THE FINANCES OF OMAHA.

City Treasurer's Annual Report and Accompanying Letter.

A CITY OF PROMPT TAX-PAYERS.

The Financial Condition of Omaha Better Than That of Any City in the West.

At the next city council meeting the city treasurer's report, now in the hands of the proper committee will be acted upon. It is as follows:

In submitting this, my first annual report to your honorable body, it affords me great pleasure to state that the tax-payers have responded to the many calls upon them during the past year, with a degree of cheerfulness and promptness that showed them to be as good a tax paying community as there is in the world, and demonstrates the faith they have in this city of marvelous growth, and flattering future.

The total collections from May 17, 1887 to December 31, 1887, including bonds sold, amounts to $1,165,789.83, and the total disbursements during the same period are $1,131,854.87. Many of the balances shown on this statement have been paid out since the 1st of January. Among them are the amounts in the water fund and sidewalk fund, besides some $75,000 held by banks in the city. While upon this subject, I beg leave to state that as early as August 1, 1887, the general, fire and police funds were exhausted, but I found means to cash the warrants drawn upon these funds, without the loss of one cent to the owners. Of course this was but a make-shift, and to prevent a recurrances of this annual depletion, months before the new levy, means ought to be devised to enable the treasurer to pay every warrant upon the regular funds, as soon as presented.

I respectfully draw the attention of your honorable body to the fact that the new charter removes the old penalty, imposed upon delinquent special assessments. This penalty enabled the city council to issue warrants immediately after the approval of the ordinance making the levy. The penalty and accrued interest were ample to pay the interest of the warrants. But there is now danger that the warrants with accrued interest will exceed the amount covered into the treasury. Suppose that $5,000 worth of grading is done the warrants are issued to the contractor. He presents them to the treasurer who stamps them for interest. They bear interest for fifty days at least at 7 per cent, and the levy—amounting to $5,000—is all collected without interest except in comparatively few cases. The probability is that there will not be enough to redeem the warrants after all tax has been collected.

The acquisition of more than eighteen square miles of territory has brought into our city a population that we may feel proud of. Mostly thrifty wage workers, who acquired homes in the suburbs no sooner are they brought within the city's jurisdiction than they willingly pay their share of taxes. From the middle of December to the 1st of January those people crowded their way into the treasurer's office and remained, many of them half a day, until they had obtained their receipts. In conclusion I would say that the financial condition of Omaha is better than that of any city in the west. Its government has been both conservative and progressive, and with the same wise heads to control and to govern I am convinced that the year 1888 will be marked by a growth and development unknown even in ourselves.

Very respectfully,
JOHN RUSH, City Treasurer.

February 7, 1888.

Statement of collections and disbursements by city treasurer from May 17 to December 31, 1887:

GENERAL FUND.	
Balance, May 17	$ 65,017 90
Tax collections	68,481 69
Special deposits on account of grading, etc	21,805 00
From building inspector	5,750 00
From boiler inspector	1,093 00
From special cash fund	665 00
From pound fees	34 75
From dog fees	570 00
From Metropolitan cable company	912 70
From Motor Railway company	535 50
From Goodman Electric company	535 50
From police court costs	2,765 85
From miscellaneous	131 25
From real estate sold	35,855 06
Total	$ 204,153 20
Warrants paid	154,816 79
Balance on hand	49,336 41
Total	$ 204,153 20
SINKING FUND.	
Balance, May 17	$ 66,802 62
Tax collections	39,654 17
Amount from district funds	145,321 75
Total	$ 251,778 54
Bonds redeemed	134,000 00
Coupons paid	75,279 50
Express exchange and commission	741 66
Balance on hand	43,757 38
Total	$ 251 778 54
SCHOOL FUND.	
Tax collections	$ 19,857 96
Licenses	151,767 70
Police court fines	15,032 90
Total	$ 186,658 56
Transferred to board of education	186,658 56
LIBRARY FUND.	
Balance May 17	$ 5,048 77
Tax collections	4,694 98
Fines, etc	364 15
Total	$ 10,107 90
Warrants paid	$ 6,881 49
Balance on hand	3,226 41
Total	$ 10,107 90
SIDEWALK FUND.	
Balance May 17	$ 1,649 99
Tax collections	11,210 10
Total	$ 12,860 09
Warrants paid	$ 8,841 05
Balance on hand	4,019 04
Total	$ 12,860 09
WATER RENT FUND.	
Balance May 17	$ 19,832 16
Tax collections	18,754 20
Total	$ 38,586 36
Warrants paid	$ 17,871 20
Balance on hand	20,715 16
Total	$ 38,586 36
JUDGMENT FUND.	
Balance May 17	$ 20,788 42
Tax collections	18,088 31
Total	$ 38,876 73
Warrants paid	$ 3,497 90
Balance on hand	35,378 83
Total	$ 38,876 73
FIRE FUND.	
Balance May 17	$ 4,987 33
Tax collections	21,137 44
Sale of old hose, etc	79 08
Total	$ 26,203 85
Warrants paid	$ 18,208 49
Balance on hand	7,995 36
Total	$ 26,203 85
POLICE FUND.	
Balance May 17	$ 5,111 84
Tax collections	19,050 12
Total	$ 24,161 96
Warrants paid	$ 12,772 75
Balance on hand	11,389 21
Total	$ 24 161 96
CURB, GUTTER AND CLEANING FUND.	
Balance May 17	$ 6,956 09
Tax collections	15,278 81
Sundry	467 19
Total	$ 22,702 14
Warrants paid	$ 8,959 30
Balance on hand	11,722 84
Total	$ 20,702 14
VIADUCT FUND.	
Balance May 17	$ 392 78
Tax collection	1,395 13
Total	$ 1,787 91
Warrants paid	$ 794 47
Balance on hand	993 44
Total	$ 1,787 91
SPECIAL CASH FUND.	
Balance 17th May	$ 593 00
Collections, special permits	437 50
Collections, rent	100 00
Total	$ 1,127 50
Transferred to general fund	$ 665 00
Balance on hand	462 50
Total	$ 1,127 50

