

## STATE SCHOOL STATISTICS.

Items of Much Interest Gathered From the Superintendent's Report.

## A VERY CREDITABLE SHOWING.

The Army of Applicants For Office  
Pour Petitions on the Governor—  
Another Series of Burglaries—  
Other Lincoln News.

[FROM THE BEE'S LINCOLN BUREAU.]

Among the dilatory reports of state officials the latest to come to time has been the report of the state superintendent, which contains many items of interest and many items of useless statements of little value. The financial showing in the report is immensely creditable to the educational progress of the state, as are all reports that touch in any way the question of Nebraska's heritage to its children. The compilation of expenditures in instruction, wages paid teachers in the public schools of the state, compiled in totals, are of much interest to the profession. In the year 1886 there were employed in the state 2,655 male teachers, and the amount paid them for services was \$46,632.78. During the same year there were 5,884 female teachers employed, and the total compensation received by them was \$80,641.40, a showing of equality in wages much better than most states, and showing a decided distinction in regard to sex. During the past year the public schools of the state have invested in buildings, furniture and improvements a total of \$183,479.75, a decrease from the amount paid the year before. Before leaving the question of wages it might be added that in striking a general average it is shown that the wages paid male teachers averages a little over \$42 per month and the average paid female teachers is nearly \$33 a month—a further illustration that the wage scale regarding sex is fast disappearing in Nebraska in this employment. These teachers of the public schools of the state are sheltered in 4,267 school houses, the great majority of which are frame buildings, although relics of pioneer days are found in 367 sod buildings and 220 log houses. Of these houses 412 were erected during the year 1886, and over two-thirds of them are supplied with the modern improvement known as patent desks; 189 of these public schools are either graded or partially graded.

The item of indebtedness of the different school districts is not of such a creditable nature as the statistic given above. The bonded indebtedness of the districts in the state aggregates the total amount of \$1,326,432, and this represents an increase of over \$136,000 during the year. There is, however, a large available cash fund reported as in the hands of the different districts that will largely offset the indebtedness as reported. Sixteen colleges in the state are reported by the state superintendent.

## AWAITING AN AUDIENCE.

There is an accumulation of petitions for appointments at the governor's office that represent every possible office, the creation of which is contemplated by the present legislature. In fact a general index of bills introduced could be compiled by these applications for office that are varied enough to cover the different state institutions, the new judges contemplated and the like. There are also applications to juries of public buildings. In fact one eligible applicant petitions the governor for garden seeds for use on his claim in the western part of the state. In these long lists of applicants some eighteen written applications for appointment of judges are filed and these are exclusive of the personal applications and appeals that are so assiduous as to be communicated verbally without the placing of them in writing. But they have scarcely been heard of, are brought right to these petitions for appointments. A bill has been introduced in one of the houses that contemplates the appointment of some Nebraskan to go to Washington and look after the claims and interests of soldiers; no one scarcely knows this or has given the idea a thought, but the parties who seek the office have filed their claims for appointments and are ready for the lightning to strike; and all these are merely illustrations of the demands made upon the executive.

## A NIGHT OF BURGLARIES.

NIGHT OF BURGLARIES.

would not have brought over \$60 an acre. Two hundred dollars an acre was refused yesterday for a farm situated four miles east of the city limits.

The T. P. A. boys are making elaborate preparations for their grand charity ball and banquet, to be held at the Metropolitan rink on Monday evening, and which promises to eclipse any entertainment of the kind given in the city. The arrangements are all perfect for the event.

Among the visitors who called upon the T. P. A. boys in the work were C. L. Hanson, Boston; Alex. Pollock, Chicago; Van Brunt, Chicago; S. M. Mills, Milwaukee; S. A. Warner, Memphis; J. M. Blair, Marshalltown; W. B. Lannis, S. E. Heyser, St. Joe.

The attraction at Funka's opera house the first days of the coming week is the visit of Patti Ross on Monday and Tuesday evenings. The sale of seats commenced yesterday.

## ANOTHER CABLE COMPANY.

A Syndicate of Capitalists Seeking a Franchise From the City.

Omaha is promised another cable car company, and one that proposes to go ahead at once in the work of carrying out the object of its organization. The first tangible move on the part of the company was the introduction at the council meeting last night by Councilman Dailey of the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted:

"Resolved, That we do not consider it wise for any cable car company which will, within any reasonable length of time, guarantee to construct and operate a street railway cable line within the city limits will receive most favorable consideration."

