COMPLAINTS OF SHIPPERS.

Alleged Double-Dealing on the Part of the Elkhorn.

OTHER BOARD PROCEEDINGS.

Case of the Farmers' Union—Considering a Uniform Distance Tariff—Trouble at West Lincoln—State House Notes.

[FROM THE BEE'S LINCOLN BUREAU.]

Mr. C. D. Prindle, who shipped a car load of emigrant's goods from Crawford to Lincoln, contracted for the shipment at Crawford for $64. Arriving at Lincoln the agent here collected $16 extra. Commissioner Utt, of the Lincoln freight bureau, called the attention of Freight Agent Morehouse to the extra charge over the contract, and the latter writes to the board of transportation stating that the contract price was made by mistake below the tariff rate and asking permission of the board to refund the extra charge, which in reality makes a cut rate to the shipper.

J. H. Gurney, county attorney of Antelope county, writes to the board of transportation that the Fremont, Elkhorn & Missouri Valley crossings throughout the county are in poor condition, that the road supervisors in the county complain that many of them are almost impassable, and the county calls upon the board to have the company remedy the existing defects.

G. H. Crawford, of Detroit, asks the board to assist him in finding a railroad contractor in the state named Holden. Crawford is in search of a brother who worked for Holden.

H. H. Hyde, of Spring Ranch, Clay county, files a complaint against the Kansas City & Omaha railroad in regard to deficient crossings for his accommodation.

General Manager Holdrege has written the board stating that a tariff to junction points in Nebraska had been made by the road to confer with the reduction of December 20, and that similar reductions to local points were in course of preparation.

Mr. C. Plantz, of North Bend, complains to the board that the Union Pacific road refuses to grant him a site for an elevator at North Bend, stating that there are only two elevators there and both are operated by one firm. Mr. Plantz asks the board if the town must submit to an injustice of this character.

The board yesterday filed the time for hearing the Lisco complaint against the Union Pacific for January 3, at Clarks and fixed the time for hearing the complaint concerning road bed and crossings at Adams station for January 5, at the rooms of the board in Lincoln.

The Farmer's union of Oakland, Burt county, has filed the following complaint with the board of transportation:

Now comes the Farmer's union, a corporation under the laws of the state, for the purpose of buying, handling and shipping grain from Oakland, Burt county, Nebraska, and complains of the Chicago, St. Paul, Minneapolis & Omaha railroad, the only line of railroad operating through Oakland, and the only line over which petitioners can ship their grain and corn; that on the 12th day of December, 1887, H. J. Jaynes, superintendent of said railway, issued the following order:

Give the elevators preference until they are relieved. (Signed) H. I. J.

Your petitioners have no elevator in Oakland, but load their cars from wagons by shoveling in the cars from wagons beside the tracks. Your petitioner also shows that as soon as they can secure a site convenient for their business, they intend to build an elevator. Your petitioner further shows that it has repeatedly demanded cars from said railway company for the purpose of loading and shipping its grain, but has often been refused when the elevators had all the cars they needed. That on December 22 and 23, 1887, your petitioner demanded cars from said company and were refused cars, but your petitioner shows it was not from lack of cars, for the three elevators in Oakland have had all the cars they required.

Your petitioner further shows that it owns a warehouse that contains about 2,000 bushels of grain; that said warehouse is now full and your petitioner is prevented from buying corn by reason of being unable to secure cars in which to ship the corn in the warehouse, and by reason of the preference aforesaid is greatly hampered and damaged in the transaction of its business. Your petitioner has been greatly damaged by reason of said preference aforesaid in that it has been unable to buy corn and has turned off and sent to the elevator men about 10,000 bushels of corn which it could have bought but for the railway refusing to give it the necessary cars, and your petitioner has been damaged in the sum of $300.

Your petitioner therefore prays that you compel the said railway to furnish sufficient cars to ship its grain, and that said railroad be compelled to pay petitioner the damage sustained.

THE FARMERS' UNION,
By John P. Anderson, president.

The board will, at a meeting in its office at Lincoln on the 5th of January next, have under consideration a proposition to abolish all distributing tariffs and require all freight business arising and terminating in the state to be conducted upon one uniform distance tariff; and, in computing distance, the shortest line by rail between the place of shipment and destination, whether over the same or connecting lines, shall be used as the basis of rates, though such shipments may be made over the line. The board state that they will be pleased to hear the views at that time of any interested person upon the subject.

