ONAHA OFFICE, NO. SH AND DIS FARNAM STREET. ORK OFFICE, ROOM 65, THIBUNE BUILD ASBINGTON OFFICE, NO. 513 FOUR TEENTH STREET.

CORRESPONDENCE. mnunications relating news and matter should be addressed to the EDITOR OF THE BEE.

BUSINESS LETTERS: All business letters and remittances should be ddressed to The Bee Publishesa Company OMAHA. Drafts, checks and postodice orders to be made payable to the order of the company.

The Ecc Publishing Company, Proprietors. E. ROSEWATER, EDITOR.

THE DAILY BEE.

Sworn Statement of Circulation. State of Nebraska, [8.8, County of Bouglas, [8.8, Gro. B. Tzschuck, secretary of The Bee Publishing company, does solemnly swear that the actual circulation of the traily fee for the week ending Dec. 23, 1857, was as follows.

Saturday Dec. 17 15,550
Saturday Dec. 18 15,550 Tnesday, Dec. 20.
Wednesday, Dec. 21.
Thursday, Dec. 22.
Friday, Dec. 23.

SEAL.)

State of Notary Public

State of Notary Public

County of Douglas.

Geo. B. Tzschuck, being first duly sworn, deposes and says that he is secretary of The Hee

Publishing company, that the actual average
daily circulation of the Daily Bee for
the month of December, 1887, 18,257 copies;
for January, 1887, 18,256 copies; for February, 187, 14,198 copies; for March, 1887, 14,490
copies; for April, 1887, 14,348 copies; for May,
187, 14,257 copies; for June, 1887, 14,417 copies;
for July, 1887, 14,558 copies; for August, 1887, 14,
161 copies; for September, 1887, 14,349 copies; for
October, 1887, 14,358; for November, 1887, 15,228
copies.

Sworn to and subscribed in my presence this 3d day of December, A. D. 1887.

N. P. FEII.,

Notary Public.

PROF. NORMAN LOCKYER has evolved a new theory of the universe. Mr. Lockyer should promptly run for congress. The house of representatives would give him the proper scope to expound his ideas in the form of a bill.

THE United States circuit court has just decided that the court clerks of San Francisco must disgorge their ill-gotton gains in connection with illegal Chinese immigration. The rascality of these clerks involved perjury as well as stealing. They ought to have been indicted.

REV. W. H. DAVIS, of Detroit, on Christinas day refused a proffered advance of \$500 in his salary and asked that it be given to the poor. Mr. Davis is a worthy exception to a general rule. In such cases pastors too often consider that charity begins at home.

THERE are very good reasons why Mr. Cleveland might prefer to have the national democratic convention held in New York city, but he would probably not deem it wise to openly indicate this preference. It is very likely, however, that those nearest to his confidence will not be permitted to make any mistake in this matter, and therefore we think the probabilities favor New York. Meantime, however, Chicago is not allowing her claims to slumber, and if she does not win is pretty sure to come in a good second.

As a general thing the poor and laboring classes are sufficiently punished when they commit crime. There is an exception to this rule, however, in regard to postal employes who violate their trust and purloin valuables from the mails. A New York cotemporary cites a large number of postal thieves to show that postal thieves are inadequately punished. Leniency in this direction is a mistake. It is imperative that the public should be secure in committing articles of value to the mails, and employes who violate their trust should be dealt with severely.

THE town of Ashland, Kan., has been indulging in some sharp practice against the Santa Fe railroad. The town voted the company one hundred and forty thousand dollars on condition that it would build a road to that point and locate the depot within threequarters of a mile of the center of the place by December 31. The road was constructed and the depot built, but now the town refuses to pay because the depot has been found to be a little more than three-quarters of a mile away. When the company tried to change it the townspeople demanded the amount of the bonds for the right of way. It is not often a town gets the better of a railroad corporation.

NORTH and South America will doubtless at some future day be connected by railroad. Senator Sherman has introduced a bill which has for its object the encouragement of efforts looking in that direction. The bill authorizes and requests the president to invite the governments of Mexico, the Central American states, Columbia, Venezuela, Peru, Ecuador, Brazil, Bolivia, Paraguay, Uruaguay and Argentine to send delegates to a convention to be held in Washington city. It would be well for the nation to extend its energies south ward. There is a field for commerce in that direction which has hitherto been almost wholly neglected by the business

men of the United States. THE long-expected "Omaha Illustrated," from the publishing house of D. C. Dunbar & Co., was placed on our table New Year's morning. [It is artistically an elegant work, and as a history, is complete and accurate. The great care and liberal expenditure of the publishers in getting out this beautiful and valuable publication is most creditable to their enterprise, which should be re warded by the hearty and substantial appreciation of our citizens, as we are confident it will be. In faithfully presenting the more picturesque features of Omaha, in giving the "counterfeit presentments" of the men most active in the past and present in promoting the progress of the city, and in recording intelligently and authentically the interesting and instructive history of this western metropolis, "Omaha Illustrated" is a work of which the people may be proud, and which all of them who can should have and preserve.

