CHRISTMAS DAY IN OMAHA.

How the Anniversary was Celebrated in the Gate City.

JOY REIGNED UNCONFINED.

Observed by Saint and Sinner Alike—Christmas in Church, at Home, in Hotel, and Ball Room—Notes.

A Day of Rejoicing.

Omaha celebrated Christmas yesterday in the usual hearty manner for which the city is so justly celebrated. The day was all that could be desired, and the weather reminded one of a Mexican winter instead of a locality where people occasionally freeze to death. The street cars were thronged all day with happy sight-seers, and many pleasant excursions were taken.

The usual eating exercises were indulged in, and many a fine, fat gobbler and toothsome goose was exterminated. The hotels put up splendid meals for their guests, and the stranger within their gates had no occasion to grumble.

All the churches observed the occasion by appropriate services, and in the evening the little ones were gladdened by gifts.

The following are some of the day's events:

Exposition Hall.

In the Exposition hall the children's Christmas tree was one of the most unique features of the celebration. The tree, like the lass who was loved, was tall and slender, and its branches, though not far-reaching were numerous and beautiful. It stood upon the stage decorated with a limitless variety of tinsel skeins and gaudy toys, which glinted in the white, soft light which illuminated its branches. The illumination was effected by a number of incandescent lights, one of which, at the top, like the star at Bethlehem, seemed to gleam with surpassing brilliancy.

The stage looked like a hastily improvised warehouse. There were several thousands of packages of popcorn and candy, and hundreds of apples and toys of every descriptions under the sun.

Then there was Santa Claus, who made his entree behind a Henry-Dixey elephant, the motive members of which were supplied by a pair of lads from the Nebraska institute for the deaf and blind.

Then there were a number of self-sacrificing ladies and gentlemen who dispensed with lavish generosity the gifts which had been collected, accompanying the dispensation with genial smiles and cheering words. Among these were Rev. C. W. Savidge, Rev. W. J. Harsha and Prof. Gillespie. Then there were the children. There were possibly 2,000 of them. They ranged from Tiny Tim to the gruff-voiced urchin far in his teens. They came alone and in families, with empty hands and left with hands, pockets and mouths loaded with toys and filled with corn and sweetmeats. The hall fairly overflowed with collections of small humanity of every nationality under the sun, and all were as merry as kittens in a basket of wool.

A large amount of clothing and substantial food had also been donated for the occasion. This was sent to the mission on Dodge street, near Thirteenth, where they were put into bundles. Half a dozen carriages were in readiness and well loaded with these necessaries. They were then driven to various parts of the city and, under the direction of charitable ladies, well unloaded at the homes of poor and enfeebled people, to whom they were both a neccessity and a luxury.

The Schuetzenverein.

The German Schuetzenverein gave a concert and ball at Germania hall last evening. The concert commenced about 9 o'clock with a march by Prof. Schunke's orchestra, followed by a potpourri entitled "The Musician's Dream," a medley of popular German melodies.

Louis Koch, the well known German actor, recited "The Dying Tragedian" in a dramatic manner.

Miss Minna Brandt then sang the fairy song from "Mignon" entitled "I Am Titania" in excellent style. The little lady has a voice rich in sweetness and of great power and purity. Her rendition of this difficult song was such as to draw forth prolonged applause, to which she responded with a German song entitled "The Forest Rose." She was presented with a magnificent bouquet of roses.

The Turnverein quartette, composed of Messrs. F. Lehman, H. Haubens, A. Graf and Louis Kauth, sang "The Poacher," and were encored, responding with "The Forest Rose."

The last number on the programme was a potpourri by Misses. A. Peters, R. Rosicky, L. Nollmann, Al. Peters, T. Kaufman and Messrs. W. Rowan, W. Boekhoff, E. Kaufman and Ed Dworzak, all pupils of Prof. E. Dworzak. They played in good style and were loudly applauded.

After the programme was completed a fine supper was served in one of the ante rooms, after which the floor was cleared for dancing which was continued to a late hour.

At the Coliseum.

Christmas was celebrated at the Coliseum last night by about one thousand people, who watched the bicycling, polo and other amusements, and skated and danced to their hearts' content.

