OMAHA.

A Few Facts Concerning the Gate City of the West.

BRIEF RESUME OF HER CLAIMS.

Clearing House Testimony as to Her Financial Worth.

\$160,000,000 FOR THE YEAR.

What the Packeries are Doing for the

OVER 1,500,000 HOGS KILLED.

Real Estate Continues in Good Demand Two New Bridse: Across the Misse u 1 -Thirty Miles of Street Car Lines Cable, Motor and Suburban Service.

The unique position assumed by Omaha, in the list of great cities has attracted to her the attention of the country at large, and her story has become a twice told tale which has been perused at some time by every person to whom the the advancement of western municipalities through the various stages from hamlet to city, is of interest so that this article will be confined merely to a resume of the notable events of her most modern history. It is, perhaps, just, in the beginning to say that in a great measure is the credit of the city's graduation from a frontier trading post to a metropolis, the home of 120,000 people, due to her municipal government, in which regard at all times, she has been especially blessed. The men who have at various times had the destinies of the city in their keeping are broad minded progressive citizens who, while their every act in connection with their duties has been characterized by a conservative, business like principle, have not deemed audacious any plan which bore reasonable promise to result bene ficially to Omaha. The effect of this is at once apparent when the visitor observes the miles of finely paved streets which stretch away to every point. It is a fact that this city can now without dispute lay claim to being the best paved of any in the country, and other public works are not disparaged by comparison with the thoroughfares. This fact coupled with her natural advantageous situation at the gateway of the great west has made Omaha an inviting location for the wide awake business man. Her railroad facilities are such as to make a vast section tributary to her alone. The result of this is that the commercial interests of this city have developed to such an extent as to render her a formidable rival to those points which have heretofore deemed the western trade their exclusive property. In consequence, the city has become the home of a traffic practically boundless in its extent, as relates to that region west of the Missouri river, and eastern houses have found it first advisable, then imperative, to establish representation here. The immediate effect has been to build up a city in every derivation of the term. The as-tounding rate of advancement of western cities generally has been a source of unbounded wonder to residents of the more eastern states who find that while digesting a new idea, the cities of the west have assimilated the same and already bear the fruit of their progressive spirit. That Omaha has never been be hind in this march of progress, a brief commingling with her merchants, will amply demonstrate; or if a visble manifestation is required, a glance at the

years is all that is necessary. In financial matters this city has al ways retained a warm place in the hearts of the capitalists. Her credit has always been of the best, and her securities in demand. The banking interests of this city are in good handsfor the most part those of men who have grown up with Omaha, from her infancy and whose integrity merits the conf dence bestowed upon them, while their ability as financiers cannot for a moment be questioned. Of the seven national banks tributary to the clearing house, the following facts are given: The capital invested in these \$3,050,000; the surplus \$408,000, while their combined deposits foot up \$13,714,588.96; the clearings for the current year are \$160,000,000, while the average increase over last year's transactions of this nature is about 15 per The prosperous condition of the local banks may be surmised when it is stated that in the last year, within a radius of one block, three magnificent structures for banking purposes have peen erected at an approximate comlined cost of \$1,000,000 exclusive, of course, of real estate. These clearings do not represent the transactions of all the banks of which there are fourteen in Omaha, and two in South Omaha. The flattering condition of Omaha banking institutions cannot be claimed as a result of investment of castern capitalists, but is to be attributed to the accumulated earnings of the local merchants, which is in itself a striking commentary on the condition of the home trade. In recognition of the city's claim to distinction in financial circles Omaha has in the past year been made a national reserve city for lesser banks throughout this region. Perhaps Omaha's most original feat-

magnificent homes of trade which have

been erected within the past three

ure, and the one calculated to lend her fame throughout the world, is her pack ing industry. Situated in close con-triguity to the great ranges of the west, it would indeed be strange if her enterprising citizens should permit such opportunities as are thus presented to pass unheeded. Realizing this, three years ago a number of local capitalists constructed an extensive stock yards, at what is now South Omaha, a city of 12,000 people, but which was at that time merely, "a point of five miles from the city." The growth of the business of the stock yards was unprecedented, and in the regular train of improvement attendant upon this, came the first pack-ing house, which was followed rapidly by others until the city now stands third in the packing industry of the world, while second place is not far distant. The number of men employed in the various packing institutions is upwards of 3,000, while the aggregate kill will approximate 1,500,000 hogs; 100,000 cattle, and 15,000 sheep for the current year. This, of course, does not include the number of animals slaughtered for home consumption.