The secretaries of the board of transportation met yesterday to consider the question of the reduction of the local rates in the state in conformity with recent reductions in through rates from Chicago to Missouri river points. It was stated, when the resolutions for the meeting to consider rates was passed, that representatives of the road would be present and that representatives of boards of trade would be called in, but it was thought best for the secretaries to formally agree upon reductions and the plan of work and then the question was to be considered at a regular meeting of the board when the parties interested will be represented. The next regular meeting of the board occurs on Thursday next when the formal action of the board will be considered. Yesterday the secretaries were engaged in discussing the plans of reductions and the basis upon which they would act. Secretary of State Laws, of the board, has prepared a local distance tariff that was before the secretaries. The intention of this tariff is to do away with the present local distributing tariff and have only the local distance tariff in the state. This new local distance tariff will, on an average, reduce the present local distance tariff in existence from 20 to twenty-five per cent. Secretary Agee, of the board, has also prepared a new local distance tariff for the state that is much in the same line as the one prepared by Mr. Laws and from the two the board will evidently formulate one that in effect will cover a reduction as above mentioned. The secretaries will evidently consider carefully the question of the abolition of the distributing tariff which, in its effect, tends to the assistance of commercial centres, a local distance tariff only having the effect of equalizing every point in the state. The secretaries in considering the new tariff will meet from day to day until their findings are formulated ready for adoption by the board itself.

LOSING A PACKING HOUSE.

It is evident that West Lincoln is losing, or has practically lost, the largest of its two packing houses, the one built by Silberhorn & Company of Chicago, and known as Packing House No. 2. Some two weeks since the house stopped work and buying, and yesterday the Nebraska Stock Yards company, the proprietors of West Lincoln, secured a writ of injunction in the district court temporarily restraining the packing and provision company from removing its machinery from the building. This house was largely increased the last summer and the plant prepared for work both summer and winter. The reason for moving the packing house is not stated, but the market has not been what was expected, and since the houses have been in operation this winter they have failed to secure anything near the number of hogs required for successful work.

STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

The secretary of the State Historical society, George E. Howard, has issued the following: "Notice is hereby given that the annual meeting of the Nebraska State Historical society will be held in the chapel of the university building Lincoln, commencing Tuesday, January 10 at 3:30 p. m. The programme will be: Regular proceeding, reports of officers, election of officers, papers and discussions. At the evening session the exercises will commence at 8 p. m., the principal topics being papers by Hon. W. W. Cox, of Seward, and by John A. MacMurphy, of South Omaha.

STATE HOUSE ITEMS.

Governor Thayer yesterday appointed T. L. E. DeLoney, of Nuckolls county, bee inspector for that locality.

The South Platte Loan and Trust company, of Holdrege, E. D. Eusel, president, filed an amendment to their articles of incorporation yesterday relating to the limit of indebtedness.

E. H. Merrill, of Lincoln, presented the governor yesterday a section of beach wood taken from the tree at Vicksburg under which the terms of surrender of Pemberton to Grant, July 4, 1863, were agreed upon. The governor has deposited it in the collection of relics at the office of the secretary of state.

The following notaries were commisioned yesterday: W. M. Rank, Holdrege; J. H. Hitchcock, Tecumseh; James Meyers, Odell; E. L. Whitmore, Long Pine; George McBride, Lodge Pole, Cheyenne county.

EARLY MORNING BLAZE.

The Old Stock Yards Hotel Destroyed by Fire.

A still alarm was turned in from Sheely's packing house at 5 o'clock yesterday morning, and No. 5 and hook and ladder No. 1, speedily responded. However, the scene of the conflagration, the old Stock Yards hotel, later the Union, was situate fully one mile and three quarters away, and on the arrival of the department there they found this legendary old hostelry and the adjoining two-story frame residence, that of Mrs. Lottie Schefskey, a mass of ruins. The two structures had entirely burned down twenty minutes before the department arrived, as much valuable time had been lost in attempting to get the alarm into the city, a man finally being sent in horseback.

The origin of the fire is unknown, but there are various theories advanced. The Union hotel was owned by William Goebel, and all he saved from the building was a piano and a bedstead. He places his loss at $2,200, with $1,700 insurance in the Nebraska and Iowa insurance company. This hotel used to be run by Mittman, the Millard murderer, now awaiting trial in the county jail. Mrs. Schefskey succeeded in saving the bulk of the contents of her residence. Her loss is figured at $1,000, with $600 insurance.

"Shall our girls whistle?" Of course if they strengthen their lungs by taking Dr. Bull's Cough Syrup.

"When headache joins neuralgia, then comes the tug of war." A wise general marshals his forces, charges with a bottle of Salvation Oil, and the doughty foe lies cringling in the dust.

