SHORT-SIGHTED CHILDREN.

Astounding Facts Developed By the Iowa State Board of Health.

THE CAUSE FOUND IN SCHOOLS.

Veterinarians On the Lookout For Live Stock Diseases—A Little Military Sensation—Other News of Iowa.

Rapidly Growing Blind.

DES MOINES, Ia., August 14.—[Special to the BEE.]—The stereotyped question that has agitated revival circles so many years—Is the world growing better?—can be profitably suspended for a little; while those in authority consider another question—Is the world growing blind? The number of children wearing glasses, seen on the streets of this city and other large towns, is sufficient to call attention to the subject with a good deal of surprise. Twenty-five years ago, a spectacle child was a curiosity. People looked with mingled astonishment and pity upon the poor unfortunate and wondered why nature was so weakened. Now youngsters with glasses in front of their eyes, and numberless others who need glasses but don't wear them, are not uncommon. Inquiry shows the number of nearsighted children, to be surprisingly large, and the most lamentable part of it is that their nearsightedness is largely due to bad treatment in the public schools. It seems remarkable that the schools which are designed to develop the child's growth in all directions should be the occasion of his misfortune. But they are to a great extent in this respect, at least, not intentionally so of course, but through ignorance of some of the primary principles of science. The state board of health has been investigating this matter, and for that purpose sent requests to different schools of the state for the number of children who were nearsighted, or whose sight was impaired beyond an average condition. The returns received were in some instances appalling. In one school in Warren county, containing 730 pupils in average attendance, 169 are near-sighted. Almost one-fourth of the children attending that school have defective vision! That is a startling showing, but the cause was not hard to find. Inquiry showed that the blackboards in use in that school building were situated between the windows, thus compelling children to look at a black surface with a strong light on either side—just the thing to produce near-sightedness. In another school in Clayton county, with an average attendance of 180 pupils, there were only thirty-one who by actual test could be ranked in the normal sight list. In this case five-sixths of the scholars had sight more or less impaired. The reason in all these cases that were investigated was similar—a faulty arrangement of blackboards or windows and a neglect of some of the fundamental principles of optical science. If the next generation is not to be sightless it is high time that school boards take measures to prevent such a result, but rearranging the construction of school rooms and guarding against the dangers to which children's eyes are now exposed. In some parts of this state green boards instead of black boards are used in the schools with excellent effect.

LOOKING OUT FOR LIVE STOCK.

Prof. Stalker, the state veterinarian, has returned from Illinois where he has been making a thorough investigation of the new disease which exists among the breeding horses in McLain and Dewitt counties in that state. He was sent there by Governor Lafrabee in order to take precautions to guard against the introduction of the disease into Iowa. Dr. Stalker reports that all of the cases have been so thoroughly quarantined and taken care of that there is little probility of its spreading. About fifteen cases have occurred in stallions and sixty in brood mares. This disease, which is known as "Maladie du Coit," a disease springing wholly from copulation, is supposed to have been brought to Illinois four years ago by an imported French horse. The greatest care is being taken to stamp out the disease, and Prof. Stalker has called the attention of all his deputies throughout the state to it, requesting them to report promptly the first appearance or indication of its approach.

The veterinarians of the state by he way, are becoming recognized as a body of well informed and skilful men, the personel having improved very much in the last few years. The influence and worth of the veterinary department of the state agricultural college at Ames, has had much to do with this. A state association of graduated veterinarians has recently been organized, no one being eligable who has not a diploma from a legally authorized veterinary college. The president of the association is Dr. A. B. Morse, of Des Moines. The board of censors is composed of Prof. Stalker, of Ames, Dr. R. P. Steddon, of Oskaloosa, and Dr. E. E. Sayres, of Algona.

THE GOVERNOR'S GREYS.

A little ripple of excitement lately disturbed the minds of the governor's greys, of Dubuque. The company is one of the crack military organizations of the state. In social respects it is the leader. It was very happy the other day when designated by the governor to act as his escort at the constitutional centennial in Philadelphia next month. But the joy turned to grief when the report reached it, that the Muscatine rifles had been first tendered the honor but had declined. The greys were quite indignant for a while till they learned that there was no occasion for jealousy. The report arose through a misunderstanding. The Muscatine company, which in drill and military proficiency is without an equal in the state, attended the national military encampment at Washington last spring. While there, the company was complimented on its fine appearance by Hon. John A. Kasson, of Iowa, who is the president of the centennial commission. He remarked to the captain of the company that he would be glad if he could bring his company to Philadelphia to the celebration. But as there was no appropriation for the purpose and the company had been on one excursion this year, it decided not to go. The governor's invitaion to the Dubuque company to act as his escort was entirely separate, and first-handed. So when the explanation is known, the brave warriors are placated, and peace and happiness once more reign in camp.

THE HOME FOR SOLDIERS.