On October 30th of this year, attended appropriate demonstration, a new steel wagon bridge joining the two cities

of Omaha and Council Bluffs, Iowa, was completed and the completion was made an occasion to be remembered in the history of the two cities. While its results will be of a local nature, its advantages to the city of Omaha, by making it the market for the farm products for a large section o western Iowa are quite appreciable During the previous year, the Union Pacific railway bridge was rebuilt with accomodations for pedestrains and vehicles.

The population of Omaha, is ever on the increase; real estate for residence urposes was never in better demand than at present: property within a reasonable distance of the city's center. always commands good figures. With the facilities presented by thirty miles of street railway and the rapid transet afforded by cable and motor, as well as the suburban service rendered by the various railways entering the city, the resident here finds in Omaha a most desirable home, while the various advantages in a commercial way attract to the city the business man, speculator and

AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS.

This important and growing branch of industry furnishes a valuable adjunct to the business activity of Omaha, aggregating in investment an amount of no nconsiderable importance.

The proximity of the great agricultural state of Nebraska with her 47,077,-350 acres of the most fertile lands to be found in any part of the country-this alone would naturally make Omaha a point of supply to a large extent. merchants of our city in this line are wide awake to their interests and make t a point to carry in stock a full line of mplements of every kind, including the specialties of all the leading manufacurers.

The trade is not confined to Nebraska but extends into the fertile states beyond into Colorado, Wyoming, Utah, and other states and territories bornering on the Pacific slope. The trade has been very active and in the past year has shown a very healthy increase, and with the steady development of the agricultural interests of those western states this interest is bound to be materially increased in the future. Quite a number of firms are engaged in this enterprise and we below give a representation of the leading firm in the line.

Lininger & Metcalf Company.

This is the largest wholesale agricultural warehouse west of the Mississippi river, and is conveniently located with two railroads running into their yards, affording them ample facilities for receiving and shipping. The warehouse and yards occupy a space of three acres, the buildings are four stories and are so arranged that it gives the largest floor space of any implement house in the west, giving them ample show rooms where samples of all kinds of goods handled can be seen to a great advantage. This firm differs from their competitors by not being a branch house of one or more eastern factories, and by being on the market for their goods they have been able to gather into one complete line the best specialties that are being manufactured to-day, including the Mitchell farm and spring wagons, the Rock Island Plow company's full line of goods, Barlow's corn planter, Brown cultivators, Oliver-Casaday sulky plows, Joliet Eureka power shellers, Victor feed mills, Jeffcoat combined hay loader and stacker, with a fine line of buggies, carriages, carts, cutters, and bob-sleighs, and a full line of implements used by the agriculturists or farmers. Such is the demand for their specialties that they have established exteen branch houses in the principal towns of the state to supply their cusomers. These houses are under the direct management of the Omaha office. This house is under the same management as when the business was first inaugurated. The business and interests confined to Nebraska and is what

might be termed a home institution. Their entire energies are devoted to the upbuilding of the state and to the increasing of its agricultural possibili-

AUCTION AND COMMISSION.

This is comparatively a new business n our city, although such houses are found in all large cities and are a great advantage to dealers handling this line of goods. Clothing, and boot and shoe manufacturers, as well as jobbers of dry goods, notions, etc., having a surplus of goods which they are unable to dispose of to their own trade, consign their stock to the auction and commission houses to be sold on commission, thus enabling them to sell to the trade at lower than regular prices and as cheap as in eastern markets. The firm rep resented below is the only one in this city.

Kohn & Wells, 208, 210 and 212 South Eleventh Street.

The auction and commission house of Kohn & Wells, was established August 1, 1887, and is the only one of the kind in this city. The individual members of the firm are Bernard Kohn and Robert Wells, gentlemen who have a large experience in their special line of business. They occupy the first floor and basement of 208, 210 and 212 South Eleventh street, in the Paddock building, which are well filled with their immense stock of dry goods, clothing, notions, carpets, boots, shoes, etc. They are wholesale auction and commission merchants for the sale of goods consigned them by eastern manufacturers and jobbers, consisting of only new and regular goods, which they are enabled to sell to the trade at lower than regular prices. They hold auction sales to the trade every week, and also do a general jobbing business. A specialty is made of cheap lines of clothing, furnishing goods, notions and carpets, of which they carry a large and well selected stock. Their trade extends throughout the west, embracing the states of lowa. Nebraska, Kansas and Colorado, which is visited by their traveling salesmen. Their trade has shown a general increase since their establishment here and with gratifying results.

ARCHITECTS.