Diverting the Surplus.

The sudden fervor shown by the high tariff men in the cause of education and Senator Blair's bill would be remarkable if it were not perfectly transparent. The Pennsylvania coal monopolistswhose slaves of the mines are imported from Hungary and Poland to drive out higher paid Americans and who form the mass of illiterates in the industrial regions-are unanimous in favor of a measure to reduce illiteracy in the south. The Massachusetts manufacturers and Connecticut cutiers are equally enthusiastic in its favor and the Bessemer steel potentates who still pay half a million yearly to keep the doors of a single competing furnace closed find words inadepuate to express their praise of the bill. The entire lebby at Washington has developed an acquaintance with illiterncy and education which is only equalled by their acquaintance with

sour mash and coppor distilled rye and laud to the skies the bill of the New Hampshire senator as in the line of national duty and the national conscience. Of course the milk in the cocoanut is the \$80,000,000 of which Mr. Blair's bill will take from the treasury. Such a slice removed from the surplus would leave practically nothing to quarrel over. Tariff reform would be out of the question and revenue reduction would no longer cut any figure as an issue. The quarreling factions of the democracy could sit down in harmonious idleness so far as the disputed question of methods of meeting the popular will is concerned. The cry of reduce the surplus would be met with the answer that there is no surplus to reduce. This is the secret of the support which the Blair bill received in the last congress, where it passed the senate and it is the secret of the strenuous efforts now being made to carry it through at the present session. That it will pass the senate at an early day is admitted. Whether it can be defeated in the house is still doubtful.

The measure as noted in the BEE, when it was up before for discussion, is wrong in principle and unjust in its proposed application. It is a national bonus to the states which have neglected the education of their people. It takes the money wrung from the taxpayers of the east and west and distributes it among the southern states where for years education among the poorer classes was made a crime. It calls upon the western farmer who has cheerfully taxed himself for years to plant a schoolhouse on every hill-top to make up the deficiencies of sections where the schoolmaster was so far "abroad" that he rarely came in sight and was likely to be lynched if he did. It would distribute a few bundreds of dollars to Nebraska where it would scatter thousands in Mississippi and Alabama.

Only less important is the certain effect of Mr. Blair's bill, if passed upon the pressing problem of reduced taxation. The treasury surplus is a standing testimony to the criminal neglect of congress to reform the tariff. Nearly every dollar of it represents a dollar of needless taxationa hundred cents extorted from the people under sanction of pretended government needs. The destruction of the surplus by any method short of a genuine reform of the tariffs is now the eager ambition of the robber kings of pampered industry. In Mr. Blair's bill the see a long desired haven of refuge.

An Impotent Petition.

The Andrew Jackson league of Chicago a few days ago adopted resolutions declaring that Mr. Rapdall has always been inimical to the true interests of the democratic party in its endeavors to inaugurate tariff reform, and calling upon Mr. Carlisle not to appoint him on the appropriation committee. Although the Pennsylvania congressman was not without defenders in the league, the resolutions were passed with but two dissenting voices. But the sapient individuals who compose this organization ought to have known that their expression of hostility to Randall would be utterly impotent. When he was appointed by the speaker, a member of the committee on rules, his reappointment as chairman of the appropriations committee was virtually conceded. There can be no doubt that Mr. Carlisle struggled hard with the question of what to do with the leader of the democratic protectionists. Very likely he desired his overthrow as earnestly as anybody. But more courage was required than the speaker possesses, and therefore the chief of the democratic minority, a mere handful in congress, will be retained in the position where in the last two congresses he was able to practically control the course of legislation.

