BROTHER PARKER HAS CONE.

Sorrowing Friends Mourn the Loss of a Slick Swindler.

HE RAIDS A COLLECTION BOX

Married on Thanksgiving, He Confidences His Bride, Steals Church Funds and Departs for Greener Fields and Pastures New.

A Daring Confidence Game. The sudden disappearance of one F. H. Parker some two weeks ago and the coterie of trusting friends and brother church members who have been most dilligently inquiring the time of his expected return, has revealed a number of bold-faced trickeries practiced by him rarely equalled by the most daring adventurers. About ten weeks ago Parker came to Omaha in response to an advertisement of the Omaha Stove Repair works for a traveling salesman. He soon won the confidence of his employers by his steady habits and business application. He took a most active part in the prayer meetings of the Castellar Street M. E. church, and by his fervent prayers captured the hearts of the good brothers of that society. There was some \$900 or \$1,000 pledged for the church that remained unpaid and no one was deemed better fitted to collect this money for the Lord's people than the devout Brother Parker. Considerable of this money came into his possession, but the exact amount has not yet been learned, and since Brother Parker's sudden call to some other and remote corner of the Lord's vineyard, the brethren of the church have declared that the deficit in the absent brother's account should come out of the Rev. Henry's salary, as he was directly responsible for the appointment of Parker as collector for the

But there are other victims, who have suffered far worse from Parker's duplicity. About the middle of November he met a pleasant widow, Mrs. Laclede, from Chicago, a lady of about thirty-five, far above the average in culture and intelligence. She is an accomplished book-keeper and expected to embark in business here, but unfortunately reached Omaha too late to establish herself as she wished. About this time Parker, who was about five years her senior, met her, and appeared to be greatly infatuated with the buxom widow. He took her out driving and pointed out to her the most palatial abodes in the city, telling her that they were his property. He made her presents of lap robes, a handsome cutter, a fine horse and carriage, and numerous other articles that have since been discovered to be the property of his employer, Mr. C. M. Eaton. He also claimed to be a member of the firm instead of a clerk, and represented that he had between \$15,000 and \$20,000 in ready cash. About the third time he met her he proposed marriage and at every subsequent visit vigorously pressed his suit. He finally promised if she would wed him he would deed her the elegant home of A. J. Poppleton on Spruce street, between Sixteenth and Eighteenth. Unfortunately for Mrs. Laclede she was out of money out of work and among strangers, and the glittering prospects held out by the sanctimonious suitor, gilded for the while the unlovable traits in his character. It is said that he attempted two or three times to marry her without a marriage li-cense, but was prevented by the refusal of stices and ministers to marry them without the legal document. Their marriage took place on Thanksgiving day. He prom sed to deed her the Poppleton property the day before their marriage was solemnized but it was not until a week later that the document was forthcoming. She immediately took it to the recorder of deeds, who pronounced it worthless. This was the first intimation Mrs. Parker had of her husband's duplicity, and it gave her a shock from which she has not yet recovered. A series of other promises she found to be equally faithless. After their marriage the couple had taken rooms and board at the Esmond, where he told her that the bill for the two was paid for over a month. He also duped the proprietor into believing he was a man of affluence, and he was allowed to take his time in paving This accommodation he has worked for all there was in it, and the proprietor is out for the board of the two all the time they have stayed at the hostelry. Through his rascality his wife has also lost all her jewelry.

About two weeks ago, after soliciting a series of private loans from some of his brother church members, he quietly disappeared, leaving his bride in a penniless condition and prostrated by neuralgia of the heart. The gentlemanly proprietor of the Esmond has done all in his ower for the unfortunate woman, and she is ow thought to be on the road to recovery. Her complaint is thought to have been greatly aggravated by the terrible deceptions prac-

ticed upon her. Parker is a man of about forty and is said to have a wife and family in Michigan. The church racket is thought to be his regular game. He is a man of stout build, florid com-plexion, is somewhat bald, and is not unlike President Cleveland in appearance, with the exception that he wears chin whiskers. He is lame in the left leg. His talk is as honest as a granger's, and is his stock in trade. His employers are the only persons with whom he has been brought in contact who are not heavy losers through his trickery.

The Western Penman's Association. Prof. G. R. Rathburn will represent Omaha at the convention of the Western Penman's association, which assembles at Cedar Rapids, Ia., to-morrow and continue for several days. The object of these meetings is to raise the standard of a business education and adopt methods that are practical and in keeping with the requirements of the commercial world. At the Cedar Rapids convention Prof. Rathburn will respond to the subject, "Lessons to Beginners in a Business College," and he has hopes of securing for Omaha the next annual meeting of the organization.

Rev. Williams' Sad Affliction. Rev. John Williams, rector of St. Barna bas' church, is sorely afflicted. Yesterday evening his beloved child Francis died, and at a late hour last night another cherished child, Mead, was given up by the doctors. Together with this double affliction a babe lies at the point of death, and the pastor's faithful wife is prostrated and unable to leave her bed. Mr. Williams has the synipathy of the entire community.