The trustees of the new soldiers home at Marshalltown announce that they will have it ready for occupancy in sixty days. They are congratulating themselves that they have done the unusual thing of completing and furnishing this state institution with the original amount appropriated by the legislature. So they will not have to ask next winter for more money to complete the work or supply some of the lacking appointments. The city of Marshalltown contributed $12,000, which will all be expended in grading and beautifying the grounds. The home will furnish accommodation for 300 old soldiers, and it is expected that the demand will then be greater than the room will afford. So as some will have to be turned away, the trustees are debating the order of admission. They have concluded that the first to be admitted shall be the old soldiers who are now in the poor houses of the state, and there are some fifty or sixty of that class. Next shall come those who are supported in whole or part at public expense. After them such old soldiers as are needy and homeless and are now enjoying the bounty of relations or friends. Probably by the first of January the soldiers home will have every room filled by an old soldier of the union.

DANGEROUS SPONGES.

A number of the drug stores of this city are exposing for sale cheap a lot of very bright yellow sponges. They look very clean and attractive, but they are said to be dangerous. A well known medical man who had noticed them, says that their appearance here is coincident at least with the warnings of the New York health authorities against the use of similar sponges in that city. In the latter place he states that a large quantity of old sponges have been gathered up from hospitals and infirmaries, where they have been used in contagious and loathsome diseases, and are subjected to a bath of chemicals which brightens them up, but fails to kill the disease germs. So they are loaded, he says, in a most dangerous manner, and he advises everybody to find out the pedigree of their sponges before they use them. It is at least a word of warning that is worth respecting.

IOWA'S MANUFACTORIES.

Most people think of Iowa as being exclusively an agricultural state, but recent statistics compiled at the capital show that it already has a large amount of money invested in manufacturing. Among the number reporting, 492 establishments report an aggregate capital of about $20,000,000, with over 12,000 employes. The total number of manufacturing establishments is placed at 3,000, with 35,000 persons employed. Every year shows the number increasing. Western people have learned that it is much better to make what they need than to send east for it at a higher cost.

Iowa's Finances.

DES MOINES, Ia., August 14.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—State Treasurer Troombly has just completed his biennial report covering the fiscal period from June 30, 1885 to June 30, 1887. The report shows that the state has received from the different counties during that time $2,882,179.27. It has also received in addition from insurance companies $140,355.24; from railroad commissioners, $40,302.67; fees from state officers, $67,407.36; from telegraph and telephone companies, $22,559.87; from miscellaneous sources, $21,080.96; transfers from the school fund, $38,073.26 making all together $3,211,958.63; balance from last report, $147,151.94. Total, $3,359,110.57.

In regard to the state debt Treasurer Troombly says: "As is generally known, for four years the revenue provided has not been sufficient to meet the unusual appropriations made by the Nineteenth and Twentieth general assemblies for building new and extending state institutions already established, thereby creating a large floating debt. This, I am pleased to say, has been largely reduced, with every assurance that the fall payment of the tax of 1886 and the spring payment of the tax of 1887 will fully meet the interest bearing part of this debt." The amount of warrants outstanding June 30, 1887, was $455,987.30, of which $26,573.42 had ceased to draw interest, leaving the interest bearing debt at that date $429,413.88.

CONDITION OF THE CROPS.

Recent Rains Came Too Late to Benefit the Corn Crop Much.

CHICAGO, August 14.—The following crop summary will appear in this week's issue of the Farmers' Review: Copious rains fell generally throughout the west last week, refreshing the parched pastures and invigorating more or less all the growing crops. The rain unfortunately came too late to materially benefit the corn crop and has had little effect for good except on late planted or low lying fields. Much more rain will be required to put the pastures in good fall condition, and replenish the wells and other sources of stock water. These estimates, having been made from reports prepared previous to the rainfall, do not indicate any improvement accruing therefrom. The average yield of winter wheat, as estimated from our reports in different states, is as follows: Twenty-two counties in Illinois report an average of 16 4-5 bushels; six Indiana counties, 18 bushels; twelve Ohio counties, 12¾ bushels; ten Missouri counties 21½ bushels and eight Kansas counties 13 bushels. The yield of spring wheat in the different states is 11 5-9 bushels in eighteen Iowa counties; 14⅝ bushels in ten Nebraska counties and 13 bushels in ten Minnesota counties. The average condition of the corn crop is estimated as follows: Twenty-two counties in Illinois 49.5 per cent; seven counties in Indiana 46.3 per cent; thirteen Ohio counties 77.3 per cent; nine Missouri counties 69 per cent; nine Kansas counties 47.2 per cent; nineteen Iowa counties 80.7; ten Nebraska counties 88.5 per cent and ten Minnesota counties 85.2 per cent.

The Weather Crop Bulletin.