The evening's entertainment opened with a three-minute bicycle race between Bob Gernung, Frank Schill and Albert Hubbard, the latter being given a handicap of three laps. It might as well have been a dozen, for he was not in the race from the start.

Schill and Gernung made a pretty race for twelve laps, when the former lost a pedal. By mutual agreement they agreed to run a mile to see who was the victor. It bade fair to be a close finish, but Gernung fell on the turn and lost. Then the Omaha Guards' polo team and the Millards played a game. If the Guards cannot fight any better than they can play polo Omaha would have to hire some soldiery to protect her interests. The Guards won the first goal in five minutes and then gave the Millards one on a foul. The last goal of the innings was made by the Millards in 1:30. The second inning was a walk-away for the Millards, who made four goals to the Millard's one.

Skating was then indulged in until 11 o'clock, after which a fancy dress ball was indulged in, which was largely attended.

At Trinity Cathedral.

Trinity cathedral was prettily decorated in honor of the Messiah's birthday. Evergreen trees stood in two corners of the choir loft. The railing in front of the pulpit was interlaced with vines and the woodwork of the chancel throughout was outlined with ropes of evergreen and the candlestick supports entwined with the same decorations, while pretty wreaths were hung at the apex of each choir loft. The altar was beautifully decked with holly, white and red carnations and roses of the same color. The services were the same as those of any Sabbath morning, but the music was exceptionally good. Master Archie Pratt, who is developing a fine soprano voice, sang the offertory with fine effect. Dean Gardner announced that Bishop Worthington, who was to have delivered the morning sermon, was called elsewhere. The dean said he would not attempt to take the bishop's place and deliver a sermon, but would merely wish the congregation a happy Christmas; not a merry but a happy one, as doubtless there were many who could not be merry but could be happy.

The Knights of Pythias.

Lily division No. 8, Uniform Rank Knights of Pythias, gave another of their enjoyable parties at the Metropolitan hall last night. The attendance was good and a merry Christmas was brought to a close in fitting style. The proceeds of these entertainments are to be used to pay the expenses of the division on its trip to Milwaukee next June to attend the national encampment of the Uniform Rank.

Banquetted His Clerks.

Mr. A. Hospe gave an elaborate banquet to his clerks and employes last night at his residence. There were twenty guests, and an extensive menu was discussed. During the evening the clerks presented Mr. Hospe with an elegant office chair as a mark of their appreciation and esteem. Mr. Hospe was completely surprised, as the gift was entirely unexpected. He responded in a few words expressive of his gratification at the appreciation evidenced by the gift. A pleasant evening was spent and the guests departed wishing Mr. Hospe many returns of the day.

The Hebrew Masque Ball.

The Hebrew Young Men's Literary association held a masquerade dance at Washington hall last night, the proceeds of which will be devoted to the Beth Zion Sunday school recently established at the corner of Tenth and Farnam streets. The attendance was large and the masques numerous. The grotesque predominated. Prizes were awarded to the best masque among the ladies and also the gentlemen.

At the Theatres.

Christmas proved to be a big day for every theatre in town. Manager Boyd said that his receipts were larger than ever before on any similar occasion. Audiences that packed the house from orchestra rail to gallery wall attended both performances.

"Pearl of Pekin," a spectacular, burlesque Chinese opera, was the attraction, and it is safe to say that no other traveling show would have given Omaha's seekers after holiday enjoyment more satisfaction. It is just the kind of an affair that pleases one's sight, charms his hearing and makes him laugh all he cares to laugh. The opera has in it a character called Tyfoo, governor of Pekin, who has a charming daughter named Pearl. It comes to pass that a dashing young quartermaster, Polite Pierre, of the French navy, who is accompanied by his wife, Fannette, gets into Tyfoo's household, tries to buy all the pretty Chinese maidens he sees, and is having a splendid time, when Fannette becomes angry and locks him up. He is liberated by Tyfoo and carried to the governor's palace. Tyfoo compels the young officer to marry his daughter, and during the exciting events hourly occuring while his domestic disturbance is going on many funny things happen. Tyfoo, of course, is constantly surrounded with an immense force of men and women attendants, who comprise the chorus, while Fannette has with her several French sailors and four charming waiting maids. Louis Harrison, as Tyfoo, fits the part most admirably and plays it to perfection. It gives him an opportunity to work in a great deal of clever specialty business, and his talents as a versatile comedian have placed him in the front rank. He takes immensely with an audience. Miss Ada Jenoure, who assumes the role of Pearl; Miss Bertha Fisch, as Fannette; Edward Webb in the role of Pierre; Gilbert Clayton as Sosoriki, chief of the "Imperial Tigers," and John C. Leach as Sing High, a Chinese attendant, play their respective parts very well. Leach does a bit of imitation and character acting in the second act that is highly artistic and creditable. The performance was applauded repeatedly from beginning to end. The music is tuneful and full of pleasing harmony, and the piece is put on gorgeously. Careful attention has been given to scenery and costumes, and both were strong features in the general effect and pleasure of the entertainment.