August Slugged Peter.

Peter Peters strolled out on Tenth street last night and met August Sobat. An old grudge existed between the pair, and August concluded to terminate matters by sand-bagging Peter. With that instrument August slugged Mr. Man on the head, inflicting a very painful injury. Officer Dempsey put August behind the bars of the central station.

Out of a Job. Richard Fletcher is a carpenter by occupation, and being a little unfortunate in securing a job he concluded last night to turn thief He hitched on to a willow chair standing in front of the store of J. Benner, on Douglas street, and Officer Harvey locked him up in

the central station. Remembered Their Clerk. T. J. Miner, the affable and pleasant clork of the Windsor, rebeived a handsome Christ-

mids remembrance from his employers, Messrs. Schlank & Prince, last night. It consists of a hand-made cigar case, beauti-fully decorated with fiving figures. The Van Etten Case.

Judge Wakeley has postponed his action in the matter of the disbarment of David Van Etten until Friday morning next.

One Building Permit. The only building permit issued yesterday was to Chris Rasmussen, to creet a \$300 cottage on Phelps avenue, between Fourteenth and Fifteenth streets.

County Court. JUDGMENT RENDERED. Judge McCulloch yesterday granted a judgment in favor of the World Publishing com-

AMUSEMENTS. Fanchonette Produced at Boyd's Last

Night-Other Attractions. Serpette's comic opera, "Fanchonette, was sung by the Bostonians last night at Boyd's. So far as stage setting and brilliant costumes were concerned the opera as a whole gave satisfaction. A few of the numbers, especially the solos and duos, were very pretty, but outside of these there is little to recommend the production. The choruses and orchestration were bad, very bad. It may have been that a half filled house and an unsympathetic audience tended to make the members of the company very careless, but true it is, that the performance produced little enthusiasm or applause.

Two excellent attractions will appear a Boyd's opera house this week. To-morrow and Tuesday evenings, with matinee Mon-day (Christmay day), the famous Dalys will be seen in their new farcical comedy. "Up-side Down." On Thursday, Friday and Saturday Newton Beers will appear in "Lost n London," one of the greatest melo-dramas of the day. GRAND OPERA HOUSE.

The "Lights o' London" company closed a very successful engagement last evening at this house. All the principal characters, with nearly all of the minor ones, played to excellent advantage, while the scenery evoked hearty peals of applause. Little Tim, played by Little Lottie Dorman, assisted by H. W. Montgomery as Muldoon, received almost constant applause. Miss Rolland's Bess Marks was an excellent piece of acting. On next Monday evening Mr. Edwin Mayo, son of Frank Mayo, who possesses many of the excellent personal and historic qualifica-tions of his father, Frank Mayo, will appear in the beautiful ideal sketch, "Davy Crock-

the same party to-morrow afternoon. GERMAN COMPANY. To-night, at Boyd's, Baureis & Puls' excel lent German company appears in the lively comedy, "The Wildcat," Mrs. Puls-Ahl sus-

ett." There will be a Christmas matinee by

Mr. Boyd Watched.

It has long been an open secret that Mr Thomas F. Boyd, the efficient manager of Boyd's opera house, has not been getting around on time. In fact Mr. Whitmore, the treasurer, has complained that Mr. Boyd's actions should be closely looked into, and it was determined to place a "watch" upon him. This espionage was brought to an abrupt termination last night, and Mr. Boyd was fairly caught and forced to accept an elegant gold watch and chain. It all happened after the "opera was over." The gentleman was invited into a private room on some pretense, and the awkward silence was broken by the melodious voice of Mr. J. B. King, who addressed Mr. Boyd as follows;
"Mr. Boyd, on behalf of the employes of

the opera house and other warm friends of yourself, I desire to present you with this token of their esteem. I trust that you will hereafter always be on "time" and that there will be no occasion to "keep cases" on you in the future. This elegant gold watch will be embarrassing to you in only one way, and that is, you will be unable hereafter to say to your better half when you arrive home lat that you did not know the time."

Mr. Boyd was taken completely by sur-prise, but expressed his thanks in a graceful

manner. Misstatements Corrected. In the BEE of December 9 appeared a state ment that M. P.B. Woodlief had left the city leaving a number of creditors in the furch and also defrauding his hotel out of a board bill. Mr. Woodlief has now returned and claims that the accusations are entirely without foundation. The proprietor of the hotel which Woodlief was said to have defrauded now states that that gentleman owed him nothing at the time of his departure and that the report was entirely untrue. Mr. Wood lief also asserts that the story about the over cont was distorted. The tailor did not brit it until after train time, and as he had le the hotel the coat was returned to the sho Mr. L. E. Corby was at the hotel when the coat came and told the tailor he had left, being unable to wait longer for the garment to arrive. Mr. Woodlief did take a trunk and valise with him on his departure. In regard to the Omaha Permanent Exhibit of Building Material and Appliances, it is still in existence, its doors never having been closed except to remove to new quarters. The clerks, he says, have been paid their salaries nents the articles which appeared in the Ber of the 9th inst. would appear to have been secured from unreliable sources, or from per-sons who had an object in setting affeat rumors which would affect Mr. Woodlief's

The County Commissioners.

financial standing in the community.