It is not the uniform opinion, howeyer, that Mr. Randall will be found quite so obstinate in the present congress. There is an impression that he has not secured the consideration that has been shown him in the organization of the new house without assurance to the majority of concessions that are regarded as satisfactory. He has been reported as saying that a tariff bill would pass the house, and so much from him is reasonably regarded as significant. It is fairly reassured that Mr. Randall is too shrowd and too selfish a politician to any longer take the whole responsibility of stemming the irresistible popular tide in favor of tariff revision and reduction. He does not want to be read out of his party, and he may see that he cannot continue in the course he has pursued without certainly bringing about that result. The warning he has received has been pretty vigorous, and undoubtedly very carnest. If he has been considering the matter in this way, it is quite possible that he will be found disposed to give such aid to the majority of his party in the house as will enable it to pass a measure of tariff revision that will meet the exigency and transfer the responsibility for the outcome of such legislation to the republican senate. Consideration for the welfare of his party, and the desire to shift the burden of responsibility from his own shoulders, would be the sufficient motives for such a change of course. It

had grown somewhat tired of occupying

creditable position of an obstructionist. The obstacle to a full acceptance of this theory the fact that any change of Mr. Randall from his past attitude would improve his hold upon his congressional district. When that strip of territory was threatened with division in the Pennsylvania legislature a year ago it was well understood that the scheme of dividing it was defeated in the interest of Mr. Randall. It was fairly supposed that a bargain was then made with the congressman that assured his continuance in the path he had been treading. But Randall might be induced to lay down congressional honors if something equally congenial and honorable, and more profitable, were reasonably assured to him. It is in the power of the administration to give such assurance contingent upon democratic success next November, and if Randall has faith that his party will win, as undoubtedly he has, with the aid he may give it, it is not an extravagant supposition that an assurance of preferment for some prominent position in the new administration would have an influence upon him. And it is by no means improbable that Mr. Cleveland would give such assurance. The later course of Mr. Randall will be a subject of curious and interesting study to politicians and to

the country.

An American Zollverein. Among the measures which it is promised will be introduced very soon after the reassembling of congress is a bill by Mr. Townshend, of Illinois which provides for an extended policy of commercial union between the United States and most other countries and states in this hemisphere. Other measures of a like character will doubtless make their appearance in due time, but the bill of the Illinois representative is already prepared, being indeed an amended form of the bill he introduced in the last congress, and presumably a stronger, safer and more satisfactory measure than when first brought for-

There is a much larger interest in this subject of commercial union than ever before, and congress will very likely be disposed to give it more attention than it has hitherto received, if it can find the time from the consideration of more urgent matters in which to do so. When, some seven years ago, Mr. Blaine sought to make commercial union with the south and Central American states a cardinal policy of the administration of President Garfield, his effort was not favorably received by the country. An impression obtained that there might be a political danger lurking somewhere in the scheme, and the new secretary of state encountered a good deal of distrust and misgiving, the effect of which remained and perhaps exists still. It was a rather bold departure which Mr. Blaine proposed and naturally excited apprehension of possible embarrassing alliances. President Arthur could see no virtue in it and it fell into disregard. It may be that Mr. Blaine went about the matter in the wrong way, but the objective point of his policy was an American zollverein, with incidental political obligations.

In a country like this seven years may accomplish a great deal in changing and modifying public opinion. Certain it is that propositions of commercial union do not meet with the extent of objections they encountered a few years ago. There are both democrats and republicans favorable to the policy. The explanation is readily found in the growing conviction that the rapidly increasing production of the United States must find larger markets and more of them. In the active contest that commerce continually wages we have taken little better than a passive part, and while it is true that we have made progress other more aggressive nations have advanced much more rapidly. We produce everything that is wanted by the countries that are our neighbors, and with which for obvious reasons we should cultivate business relations on a general scale, but we find England, Germany and France carrying off nearly the whole of the large and expanding trade of these countries and every year increasing their advantage over us. The practical question is whether the time is not come for making an earnest and vigorous effort to get a fair share of the commerce of these lands. It is inevitable that the longer effort is delayed the the greater will be the difficulties to overcome. The indications are that this subject may be given liberal discussion at the present session of congress, and there are few that relate to the commercial welfare of the country that are so important.