WASHINGTON, August 14.—Following is the weather crop bulletin of the signal office for the week ended August 13:

The temperature during the week has been decidedly warmer than usual in the central valleys, the daily excess ranging from 3 to 5 degrees, and in the region from Texas northward to Nebraska the daily average excess ranged from 5 to 9 degrees. The rainfall has been slightly in excess in the drouth region of Northern Illinois, Southern Wisconsin, Southern Michigan, Eastern Kansas, Nebraska and Southern Minnesota, and this morning general rains are reported in the drouth region from Missouri and Iowa eastward to Ohio. In all other sections the rainfall was less than usual. During the past four weeks less than 25 per cent of the usual rain rain fall has occurred in Southern and Central Illinois, Western Kentcky, Southern Missouri, and Northern Arkansas. Less than 50 per cent of the rainfall occurred in the states of the upper Mississippi valley, and the greater portion of the rain reported in this section for the month, fell during the past week. Reports from Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Missouri, Nebraska and Kansas indicate that the rains came too late to cause any marked improvement in the already damaged crops.

The Weather.

For Nebraska: Ligyt local showers followed by fair weather in eastern portion, fair weather in western portion, variable winds, slight changes in temperature.

For Iowa: Fair weather in eastern portion, local showers followed by fair weather in western portion, northerly winds, generally variable, stationary temperature.

For Dakota: Local showers followed by fair weather, light variable winds, slight changes in temperature.

Survivors of Rebel Prison Pens.

The second meeting of the old union soldiers of Omaha who were captives in rebel prisons during the war was held yesterday afternoon in Custer Post lodge room, G. A. R., S. S. Auchmoedy in the chair, W. S. Seavey, secretary. Action towards the entertainment of the ex-army prisoners throughout the state visiting Omaha during the coming encampment of the G. A. R. in September was taken and a permanent organization effected. The design of an appropriate register, giving in detail each prisoner's record from the date of his capture to the day of his discharge or escape, was presented and adopted and a committee on by-laws appointed.

Letter From the Ex-Sheriff of Chauqua County, New York.

MAYVILLE, N. Y., Dec. 2, 1885.—I am glad to say from a long personal experience with ALLCOCK'S POROUS PLASTERS that I am able to endorse all the good things that have ever been said about them, and supplement these by saying that I frankly believe their value cannot be estimated. Their breadth of usefulness is unlimited, and for prompt and sure relief to almost every ache and pain the flesh is hair to, no other remedy, in my opinion, either external or internal, equals them in certainty and rapidity. I have used them at one time for rheumatism, another for backache, again for bronchitis, always with the same result—a speedy cure.

L. T. HARRINGTON.

A new lawn tennis costume for men is as follows: The upper part of the trousers is baggy and wrinkled. It closes in at the knee by a long tight band four inches wide extending to the swell of the calf and fastened with not less than five buttons. Garters can be dispensed with.

EXPOSURE to rough weather, getting wet, living in damp localities, are favorable to the contraction of diseases of the kidneys and bladder. As a preventative, and for the cure of all kidney and liver trouble, use that valuable remedy, Dr. J. H. McLean's Liver and Kidney Balm. $1.00 per bottle.

Mrs. Lena Hall, a wrinkled, coffee colored woman, recently applied to the health commissioner of St. Louis for a burial permit. She said that she was one hundred and seven years old, and could not live much longer, and wanted to make all the necessary preparations for her death while she was able. She was much disgusted at being told that antemortem burial certificates were never issued.

In making the assertion that Pozzoni's medicated complexion powder is entirly free from injurious or deadly poison we do it upon the authority of a thorough chemical analysis. It is one of the oldest face powders in American market, and is used in the families of some of our most prominent medical men who have personally acknowledged to the proprietor that they not only considered it harmless, but esteemed it highly beneficial in very respect. Sold by all druggists.

For Sweethearts and Wives.

A fine filled case watch with Elgin works, for either lady or gentleman, for $20 for one watch at Edholm & Akin.

A RACKET IN THE BARRACKS.

A Tough Raises a Row with the Salvation Army.

The proceedings of the bass drum evangelists now occupying the ancient council chamber were slightly disturbed last evening by Alexander Owens who is believed to be a raw recruit, late of the Princess rink barracks in Chicago. Mr. Owens opened his evening's devotions at the White Elephant by filling his soul with enthusiasm and his stomach with gin. It was just after the sixth hymn that Mr. Owens reached army headquarters, and he was ripe for anything devotional, from a lovefeast to a Sunday school picnic. He sat patiently through a recital of experience on the part of a young female trooper, when the man with the brass horn started up "We'll get there by and by," to the tune of "Johnny get the gun." This was too much for the soulful Owens, who only knew "Chippy, get your hair cut," to that air. He went through the lyric in such a loud tone of voice that the other hymnists abandoned the field and let him roar it alone. The gentle Salvationists stood this for a reasonable length of time, until their annoyance, like Job's sufferings exceeded human endurance, and a squad of soldiers was then detailed to suppress the "sweet singer," gently if they could, forcibly if they must. As soon as Owens caught sight of the advancing skirmishers he checked his melody and prepared to repel the attack. Jumping into the middle of the aisle, he announced to the assembled army that he was the thumper from Hardscrabble, and that it would take a whole brigade with a Gatling battery and two troops of cavalry to make him let up on his style of worship. The noise reached the streets and two policemen responding thereto, removed Mr. Owens with some difficulty and much violence. On the way to the station a number of Mr. Owens' friends tried to deliver him, with the result that two of them fell into the clutches of the police, and the trio languish in the "booby-hatch.