The resolution was introduced at the instance of Mr. Gross, of Kansas City, who is at the head of the proposed organization. Questioned concerning his company and its plans, Mr. Gross stated to a Bee representative that he represented a syndicate of capitalists who had the means and anxious to commence the work of providing Omaha with a first class cable car company. "Little need be made public," said Mr. Gross, "about our company except that it includes some of the wealthiest men in the state of Missouri, and is organized for business. We propose to ask a charter and a reasonable franchise from the council and the people of Omaha. If these are granted we propose to construct a cable line of seven miles in length. We will give a bond in any sum sufficient to commence the work at once upon the granting of our franchise and to push it through with all possible speed. Where we shall lay our lines or upon what streets cannot of course be decided for about that point. The cable car makes its own business and all we want is a chance to get through the city from the main directions and in some proximity to the main arteries. We will use the very best of materials. We will use a suitable franchise, will probably use \$1,200 cars and build a line for all time." "Omaha has a prospect of at least two cable lines, then?" inquiringly remarked the reporter.

"Why not," said Mr. Gross. "The city can easily support three lines. I know of no city in the country, east or west, that needs a cable car so much as Omaha. You have no means of conveyance here. The street car is of no use in a hilly city, and the cable car keeps up eight miles an hour rate of speed with reference to grades. Then the money represented in a completed cable line is as good as government bonds and pays better."

"How much will you put into this proposed plant?"

"We can construct a three mile track with an engine house and train equipped for \$400,000. An eight mile line fully equipped can be constructed at a cost of \$1,000,000. If our franchise is granted by the council and ratified by the people at your election next spring, we will have at least two miles of track laid by next fall and will be ready for operation by the first of the year. You may rest assured that our company will have its cars running as soon as any other company."

Mr. Gross is highly pleased with Omaha and proposes to remove his family to this city as soon as he can build his home. He is a Democrat whom he represents, confidently expecting this city to have a population of 150,000 by 1900. He has met with a number of prominent business men who have united with him in the advancement of his enterprise.

A NIGHT OF BURGLARIES.

Fridays night the houses of housekeepers, tailors and burglers that apparently infest the city at the present time in large numbers, were busy playing their profession. Up to 3 p.m. the next day six cases of house breaking, or attempts in that line, were reported at police headquarters, and a few of them were accompanied with violence. T. C. Mawes, residing on N street, was aroused at 5 a.m. by the hand of a burglar under his head, and in the skirmish that ensued he was severely handled. Charlie Kefler, who lives at G and Twelfth streets, was chloroformed by the gang and robbed of a watch and \$34 in cash. Charlie is foreman in the job department of the State Journal and the wonder among his friends is how the festive burglar obtained the idea that he was a capitalist. Deputy Auditor Benton was aroused by his better half with the information that a man was at the window trying to break in. When Mr. Benton charged upon him, and in turn demanded his intention to shoot, the burglar fled. In this interval an hour came the burglars to the residence and when he arose in the morning he was missing his change of pocket, his watch and a couple of notes. The residence of W. A. Herrick, on Eighteenth and N streets, was visited by the night prowler, but the occupants of the house were aroused and the burglars fled. At 1630 A street the gang also made a visit, entering through a bay window. The people were not aware of their presence until morning, but the thieves either had taken flight or failed to find cash or its equivalent, equivalent, for nothing was missing.

**IN POLICE COURT.**

The session of the police court yesterday was interesting and prolonged—briefly summarized proceedings were as follows: John Murray, intoxicated, fined \$5 and costs and committed. Thomas Carson and Thomas Collins, arrested and tried as vagrants, were given a fine of \$20 each and costs and committed. Frank Edwards and Frank Landau, charged with robbing a \$100 store, arrested and their bail set at \$100 each.

The notorious George and Michael Smith were before the court, the former charged as a vagrant, and the feminine part of the family as a drunk and disorderly. They were given until dark to leave the city, and the sympathy of the entire police department will go forth to the town into which they may drift for a new location.

**ABOUT THE CITY.**

Yesterday in the United States court a case was called in which the parties had been indicted for cutting the bar on government ground. Among the witnesses present were John Smith, John Bowe, Jack Penista and Thomas Kansen, a delegation of Indian police from the Ponca agency.