The County Commissioners yesterday passed the following resolutions: Resolved That Charles Tiets supervisor structed to notify all persons abutting on county roads in section 13, township 15, range 12 and section 15, township 15 and range 12 to move all obstructions, fences, ties, etc. in

said roads.

Resolved, That the county attorney be and is hereby authorized to confess judgment in favor of the Omaha World Publishing comamount due for publishing the delinquent tax list.

Oscar Caught at It.

Oscar Anderson, a youth of tender years, went into the store of S. P. Morse & Co. and converted to his own use without producing the required collateral a silk handkerchief.

Personal Paragraphs.

W. R. Gilbert, of Columbus, Neb., is in the Edwin Francis, of Pocatello, Ia., is at the

George H. Harney, of Des Moines, Ia., is in A. B. Brown and wife, of Chicago, are at Jefferies Wyman, of Lincoln, Neb., is at

George M. Scott, of Salt Lake City, is visiting in the city. J. S. Doud and S. Dean, of Atlantic, Ia. are at the Windsor.

James H. Keyes and wife, of Onconta, N. Mrs. Thomas Yule, of Beatrice, Neb., visited in the city yesterday. Messrs. H. S. and D. B. Lyman, of Salt

Lake City, are at the Millard.

Mr. G. C. Healy, advertising agent for Dr. J. L. Mandell and A. F. Holden, of St. Louis, are visiting W. F. Holden. Frank R. Davidson and Effe E. Davidson, of Scranton, Pa., are at the Millard.

John M. Comstock has returned from a trip Kansas City and is registered at the Mil Saler Cherry, chief clerk of the Windtor

nas gone to St. Louis to enjoy Christmas with The BEE staff is indebted to Patsy Fallon the genial sporting man, for agreeable "smokes" during Christmas eve.

Fortune Made.

Arkansas Traveler: "That land I bought of you the other day," said an Eastern gentleman to a Missouri man, "disappoints me." 'How so?"

"Why, you misrepresented it. You said that it was valuable, but instead of that it is unsightly and covered with

"With stumps, ch?" "Yes, and most of them are hollow and are full of water, showing that the land is damp.

"Stumps full of water?" "Yes." "Then your fortune is made."

Johnson."
"Yes."

"Carpenter by trade?"

"My dear Dr. Johnson, I congratulate

Hilton Hill, G. S. Robinson, H. W. Mont-gomery, Josiph Mitchell and Mrs. L. W. Wisser, of the "Lights O'London company"

THE DOMESTIC PRIZE. Mrs. Nave, Holding Number 763, is

Awarded a Beautiful Sewing Machine.

The headquarters of the Domestic sewing machine at 118 North Fifteenth street, yesterday was the center of a great deal of attraction for the ladies when a beautiful sewing machine was given away. Mr. E. L. Lovejoy, the general agent in charge, announced ome weeks ago that every lady who visited the Domestic store before December 24 would be presented with a numbered ticket which would entitle her to one chance to secure the ownership of a cabinet Domestic sewing machine valued at \$85, and yesterday at 11 o'clock the raffle began. Every detail was conducted in the fairest possible manner in the presence of a large number of ladies. Little Anna Frenzer, who lives at 1512 California street, accepted the arduous task of taking the numbers out of one box, and the blanks, on one of which was and the word Domestic, from another The number handed out with the blank on which was the word domes tic was long sought and at last found. Miss Addie Glenn, who resides at 28th and Lake streets, and Mrs. E. C. Newcomb, of 931 N. 25th St., of ficiated as tellers, to the satisfaction of all present. There were 796 num-bers in the box and nearly all were taken out before the lucky number appeared. This number, 763, is held by Mrs. H. Nave, whose residence is at This number, 763, is held by he corner of 22d and Ohio Sts. tainly no more useful or handsome Christmas present could have been given and Mrs. Nave will remem berthe Domestic folks as long as she is able to ase the machine, which by the way, is the easiest running and one of the best sold by Mr. Lovejoy. It was operated yesterday with a single No. 70 cotton thread as a band, sewing easily through

six thicknesses of cloth. Mr. Lovejoy has been very suc-cessful in the sale of the Domestic, and has placed some one of the nine different styles in a large ma-jority of the homes of Nebraska. The Domesticedoes some wonderfu lwork, a mention of which is reserved for a fu-ture article on the "Domestic and what it can do." Ip the meantime, lovers of beautiful work should visit Mr. Lovejoy's office, 118 N. 15th st., and see some of the handsome needlework it can accomplish.