AMUSEMENTS.

Production of an Entertaining Piece at Metz's Garden.

Last night, Baurer's & Puls' dramatic company appeared at the popular place of amusement in "Der Onkel aus Amerika." The audience filled the open garden, and the play was presented with an attention to detail, and at the same time an appreciation of the several characters, which, displayed, in an unusual degree, the versatility of the performers. The play abounded in character sketches, each of which was rendered with exceeding care and ability. The cast, at least, so far as the leaders is concerned, was strongly made, and the result was a performance which frequently convulsed the audience throughout the performance. It was one of the most successful performances ever given in Metz's garden.

Next Sunday evening the celebrated actor, Gustav Hartzhein, will appear in a leading role, and will be supported by the excellent company of the theatre.

Personal Paragraphs.

J. H. Green left last night for North Platte.

Warren Switzler and family, who have been passing the heated term at Lake Minnetonka, have returned.

The Rev. J. N. Crawford, of Indianapolis, Ind., who has been a guest of O. P. McCarty for three or four days, left last night for Fulton, Cal.

Every Reason But the Right One.

Salt Lake Tribune.

Edward Atkinson, in the August Century, discusses the theme of "Low Prices, High Wages, Small Profits and What Makes Them," in an exhaustive paper. In our judgment, he gives every reason except the right one. He strains to make it appear that they have come from natural causes; that the conditions of the precious metals, or their changed conditions since 1873, have had no marked effect. But he admits that the great decline in prices began in 1873, in the year that silver was demonetized. He admits, too, that the prices of all kinds of property, like food and clothing, are less than at any time since 1850, when the gold of California, and, a little later, of Australia, "began to effect the money volume of the world." His next effort is to show that the poor are the gainers by the fall in prices; that the capitalists have suffered. Here is his most potent mistake, for by capitalists he refers only to men, who by their energy, carry on the great works of the world. But he makes other mistakes. His references to laborers are in almost every case restricted to either skilled or half skilled laborers; those who add to the work of their hands a large proportion of the work of their brains. Indeed, he admits that the wages of the single common laborer have grown no better, while their ability to obtain work is being every year restricted. He ignores the fact that the prices of skilled labor have been partially sustained by labor organizations, by strikes and other arbitrary means adopted by the organized bands themselves, to maintain their rights. By designating the men who carry on the world's work as the capitalists, he makes another mistake, for this class of men almost invariably keep all their means in active employment and are frequently paying heavy interest on sums equal to their capital. In his consideration of the question he only incidentally mentions the class that is sapping the life out of the business of the country. We mean the fixed capital class, the men who toil not, neither do they spin, but they loan their money and collect their interest, and to meet their interest the men of affairs have to both toil and spin incessantly, and as this writer admits at constantly reducing profits. The fixed capital class have not suffered; rather when they collect 6½ per cent they find that with that amount they can purchase of the world's products and of the common labor of the world, the same amount that a little while ago they could purchase for 10 per cent. Again this article assumes that the farmers, notwithstanding the falling prices, are making money, but is frank enough to explain that this is due to the fact that within a few years past, through labor-saving machines and reduced cost in transportation, the expenses of the farmer have been reduced, often, 50 per cent. But with all this the absolute fact is that, considering their investment and the amount of labor they perform, farmers are worse paid than almost any class of people, and their condition is steadily growing worse. It is probably true that the skilled laborer can, considering the cost of food and clothes, earn as much as he could in 1873, but this does not make up for the loss suffered by those who produce the food and clothing.