One of the four pretty French maids, Miss Hattie Deloro Barnes, has something of an interesting history. About one year ago the son of a San Francisco millionaire named Barnes followed her to New York, where they were clandestinely married. The affair kicked up a terrible row, and a report has been circulated to the effect that Papa Barnes offered Miss Hattie $100,000 to leave his son and have the marriage annulled. Whether she took the money or not is not known, but the young lady proposes to file suit for a divorce as soon as the company reaches 'Frisco.

There was wild sport and terrific enthusiasm at the Grand last night, "McCarthy's Mishaps" attracted an audience that filled the house. This had such a spirit bracing effect upon Ferguson, Marr and the entire company that they gave an extraordinarily good performance. The assault and battery and circus acts of Ferguson and Marr, as well as the marvelous dancing of Lizzie Daly and her little five-year-old daughter set the audience off into screams of laughter and applause. The matinee was also large.

The Eden Musee did its share of business. Immense crowds attended every performance, both afternoon and evening.

A BAD DAY FOR OFFICERS.

Newman's Chin Bitten Off and Everly Breaks a Leg.

Officer Newman is minus a portion of his chin, and Mattie Reed, a prostitute, is in jail charged with mayhem.

There was a fight at No. 910 Capitol avenue, and Newman was summoned to quiet the riot. As soon as he entered the house he was seized by a colored man and a white man, who began to punish him severely. Mattie took a hand in the game, and clasping her arms around Newman's neck, bit a bare piece out of his chin. The trio then escaped, but were afterward captured. The notorious Belle Frazier was implicated, and was also locked up.

A young man named Jones, who clerks in a hardware store, appeared at police station to try and get the Reed woman released, but was given a very cool reception by the captain in charge, who promised to inform his parents, who are said to be respectable people.

Officer Everly Injured.

Officer Everly stepped on a banana peeling at Fourteenth and Farnam street last night and broke his leg. He was taken to the Cozzens hotel and the fracture reduced by the city physician.

A Christmas Night Row.

There was an affray in a house of ill fame on Ninth street—said to be Fannie Clifton's last night about midnight, in which two young men of the town whose names could not be learned engaged in a desperate conflict in which one was seriously wounded in the abdomen with a knife. A cab was called and the wounded man sent home. No arrests.

THOSE WHITE CAPS.

The Other Side of the Story from a Visitor at Holyoke.

HOLYOKE, Col., Dec. 24.—To the Editor of THE BEE: Although the trial of the so-called White Caps is progressing, and all is quiet among the people, the glowing reports sent out by resident correspondents are condemned by the best citizens, who recognize the White Cap charges as the outgrowth of the late bitter campaign, in which the defeated factions are venting their spleen on McPherson, the clerk-elect on the people's ticket. McPherson carried all but one precinct against both the democratic and republican candidates, against the united efforts of the R. & M. and the Lincoln townsite companies. McPherson's enemies grasped the opportunity to connect him with outrages to prejudice the people against him in the contest now pending. From appearances their efforts will prove futile. Judge Glynn is presiding carefully, and from every indication the trial will be a useless expense placed upon the county. Donivan of Holyoke and Allen of Sterling are showing splendid ability, and doing good work for the defense, as is also Garrigues of Greely for the state.

W. R. DAVIS.

On the Increase in Berlin.

BERLIN, Dec. 25.—The public health authorities report a great increase in the cases of influenza and aggravation of the disease, with an increase in the death rate. In Munich the disease is spreading and the hospitals are full.

There was a row at the dance at Washington hall last night. Two or three disorderly persons engaged in a riot and were arrested.