FOR FUN.

Cox Does a Funny Act At a Religous Meeting.

William Cox is a facetious young man, in the neighborhood of twenty years of age, and during these long winter nights it has been his wont to attend some worshipful gathering at one or the other of the city churches, and edify a select coterie of hoodlums who accompany him. Wednesday night he and his crowd dropped in at the modest little church near the corner of Hickory and Ninth streets, and while the good people knelt in prayer, he seized the moment as an opportune one to do a slack-wire performance on the back of a pew bench. He was unceremoniously hustled from the edifice, and yesterday he was arrested, charged with disturbing a religious service. He stood up before the court, and while the smile on his face was hardly as deep as a well, it was fully as broad as a barn door. He evidently thought it was all a great joke.

"Did you do this?" Asked the judge in sternest tones.

"I guess I did," answered the callow youth.

"Well, what for?"

"For fun."

"For fun? Well, then I'll just fine you $30 and costs, for fun. Whelan escort the young humorist to the bench."

Luxurious Christmas Presents.

Colgate's Cashmere Bouquet perfume is a luxurious, yet inexpensive present which every lady will appreciate.

SOUTH OMAHA NEWS.

John Hanawald, of Aurora, is on the market with five loads of native cattle.

William Townsend, of Rockville, Neb., brought in a load of light hogs.

Thomas Lound, of Wayne, Neb., marketed a load of hogs.

P. Morden, of Tekamah, was in with two cars of cattle and one of hogs. He sold all at top prices and went home happy.

W. H. Newell of C. H. Pomeroy & Co., Plattsmouth, has two cars of cattle on the market.

William H. Miller, of Wayne, Neb., is in with two cars of cattle.

Samuel Dalton, of Hillsdale, Ia., brought in one car of hogs.

D. Guernsey, of Alma, is visiting the yards.

C. H. Turner, of Palmer, Neb., is stopping at the Exchange.

A. V. Boss, of Randolph, Ia., registered at the Exchange.

J. B. Buchanan, of Missouri Valley, is at the Exchange.

C. A. Dormer, of Malvern, registered at the Exchange.

The case of A. L. Frederickson, charged with assaulting and intending to kill Peter Peterson, will be heard before Judge Reuther this afternoon.

The terrors of a night in the lock-up is keeping the toughs quiet, and not an arrest has been made for the last forty-eight hours.

The suspended detective, McCracken was making the rounds Wednesday night. He was formerly a bar tender here.

Not a single case was called before either Judge Reuther or Justice Levy this morning.

George A. Holmes, of Council Bluffs, has been retained to defend Jim Snodderly charged with arson. Jim's father will settle the bill.

Dick Hyland had his hand badly crushed while tearing down the old bridge at the back of Swifts packing house.

S. R. Briggs will entertain the guests of the Exchange hotel, and a few friends tomorrow night. Dancing, music, and refreshments.

Real Estate Transfers.

Chas Impey to Chas W. Conklmg, lot 13, blk 2, Idlewild, w d	$ 6,000
J. Kendis and wife to A. B. Carpenter et al, lot 5 and 8, blk 70, So Om w d	2,000
A. J. Hanscom to D. N. Miller, e ½ of w ½ lot 6, blk 119, lease	7,500
Robt W. Wright and wife to Wm L. Beard, lot 13, blk 7, Hillside add No 1, w d	2,500
S. D. Mercer and wife to Henry D. Neely et al, lot 14 and 15, blk 3, Walnut Hill, w d	4,000
Byron Reed and wife to A. Stephenson, lot 18, 14, blk 5, Reed's 3d add, w d	1,000
W. P. Ong to A. C. Ong, lot 18, 19, blk 3, Bush & Selby's add, w d	900
Herman Kountze and wife to J. E. Burdick et al, lot 3, blk 6, Kountze Place, w d	3,500
Presbyterian Ass'n of Omaha to Trustees of 1st Presbyterian Church of So Omaha, lot 7, blk 61, So Om	350
South Omaha Land Co. to Presbyterian ass'n of Omaha, lot 7, blk 61, South Omaha, w d	350
Anna W Jones and husband to John F Flack, lots 4 and 5, blk 4, Jetter's add to South Omaha, w d	2,500
Wm L McCague to Holly Barger, lot 1, blk 12, Dwight & Lyman's add, w d	500
Augustus F Bosche and wife to Heinrich Michel, lot 20, blk 4, Brown park, w d	1,750
Thomas Brennan et al to John O'Donohoe, lot 26, blk 1, Brennan place add, w d	1,800
Fourteen deeds, aggregating	$32,150

Many suffer from irritation of the kidneys and bladder without knowing what is the matter with them. Dr. J. H. McLean's Liver and Kidney Balm will give relief.