Special Tax Collections.

DISTRICT PAVING FUNDS.	
Tax collections	$ 4,182 37
SEWER FUNDS.	
Tax collections	$ 37,625 56
CURB, GUTTER AND PAVING FUNDS.	
Tax collections	$ 18,003 80
GRADE FUNDS.	
Tax collections	$ 28,659 35
ELEVENTH STREET VIADUCT FUND.	
Tax collections	$ 14,227 62
SIXTEENTH STREET VIADUCT FUND.	
Tax collections	$ 5,602 14
Total	$ 203,290 45
SPECIAL WARRANTS PAID.	
Paving bond fund	$ 57,001 56
North Omaha sewer fund	48,429 16
South Omaha Sewer fund	24,874 65
Eleventh street viaduct fund	391 72
Sixteenth street viaduct fund	2,607 10
City hall fund	16,993 73
District paving funds	272,002 96
Alley paving funds	7,121 93
Curbing and guttering funds	41,372 79
Grading funds	16,837 81
Sewer funds	20,508 30
Total special warrants paid	$ 504,511 71
BONDS SOLD.	
Proceeds of	$ 489,296 96
COLLECTIONS.	
Total amount of	$1,165,789 83
DISBURSEMENTS.	
Total amount of	$1,131,854 87

JOHN RUSH,
February 7, 1888. City Treasurer.

AMUSEMENTS.

AT BOYD'S THIS WEEK.

To-morrow the Howard Atheneum Star company opens a two nights' engagement at Boyd's opera house. This is unquestionably a stong attraction, much in the lead of the generality of variety companies. It offers an entertainment novel enough to amuse the most constant theater-goes, varied enough to suit the most captious and sufficiently funny to make the most sober laugh to excess. The fun begins with Foreman and Meredith's "Lawn Tennis," which is followed by Sweeney and Ryland in their laughable act, the Irwin Sisters, and Lizzie Daily, the most artistic dancer on the vaudeville stage. Among the other stars are Adams, Casey and Howard, Hoey and Daily, eccentric comedians and Rezene and Robini, the grotesque gymnasts. The mysterious "Le Cocon," is a wonder, and Hartz, the magician, is always cordially received.

The greatest attraction of the season will, of course, be the Booth-Barrett engagement which begins at Boyd's April 9, and continues to the 11th inclusive. Already Manager Boyd is in receipt of hundreds of inquiries by mail with reference to the appearance of these two renowed tragedians, and the prospects are that the attendance from abroad will exceed that of any former dramatic festival. Excursion rates will be granted on the different roads for the citizens of adjacent towns and cities, and there is every assurance that a great crush will be the result.

"ONLY A WOMAN'S HEART."

Next Wednesday evening Miss Helen Blythe, a talented and beautiful young actress, will make her first appearance before an Omaha audience at Boyd's opera house in a strong and intensely interesting melodrama entitled, "Only a Woman's Heart." The play is of absorbing interest throughout, and the company presenting it is said to be above the average. The star of the production, Miss Helen Blythe, is an American girl, who has a bright future before her. Thoroughly earnest and conscientious her acting shows great natural gifts, which have been won by hard and intelligent study. The engagement is for two nights.

MRS. SCOTT SIDDONS.

