tended to give a somewhat stronger tone to the little activity shown. Transactions in the New York Stock Exchange were 1,709,401 shares, against 3,976,153 shares last week, 1,505,008 shares the same week last year, and 1,075,021 shares in 1884. Bonds were dull and generally irm. Sales on the New York Exchange \$6,352,100, against \$9,541,500 last week. Money is much easier. Call loans are 3@6 per cent.; time, 5@6 per cent., and commercial paper is dull at 6 per cent. Exchange is low, but shows signs of recovery. Sterling has, how-ever, been below the gold point, and a large amount of gold is in transit from abroad. American securities are still bought moderately for foreign account

The iron and steel markets continue to lead in favoring conditions. No. 1 eastern pig iron has advanced another dollar during the week, and \$21 has been re-fused for 500 tons, two months delivery. The tendency of prices continues upward, and still higher quotations are confidently expected. But little business is doing a the higher price named. The west leads the east in the advance of prices and in the demand for pig iron. It is very sig-nificant, as reported to Bradstreet's, that inquiries from Chicago, Milwankee and elsewhere, have been received within the week for eastern pig iron, for the first time in ten years. Special returns from southern furnaces point to 140,000 tons of pigiron having been shipped by them to the middle and New England states this year, against 100,000 tons each in 1885 and 1884. A net increase of Scotch pig stocks (abroad) of 132,000 tons is cabled, and an advance of an average of 2s. per ton in

Dry goods in all lines are quiet at the The cotton mills are all busy, "and making money," with stocks not accumulating. Atlantic brown cottons have advanced. Contracts for heavy weight woolens are reported to have been made at last year's prices. Stocks of print cloth amount to but 37 per those held a year ago. Wool dull. There is greater confidence is dull among holders at the interior than on the

senboard.
The coffee market is steady, with ordinary to below last week. Purchases are light at the interior. At Rio they are Purchases very light, and the quantity affoat by steam was never so small. There is little disposition to buy sugar. cabled at 11s., unchanged; no new business is looked for there until January 4. Fair refining here is off te. and centri fugal &c. on the week. Breadstuffs stiffened somewhat and advanced during the latter part of the week, after a decline, on decreasing receipts at the west and in reasing confidence in the theory that the United Kingdom will have to buy more freely later in the cereal year, owing to deficient supplies from India and small stocks at home.

The total number of failures in the United States, reported to Bradstreet's this week, is 312, against 292 last week 193 in Christmas week 1885, 278 in 1884 and 260 in 1883. Canada has had 19, against 31 last week, and 25 in 1885. The total for the United States this year to date is 10,213, against 10,884 in 1885 (a de cline of 671) 10 958 in 1884 (a decline of (45), and as compared with 9,931 in 1833.

A DETECTIVE'S PERFIDY.

Shaking a Thief Down for \$300 and Then Trying to Kill Him.

Chicago Herald: "It was away back in one of the seventies," said an old night police reporter, "that 1 was first made aware that detectives were sometimes greater villains than they were in the habit of running down. From various goings on in Central station, which was then on the Quincy street side of the old Rookery building, I nad just begun to suspect as much. But one night a known Chicago criminal-I'll give his name, because, although he had been under sentence of death right here in this very county, he now walks the streets as proud as any man in all Chibecause he is earning a good and honest living-one night I say, this man, this criminal, you please, was arrested after a desper-ate fight with the police at the amuse

ment place known as the Coliseum, now known as the Grand opera house. had turned off the gas as the audience was being dismissed for the purpose of picking their pockets as the crowd passed out. It was said afterward that e had no less than thirty pickpockets in his service. He had been drinking, and was in a talkative mood when I saw him in his cell at the Armory police station. Like all others of his class he claimed that the police were persecuting him, but he was so earnest in his denunciation of one particular man on the city's detective staff, whom I know had been responsible for many of the arrests and ignominies he had been made to endure, that I resolved to listen to his tale and hear through. He said it was not for publication, at least not then, and after relating is story gave me the name of a former high standing official then in private life whom he said would corroborate his "It was in brief this. His chum in

eriminal work was a poor devil who was dying of consumption. A thief all his life, he would have reformed in the face of the death he knew he must die, but reform was impossible. The hospitals would not take him he was not far enough gone for that. To live he must steal, but, fearing the penitentiary, he confined himself to little depredations, which, should be be caught, would send him to the house of correction in default of a line. A certain detective at Central station—he's not there now got on to als racket, and, knowing that friends who would put up a small amount of money to save him, he laid in authush for him regularly until he had accomulated enough evidence and facts to go to him and "shake him down," as theyes and detectives call it. The "slake down" took place on Kinzie street. down' took place on Kinzie street. The detective insisted upon having \$300 cash that very night, a mortgage was overdue on his house and lot, and he would lose it unless he got the money He pretended to be desperate. The poor consumptive protested that he hadn't \$3,