THE SUCCESSFUL HOTEL MAN.

A Peep Into the Mysteries of the Huge Caravansary.

POPULAR DELUSIONS DISPELLED.

Every Man Thinks He Can "Keep Tavern"—Necessary Qualifications in a Proprietor—Cost of Hotel Service.

St. Paul Globe: It is a peculiar fact, but none the less true, that every living man, no matter what his abilities may be, is firmly possessed of the conviction that he could, if he tried, run a hotel or edit a newspaper—if not in the highest style of the art, at least better than some one else is doing it. You never hear the average man claim that he could be a successful financier, a great divine, an eloquent lawyer, or a wonderful physician, if he had half a chance! No, it is always the newspaper or hotel he seems to think he is especially fitted for.

To be a successful hotel man requires not only training and experience, but an innate sense of that peculiar something which is inexplicable; like poets, politicians, and tramps, a hotel man is born, not made. He must be possessed of the divine afflatus, otherwise his career will be short lived.

The proprietor is naturally the most important feature of a hotel. The popularity of his house depends in no small degree upon the popularity of himself, and be he a "rounder," a prince of good fellows, "one of the boys," fond of a good story and good liquor—and dispensing good stories and good liquors himself—he need have no fear as to his future. If he happens to have no manager, his importance, as well as his labors, are increased two-fold, but he should have a manager. A proprietor ought never to be other than a figurehead. He should satisfy himself with doing the ornamental.

Next to the proprietor in importance comes the steward. Upon that official devolves the entire "down-stairs" management. He it is who does the marketing, and he also has the entire supervision of the culinary department, the wine-celler, and the store-room. He is the right hand of the proprietor or manager, and he receives a salary commensurate with his duties and responsibilities. Under him he has a staff of employes, who, while perhaps being at the head of some subdepartment, are accountable to him alone. Of these the chief cook—with his innumerable assistants—the storekeeper, the dishwashers, yardmen, engineers, and other help employed in the kitchen, as well as the dining room waiters are all under his orders.

The menage of a hotel may be divided into three distinct branches, as follows: The steward's department as above, the office and housekeeper's department. The proprietor or manager is the "great mogul" and the heads of these departments are the "grand viziers."

The office or "front of the house," as it is technically known, is presided over by the chief clerk. He is assisted by several clerks, and in the larger hotels by a bookkeeper and cashier. A good hotel clerk must be a walking cyclopedia, a city directory, railway, steamboat and postal guide, and, in short, a fountain of universal knowledge. With all his faults, no man is more maligned than the hotel clerk. In current fiction and in the columns of humorous papers he is described as a haughty and unapproachable despot, who, intrenched behind an enormous diamond shirt stud and sheathed in the impenetrable armor of his conceit, superciliously assigns trembling travelers, aghast at his magnificent and lordly presence, to remote and cheerless chambers at the top of the house. In reality, the average clerk is the most good natured and accommodating of mortals. Were he not of a serene and placid nature he would long since have decorated a cemetery, or have been the shining ornament of many a lunatic asylum. He is expected to be pleasant and attentive under the most trying circumstances, to remember everybody by name, and all their peculiarities and eccentricities, to give everyone the best room in the house, to laugh at every humorous anecdote, no matter how antique, or of what degree of chestnutty flavor, to lend a sympathetic tear to every traveler who is in distress or imagines he is, which is much the same thing, and, in general, to be a good Samaritan, a hail-fellow-well-met, a cicerone to commercial men who are bent upon "making a night of it," and a guide to all the various ramifications of the Smith and Jones family with whom the ambitious countryman desires to become acquainted.

The housekeeper has charge of the entire "up-stairs" department; the chambermaids, seamstresses, linen-room girls and laundresses being under her supervision.

In a hotel of 300 rooms, a number which is, of course, exceeded by many houses in the large cities, but which is an averaged-sized establishment, the hired help would usually consist of the following personnel:

Office—Chief clerk, bookkeeper and cashier, day clerk, room clerk, night clerk, six bell boys, three porters and a watchman.

Steward's department—Steward, chief cook, pastry cook, two assistant cooks, vegetable cook, storekeeper, head waiter, from twelve to fifteen waiters, two kitchen helpers, two dishwashers, butcher, baker, yardman, engineer, assistant engineer, two firemen, and a carpenter.

Housekeeper's department—Housekeeper, linen room girl and seamstresses, and from fifteen to twenty chambermaids, and several laundresses.