Appended is the programme of the selections to be read by Mrs. Scott Siddons at the Grand opera house on next Tuesday evening: Scene from "As You Like It," Shakespeare; "The Painter of Seville," S. Wilson; "Love in a Balloon," L. Masley; "The Captive," M. Y. Lewis; "Sent by the Angels," Rev. F. Longbridge; "Anne Hathaway," E. Falconer; "Lost and Found," Hamilton Aide; "Amert Abigail's Adventure," R. E. Henry.

THE EDEN MUSEE.

The presentation of "Mascot" at the Eden Musee the coming week will close the series of operas that have been presented there. The production has been a highly successful one, and has been the means of accomplishing what the management have striven for, making the Eden Musee a popular place of amusement for the masses. In curio hall the coming week, Louande, styled the modern Hercules, appears. He accomplishes some wonderful feats of strength, and lifts seemingly impossible burden with the aid of his teeth alone. Rhoda, the beautiful illusion, is also presented on this floor among the other new features. In theatorium No. 1 the Millar brothers present a series of dioramic views, illustrating points of interest in London, the world's metropolis. New features are presented in every department, and an entertainment of more than ordinary merit will be given.

THE PRESS CLUB ENTERTAINMENT.

Tickets are now on sale for the Press club entertainment at Boyd's opera house, and the box office will open on the 24th. The programme will be given by strictly local talent, and promises to be the most novel, original and entertaining ever given in the city. Following is the programme:

First part, minstrels; second part, the Madrigal quartette; solos by Mr. Revel France, Mr. B. B. Young, Miss Pennell and the Mandolin quartette; third part, a localized burlesque, written by Mr. W. R. Goodall, entitled "The New Adonis."

BOOTH AND BARRETT.

These two famous tragedians will appear at Boyd's opera house on the nights of April 7, 10 and 11, and a Wednesday matinee. During their engagement Booth and Barrett will produce "Julius Cæser," "Hamlet," "Macbeth," and "Merchant of Venice."

Army News.

General Hatch and daughter returned home yesterday to Fort Robinson. The general, it is understood, is one of the gentlemen who may reasonably be looked on as a successor to General Terry in the event of the retirement of the latter. He is a brigadier general and is credited with brilliant achievements during the war.

Kearney has been stirring itself to secure the concentration of the regular troops of this state and contiguous sections for the summer school of manœuvres and other exercises, which is to be held in a few months. It is claimed for it that it has fresh water lakes, is on the main line of the Union Pacific, which would enable the troops to be readily dispatched to any section in case of danger, and is besides within about two hundred and fifty miles of all the forts of Omaha, Sidney, Russell, Robinson and Niobrara.

It is understood that several people are getting ready to look for the selection of property belonging to them as the site of the new Fort Omaha where the present one shall be disposed of. They are also expecting to receive handsome figures for the same. "It wouldn't surprise me a particle if General Sheridan came out here and selected the ground himself and paid what he thought it was worth which would not be very much in view of the fact that Chicago and Denver have both given sites free for posts for the government," said a citizen yesterday. "It would be strange, indeed," he continued, "if Omaha people should expect pay when other places are giving land for nothing."

Personal Paragraphs.

H. J. Jones and wife, of Chicago, are at the Paxton.

Mrs. S. N. Watson, of Chicago, is at the Paxton.

M. M. Parkinson, of Corning, Ia., is at the Millard.

David Moore, Ashland, Neb., is at the Millard.

J. Harry Magee, of Kansas City, is at the Millard.

D. M. Lewis, Nebraska City, Neb., is at the Millard.

H. S. Lippincott, of Lincoln, Neb., is at the Paxton.

J. C. Robinson and wife, of Belcher, Neb., are at the Millard.

Albert Patterson, Manager of Kate Bensberg company, is at the Millard.

K. C. Morehouse and wife, of Missouri Valley, Ia., are at the Paxton.

General G. O. Nettleton and wife, of St. Paul, Minn., are at the Paxton.

F. N. Dick and two daughters, of North Platte, Neb., are at the Paxton.

Messrs. J. L. Trobee, J. C. Post and C. P. Boynton, of Elwood, Neb., are at the Millard.

D. Butters, a very genial gentleman of Montreal, and one of the heaviest exporters of grain in the country, is in the city, and will remain for a few days inspecting the advantages which this section affords. He has been very favorably impressed with what he has thus far seen of this part of the country.

OMAHA WILL FLY THE FLAG.

So Says a St. Paul Authority On Base Ball.

SPORTING IN VARIOUS ARENAS.

How the Athletes Amused Themselves Yesterday—The Great Walk—Local Sports and Gossip—Future Events.

Northwestern Sporting News.