But at last the writer reaches the discussion of the precious metals as bearing upon the subject, and to that we desire to devote a few words. With most exasperating coolness he refers to gold as "the only legal unit of value in this country!" Since when? Why, in 1873, when the great decline in prices which he refers to began. Then he asks: "If the true cause of reduction in prices has been the appreciation or rise in the metal gold, would it not of necessity happened that the price of labor would have been affected in the same way? Would not the price of real estate have been affected in the same way?" The answer to the first question is, the price of skilled labor has only been maintained by a steady fight, by strikes, by labor unions, etc., on the part of the laborers themselves, together with the tremendous works which have been carried on in mining, settling new states, building railroads, etc. Had ours been an old country the price of skilled labor would have fallen precisely as fast as silver has seemed to fall, which is the price which gold has advanced to. Common labor has fallen in just that ratio. That real estate has held its own is because of the increase of 50 per cent in the population since 1873, because of increased markets, labor-saving machines, and because men, not knowing what else to invest their money in, have been glad to put it in real property. The writer asks again: "If the cause of the reduction in prices had been an increased scarcity of gold, would not capital, when measured by the gold standard, have been able to secure to itself a constantly increasing rate of interest or increase?" That is precisely what it has done in effect. The capitalist who had a mortgage of $1,000, drawing 7 per cent, on a farmer's farm in 1873, collected $70, or forty-five bushels of wheat. In 1879 his $70 bought fifty-six bushels, and now the same sum buys eighty bushels. Again, this writer errs, or rather reasons from the wrong way, when he says "the earning power of capital has decreased, as represented by the current rate of interest." This does not prove what he seeks to prove, because abundance of money offered at low rates is in itself a sign of the steady shrinkage of money, which causes a steady falling in prices, for it shows that money is so much better than any form of business, that men who possess it prefer to loan it at low rates rather than invest it in any farm property. Cheap money, cheap interest, means simply that the owners of money dare not invest it. That, if continued, means certain disaster to a country. It means that the measure of values has been lengthened, that it requires five pecks of wheat to pay for the bushel borrowed a short time before; it means it requires four feet of cloth to make a yard; it means that it requires in any product of man's toil, $1.25 to pay an indebtedness of $1; it means in truth that because of the dishonor placed upon silver by dishonest legislation, the public and private debts of the republic have been increased 35 per cent for all products which men can produce to pay their debts with, have been reduced in debt-paying power by just that percentage.

UNWRITTEN LIBELS.

The Defaming Portraits in the Illustrated Press.

Philadelphia Record: Byron's definition of fame, "to be killed in battle and have your name misspelled in the Gazette," will have to be amplified. To the armory of the negligent or willful posthumous defamation has been added a new weapon. The illustrated press will not only misspell the name of a dead man, but it will pillory him in the remembrance of his friends and posterity by publishing what Milton called a "miscreated front," painted off upon the world as a portrait.

In the hands of artists the pencil has been made to do great service by that exaggerative wit of expression which in caricature magnifies the faults and follies of mankind without such disfigurement as to destroy resemblance. Nast's pictures of Tweed in Harper's Weekly made the face of that famous rascal as notorious in every part of the United States as the quality of his crime was remarkable. This was a great work in the interest of municipal reform.

It is a question how long the public taste will submit to the violent and vulgar ordeal of pictorial inveracity under which it now suffers. When, the other day, it was reported on doubtful authority that Explorer Stanley was killed in the heart of the African continent in two or three different days, it seemed to the illustrated journals of the country a necessary thing to publish to the world with the news of his death a presentation of the lineaments of the deceased. The result is something appalling. Perhaps 100 Stanleys—looking no more like each other, or like the real Stanley, than George Washington looks like Rutherford B. Hayes—are circulating throughout the country, like Satan "going to and fro in the earth and walking up and down in it." There is, of course, a childish pleasure in looking at pictures, and men and women are but children of larger growth; but there is also a weariness in being perpetually jooled. There is another consideration. It is a well settled principle of law that a man or a woman has a right to such good fame as good conduct presupposes. It is libelous to defame character. Have not men and women in private station also a right to freedom from misrepresentation as to their personal appearance? The press pays no respect to one's property in one's own image. The country is filled with such atrocious pictorial misrepresentation that it falls little short of caricature.

Sometimes enterprise in this form of sensationalism leads to strange undertakings. For example, in a late trial for murder the judicial proceedings were garnished, first, by a picture of the murderer. Poor devil. It was perhaps a merciful mischance that the picture was nothing like him. Then followed the presiding judge (duly labeled), the prosecuting attorney (labeled), the defendant's counsel (labeled), and the twelve jurymen (labeled). Without the names beneath them not one of the pictures could have been recognized. With the labels what was the whole publication? Was it not an outrageous libel upon the murderer and the court, and a fraud upon the public to whom the publication was sold? If ever a case of misrepresentation of this kind shall be tried under the statute prohibiting libelous publication it surely will go hard with the offending party. It is bad enough, heaven knows, to suffer this form of indignity and imposition at the hands of the legitimate illustrated papers, whose pictures are their main stock in trade; but when the political and literary newspapers take up this offensive weapon in its most outrageous form il is high time to cry a halt. It is none too soon for the legal trial which shall check this method of libel to begin.

I had intended to say a word about the particular enormity of this newspaper offense as applied to women. Their looks are a more important property to them than the male mind can fathom. They are more sensitive to this form of defamation and more powerless to resent it. But I desist. The cowards who defame women with conceits that need the assistance of so-called art to convey meanings they dare not put in written words will only be too glad to know the pain they inflict.