If the house contained an elevator, which would probaply be the case in any city, this force would be increased by two elevator boys, and where the bar was run under the hotel management, a chief bartender and two assistants would be required. A billard room and cafe in addition would naturally require service.

In the matter of salaries and wages there is a difference caused by the locality in which the hotel is situated, but they all include board and lodging.

As a rule a first-class steward will receive all the way from $1,500 to $7,000 per year. At several hotels in New York the later sum is exceeded, but the average is nearer the former. In addition to his salary the wide-awake steward will be able to make a goodly sum in perquisites without dishonesty. He can increase his salary by the percentages which meat dealers, grocers, and other tradesmen are too happy to allow him in order to obtain and retain the hotel's custom, which is only to be procured through him.

A chief receives from $100 to $300 per month; his assistants from $50 to $150. A good storekeeper is paid from $40 to $75; a head waiter from $30 to $50; waiters $20 to $30; dishwashers $15; engineers $75 to $100; assistant engineers $60 to $75; firemen $35 to $45; yardmen $2.

In the office the chief clerk may receive as much as $200 per month, but $100 is nearer the average. His assistants are graded from $40 to $75 and the bookkeeper and cashier will probably get $100. The bell-boys and elevator boys receive from $12 to $20 each; the porters from $25 to $40; the watchmen the same.

The houskeeper is usually an elderly woman of some capacity, and will receive from $50 to $10 per month. The linen-room girl, who is also a seamstress, and who has generally risen from the ranks, gets from $25 to $35; the chambermaids and scrub-women from $12 to $18; the laundresses from $16 to $20.

The service of a hotel is like nothing so much as a huge army. The proprietor, generalissimo; the steward, chief of staff, commissary and quartermaster; the chief clerk, adjutant and aid-de-camp. In several houses in New York the force numbers over three hundred people.

The "American plan" house is, outside of the larger cities, the most numerous. By this plan the custom is to set a certain number of meals in the dining-room daily, the charge per day giving tho guest the right to partake of as many of them as he chooses. The European plan,, so called, is the term applied to those hotels which predominate in the eastern cities and are fast gaining headway throughout the country, where rooms are rented with gas, service, etc., and where you are at liberty to order your meals a la carte either in the restaurant attached to the house or at any other place you choose. In regard to these different plans each has its advantages. If the man be a good feeder he ought certainly to live on the American plan. It is a great saving to himself. If, on the contrary, his appetite is "like a bird's," and he doesn't care to have anything heavier than milk and mush for breakfast, he will find the European plan advantageous.

Even in the average hostelry of 300 rooms the uninitiated can have no conception of the amount of food required to feet its guests. Anticipated patrons may not materialize, but ample provision must be made just the same to protect the house in case of emergency. A fair yearly average would be about as follows:

Beef, 100,000 pound; mutton and lamb, 35,000 pounds; corned beef, 20,000 pounds; veal, 15,000 pounds; ham, bacon and tongue, 25,000 pounds; fresh pork, 10,000 pounds; poultry, 40,000 pounds; flour, 400 barrels, sugar, 120 barrels; coffee, 6,000 pounds; tea, 1,500 pounds; milk and cream, 15,000 gallons; butter, 15,000 pounds; oysters and clams, 200,000; potatoes, 800 bushels; tomatoes, 100 bushels, and 8,000 cans; corn, 5,000 dozen ears and 6,000 cans, In addition to these there are innumerable vegetables and extras which amount to about one-tenth as much again. Coal will average from ten to twenty tons weekly in summer, and from twenty to fifty tons per week during the winter months. The quantity of ice used throughout the year will average 300 tons.

Should the ambitious young man desire to start in the hotel business, all he needs is the capital—the experience will come soon enough. A moderate-sized hotel may be rented furnished in most cities for $10,000 or $12,000 per year; if there is an established trade, and the house is favorably and widely known, it will be higher. Location and accessibility are the two important factors in success, and the tone of the house must be modeled to fit the class of trade which is expected! If it is intended to cater to a family business, the location should be a quiet neighborhood, and the bar and billiard rooms should be adjuncts to the hotel—instead of the hotel being an adjunct to them, as is usually the case in a commercial travelers' house.

A capable steward is the prime requisite—one that understands keeping a few dozen oyster shells in a bucket of cold water, and using them as the receptacle of the little shriveled canned oyster when an order is received for "oysters on the half-shell."