THE civil service reform humbug still goes bravely on reforming nothing and gratifying only the sentiment of a few impractical theorists. It has failed to accomplish the wide sweeping results which it was so confidently predicted that it would secure. It has neither kept competent men in office under a change of administration nor prevented incompetents from taking their places. In spite of rules and examinations, the official guillotine at the capital has kept up its merry music and the changes in departments and bureaus and offices have in most cases been made to the perfect satisfaction of the dispensers of official patronage. The law was a tub thrown to the mugwump whale and the animal has not yet succeeded in discovering that it is not the boat bound for the harbor of practical politics. The assault made by the civil service reform movement has been effectually parried by the practical politicians. They have never been able to understand what the date of Cæsar's death had to do with the New York custom house, or what influence the height of Cleopatra's needle had on the dispensing of patronage in the treasury department. Other and more conservative citizens had no desire to see a permanent official class built up in this country, and resented a movement which they knew was a sham. As a consequence the effect of the operations would not be remarkable if Mr. Randall of the civil service reform has been to stimulate political hypocrisy and furbefore this country the not altogether | nish a few soft berths for the commis-

sioners, while it has utterly failed to prevent the supposed evils which it was created to wipe out of existence.

DURING 1887 five hundred and forty one coldwave signals were displayed. Of these one hundred and sixteen were incorrect. The number of storms announced was fifteen hundred and ten but only four hundred and seventy-five storms materialized. The ordinary weather forecasts, however, were almost wholly correct. The science of foretelling storms, blizzards and scorchers is as yet mere guesswork.

THE British International peace commission are hard at work. Their labor consists chiefly in assisting at banquets in this country and Canada. They wish to emphasize the fact probably that men are not so belligerent-on a full stomach.

STATE AND TERRITORY.

Nebraska Jottings. Norfolk complains of miserable tele

Wayne improved last year to the ex-

One mile of street railway track has been laid in Norfolk.

The new year came in with a whoop bristling with icicles. The Crete Globe proposes to publish a

black list of delinquents. Schuyler's improvement record for the year amounted to \$79,340. Dunbar's panther is believed to be a boliday edition of Nebraska City's wild

man. Jeff Davis wields the gavel over the destinies and discussions of a literary society in Valentine.

Plattsmouth is agitating a public building. A government appropriation of \$50,000 is just her size. The directory of Nebraska City just ssued contains 2,957 names, equivalent

to a population of 8,871. Martin Haley, the murderer of John S. Ayres in Boone county, has been given a life term in the penitentiary. Pawnee City celebrated the death of the old and the birth of the new year

with a plaze of electric lights. The plant cost \$10,000. Fremont pouts because she was not included in the Omaha and Plattsmouth belt line road, and threatens to jump the fence when the daisies bloom again

Columbus has gone into court for an order to compel the state auditor to reg ister the \$30,000 bridge bonds recently voted to pay for bridging the Loup

Fremonters disposed of 2,500 boxes o oranges, 1,650 boxes of lemons, 4,000 bar rels of apples, and 320 barrels of cider. and smoked 400,000 home made cigars last year.

The Nebraska City Times urges public meeting to start a fund for a monument to Mayor Larsh, as a testimony to his good deeds in public and private life.

The Davey-Wilkinson row for the treasurership of Dakota county is growing to such proportions that there is talk of calling out the militia to suppress the bloodthirsty. O'Neill and the northwest generall

will experience gratifying relief from mail delays after the 18th. Service will begin on that day on the Elkhorn short line to and from Omaha. Rumors of railroad competition have been circulated around Plattsmouth for

several weeks. The belief is gaining strength down bere that the Missour Pacific will tap the town this year. The old year went up and out in

huge blaze in Fremont, carrying the opera house and county building with it. A furious storm raged at the time, forming a wild and wicked death The Cass County Eagle combs the judicial locks of Judge Fields, and intimates that the county is entitled to no

sympathy for electing such a man. "We

have got him on our hands and must

make it as interesting as possible for Crete parted regretfully with the old year. Among the monuments it left were two railroads, waterworks, electric lights, a beautiful Catholics hool build ing, a \$10,000 M. E. church, severa business blocks and numerous hand

some residences.
The Albion News pounds the conceit out of the Sioux City Journal for intimating that the state press opposed an appropriation for a new postoffice in Omaha. "Omaha," exclaims the News "is the pride of every citizen of the state. It is our metropolis and always will be. We are proud of Omaha and the government appropriation is not in excess of a reasonable economical admin

istration. The gloom surrounding the departure of the year is pierced with the joyful news that an interior editor vindicated the liberties of the profession a few days ago. A swaggering slugger brushed Journal, his teeth rattling to "chaw his heart." The Journal man gave him his boot, and the momentum of the tender was such that the slugger is rattling and running yet.