The bankruptcy of the malodorous Lord Colin Campbell seems to be complete. The official statement of his affairs puts his liabilities at $78,110, and his assets at $550. About $25,000 of the former consists of lawyers' bills for services in the late notorious divorce case. He has an allowance of $2,000 a year from his father, not available for creditors' claims.

The district commissioners at Washington have decided that no more fire alarms shall be rung from church or tower bells, and that bells on street car horses shall be prohibited. They argue that fire alarm bells are worse than useless, exciting the people, and drawing crowds that interfere with the firemen, and that the bells on the horses make unnecessary noise and do not prevent accident.

G. A. R. Attention.

Badges and charms of all kinds a specialty, prices reasonable and good goods. Edholm & Akin.

AN ELECTRIFIED HOUSE.

Electricity Put to Every Conceivable Domestic Use.

WITHOUT A PARALLEL ANYWHERE

The Summer Residence of Mr. Johnson, President of the Edison Electric Light Company—Wonderful Things Accomplished.

The following abstract of a description in the Electrical World shows what is undoubtedly the most remarkably diversified use of electricity for household purposes in the world [or rather it shows the manifold shapes steam power can be converted into, for after all, it is steam that evolves the electric light and force.]

As an example of the modern use of electricity in domestic employ the new summer residence of Mr. E. H. Johnson, the president of the Edison electric light company, stands probably without a parallel on this continent. In it electricity has been put to work of every conceivable nature, and the results obtained must evidently conduce greatly to the comfort and enjoyment of the inmates.

The summer residence of Mr. Johnson is situated on a lofty eminence two and a half miles back from the depot at Greenwich, Conn. It stands in the middle of a lawn of thirty acres, commanding a view of more than fifty miles of Long Island Sound, and is the highest location overlooking the water between Maine and Florida. The house is a large three story structure in the colonial style. It is surrounded by wide porticos, which can be illuminated at night with all fancy effects and is surmounted with a tower which has become a miniature signal-service station. At the rear of the mansion is a long row of buildings, commencing with a hardwood finished barn and stalls for fifteen horses, running into a carriage house; a mynamo-room, over which are the sleeping apartments for men; then the boiler-room, and ending up with a large bowling-allew and billiard-room.

The steam plants consits of sixty-five horse-power tabular boiler, of the best make, fitted with patent furnace and a new revolving grate bar. The steam piping is fitted up with all the latest improvements, including a grease extractor and a patent trap for removing the condensed water from the piping. The heating is accomplished by means of a long underground conduit, which, starting out in the open lot back of the boiler-room, runs into the cellar of the mansion. Here the conduit ends in a reservoir filled with coils of steam pipe. In winter the air is driven through the conduit and over the coils by means of a Sturtevant blower, operated by an independent Sprague motor, which is situated at the other end. Thus all the air that will be brought to the house is heated before it gets inside the building, and then by a system of independent air passages fitted with electric dampers, which are actuated by thermostrats placed in each individual room, the air for each room can be turned off at the entrance of the building independently of all the other rooms. It is thus possible to keep the temperature at exactly 70 degrees during the winter. In the summer it is arranged that all the water which is brought to the place for any purpose passes through the coils situated in this air chamber; cold air is thus forced throughout the house in the same way as the heated air is done in the winter. It is easy, therefore, to keep the temperature at 75 degrees during the summer months. It is also arranged that either the live steam or exhaust steam can be utilized for heating purposes.

The electric light plant consists of a straight-line engine 11x14, and two No. 10 Edison dynamos of 200 amperes capacity each. The are also two sets of the Electric Accumulator company's batteries, of thirty-five amperes each, making 120 cells in all.

The pump room is situated at the side of the dynamo room, and contains the pumps which furnish water for the boiler, the house and barn, and all the other arrangements introduced on the premises. Water is obtained from three wells, one of which is 1,200 and another 700 feet from the house. The pumps located at the spring were made by the Hartford Air-Pipe company. They operate by air, compressed in the pump room by means of the compressor pumps, each of which is fitted with an independent Sprague motor. There are four different pump circuits going to three different tanks in the house, the two largest of which hold 3,500 gallons each, and the smallest of which is in the laundry for domestic use. These are fitted with automatic floats which open and shut the pump motor circuits, and thus start and stop them automatically. There is also a water tell-tale which is run to the engine room, showing the engineer the exact hight of the water in the tanks. The engine and pump-room are fitted up in hardwood with fine oil finish, and all the copper is highly polished and lacquered and all the instruments and dynamos are finished in polished mahogany. The floor is laid in hardwood, and handsome chandeliers adorn the walls.

The barn is finished in the same style, lighted, of course, with incandescent lamps. The cleaning room is fitted with electric motors attached to curry comb and brush for cleaning the horses, and hence an immense amount of time and labor is saved.