Then let the neophyte shake off all care and attend to the front of the house." Let him receive guests in such a manner that they may feel or imagine their importance. Let him be careful to call no one by a smaller title than "governor" or "colonel." Let him accept the invitation of everyone who nods toward the bar and requests to know the nature of his particular poison, and above all let him reciprocate the attention in kind.

Read the Death Roll

Which the bills of mortality of any large city may be fitly designated, and you will find that renal and vesical maladies, that is to say, those that affect the kidneys or bladder, have a remarkable prominence—we had almost said—preponderance. Bright's disease and diabetes in the chronic stage are rarely cured, and gravel, catarrh of the bladder and enuresis slay many. Yet at the outset, when the trouble merely amounts to inactivity of the organs involved, the danger may be nullified by that pleasant renal tonic and diuretic, Hostetter's Stomach Bitters, which imparts the requisite amount of tone to the organs, without over-exciting them, and the use of which is convenient, and involves no elaborate preparation. Dyspepsia, a usual concomitant of renal complaints, and debility, which they invariably produce, are remedied by it. So also are constipation, malarial, rheumatic and nervous ailments.

A PLAY FOR GREAT STAKES.

The Secret on an Omaha Merchant's Grey Hairs.

A Correspondent of the St. Louis Globe-Democrat writing from Omaha, December 23, says: A resident of Omaha who has found it convenient to sink his identity under a name not his own, was one of the principals in a real life drama that has not heretofore been written. Major Mills was a well known character in the Pennsylvania oil regions about the time that Johnny Steel came into prominence by the remarkable free circulation of his suddenly acquired fortune. The major had amassed considerable money through fortunate oil land ventures, and at the time of which I write was living with his handsome young wife in an elegant house that he had fitted up, as he explained to his bachelor friends, in which to comfortably pass the remainder of his days.

Mrs. Mills was without a history, so far as the good neighbors knew, for the major had not consulted them when, at the mature age of thirty-five, he decided to take a life partner. In fact, shortly after the handsome residence was completed, a sweet face appeared at the window, and on the following day the local papers announced that Major Mills had returned from the east, accompanied by a bride, of whom it was said that she was refined, talented and, as usual in such cases, a most estimable young woman, but no allusion was made to her former home and connections; and, as neither the major nor the bride took occasion to speak of her past, her history was unknown. That Mrs. Mills was beautiful was the common verdict. Even Anna Barron, the daughter of the leading banker of O——, and who was known to have cherished designs on the gallant major's name, was compelled to admit that Mrs. Mills was pretty. The conventional loses its charms. Mrs. Mills was introduced by her husband among the society people of O——, and at once took her place, as by force of right, and became the reigning favorite in fashionable circles. When the novelty of the new life had worn off, however, the major, tired of the conventionalities of society, gradually drifted back to the companionship of his old-time bachelor friends, and Mrs. Mills, in deference to her husband's wishes, became less regular in her attendance at fashionable social gatherings, and finally dropped entirely out of the little world that had learned to love her.

The major had been devoted to sports in his earlier days, and had never entirely succeeded in dissolving his attachment for the game then quite popular in the oil regions, and which Schenck has since nationalized—draw poker. He was happiest when surrounded by boon companions and engrossed in the mysteries of unseen cards. He loved to conjecture on the possibilities of the deck, and the probabilities of the "draw," and was seldom upset in the certainties of the show-down, even though his opponent held tantalizing and profitable combinations.

About two years after Mrs. Mills' introduction to O——, an event occurred which changed the thread of the career, not alone of the major, but the whole lives of two others as well. One evening a party of young men accepted the invitation of the major to spend the evening at cards at the Mills mansion. Early in the evening play was progressing, when the folding doors opened and Mrs. Mills came into the room followed by a servant carrying a tray of refreshments. If Mrs. Mills had impressed the fashionable world with her beauty, the young men assembled around the card-table were fairly dazed by the vision of loveliness that had so unexpectedly met their gaze. The little lady was of medium stature, slight and graceful, with the bluest of blue eyes, auburn hair, full red lips, dimpled cheeks, and a complexion as fair and translucent as a flower.

Charley Sanborn was a newcomer in O——, and had presented himself at the Mills mansion upon the pressing invition of the major. A glance of recognition passed between Sanborn and the lady as the latter entered the room. Then her eyes fell, but Sanborn gazed spellbound. The recognition was not that of old acquaintances, for this was the first meeting, and no words had even passed between them. It was one of those cases of searching affinity, where heart speaks to heart and the eyes reflect the innermost feelings. Notwitnstanding the fact that the play was largely in his favor, Sandborn handled his cards in a listless manner, and showed no interest in the game. Finally he arose, walked impatiently across the room and stood looking through the window out into the night. The mayor approached and rallied him upon his apparent lack of spirits.