Ed Ball, a drunken man, was arrested last night for stealing a horse belonging to William Sievers, a Sixteenth street grocer. Ball found the horse tied and drove off with it.

SOUTH OMAHA NEWS.

Attempted to Murder His Wife.

John O. Gorman, a Third ward brute, residing on Thirty-second street between R and S streets, took a butcher knife Wednesday evening and attempted to carve his wife because she would not give him 10 cents to buy liquor with. The woman was not seriously injured. He is a hard case, and this will likely wind up his career.

Christmas Gifts.

The Omaha Packing company presented each of its married employes with a Christmas ham.

Messrs. Waggoner & Birney and Burke & Frazier remembered the employes of each division of the Union stock yards Christmas day, and the yard men fully appreciate the thoughtful kindness of these commission firms.

Superintendent James Boyle of the hog product department at the packing houses of Swift & Co., was the recipient of a valuable gold watch, chain and charm and an exquisite ring by the employes in his department.

Messrs. Burke & Frazier, the commission firm, presented the packing house buyers, Messrs. Patrick J. McGrath, Captain William H. Bell, Michael B. Maroney, Wham Wallwork, Jacob Lubman, John H. Wallwork, Leroy Hough, Theodore J. Sanders, Charles Hogart and John Moss each with an elegant silk umbrella.

The appreciating employes of the packing firm of Swift & Co. presented Superintendent A. C. Foster with a pair of elegant seal-skin gloves, a valuable chair and other acceptable Christmas tcementoes.

Cashier J. S. Bangs was remembered by the employes of the packing house of Swift & Co. by handsome gold ornaments.

Fred Walters of the engineer's department of the packing houses of Swift & Co. was remembered by fellow employes and carries a fine gold watch as a present for Christmas, 1889.

Back to Its Place.

The friends of South Omaha who were surprised to learn that it had fallen this year from third to seventh place in the hog packing industry will be pleased to learn that it has resumed its old standing, being led only by Chicago, with 1,070,000 hogs packed for the season; Kansas City, with 535,000, and is third, with 175,000, while Cincinnati, with 160,000, and Sioux City, with 156,000, occupy fifth and sixth places respectively.

Accidental Shooting.

J. C. Robinson, employed by McFarland & Holcroft, was accidentally shot in the left side by Frank Neil last night. The doctors pronounce the wound very dangerous but not necessarily fatal.

Notes About the City.

A. L. Day found a gold pen on the sidewalk in front of J. S. Rich's store on N street.

Arthur Rushford of the force in Swift & Co.'s packing houses was taken suddenly ill Wednesday morning.

John Cinoll of the Exchange hotel force and Miss Carrie Jelluck of Linwood were married in Omaha Tuesday and left at once for a visit with friends at North Bend.

Mrs. Joseph Cunzell is listed among the sick.

George Scharooski was slightly injured by having a load of wood overturn with him.

A regular old fashioned before-the-war old Virginia social and festival will be held by the congregation of the Christian church, Albright, Thursday evening.

Samuel Lillies of this city and Sallie Hohnan of Omaha have taken out a marriage to wed.

Charles F. Durand held ticket No. 155, and drew the horse and buggy raffled off at the Buckeye stables, Omaha.

About People.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Hayward Thursday morning will drive over to Creston, Ia., to make a short visit with friends.

John Carroll, who has been visiting friends in Iowa, is back receiving a warm welcome by friends.

Mrs. Kate Ball and Mrs. Sophronia Sonah have removed to Marshalltown, Ia.

John Schreamer has gone to St. Joseph to spend the holidays.

J. A. Hogle of North Bend spent Christmas with his brother, Hollis E. Hogle.

Mrs. Andrew Wishard of Ashland is the guest of Mr. and Mrs. John F. Ritchhart.

Constable A. C. McCracken is spending the holidays visiting his mother in Burlington, Ia.

Miss Ida Wolf, an accomplished young lady of Crete, is the guest of Miss Maud Hayward.

Messrs. W. T. Keenan, Courtney A. Horine, John F. Walters, and Charles F. Reddington, who accompanied the remains of the late Frank S. Dewey to Chicago, have returned. They state that the funeral was a very impressive one, largely attended and the floral offerings profuse.