In scientific pursuits Omaha is abreast of the most advanced cities of the union. In architecture—an art in which none but a geometrician can excel, an art which has no standard of grace, but which is directly or indirectly dependent on utility, an art of which the creations derive a part, at least, of their majesty from mere bulk—our city can poast of many very talented men. streets of the city present an appearance of solidity and beauty. To appreciate the professional skill and ability of Omaha's architects one need but glance at the many substantial business blocks, public buildings, handsome churches and elegant residences with which Omaha abounds. Not only in Omaha but also in neighboring cities may be seen structures planned and built by our architects in such a manner as to re flect credit on any city. A few of the prominent men engaged in the profession of our city are:

F. M. Ellis, Room 16, Fourteenth and Farnam Streets. The gentleman whose name heads this article is one of the foremost architects in Omaha, and is one of that class

to whose excellent taste is due the attractive appearance of the city super-ficially. Three years ago, or to be more exact, January 1, 1883, he came here from Chicago, having been in business in that city, in Des Moines, and in New York. Since that time he has been prominent in architectural circles and has carried off a large share of the cream of the city's building. Just now he is completing his eighteenth public edifice for the state of Nebraska—the asylum for the insane at Norfolk. The industrial school at Kearney, the home for the friendless at Lincoln, the deaf and dumb institute at Omaha, Brownell hall and many fine residences and mercantile blocks in this city are from his plans, to secure which work he was brought into competition with architects of wide reputation. Many of the finest churches throughout the state were designed by Mr. Ellis. At present be is at work on a \$200,000 court house for Lancaster county located at Lincoln, and the Love opera house at Kearney. which exceeds in beauty of construction us well as in all other features any theater in the state, with the exception of Boyd's, in this city. He has erected two school buildings in Omaha and as many in South Omaha this season as well as others in various parts of the county. Among the residences built by Mr. Ellis is the residence of H. W Yates, beyond question the finest in the state. He is the architect for different building associations, and it is a significant commentary on the worth of his plans that of all the public buildings he has constructed not one but cost less than the estimate he gave.

CIVIL ENGINEERS.

Andrew Rosewater, 430 Paxton Bulding.

This well-known civil engineer whose professional practice dates back nearly twenty-five years, now exclusively confines himself to the designing of grade and sewer systems and municipal public works.

His engagement as city engineer of Omaha for a period of ten years, ending in April, 1887, embraces the most important space in the history of Omaha's public improvements. Mr. Rosewater not only organized the present engineering department of the city and supervised nearly every important feature of Omaha's municipal public works, embracing the street grades, sewerage systems, pavements and viaduets, but took an equally active part in shaping the needed legislations for their execution and direction.

Mr. Rosewater's reputation has secured for him continued engagements as designing and consulting engineer by various western cities.

Within the past two years he has been engaged by numerous cities in the west in designing and supervising grades, ewernge systems, and municipal public works. To municipal corporations contemplating extended improvements and to individuals who are about to erect costly residences, and who want a perfect system of sanitary sewerage, would do well in consulting with Mr. Rosewater.

Rust & Way, 420 and 421 Paxton Block.

Both these gentlemen are old railroad engineers, having been connected with various railroads in this and other states. Although they opened their office here but two years ago they have already secured a large and increasing practice. They do a general engineering business, making specialties of estimates for contractors, railroad and topographical surveys, landscape gardening, and the platting of town sites and additions. They give particular attention to any thing requiring careful and accurate work, their reputation in this regard being second to none in the city. Their facilities for doing work on short notice are excellent. They refer to a number of leading men in the city, and to anyone by whom they have been employed. They have had charge of the extensive improvements made at South Omaha during the past two years by the South Omaha Land company and the Union Stock Yards company, including the sewer two miles long, from the stock vards to the Missouri river, passing through the hills 145 feet below their summit by means of a tunnel 1,700 feet long. They are now engaged upon the beautiful park being developed southeast of the city, by the South Omaha Land company.

Mr. Way has recently accepted the responsible position of chief engineer of the Missouri Pacific railroad. Rust remains in Omaha giving his personal attention to the business here.

ATTORNEYS-AT-LAW.

Young as is the bar of Omaha, compared to eastern points it has attained an enviable reputation for legal ability. Among the old attorneys, those who were here before the courts, may be mentioned: A. J. Poppleton, M. M. Woolworth, James Chapman, Gen'l Stabrook, O. P. Mason, Clinton Briggs, ludge G. B. Lake and E. S. Dundy. The Omaha bar has furnished a senator, Gen'l Manderson; a member of the legislature, Hon. J. M. Thurston, a government director of the Union Paific railroad; J. W. Savage, and several United States district attorneys, George E. Pritchett, James Neville, E. M. Bart-lett, Robert Patrick, and a United lett, Robert Patrick, aud a U States district judge, E. S. Dundy.