A sanctimonious old scoundrel, with a face as long and solemn as the ten commandments, was employed by West Pointers to collect church subscriptions He was recommended by Rev. A. H. Henry, of Omaha, and was eminently successful in drumming up back dues. When the roll reached \$500, the collector decamped with the money. The wrathful church members now threaten to invite Mr. Henry to make good the

Hon. George D. Meiklejohn was treated to a surprise party on Christmas at Fullerton. Friends tackled his office, covered the grime with new paper, car peted the floor, hauled in a set of furni ture and hung pictures on the walls and invited George to drop in. After he had examined his "shingle" three times he was convinced that he had no been transported to the national capital. He is slowly recovering from the

shock. Prof. N. E. Leach, of St. Paul, Howard county, is justly indignant over an item in the Jottings recently, stating that he had been bounced for teaching politics to the children of the schools. The item was culled from a slightly reliable Fre-mont contemporary. Prof. Leach states that the reference to him is a "mali-cious falsehood. I cannot imagine its source, as I never have anything to say about politics in my school or out of it I am proud to say I am not a politician. I am still in charge of the city schools and shall remain in charge till June

Iowa Items. Ten counties in Iowa have female su-

perintendents. Burlington is laying up an ice stock

for summer consumption. Dubuque's artesian well continues to flow at the rate of 3,000 gallons a day, Sixty-nine soldiers have been admit ted to the Soldier's home at Marshall town.

West Side saloons are permanently corked for the first time in thirteen

years. The decision on the registry law prom-

ises to lead to considerable confusion in The Central Iowa, under its new man-

agement, will leave its offices, machine shops and round-house at Marshalltown. Floyd county has had six murders in twenty years. Three of the murderers were imprisoned, one acquitted, one

committed suicide and one was hung. Insurance companies have notified their agencies in lowa to cancel all policles on breweries and on all wooden structures in which saloons are kept. Dakota.

Aberdeen is to have a new national bank. Capital \$150,000. Nine hundred and twenty-nine thou-

sand hogs were marketed in Yankton in Dakota's bonded indebtedness is said

to be \$1,000,000. Assessed valuation. \$157,000,000. A Cass county cow stands six feet high, and though thin in flesh weighs

1,800 pounds. The young ladies of Yankton are organizing a society for the purpose of utilizing the prerogatives of leap year.

A two-foot ledge of solid carbonate

ore, carrying both gold and silver, was

recently unearthed in the Elk mountain Yankton county raised in 1887 a million and a half bushels of corn on 30,000 acres of land. Yankton county contains

300,000 acres of corn land. The farming lands of the territory are now passing into the hands of actual settlers at the rate of nearly four million acres each year. The government now has at its disposal but 23,811,445 acres. or about 25 per cent of the whole area of the territory.

It is announced from Bismarck that the governor is about to send special messengers to counties which have failed to file with him the division election returns, and that when the returns are secured he will figure up the results From this it appears that the official canvass given forth at Bismarck was not the official canvass.

Story of an Opal Ring. "About Bridgeport (Conn.) Farmer: four weeks ago a gentleman was stopping with us from Mexico. He has with him a very handsome ring. In the center of the setting is a large opal surrounded by diamonds of a smaller size, but making a beautiful and glistening ornament. The ring was hid mother's. It was left to him at her death, and ever since it fell to him he has had business troubles and general bad luck. He was talking about it one evening to my wife and myself. We all laughed, and she in a joking way said 'Oh, I wouldn't be afraid of bad luck it I had such a ring as that.' He replied that he could not think of parting with the opal, as it had been his mother's but if my wife would like to wear it for short time he would lend it to her I don't believe in borrowed plumes, but as he said that he should be in New York for a few weeks attending to some ousiness matters before returning to Mexico, and as he would really like to leave the opal with some one for safety it was decided to leave it here in Bridge port. We are all friends together and did not think of the ring other than to

place it in a bureau drawer. "A few evenings after he had gone we were invited to play whist. My wife had several diamond rings, but thought the big opal would look rather stunning at a card table, so she wore it from that moment our cuck changed In getting out of a carriage she tore her dress. At the whist table she took hardly a trick. Somebody changed hats with me in the dressing-room, and when we got home we found two children sick, and that the third had faller down stairs and received quite severe injuries. The next morning one of the servants left us. Money matters began to get involved with us. I could not get hold of enough money to meet pressing demands upon me, on account ments the ing disappointed in had been promised. One of our rela-tives died. Bills came in embarrassingly fast. Our water pipes got out of order, and all sorts of discouraging and unpleasant things have arisen to annoy us. At last my wife was taken sick, and while lying in bed she said: I really believe all this trouble we have had in the last four weeks has come about on account of that opal ring.'