J. B. Erion is home to spend the holidays.

M. C. Robinson, known in base ball circles as "Chub" Robinson, will leave Thursday for a ten days' visit with friends in Detroit, Mich.

Have you tried
McClurg's Pastry Wafer Sodas?
They are delicate, crisp and delicious.

LOVE POWDER OF NO AVAIL.

An Estranged St. Louis Wife Causes a Clairvoyant's Arrest.

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 25.—It was a story of witchery and deceit which Mrs. Kate Glesselmann poured into the ear of Assistant Prosecuting Attorney Dierkes at the Four Courts this morning. Later Mrs. Glesselmann told the same tale to a reporter. As a result of her application Mr. Dierkes issued a warrant, charging Mme. Marie, a local clairvoyant, with fraud. Mrs. Glesselmann lives at 2219 Franklin avenue. She is married, but has separated from her husband. The two have been married five years. Mrs. Glesselmann said: "At first my husband and I lived very happily together. Then we began to have trouble. It was partly his fault and partly mine. We were both in the wrong, but we could not see it at that time. We agreed to separate, I to have my child and he to contribute half of his earnings to our support That was almost two years ago. I saw my mistake after a few months, but my letters of penitence were never answered. I vainly tried in many ways to again win the love of my husband. Then I saw the advertisement of this woman and called on her. She said it was the easiest thing in the world to win him back. I gave her $10 and she gave me a black ball of some sort to throw in the river at midnight and call my husband's name when it touched the water. I did so, but it failed to work. I went to her again and she said I must have made some mistake. I gave her another $10 and she gave me some love powders to burn in the house at daybreak and nightfall, and while burning call my husband's name. Still he did not come. Then she gave me other charms, and as I had no money she took some of my pictures and furniture. The charms were no use. I told my friends about it and they said she was a fraud. I have sworn out a warrant against her."

Mme. Marie was arrested and gave bail.

TO CHECK MORMON POWER.

Governor Thomas of Utah Gives His Views on the Vexed Question.

PITTSBURG, Pa., Dec. 25. — Arthur L. Thomas, governor of Utah, who is a native of Pittsburg, is in the city visiting relatives. Talking to a reporter today he discussed Mormonism at some length. "It is a great mistake," he said, "to think that we have succeeded in breaking the political power of the Mormons in Utah. I should estimate the vote of Utah at about 25,000, of which a little more than 5,000 are Gentiles. Of the twenty-four counties the Mormons have control of all the county officials in twenty-three, and of 378 election precincts in the territory they control 352. Our victories in Salt Lake and Oregon have been a mere entering wedge in our fight against the Mormon church.

"My idea of the best plan for passing the control of the offices from the Mormons to the Gentiles is that about half the county officers, such as county recorders, assessors, selectmen, superintendents of schools and county clerks, should be appointed by federal authority. The recorderships are the most lucrative county offices in the territory, that at Salt Lake being worth from $30,000 to $35,000 a year. All county officers have to pay their 10 per cent tithe to the Mormon church, which gives that body from $100,000 to $150,000 a year to be used in Washington and elsewhere for its own benefit. These good positions are made hereditary among Mormons, descending from father to son. With the assessor they form the county board of equalization and control assessments and valuations. Apostate Mormons claim that these boards treat them unfairly as soon as they leave the church. The selectmen, with the superintendents of schools, control the appointment of teachers and educational affairs generally, which is a particularly important matter. It is necessary to attack the political power of the Mormons by some such method as that I have suggested. I believe that the government will favorably consider the plan."

THE BUG-BEAR OF HIGH LIFE.

How Maids are the Torments of Fashionable Women.

A maid used to be considered a luxury. Now she is the torment of the fashionable woman's life. If she is English her manners are very good for awhile—she does her duty and is well behaved. But six months in this enlightened country and her quiet manners become insolent; she can't dress you without referring to the dutchesses and countesses upon whom she has waited before; she scorns your table and reads your letters and knows exactly how much money you have in your pocketbook, says the New York Sun. If you should object to any of her weaknesses and summon up courage enough to discharge her, you had better have her trunks examined before she leaves and you will be wise if you tell your husband all about her, for the chances are that, pretending to know something about you, she will attempt a little scheme of blackmail immediately after she has left.