The Proposed Government Building The bill introduced by Senator Manderson for the erection of a public building in this city has been read a second time and referred to the committee on public buildings and grounds. It directs the secretary of the treasury to purchase a suitable lot of land in this city, and to creet upon it a building suit-able for the custom house, post office, internal revenue office and other government offices. The cost of both site and building shall not exceed \$1,500,000. The site shall leave th milding unexposed from fire by a space of not less than forty feet. No money appro-priated for the purchase of the site shall be available until a valid title to the site shall be vested in the United States, nor until the state of Nebraska shall have ceded to the United States exclusive jurisdiction over the same during the time the United States shall remain the owner of the same. When the new building shall have been erected, the present government building shall be for the offices of the department of the Platte

Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific R Grand Holiday Excursion.

Commencing Dec. 24th the C., R. I & P. Rv. will sell round trip tickets to any point on the line, including Chic ago, at one fare for the round trip tickets good to return January 3d, 1888 Now is your time to take a trip to Chic ago on the Great Rock Island Flyer leaving Council Bluffs at 4 p. m., and arriving in Chicago for breakfast. The most elegantly equipped and finest Pullman Palace sleeping and dining cars that are made are run on this train. Ticket Office-1305 Farnam st.

S. S. STEVENS, General Agent. If you don't want your children to die with diphtheria or putrid sore throat as in scarlet fever, use Dr. Jefferis' preventative and cure. Can be obtained only of Mrs. Porter, 4th ave., Council Bluffs, or address Dr. Jefferis, No. 317

A large assortment of sleighs, cheap, Armstrong, Pettis & Co.'s, 1308 Izard st.

South 15th street, Omaha.

Grand Ball.

On Monday evening, Dec. 26th, at Expesition hall, the Omaha regiment Uniform Rank, Knights of Pythias, will give the first of a series of grand entertainments. Tickets can be obtained from any of the regimental officers or at the Omaha Book and Stationery Co.'s, 1513 Dodge st., and D. Kaufman's on 15th street. Price \$1, admitting gentleman and ladies.

Articles of Incorporation. Articles of incorporation of the Omaha & Plattsmouth Belt Line railway were filed with the county clerk yesterday. The principal place of transacting the business of the said corporation will be South Omaha, and has for its object the construction of a belt line railway and telegraph line around the northern, western and southern portions of the city of Plattsmouth with diverging lines to South Omaha and Omaha in Douglas county and Beatrice in Gage county. The amount of capital stock authorized is the sum of \$1,000,000, in shares of \$100 each, 10 per cent thereof to be paid in on the date of sub-scription. The incorporators are Nathan Shelton, A. A. Egbert, Otis H. Ballou, Rob-ert B. Windham and George J. Fox.

Architects and Superintendents. Hodgson & Son. 26, Iron Bank. CHEAP HOLIDAY TICKETS,

Via the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul

Railroad. On December 24, 25, 26, 31 and Janu-

ary 1 and 2, the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul R. R. will sell round trip tickets at half fare to all points on their Illinois, Iowa and Missouri lines, good until Januard 3. Call at their office, 1401 Farnam street. F. A. NASH, General Agent.

James Morton & Son, 116 S. 15th st. all kinds of ice tools in stock. Rush is Over Now.

Pianos way down; only \$95; cost \$300. Call at once. NEW YORK PIANOCO., Cor. 15th and Capitol Ave.

S. A. Huntoon Monored. During the rush at the Pacific express office yesterday S. A. Huntoon, general agent of the company in this city, was called to the front of the office and, to his surprise, found awaiting him an elegant easy chair, a

present from the employes of that company. He was completely astonished, but managed to collect himself sufficiently to thank the beys in the carnest words, assuring them of his good feeling for them in the past as he hoped it would be in the future. T. K. Sudborough, chief clerk of the auditor's, was also presented by the employes with a handsome diamond stud.

Engraved wedding, reception and visiting cards. Adams & McBride Co., 1519 Dodge.

Now You Can Buy Cheap. The rush is over and plenty of time. Pianos, organs, furniture, chairs, lounges, folding beds, tables, Call Menday. New York STOPAGE Co., Cor, Capitol Ave. and 15th Sts.

Oddities for Christmas presents. Adams & McBride Co., 1519 Dodge.

Sent Up For Fifteen Years. Sam Stevenson, convicted some weeks ago of an assault with attempt to commit rape on the person of Lulu Espey, was called before Judge Groff yesterday morning to be sentenced. Stevenson, when addressed previous to sentencing, said he had no more to say than that he was not guilty. The judge after remarking that he had carefully considered the case, and admonishing Stevenson for his hardness and rascality, sentenced him to fifteen years in the penitentary. The prissoner took the sentence without a wince, and made some disparing remarks about his vic-

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

The A. O. H. Society of Omaha desire to say to their very many friends and those interested in the cause they suitably represent, viz: Ireland's son anxious for and working in the struggle for national rights for the country of their birth, have arranged for a grand ball on Easter Monday night, April 2d 1888, and hope a generous response will be extended to them. As is well under stood, the society aims at all their en tertainments, to cater especially to the comfort of their friends, and on this occasion the different committees will use their best judgment in arranging for a reception worthy of the cause, the society and the respectability properly appertaining to the same. Fine purses. Card cases. Pocket books.