"I have no heart to play for common stakes," Sanborn said, "but I'll risk all I have to win for my wife the lady who has just left the room, and play a single hand to determine the result."

The major hesitated a moment and then said:

"The lady is my wife by ties of marriage. But I am not blind, and have seen that this night which leads me to believe that an understanding exists between her and yourself. For a consideration I will yield my right and step out of the drama. I will sell her, with her consent, and after I have disappeared divorce proceedings may follow undefended."

A stipulated sum of money was agreed upon as consideration, and Mrs. Mills was called in, introduced to Sanborn, and the plans laid before her. She seadily agreed to the transfer, and it was carried out. Shortly after this occurence, the major having settled up his business affairs, mysteriously disappeared, no one knew whither. In due course of time a divorce was granted to Mrs. Mills, and a few months later she became the wife of Charles Sanborn. Mr. and Mrs. Sanborn are now residents of an eastern city and four children have come to bless the strange union. Major Mills has been for the past fifteen years a resident of Omaha, and his gray hair and worn features tell of a struggle of some nature, but none of his many Farnam street neighbors have ever guessed his secret—none know his real name.

MAKE NO MISTAKE.—If you have made up your mind to buy Hood's Sarsaparilla do not be induced to take any other. Hood's Sarsaparilla is a peculiar medicine, possessing, by virtue of its peculiar combination, proportion and preparation, curative power superior to any other article of the kind before the people. For all affections arising from impure blood or low state of the system it is unequalled. Be sure to get Hood's.

Life on the Congo.

A correspondent from Africa writes: Life in one of the upper stations is very monotonous and drink is scarce. Wine was issued at the rate of half a bottle per man per day. Each man had to send his boy to the store with his bottle every other day, and of course there was a rush for the big bottles. The storekeeper, instructed by the chief, refused everything larger than a champagne bottle; and as the second officer in charge of the station superintended the issuing of rations in person, there was no chance for any man to get more than his share. This did not please the engineers, who decided, at a council held in the mess-room of the Stanley, that half a bottle per day was not enough; and forthwith a collection of empty bottles began to accumulate in the engineer's store, and experiments were instituted to find out whether the capacity of any one of them exceeded that of the rest, but with very unsatisfactory results. At last some one suggested the device of blowing out the bulge in the bottom of the bottle, so as to leave it nearly flat. No sooner said than done. Not only was the bottom flattened, but it was found possible by means of heat to slightly stretch the bottom itself, so that though it appeared very little larger than an ordinary champagne bottle, it would hold nearly as much again. The trick remained undiscovered till the engineers had all finished their term of service, when the ingenious devisor of the same, being the last to depart for Europe, left his bottle to the second in command, with a hint to keep his eyes open for the future.

The Bangalas are a fine race physically, being tall, powerful and splendidly formed. The chief of Iboke, when I arrived, was an old man over eighty—his age was reported by some to be eighty-four, by others eighty-six—who had lost one eye in battle and possessed fifty wives. He was over six feet high, with a fine, well developed figure, and, but for his dirty white hair and shrivelled skin, would have passed for a man of half his age. He was much attached to Captain Coquihat (named "Mwafa," or the "Eagle," by the natives) and never undertook anything without consulting him. The scene just after our arrival at Bangala—when, "Le Roi des Bangala" being announced as we were all sitting over our after dinner coffee. Mata Bywki entered, wearing his royal hat and leopard skin, and attended by several of his wives, and enfolded Captain Coquilhat, gold spangled uniform and all, in an ample bear's rug—was really worth seeing. Having released "Hwafa," his majesty made the circuit of the table to shake hands with the rest of us, and then ordered "mesdames les souvagesses" to bring in the malafu (palm wine) which he thereupon helped the company to drink. He was a tremendous topor, consuming quantities of that comparatively inocuous beverage, which would have killed him ten times over had it been anything stronger and more civilized.

His death, which took place some three months after I first saw him, was an occasion of great excitement among the Bangalas. As it is their custom on the death of a chief to kill and eat as many men as the deceased had wives—one to be supplied by the parents of each wife—the whole town was anticipating a big feed, but alas! how uncertain are the joys of life! That big feed never came off; for the officer in command, hearing of Mata Bwyki's death, prepard a coffin lined with red cloth, and telling the Bangalas that, as the late king had been "a big friend of the white man," the "Mindeli" would bury him with appropriate honors, had him safely boxed, nailed up and buried seven feet deep before anyone could interfere. The disappointment was great, for it is the custom to cut the dead man in two lengthwise, make up an entire corpse with half of him and half of one of the men killed at the funeral and bury this. The remaining half is made into a stew with manioc and bananas, and eaten along with the rest of the sacrifices.