If she is French she stays just long enough to get acquainted with American habits and then she leaves you in a great hurry, either to marry the cook and open a small restaurant, or go into the hairdressing business. The Irish or Scotch maids are usually honest, usually impertinent, usually know little, but are as faithful as dogs, so that because of their virtues you may forgive them the rest. There are women in New York who do not dare to discharge maids—who live in deadly terror of what they are going to do next; who have been foolish enough to let them find out something, it may be a little something that they do not want either mother or husband to know—and so the maid levies tribute, gets irocks that have only been worn once, has her wages paid her in advance, and is worse than any skeleton at a feast, because she is with you nearly all the time. Not long ago at a smart luncheon served by a gorgeous butler and three footmen, a woman said: "O, dear, I think I shall go crazy if they put in it a paragraph about me." The reference was made to a personal paper. The hostess looked silence at her guest, and after the servants had left the room said: "My dear, why in the world did you say that before the servants? You evidently do not know the English one. My butler is perfectly capable of writing you a letter demanding a certain sum of money or threatening just such a paragraph as you dread. The English servant has no more idea of honor than a cannibal, and not as much, for a cannibal eats you out and out, and does not make life horrible by spinning out the agony."

When it is thought what an easy life a good maid has it seems strange that more women, by learning hair dressing and by learning to be systematic, do not apply for such positions. She is seldom asked to eat with the rest os the household; she has much time to go out, and her work is always easily done and not dirty. A good maid is far beyond rubies when it comes to a question of value to her mistress, and rather than stand all day long behind a counter, get small wages and poor food to eat, and no time to call my own except when I was so tired I could not enjoy it, I would study the art of dressing people, saving them steps, of doing their hair, of keeping their wardrobes in order—in short, of being a perfect treasure of a maid, and a perfect treasure of a maid can get $50 a moth, a plensant room, a great deal of time to herself, and a number of presents. The perfect maid, like the perfect woman, is hard to find.

A BIRD WITNESSES A MURDER.

The Whippoorwill's Mind Affected by What He Sees.

The New York Sun's correspondent tells the story as it came to him from the lips of a reputable citizen of Austin, Texas: "In the suburbs of the city there stands in what is known as Horses' Pasture a solitary oak, under which, at 1 o'clock upon a dark and quiet night, a man was foully murdered. He was in the possession of money which he had foolishly displayed in a saloon, and when he started for home he was followed by two men, who offered to drive him to his destination. Too drunk to be cautious, he accepted and was taken into their wagon. They drove aimlessly about until he fell asleep, and then proceeded to this gaunt oak, under whose branches the deed of death was done.

"There happened to be in the branches at the time a whippoorwill that saw the foul deed, watching each motion with an interest so intense that it attracted the attention of the murderers. And since then upon every night at the stroke of 1 the bird comes back to his resting place, and, in a note that is far more plaintive than the usual-utterance of its kind, sends forth the peculiar 'whip-poor-will!' He never fails; his song is heard at no other time, and no other bird is ever seen upon that tree. I do not attempt to account for this. I only tell it as it is."

PUGNACITY IN A WOMAN.

A Refined Lady Controlled for a Time by a Pugilist's Spirit.

It was at a spiritualistic seance in San Francisco, and the Chronicle is responsible for the story. She is a refined, sensitive, educated, womanly woman; but she went to a spiritualistic meeting at a medium's establishment. There were several other ladies there, and suddenly she found herself attacked by a curious nervousness, which developed into an insane desire to tear the Psyche knot off the back of the woman's head in front of her. The sensation then began to increase in volume and change in character. She felt inclined to double her fist and hit out from the shoulder. It kept increasing until she could no longer resist, and she rose and strode across the room and, banging her fist on the table, called out in a decidedly masculine tone:

"Oh, I would just like to clean this room out! Wow!"

Then she came to her senses and with many blushes and much confusion began apologizing to the company. They did not seem at all moved or surprised.

"Don't apologize, Mrs. ——. It's nothing," said the medium. "You were simply controlled by Yankee Sullivan."

When John Arnold, aged seventy-eight, goes whirling through Providence, R. I., on a bicycle, the Rhode Islanders are certainly pardonable for opening their eyes and mouths very wide.

NELLIE BLY.

Her Struggles for a Foothold in New York City.