Adams & McBride Co., 1519 Dodge. Open All Day Monday. Plenty of time to show goods. Please NEW YORK STORAGE CO.,

Capitol avenue and 15th st. Grand Ball. Given by the Second Regiment, U.R. K. of P., at Exposition hall, Monday evening, Dec. 26. Tickets can be had of officers and Sir Knights of the regi-

Regiment band. Geo. L. Fisher, architect, Room 47 Chamber of Commerce building.

ment. Sir Kuights will appear in fatigue uniform, Music by the Second

Printers, Attention. The regular meeting of Omaha Typo

graphical union, No. 190, is postponed until Sunday, January 8. Y. M. C. A. Meetings. The noonday prayer meeting of the Y. M.C.

A. begins promptly at 12:15 and closes at 1:55 m. These meetings are well attended and of great interest and benefit to all Christian business men. The following gentlemen will take charge of the meetings this week: Tuesday, John W. Dole; Wednesday, Rev. Dean Gardner; Thursday, Rev. A.W. Lamar; Friday, Rev. G. W. Brown; Saturday, Rev.

Open All Day Monday. Special sacrifice of pianos, organs and furniture. NEW YORK STORAGE CO.,

Cor. Capitol avenue and 15th st. Adams & McBride Co. respectfully invite attention to their

very complete collection of etchings and engravings admirably adapted for horiday gifts. A special study made of artistic and appropriate framings. Took Too Much Morphine.

Kate Gunn, an inmate of the sporting house of Jessie Eads, 1019 Capitol avenue, died yesterday morning from the effects of a dose of morphine taken with suicidal intent.

The Cambrian Literary Society. On Monday the above society wil provide a grand supper free to the Welsh residents of Omaha, at their rooms No. 1918 Cummings street. Sup per served from 5 to 6:30 p. m. At 7:30 p. m. an Eisteddfod will be held. All Welsh people cordially invited.

Ice plows, markers, nooks, tongs, saws etc., at James Morton & Son's, 116 S. 15th st., sole agents for Wood's ice tools. Send for catalogue. The First Cable Car.

street to Tenth yesterday, and worked to the

The first cable car was run over Harney

full and complete satisfaction of the promoters of the enterprise. It is expected that by Monday the entire line will be in full operation. HOLIDAY EXCURSIONS. Burlington Route.

SINGLE FARE FOR ROUND TRIP To Chicago, Peoria, St. Louis, Kansas City, St. Joseph, and all points on Burlington lines east, and for distances 200 miles or less in Nebraska and Kansas.

Tickets on sale December 24, 25, 26 31, January 1 and 2, limited for return to January 3. City Ticket Office 1324 Farnam St.

A Magnificent Showing. It is with considerable pride that Valentine's Shorthand institute calls attention to the largest list of graduates occupying better positions than from any shorthand school in the United

States. Send for descriptive circular, 1515 Dodge st. United States Court.

In the case of Isaac G. Burnak vs. W. T.

Eubank, sheriff of Cheyenne county, the jury brought in a verdict in favor of plaintiff for 5 cents damages. Rush is over now, pianos below cost of

material. NEW YORK PIANO Co., Capitol avenue and 15th st. Finest line of picture mouldings in

Omaha. Adams & McBride Co., 1519 Dodge.

Burlington Route. Trains leave Omaha

To Chicago-9:45a. m., 3:45 p. m., 6:45 To Kansas City-9 a. m., 8:50 p. m. To Denver-6:15 a. m., 10:35 a. m.,

Depot 10th and Mason streets. Ticket

office 1324 Farnam street. W. M. Horton's Remains. The remains of W. M. Horton, who died o Friday, were last evening sent to Boston, Mass., where his son resides and where the interment will take place. The body was ac-companied by Mr. C. W. Gring.

Architects and Superintendents. Hodgson & Son, 26, Iron Bank. Seidenberg's Figaro, the only 10c cigar for 5c. Ask your dealer for them. Max Meyer & Co., wholesale depot.

DIED. WILLIAMS-Frances Silver, only daughter of John and Frances Foster Williams. Funeral from residence, 523 North Nine-

teenth street, Monday December 25, at 10

Beautiful prayer parks, candles, re-saries and Catholic goods for Christmas and New Year's presents at cost at Barrett & Heafy's, 211 South Fourteenth street.

Piano for Sale Cheap.