ST. PAUL, Feb. 9.—[Correspondence of the BEE.]—All the indications at present, point to a lively time the coming season in the base ball world. The establishment of an American association club in Kansas City—territory occupied by a minor league club—is looked upon by the minors as a violation of the spirit, if not the letter, of the national agreement, that great one-sided instrument which gives everything to the major leagues and leaves them to rustle for themselves, and then calls for "protection." It really looks to an observer of events in the base ball world as though the whole scheme—the granting of so-called "reservation" to the minor leagues and the placing of a club in Kansas City in opposition to the Western league club—had been cut and dried before the close of the last playing season.

So long as the two clubs in Kansas City let matters remain as they are, things will undoubtedly go along smoothly enough; but should the new association club persist in its expressed determination to oust the Western league club, and bring the matter before that august body, the board of arbitration, a howl will go up from the minor leagues all over the country, such as was never heard before. Should the arbitration committee decide in favor of the new association club, it would undoubtedly be one of the best things that ever happened to the minor leagues of the country. Then they could organize among themselves, draw up contracts with their players that will hold in the courts, and bid defiance to the major leagues and their protection. All this has been proposed by Jim Hart, the hustling manager of the Milwaukee club, and it would not be surprising in the least to see some kind of movement among the minors before the season opens, toward organization.

It has been lately discovered that the document which gives the right of reservation to the minor league clubs is so worded that each league (and not each club, as was supposed,) is entitled to reserve but fourteen players. O. P. Caylor, one of the brightest base ball writers in the country, was the first to call attention to "the jumble of words," as he terms it. Of course the error was unintentional, but were the minor leagues organized, they would be somewhat more careful about paying out their good money for such "questionable" privileges as the above, before investigating them.

But this question of protection and reservation generally resolves itself down so that there is but one really feasible scheme left, and that is the "Millennium Plan" evolved by Editor Richter, of the Sporting Life, the main features of which base ball readers in general are familiar with. This plan will undoubtedly be adopted by all the leagues of the country, in the course of time, which it is made to govern; but it can easily be adopted by the minor leagues, and its adoption would be one of the wisest moves the minor leagues ever made.

All talk of Menges jumping to the American association and joining forces with the new club in the "Cowboy City" is unfounded, as he has filed his bond of good faith in the sum of $10,000 with Secretary Morton, and was the first member of the new association to do the same. Menges seems to hold the age on the deal, as he has a good deal the stronger team for the company he is in than the new association can possibly get together at this late day, and a winning team in the Western league would seem to be preferable to a semi-occasional winner in the American association.

I met one of the numerous players who have been spending the winter in California this week, and had quite a chat about his trip. He says that for a majority of the players the trip to the coast this winter was one long-continued spree. The players run San Francisco to suit themselves. They could get drunk and smash windows and sidewalk signs, and if a policeman was in sight he immediately disappeared, for the arrest of a ball player for a trifling offense like the above would have been followed by the officer's immediate dismissal from the force. Games were thrown in certain cases, when the attendance began to grow light, and from other things that he told me, it is no wonder that the California season this year has been voted a failure. Duryea and Vian, who were also on the coast this winter, the former with the Los Angeles club and the latter with the Philadelphia combination, arrived here in time to take in the carnival. They both express themselves as having enough of California to last them several seasons to come. Vian has gone to Cincinnati, with which club he plays next season, and Duryea has gone to his home at Osage, Iowa, where he will keep himself in trim until the April 1, when the St. Paul club starts on a tour east and south, playing in Cleveland, Columbus, Cincinnati, Indianapolis, Louisville, Davenport, and several other cities. This trip should give the boys sufficient practice to be in good trim by the opening of the season, and also give the management a good opportunity of placing the men to the best advantage.

The sale of Billy Sowders to the Boston club has weakened the St. Paul club a good deal more than the management realize, I think, and just what kind of a figure the club will cut in the pennant race it is hard to say. Des Moines has won the pennant already, in its newspapers, and I am afraid they will be disappointed when the season closes next fall. They base their hopes on the batting ability of their team, pointing out Stearns, Halliday, Macullar and Quinn as the greatest quartette of heavy hitters that can be found in any club in the league. This is all true, taking past performances into consideration, but how often has it been shown that a ball player's work one season is a poor criterion to go by for the following one. Instances without number can be cited in support of this, and the poorest player in a club this season may be the star next. Besides this Holliday and his two Topeka companions will take considerable of a drop in their batting the coming season, or else I am greatly mistaken. They will find that the pitchers they will face this season are something better than third-class twirles, and that is about what the western league pitchers of last season, as a whole, were. In support of this statement one has but to compare the batting averages of the western league with those of players in the other leagues last season. In the western league no less than twenty-four players had a batting average of over 400 per cent, while in no other league in the country were there more than ten players with a percentage above 400. Either the old Western league contained a very poor class of pitchers or else it contained the largest number of phenominally hard hitters collected in any one league in the country. Fitzsimmons, who was considered somewhat of a "star" in the Western league, occupied the box for the Northwestern league clubs part of two games the past season and in each instance he was literally slaughtered, being knocked out of the box on both occasions.