"Nellie Bly," the young woman who is now "putting a girdle 'round about the earth," is a Pittsburg girl. She has, says the Philadelphia Inquirer, been engaged in writing for newspapers a little more than three years. Her first attempt to gain a livelihood with her pen was made early in 1886 on the Pittsburg Dispatch. She had written a communication to that journal on the condition of working women in the city of Pittsburg, and there was so much original thought in her deductions that she was requested to send her name and address to the editor. With this she complied, and as a result she was engaged to follow up several of the suggestions she had made.

"Nellie Bly's" first important mission was a trip to Mexico, where she traveled for six months, learning to speak Spanish with fair fluency in that time.

When "Miss Bly" returned to Pittsburg she was put in charge of the society column of the Dispatch, alternating this work with writing theatrical notices and criticisms and in preparing articles on woman's work. With her added experience these papers attracted attention in New York and were frequently reproduced in the metropolitan dailies. This gave "Miss Bly" the idea that she could better herself in New York, and she secured a letter of introduction to Joe Howard jr. from one of her newspaper friends in Pittsburg.

Arrived in New York she presented her letter and was given several large chunks of fatherly advice and the cheerful opinion that she had made a big mistake and ought to go home. She didn't go, but sought out Foster Coates, managing editor of the Mail and Express. It was just at this time that Andrew Carnegie, the millionaire, had taken unto himself a bride, and it was estimated that if Miss Bly could interview Mrs. Carnegie such service might be acceptable. Small hope was held out that success would attend this effort, as the most expert interviewers had tried it and failed. "Miss Bly" started in, and by perseverence and the exercise of a little feminine diplomacy obtained a complete and exhaustive talk upon every subject that would be of interest to woman readers.

Like all beginners in newspaper work in the big city "Miss Bly" speedily reached that period when it appeared that there was not a single new thing under the sun to write about. She thought and thought, and tried and tried, but met rebuffs at every turn. She was boarding at a modest little boarding house way up in Harlem, where the fare was just about generous enough to support life, because of the moderate price paid for it. Cheap as this living was, it could not be paid for without an income. The little store of money that the girl had hoarded was becoming rapidly exhausted. She was indebted to her landlady and could not meet the obligation. To make matters worse "Miss Bly" one day lost her purse, and with it every dollar she possessed in the world.

This misfortune did not discourage her, however, and she was too proud to make her loss known. Every day she walked six to eight miles because she had actually no money to pay car fare. The situation began to look desperate. Days were slipping by and the board bill was growing. Something had to be done, so, without much hope of success, letters of introduction were obtained from Joe Howard to every editor in New York. After a struggle and the exercise of a most extraordinary amount of patient perseverance interviews were obtained with the editors or editors-in-charge of the Herald, the Sun, the Times, and the Tribune. Not one of them professed to believe that "Nellie Bly" would be a profitable investment. The old and favorite method of politely disposing of the applicant by taking her name and address was adopted, and Miss Bly was informed that if her services were needed she would receive a notification by mail.

Then the young woman, who refused to be disheartened, betook herself to the office of the World, and secured an audience with Joseph Pulitzer. It took the proprietor of the World about fifteen minutes to make up his mind that "Nellie Bly" might be made useful. He engaged her and for her first assignment she was directed to visit the department for the insane on Blackwell's Island, ostensibly as an insane patient, and describe its workings thoroughly. These instructions were carried out and resulted in one of the most remarkable stories of its kind ever printed in a newspaper.

For three days "Nellie Bly" rehearsed her part. She bought books on insanity and studied carefully all its phases. She stood in front of a mirror with disheveled hair and practiced rolling her eyes and contorting her features until she felt that she had studied her part well and knew it. It had been agreed that she should remain in the asylum for six days and then her release would be secured. With her raiment disarranged and the pretended glare of insanity in her eyes she wandered into a police station, seemingly too much demented to give anything more than her name—Nellie Brown. Justice Patrick Gavin Duffy committed her to Blackwell's Island, and on the following day the snewspapers contained accounts of the mysterious young woman who had been found wandering in the streets with reason dethroned. Dr. Field, one of the most eminent alienists in the country, pronounced the patient to be "hopelessly insane." Hundreds of visitors came to see her, but not one of them could tell who the stranger was. On the fifth day the patient made a narrow escape from discovery. She had learned to bear the scrutiny to which she was subjected daily with tolerable composure, and when on that day she was touched on the shoulder by the nurse and turned around she almost fainted. There stood a Pittsburg newspaper man who had known her well in her own home. He was then employed on a New York newspaper and had been directed to investigate the case of the mysterious stranger. The recognition was mutual, and the newspaper man was so astonished that he couldn't speak. He had no idea that Nellie was shamming, and thought that she had become suddenly insane. He was just on the point of making the girl's identity known when she, divining his purpose, got close up to him and whispered: "Don't betray me; will explain later." The visitor understood the situation in a moment, and gave a glance that meant compliance with the request.