Only \$275, cost \$600. A music teacher leaving the city will sacrifice his elegant 71 octave cabinet upright plane, only \$275, cost \$600, only used two months. Greatest bargain ever offered. Call on PROFESSOR OF MUSIC, 1816 S. 13th st.

Internal Revenue Collections. Yesterday's internal revenue collections footed up)10,622.s5.

THE PEASANTS OF RUSSIA.

The Remarkable Ignorance of Russian People.

THE PEASANTS LIVE.

Nation

Their Homes-Tilling the Soil-Harvesting Scenes-Customs of a Remarkable

St. Petersburg, Nov. 28.-[Special Correspondence.]-Peasant life in Russia presents an interesting study. In the rural portion of the country is found quite three-fourths of the entire population. St. Petersburg and Moscow being the principal cities, and therefore the bone and sinew is with this class of people. Only about 5 per cent of the peasants can read and write, and few have the ordinary instincts of man and woman. They are superstitious, ignorant and stupid. But this is not a wonder. They have been a free people scarcely longer than the blacks of America, it being during the troublous slavery times in the United States that Alexander II issued an ukase giving the white slaves of Russia freedom. They were not slaves in the sense of being owned, body and souls by their landlords. The land which they occupied was the property of the nobility, and none were permitted, when once located on a farm, to leave it permanently or to go beyond a certain distance, even tem-

porarily.

No schools were provided for the peas ants during the time of slavery, none are provided now, and then, as at the present time, the design of the czar, influenced by the nobles, was to keep them in the densest condition of servitude and ignorance. Their earnings on the farms are guaged by the landlords, so they have just enough on which to live. As no means were provided for the elevation of the slaves when they became serfs, they have remained exactly where they were found, and for all practical purposes they might just as well have remained slaves. It is generally believed that the czar's act in emancipating them was to gain diplomatic favor abroad.

A peasant's house is a very rude structure and contains none of the elements of comfort, healthfulness or cleanliness. Frequently the stables are under the same roof with the tenant. His allowance of furniture, food and clothing being fixed by the landlord, he lives scantily. The building is usually of pine or cedar logs about ten inches in diameter, barked, and set neatly together. It is of one story in height, with one room, generally has three or four windows, with one sash in each, and they are protected from the outside by rude board shutters, which, when closed at night makes complete darkness within and ventillation miserable. The floors are of logs or earth, and the beds are on the floor.

There are no stoves in a peasant's house. A stick-and-clay chimney fireplace suffices. Here warmth is secured. and the food is cooked in kettles, The family meal is spread on the floor, and the repast is partaken of while sitting on folded legs, tailor style. In front of many of these houses, which are covered with hay and poles-a rough sort of thatch—the traveler frequently sees a drosky from the city, the vehicle of the landlord; who pays daily visits. The peasant has very crude agricultural implements. He generally makes them at his own furnice and circumstants. at his own furnace, and gives them fin-

ish and polish on his own grindstone. The peasant's grindstone is a huge affair, is turned by one man, while another, sitting up on a frame almost above it, manipulates the implement. Axes, plow shares, scythes, wagon-tires, portions of harness, horse-shoes and everything used about a farm or stable is finished on the grindstone. A crude little furnace heated with pete or pine chips and the grindstone comprise the manufacturing appliances of the peasant. His plow is a simple pole with handles on a dead level with the tongue, which has an offshoot downward, on which the

share is nailed or tied.

A plowing scene in Russia, with the rough old frame, the crude, triangular of diamond-shaped share, and the tiny little furrow made, would be disgusting as well as pitiable to the American farmer's eyes. The draft or weight of the plow comes directly from the highbowed hame, which extends two feet above the horse's neck, and which is fastened to the collar. Instead of traces the tongue or shafts do the pulling. The Russian in no walk of life has yet learned the philosophy of direct draft from the collar of the horse. All ve-hicles are drawn by the shafts or tongues, and these are fastened to the high hame or bow, which in turn is fastened to the collar. There is no such thing as trace straps or chains. Carriages are thus drawn.

The women in Russia do two-thirds of the work in the country, There are immense wheat, oat and hayfields everywhere, and in August there is great activity in the country. The large majority of persons at work are women They wear short dresses, plain and straight, and a long piece of cloth over their heads like Arabs. The wheat is sown broadcast, and if not cut by the women with sickles is harvested with the old-fashioned scythe, which has a two-pound snead and a broad, short blade. From the snead up to the handle there is a wooden bow something like, in appearance, the half of a heavy barrel hoop. This bow keeps the wheat, etc., from falling back over the scythe handle and scattering. I have never yet seen a man who would deign to gather up, bind and stack the wheat or outs when once it was felled. The women must do this while the men do the "gen tlemanly" work, although I have many women cutting grain with the scythe. The neighbors club together in

harvest and help one another.