But I still maintain that Omaha will "fly the flag" next fall, although I think the race will be so close and exciting as the Western league's patrons will wish to be.

LOOKER-ON.

Albert Wins the Race.

NEW YORK, Feb. 11.—At 6 p. m. this evening Albert made the 607th mile in the walking match appearing as fresh as he did when he began the race last Sunday night. At 7 he finished his 608th mile. At 7:10 Moore had covered 525 miles, and at 7:12 Albert had laid 600 miles behind him and was going in good shape, occasionally breaking into a run and making his 610th mile at a seven-mile gait, tying the record at 7:23, 1 hour, 40 minutes and 58½ seconds ahead of Fitzgerald's time. He ran the 610th mile like a deer, stepping high and without apparent effort. The last mile was made in 11 minutes and 58½ seconds. A surging crowd followed him along, cheering him on. Albert was presented with a handsome cane on his second lap. At 6 o'clock Dillon gave up the race with 505 miles and 6 laps to his credit. Guerrero shared the honors of the evening with Albert. A friend of his presented him with a gold watch, and later another admirer gave him a new beaver overcoat. Herty, too, fared well, receiving a suit of clothes at 8 p. m. Albert's pleasure as he broke the record, was somewhat marred by a brewing company serving him with an attachment for $125. At 8:25 Strokel made his 525th mile entitling him to share the gate receipts. At 8:53 Noremac established a claim to part of the gate receipts by covering 525 miles. Guerrero left the track at 8:53 with a score of 564 miles. Hart stopped for good at 9:10 p. m. with 546¾ miles to his credit. Golden retired at 9:30 with a score of 538½ miles. At 9:37 Albert completed his 620th mile, ten miles ahead of the record. At 10 o'clock, the conclusion of the race, the score stood: Albert, 621½; Harty, 582; Guerro, 564; Hart, 546; Golden, 538; Moore, 531; Strokel, 526; Noremac, 525; Dillon, 504; Sullivan, 383; Taylor, 358; Tilly, 320; Stout, 207.

An estimate of the gate moneys to be received by the men who covered 525 miles and over is as follows: Albert, $4,800; Herty, $3,000; Guerreo, $1,000; Hart, $960; Golden, $720; Moore, $190; Strokel, $360, and Noremack $240. Total, $11,570. The official report shows that Albert covered 621 miles and 1,320 yards in 240 hours, and that he rested 19 hours and 22 minutes.

Weir to Give Exhibitions.

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn., Feb. 11.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—It is quite probable that Weir has fought his last battle in Minneapolis, for some time to come at least. It was learned last night that arrangements might, however, be made for a meeting in this city between Weir and Jack Havelin. Weir is willing to meet Havelin in a twenty round match but declines to pay any attention to the latter's challenge for a finish fight for the present at least. A letter has been sent Havelin asking him if he would come to this city to meet Weir in a twenty round match, the winner to take 75 and the loser 25 per cent of the gate receipts, but no reply has been received. If Havelin should decline to accept the terms as above, it is announced that Weir will go on the road, giving sparring exhibitions in charge of a Minneapolis manager. A clever light weight pugilist is to accompany Weir. The scheme is for each to meet men in their respective classes on the proposed route and to agree to stop all comers or forfeit a certain amount. The larger towns in Wisconsin, Illinois, Nebraska, Kansas, Colorado and some of the territories will be visited.

In Justice to Mr. Fallon.

In justice to Prof. Fallon it is only proper to state in connection with his wind-up at the athletic entertainment last evening with Tommy Chandler, that he was utterly unfit for any exertion whatever, and it was against the urgent advice of his physician that he sparred at all. His looks plainly told that he was a very sick man, and it looked very much as if Chandler took advantage of his weak condition. Be this as it may, however, there is no disputing the fact that Fallon was in no condition for the work he undertook and his consenting to appear at all was decidedly injudicious. But being averse to disappointing the public his anxiety got the best of his judgment. The entertainment was under Mr. Fallon's personal supervision and he was determined to bend every effort toward making it a success, which it was.

Sullivan After Chandler.

Patsey Fallon called at the BEE office last night and announced his willingness to back Mr. James Sullivan, of Boston, to the extent of $1,000, to fight Tommy Chandler a stipulated number of rounds or to a finish, and within six weeks after the signing of articles of agreement.