The Omaha bar from the beginning has contained strong men-men of breadth and ability and extensive legal knowledge. The legal practice in Omaha has required a broader range of egal knowledge than is requisite in

many localities, notably the east Omaha being located in a comparatively new and rapidly prowing territory, where new enterprises are constantly springing up, much of the business here relates to railroad and corporation law, which is in many respects peculiar to itself. Omaha has never been wanting in lawyers capable of doing themselves credit in any branch of their profession, and to-day the bar is a strong one, comparing favorably with our older western cities, and has many bright and promising young men entering upon the profession.

Hon. John M. Thurston.

One of the representative legal lights of our city is the Hon. John M. Thurston, who graduated at the Wayland university in 1867, and was admitted to the bar in Dodge county, Wisconsin, in May, 1869, where he practiced until October of that year, when he removed to this city, where he has achieved a commanding position in his profession.

In 1874 he was appointed city attorney

and while holding that position was chosen for the legislature in 1875. He has been prominent in political circles; in 1884 was chairman of the state delegation at the republican national convention at Chicago, as well as being delegate and temporary chairman of the last republican convention held at Chiwhich nominated Harrison as cago. president.

On February last he was appointed general attorney for the Union Pacific railroad, which position he now holds. His close application to his cases, his readiness of resource and his acknowledged ability as a speaker has made him one of the most successful trial law-

vers in Nebraska as well as one of the eading lawyers in the west.

Hon. A.J. Poppleton Hon. A. J. Poppleton has made Oma ha his home for ever thirty-three years. and has risen to the front rank in his chosen profession. Mr. Poppleton native of Michigan and a graduate from Union College, Schenectady, N. Y., graduating in July, 1851. He was

court of Michigan. Upon the passage of the Kansas-Nebraska bill, he made arrangements to settle permanently in Omaha, locating here in 1854. Mr. Poppleton served as a member of the Nebraska territorial legislative assembly during the sessions of 1854-55 and 1857-58, and was mayor of Omaha during the years 1858-59. He received, with J. Sterling Morton, the vote of the democratic party for United States senator upon the admission of Nebraska as a state in 1867, and was the nominee of that party for congress in

1868, but was defeated. He was appointed attorney of the Union Pacific by Vice-President Durant in 1863, and continued his general practice until 1869. Upon the completion of the road in that year he was appointed general attorney for this road,

and has continued as such ever since. The fact that he has been twenty-four years in the service of the Union Pacitic, and his gradual advancement to the supervision of the entire system, and the management and control of all its legal affairs in the west, is the strongest evidence of the success of his management of the company's business. He has the reputation of an eloquent orator, an accomplished scholar, a duent and classic writer and occupies a leading position at the bar in Omaha.

Congdon, Clarkson & Hunt, Rooms 403 to 407, Granite Block. This leading firm of attorneys the suc-

cessors to the law firms of Manderson & Congdon, and Clarkson & Hunt, was established in May, 1883. The individual firm is Isaac E. Congdon, Joseph R. Clarkson and George J

Hunt. Mr. Isaac E. Congdon graduated in 1876 at Cornell college, of Mount Vernon, Ia., and was admitted to the bar in 1878. Mr. James R. Clarkson attended Yale college and was admitted to the bar in the same year-1878. Mr. George J. Hunt graduated at Washington college, Maryland, in 1874, was admitted to the bar of Harford county.

Maryland, 1876, and located here in 1878. The firm practice in all the courts. state and federal, and have as large a practice as any in the city. They make a specialty of real estate and cor poration litigation, and have achieved an enviable reputation in their profess ion. Their clientage is gilt-edge in every respect and they have been re markably successful in their profession, ranking among the very foremost members of the bar in Nebraska.

J. L. Webster, Attorney-at-Law, Office 1402 Farnam Street.

J. L. Webster, one of the leading actorneys of the bar of Omaha, is a native of Harrison county, Ohio, and a grad uate of Mount Union college. Mr. Web ster removed to this city about nineteer years ago, and was admitted to the bar here in 1869. Mr. Webster served in the Union army and was elected some fifteen years ago as a member of the state legislature.

In 1876 he was chairman of the constitutional convention which framed the present constitution of the state of Nebraska, and is to-day the city attorney. which office he has held since the election of Mayor Broatch.

Mr. Webster practices in the United States supreme and in the United States district and circuit courts, in this city and Lincoln, and has been frequently called to the United States courts at Laramie, Denver and other points. He has achieved a commanding position in his profession and has wen o ich position as a lawyer, having a very large practice in the state and supreme courts, and probably larger than any other attorney in Omaha.

During the past two years, on account of the large amount of litigation of city affairs, he has paid particular attention to this branch of the law.

Mr. Webster is confessedly one of the leading lawyers in the west. His close application to his cases, his readiness of resurce, and his acknowledged ability as a speaker, make him one of the most successful trial lawyers in Nebraska.