A Russian harvesting rendezvous is quite lively, and is the scene of a motley crowd. The old men and young, boys and girls, with their mothers, grand mothers and aged women, assemble at daybreak. There are a number of horses, on which are carried water, food and extra implements. The horses the boys and men ride, while the old women walk. They always carry the scythes, forks and rakes back and forth every day, and work as long as there is daylight; and since it is daybreak at 3 a. m. and dark until 9:30 p. m., the hours of labor are long ones.

The forks used in the fields are made

of the prongs of tree branches. A limb is selected which has at least three offshoots, and from this a hay or wheat fork is made. The wheat is stacked at first very like that of America, except in the matter of cap-sheafs. Instead of It is turned heads down and placed. spread so as to cover the entire stack. The heads of Russian wheat are long and slender and the grain small and and red. It would be graded at Duluth or Chicago as No. 2. The straw is rank and slender, and the yield a little more prolific than in America. It is harvested and sown in the same month, August. When the wheat is sufficiently matured it is hacled on long, slender,

one-horse wagons to the windmill on the farm and threshed.

Hauling wheat to the thresher is a leisurely and lazy work, and is never done till the plowman wants the ground it occupies. The windmill which furnishes the fail power for the threshing is the same found throughout Holland and Germany. It is double-armed, the same as the one Don Quixto set out to conquer. These mills are very common around Warsaw, in Poland, and are used for every conceivable work, the women even grinding their coffee. churning and washing with them. The slightest breeze sets them going as their faces are turned against the wind so as to catch its full force. This appears, however, to be the only labor-saving in-

stitution found in Russia. I asked a landlord why he did not introduce the modern implements on his farms, and was informed that labor was too cheap; besides, it was found advantageous to give as many people work in the country as possible, because if they go to the towns or cities they become troublesome! It will not be till the serfs leave the farms that Russia will have modern improvements; and not till then will she compete to any great extent with the United States in supplying the wheat markets of Europe. Although ignorant and kept away

from general communication the peas

ants in Russia are becoming greatly dissatisfied with the way they are treated by the government and the landowners. They take the recently issued edict on the subject of education to cover their case more especially than that of any other class. The ministry of public education has but recently declared that it will stop the last avenue possible to the education of the poor classes. It will not permit them to enter even the private universities, and has closed the doors of the public ones by a circular to the curators of the scholastic circuits, announcing that "the gymnasia and progymnasia will henceforth refuse to receive as pupils the children of domestic servants, cooks, washerwomen, small shopkeepers and others of like condi-tion, whose children, with the exception, perhaps, of those gifted with extraordinary capacities, should not be raised from the circle in which they belong and thereby led, as long as experience has shown, to despise their parents, to become discontented with their lot and irritated against the inevitable inequali ties of existing social positions.'

The real reason that this extraor dinary proclamation has been issued in the growth of nihilism. This the officials freely and frankly admit. say that as soon as the child of a peas ant gets into school and begins to read and think he or she becomes a nihlist, and goes into the community whence the pupil came and spreads the infection. So the last channel to intelli gence is to be thus closed. The edic was issued at the instance of the nobil ity, and is also intended to check the the emigration from the farms to the P. S. HEATH.

A STRANGE CAREER. Autobiography of the Cowboy Preacher in Texas.

Rev. S. W. Wesley, who during the past year has been doing splendid evangelical work in Texas and is now preaching in East Dallas, was called on by a Galveston News reporter for his biography, which he furnished as fol-

Texas, accompanied by my uncle, Sam Crowley, with whom I then lived, my father and mother being dead. A few months after coming to Texas I drifted hunters, trappers and Indian traders. Being a small boy—an orphan with no one to protect me—I was subject to all All \$45 Plush Wraps, Reduced to \$30.00 kinds of kicks and cuffs from the frontier ruftians. I got tired of this and made the acquaint-ance of some Comanche Indians who came into the country to trade, and I determined to leave the white people and go among the Comanches. Leaving the white men one morning I struck out on foot for the Indian camp, which was in sight. Arriving there I was received and treated kindly. This was something I was not used to. The white men had never treated me thus, and I was determined to return to them no more. I remained among the Indians for several years. I threw aside my own clothing and adopted that of the Comanches My hair grew out, my face, which was so sun-tanned that it could hardly be called white was painted. Altogether I looked rather "Injun," and it was not long until I had mastered considerable of the vernacular. The Indians loved me, and would deprive themselves of comfort for my sake; but one thing was laid down to me very clearly, and that was not to try to escape, or I might suffer for it. After residing among the Indians some ten years, on and off the reservation, upon hunts and the war path, I managed to get separated from them against my will, for by this time I had become so attached to them that I did not want to