"Lat Saturday our friend came up to pass Sunday with us before his return to Mexico. We gave him his opal and told him our troubles. 'Well,' said he I have had great luck in New York Ever since I left here four weeks ago have been making money. Everything I touched panned out large profits Then we all laughed and said, 'Wha 'What nonsensel' but it certainly was very

"On Monday he, with his opal, bade us good bye at 8 o'clock in the morning Now watch what lollowed. At 8:30 the postman left a letter with a check in it for \$50. At 10 o'clock I was paid \$50 i cash, which I no more expected than I expected to be shot. Before night we had a new servant. The children and my wife all recovered from their indisposition, and our household matters began to run smoothly. On Tuesday morning at 11 o'clock another \$50 in cash was handed to me unexpectedly and the same mail brought a check for \$50 more. But the climax was reached when the evening mail brought a statement from a New York lottery that an estate had been divided up and that my wife's fortion of it was \$16,200. Inclose was a statement, also a receipt and all the papers to sign before a notary pub She signed the papers, and going to New York to-day to get the funds. Now, I am not superstitious but it certainly does look as if the opa had something to do with it. Don' you think so?"

The Fresno Dosert. Chicago Herald: Not long ago Rush Jose took a trip over the San Joaquin plains in Fresno county, California. The ourney is considered one of the most fatiguing, if not dangerous, of any that can be taken in California, of the scarcity of water and feed. During the summer the wind sweeps over the plain, laden with heat as if coming direct from a furnace. The ground is so hot that it is impossible to walk fain the middle of the day without blistering the feet. For about seventy-five miles in the summer time not a drop of water can be obtained, and not a spear of dry grass is in sight. It is simply a barren desert of alkali. Rush Jose had occasion to take this trip last summer, and, as is customary, tool with him an ample supply of water for himself and team. While half across the desert he saw a team ahead of him motionless. On reaching it he found the horses half dead with heat and thirst, and under the wagon were two men, one of whom was already nearly unconscious, and would have died befor night from thirst and exhaustion. Rush leaped from his wagon, poured some whisky in a cup, diluted it with water, and in a few minutes brought the sufferer round again into the land of the living. Rush had never seen the men before, and did not even learn their names. One of them was seen on the streets of Hollister a few days ago. This section of Fresno county is now worth less; yet, if a canal can be brought through it, what is now a desert could be made a garden, and a journey that now is fraught with danger could be made with safety and pleasure.

PANHANDLE REGION.

The Day of Big Ranches Followed by an Era of Small Farms.

CHANGES IN CATTLE BUSINESS.

Dairy Possibilities-Fruit Prospects-Railroads Making New Towns-Unsold Land for Sale to Actual Settlers Only.

The cattle industry in Texas has been

suffering from great depression in val-

ues the past three years, and while this portion of the state has not felt its bad effects as much as other grazing districts, yet there have been a good many failures among the ranchmen, and all complain of hard times. Cattle promise to winter well, and the present outlook for business next year is very good. From 5,000 head of cattle taken into the Panhandle in 1875 by Charles Goodnight, the number has increased until there are not less than 1,000,000 head there now. Mr. Goodnight has the finest ranch on the continent. It includes the head waters of Red river, and contains about 3,000,000 acres inclosed in three or four pastures and over 100,000 improved cattle, 5,000 of which are fullbloods and thoroughbred shorthern and Hereford cattle. This entire property is the outgrowth of an investment of less than \$200,000 twolve years ago. No banking house in the country is run with more system than this, the Palo Durc ranch, with camps scattered over this immense area, including, as it does, nearly four counties. All is under perfect supervision, and a full history is kept of the detailed workings of the Mr. Goodnight is a very plain man in

his manner and appearance, and with but little education. He moved from Illinois to Texas when a boy, his parents having moved to Illinois from Virginia; consequently he had but slight opportunity to secure an education, but was at once initiated into all the craft of frontier life. Before he was grown he was guide for the Texas rangers in their campaigns against the Indians in northwest Texas, and his great pride was to do well anything he had to do. He engagad in driving cattle to Colorado soon after the late war, and ultimately made Colorado his home, where he remained until he moved into the Panhandle in 1875, the pioneer ranchman of this country. He is scrupulously honest in all his dealings, and has done more to make the Panhandle what it is to-day than any other five men in the country. He is a man largely en-dowed with common sense and lets nothing interfere with his business. His ranch embraces the Palo Duro can yon, which affords shelter and excellent pasturage during the winter for nearly all his entire stock of cattle. His aim is to make his men as comfortable

as possible, so as to have only good men in his employ. He will never employ or allow any man to stay about his ranch who has ever been accused of stealing or unlawfully handling cattle, but is ready at any and all times to assist the deserving.