much less \$300; and it was impossible, The detective stuck to his game, however, and suggested that So-and-so, a saloon-keeper in the immediate vicinity, was a pretty good friend of his and would probably advance him the money rather han see him go to prison. Pushed to it, the thief went to the saloon keeper and

got the money. "As he handed it over to the blackmailer he said with a tremor in his voice that he would have to make it good before the week was out, and that he knew of only one way to do it. There was a house over on Green street that he thought would be easy to work. He was ight in weight, and could clamber ong and unaided up a side porch and, cutting out a common wire screen in the second story window, gain entrance, There was booty to be had in the housif he could find it. Beseeching the ditective's good offices in ease he we caught, he went his way.

That night that very detective laid in wait at the alley running out into Jackson street near Green, where he could overlook the porch of the house indicated. There he lurked until he saw his creditor climb the fence, scale the porch. enter the house, reappear with his swag and, descending to the ground, sneak away. What did he do? Stockton's tiger or the lady query is no deeper, although a cleverer, puzzle. He opened fire on him. He came armed with two self-cocking revolvers, and he emptied them both, How the poor devil escaped is a mystery to me. The thief dropped most of his plunder. He recognized his assailant, and it so rattled him that he was good for no more burglaries, and, being unable to make good his pledge to the saloon keeper, begged enough money to get out of town on

"But that is not all; the detective recovered the swag dropped by the thief, told a cock and bull story to the newspaper reporters who wrote up a half column or more about the battle, and wound up by accepting \$50 from the very man whose house he had caused to be burglarized."

NEATLY BEATEN.

How a Projected Bank Robbery was

Effectually Frustrated. Cincinnati Enquirer: "Talking about neat detective work," said the colonel the cleanest-cut piece of work that I ever knew to be done was a job by Larry Hazen in the days of Butt Riley.

Ever been published, colonel?" "What was it?"

"One day Mr. Scarborough went to Hazen and informed him that he was convinced that the gang was making preparations to rob his bank, which was then ocated on Third street, next to the Franklin bank, He gave Larry a description of the man who visited the institution for the purpose, as he suspected, of obtaining the plan of the building. Larry was acquainted with Butt Riley, and was on quite good terms with him. He hunted up Butt that evening, and after inviting him to take a drink, asked him to take a walk, and they framped around for several hours, Larry talking about everything he could think of except the projected bank robbery. He treated Butt to all the drinks he would take, and made simself as entertaining as he could. Every day and evening for several succeeding days Larry made it a point to run against Butt and entice him out for a stroil. Finally, one afternoon the two were passing the old Henrie house, on Third street, and there was a man stand-ing in the doorway, to whom Larry paid no attention, but to whom Butt spoke in a friendly way, calling him by name and shaking hands with him. Although Larry pretended not to take any notice of the stranger, he didn't fail to get a good look at him, and he then knew that ne was looking at the man who had visited the bank it was intended to rob. After satisfying himself Larry remarked to Butt that he was going to a neighborng saloon, and asked Butt to come over after he had got through with his friend, and have a drink, or bring his friend with him. It afterward transpired that subsequently to Larry leaving the two men the following conversation took between them:

"What does this mean?" asked the stranger. Have you set up a job on me? "'Have I set up a job on you? What

are you talking about, man?"
"What did you steer that detective against me for? I have been keeping out of his way ever since I came to town, and ne never saw me until this minute, when you bring him along and rush up to me, all me by mame, shake hands, and give him a chance to make a mental photo-graph of me. I tell you, the bank job is off. I wouldn't now touch it with a fishing-pole as long as from here to New

'By heavens!' replied Butt, 'I've been duped, old man. As I live, I never understood until now the scheme Hazen was working. I see through it all now, though. He has been waiking me around this town for three or four days just for the purpose of trapping me into meeting with you, in order that he might get a chance to identify you. But so help me, I never realized was aiming at until you explained the true state of affairs to me.

'Butt went to the saloon where Larry said he would await him, and, extending his hand, exclaimed:

"Larry, old boy, I congratulate you, You've beat me as I never thought any man could. Yes, sir, I never would have believed that such a game could have been worked on me. Twe seen it done on others, and have done it myself. but when I realize that I have been beaten at one of my own tricks, I have to throw up my hands. Let's take a drink

'What are you getting at?' queried Hazen, who pretended that he didn't understand what Riley meant. Of course I'll drink with you, but I don't

know what you are talking about. 'That's all right,' said Butt. got your man, and just in time, too. That's the fellow you "were looking for, but the job is off."

"The bank was to have been robbed that night or the next, but the stranger disappeared, and was never seen again by Hazen, An investigation of the showed evidences of the preparations made by the robbers to consummate their work, and it certainly would have been done had not Hazen got to see his man in

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