Two winding drives reach the house, lighted on either side, as shown, by slender lamp posts, each surmounted with an Edison lamp. These circuits are controlled independently from the dynamo room. The gate at the main entrance is fitted with a Sprague motor, which can be worked automatically either by the driver or from the house, and it is arranged so that it will give an alarm at the house whenever the gate is opened. The driveway leads to the house in a large arch entrance, from which hangs a magnificent chandelier. The verandas that extend around the house on both stories are furnished with two circuits, one for lightning purposes, on which each chandelier is represented a piece of large ox-chain, a new and very neat design; while clustered around on all sides are sockets for the insertion of additional lamps for decorative purposes, over two hundred of these being on the front of the house.

The main hallway is finished in quartered oak. The ceiling is composed of eight grained arches, each capped with a miniature sun made by Tiffany & Co. Behind these are Edison lamps, which reflecting through the different thicknesses of glass, gives the well known outline of a man's face looking from the sun.

The dining room is finished in the same style, with eight handsome chandeliers arranged on different circuits, partially for service and partially for decoration. The parlor is finished in whitewood, and the library back of it is finished in rich red cherry.

On the upper floors the rooms are also finished in carved woods of different colors, and the lighting circuit for each floor is brought to a switch-board, which controls the entire floor. There is also a separate independent circuit running through the house called the "pilot-light" circuit. This circuit includes one lamp in each room of the house and can be controlled independently on each floor. At night it can be connected to the burglar alarm so that, although controllable in other places while the alarm is in its proper position, if the alarm should ring the lights are immediately lighted and cannot be turned off anywhere except at the alarm, which is placed in the proprietor's bed-room. The arrangement is such that the ground may also be illuminated at the same time.

In a recess in the main hall are arranged a long-distance telephone and a tele-barometer, tele-thermometer, and other registering instruments, furnished by the Telemeter company, of New York, so that by merely looking at those dials, there can be read at a glance the temperature, both indoors and outdoors, the steam pressure on the boilers, the amperes of current flowing out from the digerent circuits, the velocity of the wind, together with all the other data furnished by a signal service station.

The tennis ground near the mansion is lighted in a novel manner. Here cast-iron boxes, about six inches square, are sunk in the earth at short intervals. Each box is covered with plate glass and within each is an Edison light backed by a strong reflector. Thus at night when all surrounding lights are turned out and these are thrown on, the rays of light projected into the air will make tennis playing possible and agreeable.

An electric fountain is being arranged for on the same idea as the one operated at St. George, S. I., last year, and ice-freezing machines are also being installed, to be driven by Sprague motors.

Not content with what has already been accomplished, Mr. E. H. Johnson proposes to do still more with the current, a recent idea of his, which will probably be put into practice, being the attaching of an electric motor to the lawn mower, so that the attendant need only guide its motion without exerting any pressure upon the machine.

The entire premises are wired for 500 Edison lamps and the character of the work makes it evident that great care and ingenuity were displayed in their arrangement. The magnitude of the work can be judged when we consider that for its completion there was required over 50,000 feet of wire of the following kinds: 10,000 feet of double and 5,000 feet single Waring cable; 20,000 feet of Callender cable, 20,000 feet of Grimshaw wire, 3,000 feet of Clark wire, and 100 feet of twenty-wire-cable.

REAL ESTATE.

Transfers Filed August 12, 1887.

Eva Fitchett to Hans Nelson, lot 11 blk 3, Brookline, w d	$ 1,150
Charles Corbett and wife to E E Finey lot 6 blk 5, Denises add, q c	1
Norman H Brown to Thomas Donehey lots 10 and 11 blk 10, Patrick's 2nd add, w d	3,000
Henry B Mulford et al to Georgiana V Mulford, lot 6 blk A, Mulford & Grossman's subdiv, w d	400
Mathewson T Patrick and wife to John H Grossman, lot 10 blk 9, Patricks 2d add, w d	2,000
Henry D Reed et al to S R Slauson, lot 12 blk 1, Sheridan Place, w d	1,250
Lilian M Jacobs to Fred Mohle, lots 7 and 8, Walnut Hill, w d	1,335
Lilian M Jacobs to Fred Mohle, lot 9, blk 8, Walnut Hill, w d	665
Matthew L Van Scoten and wife to Kate Keeweit, lot 4 blk M, Van Camp & Eddy's subdiv, w d	1,200
Matthew L Van Scoten to Lars Johnson, lot 5 blk M, Van Camp & Eddys subdiv, w d	1,250
John Burleigh et al to Gus Erickson, lot 14, blk 2, A S Patrick's add, w d	1,800
Lew W Hill to Jane Martha, lot 11, blk 6, Park Forest, w d	238
James E Mageath to Lillie R Foote, lot 18, Windsor place, w d	1,500
W H Motter and wife to John H Dumont, undivided ½, e ½ lot 1, blk 5, Love's 2nd add, w d	3,737.50
Solomon Bergman and wife to Otto A Schneider, s ½ lots 9 and 10, blk 1, Saunders & Himebaugh's add, w d	500
Alex McGavock and wife to Hemon Goldberg, s 22 ft of lot 5, blk 267, w d	2,000
Edwin S Rood and wife to Adolph Newman, lot 4, blk 6, and lots 10 and 15, blk 7, Albright's annex, w d	365
Augustus Kountze and wife to John Croft, n ¼ of lot 14, blk 6, Kountze's 3d, w d	275
James G Megeath and wife to Alice L Marsh, lot 77, Windsor place, w d	1,500
Larmon P Pruyn and wife to James N Drake, lots 3, Pruyn's sub to Millard & Caldwell's add, w d	3,250
Larmon P Pruyn and wife to George Hammond et al, lot 2, Pruyn's sub of Millard & Caldwell's add, w d	4,250
George Hammond et al to Larmon P Pruyn, lot 3, Pruyn's sub of Millard & Caldwell's add, w d	3,250
Fannie L Sloman and husband to James H Denise, lot 2, block 6, Jerom Park, w d	3,300
A J Hobine et al to Fannie M Sloman 1-7 interest in Linwood Park association, w d	1,500
M F Martin and wife to Frank Colpetzer, part of blk 100, w d	16,000
Josephine Miller and husband to Milly Hockenbirger, n 18 ft of lot 1, blk 206, q c	800
Lottie Metz to Milly L Hockenberger, n 88 ft of lot 1 blk 207, q c	1
Henry B Mulford et al to George F Schwartz, lot 9, blk "A," Mulford & Grossman's sub div, w d	400
Twenty-nine transfers, consideration	$55,765.50