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GARFIELD'S MENTOR FARM.

The Estate Larger Than Was Generally Supposed.

Cleveland Correspondence: The old farm in Mentor, four miles west of here, which Garfield bought some years before his death, and on which he used to spend the happiest days of his life, is fast becoming one of the most beautiful country residences in the vicinity of Cleveland. None of the family is at present there, though it has come to be recognized as the family home. Mrs. Garfield and one son and her daughter are in England, and the other son is reading law in New York. Uncle Joseph Rudolph, Mrs. Garfield's brother, stays on the place and looks after it and after the extensive improvements which are being made upon it. Additions have been built to the old house, and everything that money would do to make it a lovely home has been done. Of course a plumber's bill can give no idea of the amount of work performed, but even a plumber could hardly have the hardihood to charge $13,000 for his services unless he had at least driven by the house, and $13,000 is the amount which has been paid to plumbers for their last summer's work upon the house and its dependencies. The other outlays have been in proportion.

This is only carrying out General Garfield's idea. He always loved the farm and loved to consider himself a farmer. He loved farm people and farm ways, and the plain, homely talk of farm neighbors. He always went away from the Mentor home freshened and brightened in mind and body, and with his face bronzed and his hands hardened by work. Whatever charms the excitement of political life had for him, he was always anticipating his return to the quiet mentor home, and it was there he had planned to spend the declining years of his life. His devoted wife, in clinging to the old place and making it a family home, is only doing what she knew would be most pleasing to him. Her beautiful Cleveland home is for sale, and has been for some time, although the price she asks for it—$50,000—is not extravagently high. The Washington house brought about what the appraisers estimated it at—$30,000. The total appraised value of Garfield's real estate was put down at $37,000 in round numbers. He paid out $7,000 for the Mentor farm, though, of course, at the time of his death it was worth much more than that. In fact, some years before he died, he put a mortgage of $8,000 upon it, which, for some reason, he did not release for a long time, though he was abundantly able to do so.

Indeed, there was at the time of General Garfield's death a very general misapprehension as to his financial condition. It was the common opinion that he was a comparatively poor man. The fact is he was comparatively a rich man. There are here in Painesville one or two men who are millionaires, but a man hereabouts who can command $50,000 is a rich man. General Garfield left, at the appraiser's very low estimate, a good deal over $100,000 in almost instantly available assetts.

It will be remembered that he left no will. His brother-in-law, Uncle Joseph Rudolph, was appointed administrator and his bondsmen were Dr. W. S. Streator, N. B. Sherwin and Dr. J. P. Robinson. No man in Ohio stands higher, in point of business honor and sound business judgment, than Dr. Streator, and both he and Dr. Robinson were warm, intimate friends of General Garfield. Sherwin was at one time postmaster of Cleveland and is a sharp, shrewd little man, whose admiration for Garfield amounted to a sort of frenzy. The amount of the bond was $100,000. The appraisers were Dr. Robinson, E. T. C. Aldrich and William Murray the Second. Mr. Murray is always particular to sign himself Murray the Second for some reason, an uncle having enjoyed the distinction of being Murray the First. The appraisers filed their inventories in the Lake county probate office on the 11th of March, 1882. They set aside $10,000 in money, and something over $7,000 in other property for the support of the family during the twelvemonth, and after this they appraised the balance of the personal property at about $68,000. The entire estate, therefore, including the $37,000 real estate amounted according to the appraisement, to between $112,000 and $115,000. So that even had not the people come with their generous impulse to help the family, General Garfield's wife and children would have been left in by no means destitute circumstances.

It was a good deal of a surprise to the people here—that is, to some of them—to learn that the general was in such comfortable circumstances, and there are many who believe that he was worth even more than that, and that his property at the time of his death would not have fallen much short of $200,000 or $250,000. This, however, is largely a matter of speculation, and is based upon the gratuitous assumption that the appraisers and those near him, who had the management of his affairs, would not overestimate his wealth or do anything to overthrow the popular belief that he died a poor man, The general had a group of bitter enemies here at his home, as nearly every man who rises to eminence has, and some of them, even thus long after his death, do not hesitate to vent their dislike in words. His general popularity at home, however, and the reverence for his memory are still very strong, and even some of those who do not hesitate to speak ill of him here among their neighbors, would be among the first to resent a bitter word against him from an outsider.

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