Cavanagh, Crane & Arw 11, Rooms 54 55-56, Barker Block.

Among the leading law firms of Omaha the firm of Cavanagh Crane & At well take a prominent position. - he firm was formerly Cavanagh & Crane established in June, 1887, Mr. Atwell being admitted in January, 1888.

They occupy one of the finest offices in Omaha and their library is as extensive as any in the city, embracing a full line of text books and the United States supreme court reports of fifteen different states. Mr. J. A. Cavanagh, the senior member of the firm, is a graduate of St. Xavier college, Kankakee, Ill., and was admitted to the bar in Chicago in October, 1877. He has charge of the the office business of the firm and was for two years attorney for the Union Trust company of this city.

Mr. Thomas D. Crane was admitted to the bar at Springfield, January 6, 1874, and located here in 1887.

Mr. Crane is the court man of the firm, and as such has been remarkably successful, especially so in the recen case of the Kit Carter cattle company vs. the Harlem cattle company in the United States circuit court, before Judges Dundy and Brewer, in which some of the leading lawyers of the state were engaged, and which involved property valued at upwards of half a million dollars, he being highly complimented for his management of the

same as attorney for the defendant. Mr. H. C. Atwell is a graduate of the University of Vermont, and was admitted to the bar in 1887. He has general charge of the correspondence of he firm, and assists in the trial of cases, Prior to entering the profession he occupied the position as private secretary to the Hon. J. C. Struble, of Washington. D. C.

The firm do a general law business, practicing in both federal and state courts, and are at present attorneys and counsel for five different banking and other corporations, and number among their clients a majority of the leading mercantile and manufacturing firms of our city.

Green, Marple & Baxter. This firm have built up a fine reputa-

tion as leading lawyers at the bar of Omaha. The firm consists of C. J. Greene, C. H. Marple and Irving F. Baxter. Mr. Greene is a native of New York state, and graduated at Clark seminary, Aurora, Ill., in 1868. He was admitted to the bar in 1871 in Chicago. He located at Liucoln in 1872 and removed to this city in 1875. Mr. Green served as a private in the union army, and as district attorney of the third judicial district of this state. torney and counsel for the B. & M. railroad, and also for the eastern department of the W. F. and American express companies.

Mr. Greene has attained distinction in his profession, and prominent among the number of cases in which he has won prominence was his prosecution of the Burke murder case, and also as attorney for the C. B. & Q. during the great railroad strike, in which he obtained an injunction from the United States court against the Locomotive Engineer Brotherhood, restraining them from interfering with the operations of

that road C. H. Marple is a graduate of Union College, of Pennsylvania, and was admitted to the bar in 1886 at Philadeladmitted to practice in October, 1852, after an examination by the supreme

Irving F. Baxter is a native of Syracuse, N. Y., and was admitted to the bar

The firm practice in all the courts, and make a specialty of corporation litiga-tion, having a very large share of the business in Omaha. They have been almost universally successful in all their

and are classed among the very best BANKING.

firms in our city.

cases, and occupy a leading position

The solidity of the banks of Omaha through the past is but an index of the conservative management which has governed their affairs, and from this fact, as much as from any other source, can be attributed the continued growth and prosperity of our city. From time to time new institutions have sprung up to meet the growing demands of our city and the extention of business over a more extended or developed territory. while the established national banks here increased their capital stock to meet the requirements of business, the increase for the past year aggregating \$950,000. Notable on the part of the bank institutions of Omaha is the erection of elegant buildings and which are not excelled outside of New York or Chicago.

The combined capital of the seven national banks tributary to the clearance house aggregate \$3,050,000, with a surplus of \$408,000, and the combined peposits foot up over \$13,000,000.

In 1885 the clearances showed a total of \$61,393,129; in 1886 the amount was increased to \$93,743,799; in 1887 it was the enormous amount of \$148,904,632 an increase of \$55,160,833, was reached. The clearances for the twelve months rom November 1 to November 1, show a total of \$160,000,000,

The First National Bank.

This bank, now occupying its new. commodious, substantial and thoroughly fire-proof quarters at the corner of Thirteenth and Farnam streets, is one of the oldest and most staunchest institutions in the west, being the first bank organized in the state of Nebraska under the national banking laws. It has steadily grown in the esteem and confidence of the business community until its transactions, small at first, now extend into millions, requiring the services of a multitude of clerks and employes to conduct the daily routine of its affairs.