Next to Mr. Goodnight, W. M. D.

Lee, of Leavenworth, Kan., stands fore-most in the work done to build up the intersts of the Panhandle. For a time he was post trader at Fort Elliott. and is now one of the owners of a large ranch in Oldham county, the new town Cheyenne being located on land that until recently was a part of this ranch. Mr. Lee combines the requirements of a cultivated gentleman, with the zealousness of the frontiersman, and in all his business affairs has displayed fine ability and progressiveness. He was chmen in th improve the breed of his cattle, and did much to make it the rule of stockmen to introduce fine blood into their herds. The Capitol syndicate that receive

their 1,000,000 acres of land from the state of Texas for building the new Capitol at Austin, have stocked their land and now have 125,000 cattle upor these lands. Their ranch adjoins that of Mr. Lee. Nearly one-half of all the lands in the

Panhandle belong to the state school school fund, and all the unsold lands in this fund are now held for sale to actual settlers only. All lands that are classed as grazing lands are subject to lense but such as are classed as arable are held for sale to actual settlers only. The settler can purchase one section of agricultural land, but must agree that e will begin living upon the same within ninety days and continue to reside upon it continuously for three years when he can make payment of the whole purchase money and obtain The first payment is onepatent. fortieth of the purchase money, and per cent interest must be paid each year on all unpaid balance, but the principal can run for forty years, pro-vided the interest is paid annually This enables the home-seeker to obtain home at a very small outlay. No sale is made of less than a quarter section 160 acres. The prices are \$2 per acre for all lands not having upon it perma nent water, and \$3 per acre for watered sections. The settler can purchase three addi-

tional sections of 640 acres, provided they are classed as grazing lands. Nearly all these lands are surveyed in alternate sections, the odd sections being owned by the railroad or private in dividuals and the even sections belong to the state school fund. The private and railroad lands are held at from \$2 to \$5 per acre, and upon such terms as may be agreed upon by the parties at interest. There is no risk to run if the settler will combine rtock-raising with his faom operations, as this is one of the finest stock countries in the world. The railroads that have penetrated this country will afford a ready market for all dairy products at good prices, and the temperature of the natural springs is sufficiently low as to proclude the necessity of the use of ice in this industry, and the native grasses will produce superior milk and butter. Several of the large ranches have made at their home ranches the butter for all their camps. They only make it during the summer months, and pack it for during the entire year, showing the feasibility of producing it for the mar-ket. By feeding during the bad weather of winter there is no reason why the cows could not be milked during the en-

There is no doubt that the foothill of the plains and the vaileys of all the streams are as well adapted to fruit and grape cullure as the best lands of Cali fornia. The conditions of soil and climate are very similar to those of the great arld countries of southern Europe, and the native grapes are as fine as many of the best varieties of caltivated grapes. All kinds of fruits that have been tried have succeeded without exception. If grapes can be produced in this country as successfully as in California, and the lands can be bought for \$2 and \$4 per acre, this country offers : much better field for that industry than in California, as lands in that state have become so high priced as to place it be youd the reach of the man of moderate means to secure a place. There have been a great many fruit efforts of the fair ones.

growers from California who have sold out them and embarked in business in this country, and they are very much pleased with the exchange. fore lack of transportation prevented farmers from undertaking to produce anything that could not be sold to the ranchmen, but now that they have the markets of the world opened to them they are changing and extending the scope of their operations, and this year will make quite a revolution in all the

farming operations of the country.

The immigration of the Panhandle will come in two streams-one from the south, via the Fort Worth & Denver and the other via the Southern Kansas. Where the farmer was unknown heretofore, the prospects are that the country will be densely populated. The Denver railroad, when completed, will furnish cheap coal from Colorado, and the best class of Texas pine lumber can be put within the reach of the farmer of moderate means. The impression that the large ranch-

man was in exclusive possession of this country and that farmers and small stockmen could not obtain a foothold, is erroneous. It is true that many of these ranchmen own and control large bodies of land, but they own but a small part of the entire country. The lands that are best suited to the farmer and small ranchman are not occupied by the large ranches. The day of large ranches is nearly over, as it has been shown from experience that it is more profita-ble to have fewer cattle and feed them grain during the winter than to have larger herds and depend entirely on native grasses. The summer growth of grass cures in the fall, and if there is but little rain or snow during the fall and early winter cattle will thrive on it as well as if they were feed grain, as the grass is very rich in nutriment; but the rains and snows wash out the nutriment and render it valueless.