I finally got lost from the tribe some

where south of the Horse Head crossing

on the Pecos river, and the next day ran upon a ranch outfit. The ranchmen took me for an Indian until I explained that I was a white man, and they then suspected me of being a spy. After explaining that I was not, they, with caution, permitted me to remain at the camp that night. I stayed there several days, hunting cattle and helping around the ranch, until Mr. Rulin, the owner of the cattle, gave me a job at herding, while the "boys" kept their eyes peeled They knew that if I was a spy that they had nothing to fear so long as I remained with them and had communication with no one. I was with them six months. Afterward, in July, 1876, I went to Fort Griffin, and now occurred one of the most remarka-ble episodes in my career. Judge W. H. Ledbetter, who in 1865 had a boy stolen by the Indians, claimed that was the stolen boy. I was convinced of it against my will, and for three years went by the name of Ledbetter. Having discovered my mistake I made a trip to Missouri in 1881 and there I met all my mother's people, after first having come across Sam Crowley, the uncle with whom I had come to Texas. In Missouri I found that I had forgotten my people. and I there secured a chain of evidence which has never been broken by the Ledbetters, who still claim me as their son. Having remained in Missouri a year I returned to Texas and went on the range, where I "punched cows" until 1883. I left the frontier in the fall of 1884, and undertook—that is, I tried to undertake—the study of law, by spelling out Blackstone and Kent. In January, 1885, I quit law and went to Palestine, where I at-tended the meetings of Major Penn and was converted and baptized. I then immediately went to preaching, and have been knocking along with the Gospel lariat in hand ever since. "How did you receive your education?"

I went to school for three months after leaving the Indians. People say I am rough. I tell the truth, that is all, and, as I have no education, and am at a loss for adjectives to express myself, I someHOLIDAY EXCURSIONS.

Via Chicago & Northwestern Ry. On December 24-25-26-31 and January and 2 the Chicago & Northwestern railway will sell round trip tickets at half fare to all points on their Illinois and Iowa lines, good till January 3d. Full particulars at their ticket office, 1411 Farnam street.
W. N. BABCOCK,

General Western Agent.

Two Heavy Mortgages. Charles S. Higgins, the well-known saloon, restaurant and livery man, executed two

mortgages yesterday amounting to \$28,547.24, to Gladstone, Bros. & Co., the grocers, and J. E. Balch, of the Omaha National bank, to secure the Gladstones and Chapin & Gore, of Chicago. This deal, Mr. Higgins says, will in no wise cripple him in the transaction of his business, which will go on just the same. Last night Mr. Higgins informed a Bee reporter that he was able to pay every cent on his indebtedness and that there need be no fear on the part of creditors.

Licensed to Wed. The following marriage licenses were issued yesterday by Judge McCulloch: Name and residence. As William N. Johnson, Omaha..... Mary Becher, Omaha......38 Charles E. Norton, Omaha......26 Eunice A. Dukes, Omaha.....

SWEEPING REDUCTIONS

CLOAKS And Wraps

We will commence, Tuesday morning, Dec. 27th, making Sweeping Reductions in our entire cloak department. Below we quote a few of the many reductions in this depart-

All \$22 Astrachan Wraps, Reduced to \$17

All \$14 Astrachan Wraps, Reduced to \$10.50 All \$25 Astrachan Wraps

All \$20 Astrachan Wraps, Reduced to \$14.50

All \$16 Astrachan Wraps, Reduced to \$11.25 All \$12.50 Astrachan Wraps,

Reduced to \$10.00 All \$17.00 Astrachan Wraps, Reduced to \$12.00

All \$20 Astrachan Wraps, Reduced to \$15.00 I was born in Saint Francois county, All \$30 Plush Wraps, Reduced to \$20.00 Missouri, and at an early age came to All \$35 Plush Wraps, Reduced to \$24.50 All \$20 Plush Wraps, Reduced to \$13,50 away from my uncle and wandered out west. There I fell in among cowboys, All \$37 Plush Wraps, Reduced to \$25.50 All \$50 Plush Wraps, Reduced to \$39.50 All \$25 Plush Wraps, Reduced to \$16.50

You will find like reductions all through our cloak stock, This is an opportunity that you should not let pass without investigating.

WeShowGoods withPleasure Thompson, Belden & CO. 1319 Farnam St.

BOYD'S OPERA HOUSE

MONDAY, DEC. 26 and 27. MATINEE CHRISTMAS MONDAY.

The Dalys | SEASON | The Dalys In their Brand New Absurdity, UPSIDE DOWN! -A 3-act excursion into the depths of Momus, We laugh! Ha! Ha! Popular Prices. Secure seats at box office.

CHANDLER & LOGAN VETERINARY DENTISTS.

Will make their headquarters for a few weeks at Alex Benham's new stable corner bavenport and Seventeenth sts. Exami You free.



Many discuses ca occured and disagreeable habits overcame by our operation on the horses' teeth. We have cured them of coughing, drooling, stopping short, starting suddenly, frothing, loss of flesh, weak eyes, and especially from driving on one rein and pulling. We remove all rough edges from their molars and level the mouth, thereby enabling the horse to properly masticate his food. Improper grinding of food produces indigestion, and indigestion drodudes hide bound, swollen limbs, staring or dead-like coat of hair, and loss of appetite. Young as well as old horses require this overation.