The bank commenced business in 1863 in a small frame building nearly opposite its present location, succeeding to the business of Kountze Brothers. ward Creighton was its first president. and Herman Kountze the cashier. The capital of the bank at starting was \$50,-000 which has been increased from time to time until it is now \$500,000, with a surplus of \$100,000 and in the meantime its deposits have grown to the enormous sum of nearly \$4,000,000. The steady growth of this institution

s gratifying as an index to the wonerful advance in population and mate rial prosperity of the city of Omaha and state of Nebraska and the states and erritories west of us. Its banking office is one of the features

of Omaha. Its size, finish, conveniences and appointments being unexcelled anywhere in the United States outside of New York and Chicago. Its efficers at present are Herman

Kountze, president; John A. Creighton. vice-president; F. H. Davis, cashier, and William H. Megquier and H. E. Gates, assistant cashiers. In the basement of the bank are com modious, convenient and thoroughly

Merchants' National Bank, Thirteenth and Farnam Streets.

vaults.

fire and burglar proof safety deposit

The financial institutions of Omaha are a source of gratification to patriotically inclined citizens, and of the fourteen banks located here none are more presperous with greater reason than the one the name of which appears above. This bank was organized October 1, 1882, and after six years of continued prosperity has developed into one of the foremost financial institutions of the city, occupying to-day the most perfectly appointed edifice, architecturally and otherwise, of any rival. The business of the bank has never faltered, and to-day, with a capital of \$500,000, a surplus of \$100,000, and deposits amounting to \$1.750,000, it presents a picture of a flourishing business indicative of the general prosperity of the city. The officers of the bank are: Frank Murphy, president; Samuel E. Rogers, vice president; Ben B. Wood, eashier; Luther Drake, assistant cashier, and the balance of the board of directors is made up of John F. Coad, Charles C. Housel and George W. Dorne. All these gentlemen are well known as being possessed of sound and conservative judgment in matters of inance, and under their guidance the affairs of the bank and its patrons will be carefully and conscientiously

guarded. The Omaha National Bank, Thirteenth Street, between Farnam and Douglas Of this bank but few words will suffice. t needs no commendation other than that gained by its transactions in the past. Organized with a band of finan-ciers at its head whose information on banking matters was gained by years of practical experience, it has always been at the front of the van. On the first of September of this year its capital was increased from \$500,000 to \$1,000,000, causing it to lead in local banking circles. It is one of the six banks which, by clearing-house reports, have lifted Omaha into prominence in financial matters, and not the least is the fact of the advances in the banking business of the city due to the Omaha National. The surplus is now \$105,000. Its business has never lagged even during the stormiest days of financial disaster, and its doors have been open every business day since its organization. It transacts a general banking business, and offers inducements not presented by other concerns.

The United States National Bank Southwest Corner of Twelfth and Farnam Streets.

This institution is deserving of spe cial mention not only for its creditable record but for its enterprise in keeping abreast of the times. This feature gives it to-day one of the finest buildings in the city, being a six-story edifice of stone an architectural triumph. Concerning the bank itself but little can be said that is not already well known. Its stable character is best known from the fact that it is the government reserve establishment for a larger portion of the lesser banks throughout this region. The United States National is the pioneer of this city, having been opened in 1860 by Willard Barrows, Ezra Millard and S. S. Caldwell. In 1865 it was taken under the management of Messrs. Caldwell, Millard and C. W. Hamilton. In 1868 its affairs were taken in hand by Messrs. Caldwell, Hamilton and M. T. Barlow, In 1883 it was organized as a national bank with a capital of \$100,000. which was increased in 1886 to \$250,000. and it was also designated as a United States depository and the capital has since been increased to that of the present capital of \$400,000.

The officers now are C. W. Hamilton, president; M. T. Barlow, cashier, and C. Will Hamilton, assistant cashier.

A general banking business is transacted, whereby customers are afforded every convenience and accommodation found in the most approved institutions of finance in the country.

The Bank of Commerce, Corner of Fifteenth and Farnam Streets; North Sixteenth Street.

Of the eight private banking concerns in the city the bank whose card appears above is by no means least. Its stockholders embrace the most conservative investors of the city, and its board of officers numbers men who have grown up in the business and whose ability to manage the institution to the interest of patron and stockholder alike cannot be questioned. Besides its down town bank this organization has a branch house on North Sixteenth street, to care for the business of that section of the city. The officers of The Bank of Commerce are George E. Barker, president; E. L. Bierbower, vice president, and F. B. Johnson, cashier. The directors are Charles Metz, J. N. Cornish, E. A. Ben-son, J. L. Miles, J. H. McCennell, William Sievers, S. W. Croy, Gustave Anderson, S. R. Johnson, A. T. Rector, L. B. Williams and George Peterson. It has a paid in capital of \$500,000, and is doing a properous business. It num-bers among its correspondents The Commercial National Bank of Chicago, as well as the institution of the same name in New York.

BOOTS AND SHOES.