This change in the climate in western Texas from dry to wet winters has rendered the old style of ranching very hazardous and unprofitable, and the large pastures are all for sale to the man with the hoe where a few years ago he was not wanted. The counties on the line of the Fort Worth & Denver railway, east of the Panhandle, are being filled up very rapidly, and have proven to be the best wheat lands in the state. Wilbarger, the oldest settled of these counties, has produced two wheat crops that have run from twenty to forty bushels of wheat to the acre The soil and climate is practically the same as that of the Pangandle, and is in fact usually called part of the Panhandle.

The towns on the line are all growing, thrifty places. Clarendon has about six hundred people, The old town was three miles from the railroad, but was all moved over to the present site six months since, when the road was completed to that point.

Cheyenne, that has just been established, and is three milles from Tascosa, will, perhaps not be so fortunate as New Clarendon in absorbing its neighbors, but will doubtless prosper and grow. Tascosa has heretofore had a very fine trade, and if the country improves as it promises, both towns will have sufficient business to sustain them. will have the advantage in the contest of being on the railroad.

Mobeetie, the former capital of the Panhandle, has not yet been able to secure railroad connection, and is about ifty miles from the nearest station, but hopes to get the Frisco road when that is extended through the Indian territory. Mobectie has always had a fine tory. Moncette has always had a line trade and all the early settlements in the Panhandle were made in its vicin-ity. Clarendon, on the Fort Worth & Denver, and Canadian City, on the Southern Kansas, have cut into the ter-ritory once held by Mobeetie and will seriously injure it unless it secures some kind of railroad connection.

There is a great deal of speculation as to the point of junction between the Denver lines and the Southern Kansas, who are now in the other towns will aim to go to the new place whenever the point of connection is established. This junction will undoubtedly be an important distributing point for this entire country. It is the general impression that the "Frisco" will favor a common junction with the other two roads, and if this is done there is no doubt but it will build up a city of considerable importance. This whole country is on the eve of a great change, and the business development will be such as to make it worth the while of any city to look after it. St. Louis undoubtedly could control the trade if the proper effort was made, as it will have the Frisch direct, and as good hold on the Atchison and Denver lines as any

other city.

Jerry Rusk and the Presidency. Correspondence New York Sun: L. A. Harper, a prominent attorney of Madison, Wis., and a partner of Congressman La Folette, is of the opinion that Wisconsin will go into the next republican national convention with Jerry Rusk, the present governor, as her can-didate for president. Mr. Harper, who has been in the east attending the national convention of republican clubs, and who is pretty deep in the politics of the state, says that while Gexernor Rusk has some enemies among the labor associations in the state, due largely to his action last summer in regard to he socialistic outbreak near Milwaukee, he is very popular with the majority of the people throughout the state and will have the support of the men like Senators Sawyer and Spooner and the leading republican politicians throughout the state. Mr. Harper says that the opinion in some quarters that Mr. Vilas will be the democratic nominee for vice president on the ticket with Mr. Cleveland next year is not generally accepted by Mr. Vilas' friends and neighbors in Wisconsin. The impression which exists there is that Mr. Vilas will make as thorough a canvass for the vice presidency as though he desired to go on the ticket and if the office is ten-dered him in the democratic convention, detline it, with the purpose of be-coming the presidential candidate of the

Girls Sawing Wood For Charity. The young people connected with the Baptist church at Cromwell, Conn., took a novel way of replenishing the treasury of the church last week. On Thursday evening the young men gathered in the parlors of the chuch, where, surrounded by a bevy of their lady friends, they undertook to piece a bedquilt in the old-fashioned way. The young ladies enjoyed the bungling work of the young men as they sewed and perspired over the quilt. A large crowd paid the admission of 10 cents to see the work go on, and cheered the

democratic party in 1892.

workers in their efforts. On Friday evening there was equally as large a crowd to see the young ladies saw wood, for this is what they agreed to do if the young men would make a bedquilt. Ten sawhorses were ranged in a row, and ten pretty maidens with their sleeves rolled up grasped the wood saws and entered upon the job of reducing a half-cord of four-foot wood to stove size. Each stick was cut three times, and the young men sang to the pretty women as they sawed and sawed. Slowly but surely the woodpile was re-auced in size until it lay before the spectators who watched the determined