Chandler and Sullivan.

Ed Rothery thinks Tommy Chandler is about the best man of his class in Nebraska, and he wants to put up $1,000 that he is right. As this morning's BEE already contains a challenge from Jim Sullivan, of Boston, there is no doubt he will be accommodated.

Teemer Again Victorious.

JACKSONVILLE, Fla., Feb. 11.—The five-mile sculling race at Punta Gordo to-day was won by Teemer in 41:46; McKay second, in 41:50. Hamm's boat became water-logged on the second turn. The water was very rough and the distance, as estimated, about six miles.

The Creche Ball.

Not the "fourth annual charity ball," as, through some misapprehension, was the heading of the programme, but the first and only creche ball, unique and original, undertaken and carried out by a committee of two ladies who were chosen by the board of trustees of the Omaha Charity associations, the objects of whose work are "to provide a home for the children of working women, a day nursery, a kindergarten for poor children and a training school for house girls," and the corner stone of whose platform is non-sectarian, nonpartisan, cosmopolitan.

This creche ball was given for the purpose of raising funds for the erecting of a suitable building for these objects. That there is a demand for such a home has been amply proved by the number of applicants within the last two months. During this time seven children have been taken into the home for weekly board and as many more refused for want of accommodations. When it is understood that our temporary home consists of but one room, about 15x18 feet, and that two persons are required to look after the little ones, it will be evident that we have stretched our ideas of charity to their very utmost.

It is hard to refuse to take the children of penniless mothers who must work or starve unless some charitably disposed person will provide for them, but this we are now compelled to do for want of room.

The house we propose to build will cost about $5,000. Our board has solicited about $1,500 in cash and much material for building. The city has given the use of the lot on the corner of Nineteenth and Harney streets for ten years. To add to this sum, the ball of last Tuesday evening was given. It has netted us $903.45. While it has been a full realization of our hopes financially, it has also proved one of the most delightful social occasions Omaha has ever enjoyed. It was like a private party on a grand scale, as select as the most fastidious could have desired and democratic and genial as the most hospitable could wish. If it has not overflowed our treasury with dollars, it has advertised our cause and created a public sentiment in our favor so that in the future, we have only to tap the generosity of the citizens of Omaha and our needs will be filled from its abundance.

To the energy of our committee and to the efficiency of those whom they called to their assistance, we owe the success of the ball. Miss Kimball, aided by Mr. Bisbee, with swift organization marshalled her forces and planned the undertaking. She being unexpectedly summoned to California, Mrs. Orr was left alone on the committee. With heroic fidelity she completed the managements, Mrs. General Crook being her faithful ally and helper in many ways.

To these, the committee on invitations and to Mrs. J. M. Woolworth, chairman of the supper committee and to her assistents, to Mrs. Kountze, chairman of the reception committee and to her assistants, to Lieutenant Greene, chairman of the floor committee and his assistants, to Lieutenant Kennon who gratuitouously deborated the hall with the stars and stripes of the U. S. A. and to his assistants, to Mr. Parker, the florist, who added palms and smilax, to Mr. Kitchen, of the Paxton, who not only furnished ten waiters but gave his personal assistance, to Mr. Swobe, of the Millard who furnished two waiters, to Messrs. Berlin Horback, Clarke, to Mr Seavey, chief of police, to Bliss & Isanes, to Dewey & Stone, to Mr. Forby, to Mr. and Mrs. Anderson and to many others for kind services and for materials we tender thanks. And last, but not least, to the press of Omaha, who have gratuitously and constantly kept our cause before the eyes of their readers, we offer our grateful acknowledgments.

One word more—To those ladies who stood shivering in the cloak-room because they were refused their wraps without the forthcoming "quarter," we would say: It was entirely without our knowledge or intention. None of the money taken at the windows of the check-room came into our hands. It was a private financial scheme for which we are not responsible and which met with our disapprobation and was stopped as soon as discovered.

ELIZABETH G. MUNFORD,
Secretary of the Omaha Charity Asss'n.

A GAS BILL ORDERED PAID.

The Council Wrangle Over the Justness of the Claim.

LEE SAYS ITS A BIG STEAL.

He Fights For a Law Suit and Is Downed By a Narrow Vote—Special Election to Be Held in March.

Saturday Night In Council.

Councilmanic eloquence was on draught at the chambers last night, and for nearly two hours the members wrangled and fought before reaching a final understanding as to the disposition to be made of the long standing bills against the city of the gas company. Councilman Lee fought hard to have the whole matter thrown into the courts for adjustment, and others of the members were divided as to how to handle the vexatious problem. The wrangle was precipitated by the committee on gas and electric light making their final report, which was not read, however, until after Councilman Kaspar reported back verbally the ordinance for voting $100,000 sewer bonds, and requested that the clause that the election be held February 27 be stricken out and the words March 20 substituted. The request was complied with, as was a similar one effecting the ordinance authorizing the issue of $100,000 of bonds for intersection paving.