Among the many articles of the wholesale trade none is of more import-ance than that created by the demands of footwear. Unquestionably Omaha is the most important distributing point for boots and shoes in the west, and has been recognized as such, and as being the best and cheapest point by the trade in all sections of the country.

The growth of the trade has been

quite astonishing, ranking only second to the grocery trade in the jobbing interests of the city, aggregating between two and three million dollars during this year.

The great advantages possessed by this market comes from the fact of hav ing direct communication with the larger eastern manufactories which enables our jobbers to keep constantly stocked up with all grades of goods and laid down to the trade at the same prices for which they can be bought in eastern markets, thus saving the trade the difference in cost of transportation and time, enabling them to have a clean stock without being compelled to carry too heavy a stock of the different lines an important feature to any retail mer The trade covers an immense terri-

tory extending as far as the Pacific slope, and is thoroughly drummed by a large corps of traveling salesmen.

A. T. Austin, Agent American Hand Sewed Shoe Company.

This company is conspicuous among the manufacturing boot and shoe trade of Omaha and was established here in 1885. They are wholesale dealers in men's, boys' and youths', ladies', misses' and children's boots, shoes and rubbers. They are also sole agents for the sale of the Goodyear, I. R. Glove Company's goods in the west, which are recognized as the finest rubber goods made and are furnished to the trade at factory prices. The company keep constantly in their warerooms a full assortment of the kinds and widths such as the company make, distributing them to the trade upon the same terms and basis as if ordered from the company's factory in Boston, saving the buyer the difference in freight and time in transit and in-

suring them prompt delivery.
In consequence of the above advantages the growth of their trade is rap-

idly and constantly increasing. The premises occupied by the firm are located at 507, 509 and 511 South Thirteenth street, which are completely stocked with a full line of goods to meet the demand of the trade and this terri tory. They do an exclusive wholesale business, their trade extending through out western Iowa, Nebraska, Wyoming, and Colorado.

Kirkendall, Jones & Co.—Wholesale Boots, Shoes and Rubber Goods, 1102, 1104 and 1106 Harney Street.

As far back as 1879 does the establishment of this stable concern date. At that time it was organized under the tirm name of Read, Jones & Co., but on the death of Mr. Read the present name and the present firm succeeded. The business since that time has quadrupled in volume, and to-day the company occupies one of the finest buildngs in the city, being the commodious six-story edifice at the intersection of Harney and Eleventh streets. The house is headquarters for the western trade in boots, shoes and rubber goods and is the most extensive in this line of any establishmeut on the Missouri river west of St. Louis. They are agents for the goods of the Boston and Bay State Rubber company, whose wares need no introduction to the trade, being well known to dealers and consumers throughout this region, and are furnished to the patrons of this house at factory prices. The firm keeps constantly on the road tweive enesalesmen. rgetic who traverse twelve distinct states and territories The operations of the commercial traveiers for Kirkendall, Jones & Co., extend as far west as the coast, but not so far as to be beyond the pale of popularity of their goods. The firm manufac-tures its own goods to a large extent, having a manufactory at Columbus, O., as well a as jobbing house at the same place, whereby their patrons may obtain goods from first hands, saving middle commissions, and the same arrangements permits purchasers, by dealing wit the Omaha house, to save freight rates, and to carry, at all times, a fresh stock, with the opportunity afforded for replenishing the latter, making it unnecessary to have so large a line as any other plan of operations would compel.

WILLIAMS, VAN AERNAM & HARTE Wholesale Boots, Shoes and Slippers. The distance of Omaha from the man-

ufacturing points of the east has long been a serious drawback to her othervise unparalleled progress. The long delay and heavy freight tariffs have resulted, in a measure, to the detriment of the consumer as well as making the transaction of business to the merchant who adhered to the old methods unsatisfactory. This was especially true of articles of wearing apparel, and it was for the purpose of obviating this difficulty in their peculiar line that the firm of Williams, Van Aernam & Harte was organized January 1, 1887. This firm, composed of O. B. Williams, W. J. Van Aernam and H. G. Harte, does a leading wholesale business in boots, shoes, slippers and American rubber goods, in all branches of which they carry a full line. They determined upon the ex-periment of acting as manufacturers' agents and thus furnishing local re-

tailers with a fresh stock at manuface turers' prices without the additional freight rates which dealing with the factory necessitated. Besides this the firm is enabled to deliver its goods promptly when desired, and long delays are thus obviated. So satisfactory has this method of stocking up become with local leather and rubber goods dealers that Williams, Van Account & Harte control an extensive part of the business of the city, and their operations extend into Western Iown, Nebraska, Colorado and Utah. The establishment is located at 1206-1208 Douglas street.