August 11.

Lee Roy Mayne to Jas Davis, lot 14, blk 6, Central Park, w d	$ 2,200
Patrick Hoctor and wife to R F Maxwell, lot 15, blk 1, South Omaha View	1,000
Mary Bostwick et al to H M Bostwick undiv ¾ lot 11 blk 6, Sulphur Springss add, q c d	1
Henry M Bostwick and wife to Calvin H Frederick, lot 11, blk 6, Sulphur Springs add, w d	2,700
Chas K Collins to Lena Reich, lot 10, blk 4, Potter & Cobb's add to South Omaha, w d	4,000
Byron B Hadley and wife to Edgar R Dustin, lots 9 and 10, blk 2, West Side add, w d	1,500
City of Omaha to Wm Coburn, beginning at s w cor B 347 Omaha, n 133 w 20 s 133 e 20 to beg, q c d	1,000
Albert P Frasier and wife to Jas Bonner, w ½ lot 14, Pelham place, w d	2,700
Albert A Gibson and wife to Fremont, Elkhorn & Missouri Valley railway, over n 140 acres of ne ¼ sec 25, 16, 12	296
Sally M Wagoner to Fremont, Elkhorn & Missouri Valley railway, over B 2, Brighton	2,500
L W Colby and wife to Anna M Hayward, s 155 ft of w ½ ne ¼ se ¼ sec 9-15-13, w d	3,000
Le Roy Mayne to C E Mayne, lot 6, blk 5, Ambler place, w d	8,000
Le Roy Mayne to C E Mayne, lot 13, blk 7, lots 3, 4, 11 blk 14, lots 5, 6, blk 17, Central Park, w d	4,000
Wm L McCague to Albert M Grant, lots 5, 6, blk "O," Lowe's add, w d	2,200
Omaha and Florence Loan and Trust Co. to O F Briggs, lot 1, blk 90, Florence, w d	500
Fanny L Farmer to Elizabeth Hermann, lot 17, blk 3, Sulphur Springs add, w d	2,000
West Farnam Street Building association to Fannie M Sloman, lot 42, blk 6, Jerome Park, w d	750
Henry B St John and wife to Elmer E Fenney, lot 1 to 5, blk 1, lot 16 to 20, blk 1, lot 1 to 5 and 16 to 19, blk 4, lots 2, 3, 5, 10, 11, 12, 13 and 14, blk 5, lots 7, 8, 9, 10 and 19, blk 8, lots 2 to 9 and 12 to 20, blk 6, lot 1, blk 7, Solomon's add, q c d	1
Henry B St John and wife to Elmer E Fenney, undivided ¼ of n 82 ft, lot 6, blk 5, Denise's add, w d	2,000
Elmer E Fenney to Home Investment company, lots 1 to 5, blk 1, lots 16 to 20, blk 1, lots 1 to 5 and 16 to 19, blk 4, lots 2, 3, 5, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, blk 5, lots 7, 8, 9, 10 and 19, blk 8, lots 2 to 9 and 12 to 20, blk 6, lot 1, blk 7, Solomon's add, q c d	1
Elmer E Fenney to Home Investment company, n 82 ft of lot 6, blk 5, Denise's add, w d	4,000
Hugh G Clark and wife to William W Bingham et al, lot 9, blk 3, Dupont place, w d	450
Chris A How to Edward D Evans, lots 1 and 2, blk 7,