Then the committee on gas and electric lights reported in favor of allowing the claim of the Omaha gas manufacturing company, amounting to $45,508.57, which amount they recommended be placed in the general appropriation ordinance. The report was based on the recommendation of the city attorney that it be paid.

Councilman Kierstead said that he would like to hear the expressions of the councilmen on the claim before it was allowed.

Councilman Lee retaliated by saying that the subject was a fruitful one, and made reference to the broken promises and agreements entered into between the city and the United States Improvement Gas company and the Omaha Gas Manufacturing company. He denounced the whole matter as a steal, and had the clerk read a report of the gas committee of the council submitted and passed by that body in 1886. The speaker maintained that if the gas company was legally entitled to the bill it should take it into court, and fight it out there. But instead of this the company had gone into politics and secured an administration that was favorable to them. Mr. Lee, in conclusion, moved that the claim be referred to a special committee of five, together with the city attorney. Councilman Alexander seconded the motion.

Councilman Ford arose and remarked that it was queer that the council from week to week, year in and year out, kept on ordering the gas company to put up new lights, etc., if they didn't recognize the contract of the city with the Omaha gas light company, as Councilman Lee wanted to make him and the rest of the councilmen believe was not in existance. The reason that ex-City Attorney Connell had in the past fought the gas company, Ford insisted was based on Connell's deadly hatred for the company.

Councilman Lee—Connell hates all kinds of robbers.

Councilman Hascall sustained the gas company, and deplored the fact that it was being kept out of its money through spite and hatred. The contract with the company was a genuine one, and it should be paid.

Councilman Manville informed the council that his report was based on an opinion from the city attorney. He was satisfied that the gas company had the best of the present contract, and when another contract was made next October Manville proposed seeing to it that the city had a little the best of it.

Councilman Lee insisted that the city had no contract with the Omaha gas company, for Mr. Connell had decided that the company had broken it by consolidating with the United States Gas Improvement company. He presented a report from the comptroler which shows that the gas company is entitled to only $32,000, which was the claim up to December 31, 1887.

Councilman Kierstead asked for a vote on Councilman Lee's previous motion that a committee of five be appointed to consider the claims.

Councilman Hascall again insisted that the claim should be settled at this meeting. The council could not expect to be burning the company's gas and not be paying anything for it. Something should be allowed, and it should be taken out of the judgment fund.

Councilman Kierstead inquired if the council could legally order money paid out of the judgment fund before suit was commenced.

Councilman Hascall replied that it could.

Councilman Alexander said that it occurred to him that a legal technicality existed, and he was anxious to have the courts determine whether the city's contract existed with the Omaha Gas company or the United States Gas Improvement company.

The city attorney, upon being called upon, informed the council that the buying of the majority of the stock of the Omaha gas company by an individual, presumably in the interests of the United States gas improvement company, did not invalidate the Omaha gas company and consequently did not invalidate any contract the city might have with the said Omaha gas company. In reply to a question, the city attorney said that the city had no contract with any gas company other than the Omaha corporation. Further he knew of no ordinance in existence regulating the price of gas for gas lamps. There was such an ordinance proposed, but id did not pass, the council being a tie upon it when it came up for adoption. Moreover he could not say whether the bill of the gas company was correct or not.

Councilman Bedford said that he was in favor of Mr. Lee's motion, but as a matter of business principles he moved that the council order the payment of the claim of the company based on the comptroller's report, $32,000, and if the company was not satisfied with that let it carry the case into court and sue for the claim. He expected in lieu of such action it would disclose the Omaha company's relations with the United States company, whose headquarters were in Philadelphia and who, as he was aware from his own knowledge, were always, and had to be, consulted in reference to business transactions.

Councilman Kierstead was in favor of paying the company at least $42,000, for he felt the city owed it, but argued as there was not a full council it ought to go over for one week for further consideration.

Councilman Hascall moved that the report of the committee be adopted.

The president first put the motion, or amendment, of Councilman Bedford, that the company be allowed $32,000, in accordance with the comptroller's report. This was voted down by a standing vote, Alexander, Bedford, Burnham and Lee favoring it, and Bailey, Boyd, Ford, Hascall, Kierstead, Lowry, Manville and President Bechel opposing.

Councilman Lee asked for the ays and noes, as it was voting money away and it was important, It was to see whether the city was to be robbed out of $10,000 or not, by a lot of Philadelphia dudes who were at present in possession of the gas works. The president refused to accede to Mr. Lee's request, after a heated exchange of compliments.