BREWERIES.

Beer has grown to be the drink of the masses in America, and its consumption is daily on the increase. The history of the brewing business of the United States dates back to the days when the first industries were planted on this side of the Atlantic.

Science and intelligent enterprise together with new appliances expensive machinery and improved methods have consequently made the brewing basiness a great and growing industry employing a large amount of capital and giving employment to a great number

The brewing interests of Omaha are most extensive and constitute an important faction of the city's commercial prosperity. During the year just ending there has been considerable advauce made in establishing the reputation for Omaha as being one of the leading brewing cities in the country.

We have three large preweries in the

city which compate favorably with any breweries in the United States in the quality of beer and extent of business. Their buildings are all handsome and substantial structures and compare favorably with any of our prominent manufacturing establishments. They give employment to upwards of 150 men whose wages will average \$75 per month. Besides giving employment to the hands in their breweries, the brewing interests permentes every branch of industry from the farmer, who raises the hops and barley to the different trades that furnish the wagons, barrels and machinery for the presecution of their business. They have nearly \$1,000,000 invested in their business and the interest is in the hands of progressing and enterprising citizens who take special pride in keeping up the excellent reputation Omaha has at-

Frederick Krug. Frederick Krug is the pioneer brewer

tained in her manufacturing interests.

of Omaha and his present establishment is one of the best appointed in the country. The business was originally established in 1859, being then located on Farnam street between Tenth and Eleventh. In 1863 the quarters proving inadequate for his growing business removed to the present which covers an area of six full city lots, and the buildings are from one to seven stories in height. The buildings consist of the brew house, cold storage ree machine department, boiler rooms, malt houses and stables. The entire plant is magnificently and thoroughly equipped throughout with the latest and most improved modern appliances for the conduct of their business. The ice machine department is a model of beauty containing two thirtyfive ton ice machines of the Consolidated Ice Machine company of Chicago. The boiler rooms are equipped with four immense boilers, each of eighty horse power, making a total enpacity of 300 horse power, which are utilized to furnish power for the establishment. The plant has been constantly improved from year to year, until to-day it has no superior in the west as regards cleanliness, ventilation, size or capacity.

He brews the standard lager beer and also cabinet brand, a special brew of pale beer used for export and bottling.

The sales for the past year have been upwards of 50,000 barrels and are constantly increasing.

They give employment to fifty men in the various departments, and have consumed about 125,000 bushels of Nebraska barley, which is made into malt for brewing of their products. Their beer has a reputation for purity and excellence wherever known, and their trade extends throughout the city as well as throughout the state of Nebraska, the beer for outside points being shipped in refrigerator cars.

Mr. Fred King is the proprietor of this model establishment, and Mr. Wiliam King the general manager.

Storz & Her, Columbia Brewery. The Storz & Her brewery is one of the best known establishments of the kind n the west. It was originally estabished in 1864 by James Bauman, the present firm, composed of G. Storz and

. D. Her, succeeding in 1884. The plant covers about one acre of ground, the buildings consisting of brew houses, ice cellars, malt houses

and stables. The entire plant is thoroughly equipped with the latest improved nachinery necessary for the transaction of their busines. Since the present firm have had charge of the brewery they have constantly been enlarging making extensive improvements, and to-day the brewery is as fully equipped as any in the city.

They are brewers of standard lager beer and also export beer for bottling purposes. During the past year a new bottling house has been added to their estab

lishment filled up with the latest bot tling machinery. They have increased the capacity of the brewery from 10,000, when they took charge, until now they have a capacity of 60,000 barrels. They give employment to about fifty men and have twety-four horses and twelve de-

livery wagons in constant use, their sales being about thirty-five thousand barrels during the past year. The Storz & Her beer is one of the most popular makes in the west and commands a ready sale both at home and abroad, being known wherever sold for the purity and excellence of quality. Their motto has always been to manufacture an excellent quality of beer and their increased sales demonstrate that their efforts have been appreciated. Their trade extends throughout the

city and vicinity, supplying the leading

saloons, hotels and restaurants. The past year has been a most prosperous

proud to possess such a firm as Storz &

Her. COMMISSION PRODUCE.

one with the firm and Omaha is

Generally speaking, there is no business so difficult to conduct, and cond. ct successfully, as that of produce and commission, and so great are the drawbacks and so numerous and stopenduous the obstacles to be overcome, that, to make the business a success, energy, ability and capital in more than ordinary quantitles are requisite, together with a favored location. All these seem to be

found here. Omaha is peculiarly situated for the upbuilding and success of the commission business, being in easy access to some of the richest agricultural and fruit growing districts in the United States from which to draw supplies, as well as an extensive country to supply. This interest numbers among its pro-