Among the real estate transfers yesterday was a deal in which J. E. Spencer and F. D. Reeves purchased twelve lots in Peck's grove, paying therefor \$7,000. This is on ground that two years ago

## MADNESS WITHOUT METHOD.

Joe Howard Rings Up the Curtain on Actors "Gone Daft."

## FOX'S FUN—FORREST'S FAILURE.

Hackett's Falstaff—His Jurist Son's Mind—McCullough and Campbell—Luxury for Audiences and Death for Players.

NEW YORK, Feb. 12.—[Correspondence of the Bee.]—An incidental reference to the unquestioned insanity of John Wilkes Booth who shot President Lincoln some years ago, has brought me a volume of criticism pro and con, the tenor of much of which leads up to the question whether there is anything peculiar about life on the stage which leads to the insane asylum. Every now and then we hear of some well known actor who has slipped his base, is "off his nut" and lands in Bloomingdale, if he has money, or the common insane asylum if he has none.

Friends?

Oh, no, friends don't count.

So long as Bartley Campbell's money held out he was kept in a private room, with an attendant for himself, but as soon as his family and other insiders obtained control of the funds and Bartley fell back for care and treatment upon the generosity of his "friends," a very few weeks sufficed to test their endurance and although worth many thousands of dollars, the poor pittance needed to keep him in comfort was not forthcoming, and, although in the heyday of his prosperity no man could boast of more friends, there wasn't one, there isn't one to-day who spends a dollar a year for medicine, for attendants, for comfort of any sort or kind, save a poor fund of the imperial state of New York.

SO FRIENDS DON'T COUNT.

Very few people know how near the insane asylum Mario, the great singer, was the last time he came here. His naturally beautiful silvery white, that exquisitely color which led up to the familiar hymn beginning, "When Age With Gray Hairs Shall My Temple Adorn," was dyed a villainous piratical black. It was a way-inside blue-black, one of the self-asserting double dyed black. He wore plumpers in his cheeks, false calves preserved the symmetry of his legs; he was corseted and trussed, and bandaged so that instead of appearing the comfortable old gentleman he was, he looked like a guy. He lavished this nasty stuff upon his head, and every now and then was overtaken by a fit, which lasted sometimes a minute, sometimes ten. This frightened him. Always a nervous and susceptible being, flattened during his whole life not only as an exquisite singer, the leading tenor of all the world, but a beauty, the perfection of animal excellence, he naturally shrank from yielding the pain to rivals who were younger and fresher, and so when, after long continuity in his dye house absurdity, he found these fits were of frequent occurrence, he was frightened. Fear ran into apprehension, apprehension made him timid, and he became so upset, so nervous, so fidgety, as to be just this side of crazy. To such an extent did this state of mind go that friends took hold of him literally and forced him home. Had he remained here a month longer, physical ailment would have asserted its sway, and what little brains the fellow had would have yielded up the ghost, and he would have joined that sad procession of incelsities which make every asylum on the face of the earth so terrible a picture gallery, so frightful an illustration of the ills to which humanity is prone.

WILKES BOOTH JR.

The name of Hackett was for two generations honored in New York. The elder Hackett was the best Falstaff our stage has ever seen, and John K. Hackett, son, during his saner years was as upright a judge as ever sat on a metropolitan bench. The recorder was very fond of the stage. It might be almost said he was born upon it. His father's associates were actors. The recording of the first friend was in that circle, the guest of his boyhood's home, the companions of his youth and the dear friends of his manhood were the people of the stage, and he had in his time played many parts, though not on minor boards. He was one of the surliest men physically I ever met, and although mentally he was no genius, he was strong, substantial, reliable, one of the trusted men in the hours of trouble, and a true friend.

About five years before he died the screw began to loosen. He fell away in his neck first, then his stomach, then he developed a curious phase of physical fear. Now he had been a master all his life. He was an expert with the rifle, a crack shot with the pistol. On one occasion he was at sea in a yacht with a well known sport and millionaire of this city, a young man of then ungovernable temper, accustomed to having his own way in everything. Hackett was in an absolute grip of him, and he had in his mind board. He was one of the surliest men physically I ever met, and although mentally he was no genius, he was strong, substantial, reliable, one of the trusted men in the hours of trouble, and a true friend.

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