Then there was another exchange of opinions in regard to adopting the report of the committee, which was done by the appended vote:

Ayes—Boyd, Ford, Hascall, Lowry, Manville, Van Camp, Mr. President—7.

Nays—Alexander, Bailey, Bedford, Burnhad Kierstead, Lee—6.

The appropriation ordinance for January amounting to $107,185.99 was read the third time by title and passed.

The two ordinances providing for submitting to the legal electors of the city of Omaha at a special election to be held in said city on the 20th day of March, 1888, for issuing $100,000 bonds of the city of Omaha for the construction and maintenance of sewers in said city, also a like amount to pay the cost of paving in front of real estate not subject to assessment or special taxes for paving purposes, were read the third time and passed, after which the council adjourned.

Y. M. C. A. Notes.

The gospel meeting this afternoon will be led by Knox Bonde. Good singing and an interesting meeting may be expected.

The programme at the lyceum meeting Tuesday evening will be an essay and a debate upon "Home Rule in Ireland."

The regular monthly meeting of the association will be held on Monday evening at 8 o'clock. There are a number of applications for membership to be acted upon and other matters of importance will come before the meeting.

Prof. Kratz will meet the class in vocal music on Thursday evening and give a preliminary lesson preparatory to taking up the course.

The ladies of the Seward street Methodist church will assist in giving a reception next Friday evening to the clerks in the various dry goods stores in the city. Refreshments will be served and an entertaining programme given.

A Wreck on the Omaha.

LE SUEUR, Mich., Feb. 11.—An east bound freight on the Chicago, St. Paul, Minneapolis & Omaha went through a bridge a mile west of Blakely this morning. Eight cars were ditched and have delayed the express. Men have been working all day clearing the track.

Petty Thieves Publicly Whipped.

WILMINGTON, Del., Feb. 11.—Seven negroes and six whites convicted of petit larcenies were whipped with from five to ten lashes at Newcastle this morning.

Gould Heading Homeward.

LONDON, Feb. 11.—Jay Gould left Alexandria on his yacht Atlanta yesterday. He will proceed from Liverpool in a steamer of the Cunard line. He hopes to be at home in a month. He is anxious to return to work.

DRESSMAKERS

WANTED!

TO INVESTIGATE THE

KELLOGG

French Tailor System

OF DRESS CUTTING.

Now Being Taught at No. 620 North 16th Street,

Under the personal management of Mme. Kellogg, inventor and patentee of this celebrated system or Dress Cutting.

Remember you pay nothing for system or instructions until you are able to cut and baste your dresses without refitting. Beware of imitations. Never learn any charts, models, or machines. Ask merchant tailors what they use in cutting men's clothing; learn what they use, and you will obtain their results. Such is the Kellogg French Tailor system, using a tailor's wooden square and scales.

Cheapest and Best System Ever Invented!

$2.00 to $3.00 a day to all ladies out of employment. Teachers sent to all parts of the country. Call for treatise on Dress Cutting, Free.

Address,

Mme. KELLOGG,
Hotel Esmond, Omaha, Neb.

AMUSEMENTS

Grand Opera House

EXTRA.

MARCH 1, 2 and 3.

THE CARLETON

Opera Company

BOYD'S OPERA HOUSE

Monday and Tuesday, Feb. 13 and 14.

THE BOSTON HOWARD

Atheneum Specialty COMPANY.

25 ARTISTS 25.

Selected from the best artists of Europe and America,
Secure seats at box office.

DIME EDEN MUSEE, WEEK of FEB. 12.

Every department filled with new features this week. In Curio Hall

LOWANDA: Marvelous Man of Might.

This marvelous man lifts, with the aid of his teeth alone, a cask containing 52 gallons of water, with four men seated astride of it. The cask contents and riders weighing nearly three-fourths of a ton.

RHODA.

Rhoda, The Beautiful Mystery. Puzzle for the Curious. Living Head Without a Body.

RHODA

RHODA

RHODA.

Attraction Direct from Eden Musee, New York,

THE HISTORY OF A CRIME

The History

Of a Crime.

Last Week of the Trunk Mystery.

Last Week of Guitana, the Begum.

London Punch and Judy and a Host of Novelties.

Theatorium No. 1, New Art Entertainment from Crystal Palace, Miller Bros'. Dioramic Views of London.

BIJOU THEATRE.--Andrau's Ever Popular Comic Opera,

THE MASCOT,

By our own Juvenile Co. Everything Bright and New. Doors open 1 to 10 p. m. 10c Admits to all. 10c. Chairs, 5c and 10c