Nellie Brown remained in the institution for thirteen days. She thought she had been forgotten, and actually began to believe that she was doomed to remain forever in the world of lunatics. Relief came at last, and then the story of her experiences, which set the town by the ears and created consternation among the officers of the asylum.

Steve Franklin's Ramble.

One of the most marvelous freaks of somnambulism ever known in Brunswick, Ga., is described in the Macon Telegraph. The participant in the semi-conscious night perambulation was a negro named Steve Franklin, and the course of his stroll was from Brunswick to the new docks and return. Franklin is a day laborer at the new docks and assists in loading vessels with cotton. He usually returns to the city about 6 o'clock in the evening and spends the night. In order to reach his work in due time next morning he leaves Brunswick at 4 o'clock. One night last week, about 10 o'clock, he arose from his bed, dressed himself and struck out for the scene of labor. On arriving he discovered that he had forgotten his dinner, and at once reversed himself and returned to Brunswick. He was just entering the city when he suddenly awoke. It was several minutes before he could take in the situation, and then he was so badly frightened as to almost go into convulsions.

FASTER THAN THE WIND.

An Enormous Engine Which Runs Ninety Miles an Hour.

On the Big Four road, between Cincinnati and Indianapolis, is an engine which advances the maximum speed limit enormously, says the Indianapolis News. It is one of five engines built according to the patent of an inventor named Strong, and is being tested by the Big Four people. The engine is built for both strength and speed, and the tests of it have shown wonderful results. It is claimed for it that it is capable of hauling a heavy passenger train at the rate of from seventy-five to ninety miles per hour, and the tests made this week, while not severe, have tended to sustain the claim. Superintendent Bender timed it on an eight-mile run east of the city. The eight miles were covered in six minutes with perfect ease, not the slightest evidence of straining being perceptible.

The engine itself contains many novel features in construction. It has cylinders in which the escape of steam, after it has been used, is so arranged as to be a vast improvement over the common arrangement. The boiler is very long, and there are two fire-boxes. An ingenious contrivance consumes the gases and smoke, so that economy in the use of fuel is one of the advantages claimed. The fireman has a cab to himself at the rear of the boiler, while the engineer occupies a separate cab perched on the top of the boiler, a little to the rear of the center. The engine weighs sixty-five tons, and rests upon eighteen wheels. Its drivers are sixty-eight inches in diameter.

Probably the fastest run on record was made recently on the Canada Southern road by a special train bearing the Vanderbilt party. The track was straight and fine, and the train ran 107 miles in ninety-seven minutes.

According to a computation just issued by an eminent statistician, the cost in human life of the wars of the last thirty-four years has been 2,254,000 souls. The Crimean war cost 750,000 men; the Italian war (1859) 45,000; the Danish war (1864) 3,000; the American civil war—the northern states 280,000, the southern states 523,000; the Austro-Prussian war 45,000; the Franco-German war—France 155,000, Germany 60,000; the Turko-Russian war 250,000; the South African wars 30,000; the Afghan war 25,000; the Mexican and Cochin-Chinese expeditions 65,000, and the Bulgario-Servian insurrection 25,000. This list does not include mortality from sickness.

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Millard Hotel News Stand.
Murray Hotel News Stand.
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Windsor Hotel News Stand.
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W. R. Picard, 1723 St. Mary's avenue.
J. W. Martin, 1209 Park avenue.
Jos. Timmons, 30th and Lake, cable depot.
G. D. Gilmer, 1523 Leavenworth.
F. Stuben, 1104 N. 17th street.
M. E. Lawrence, 215 S. 15th.
A. L. Keith, 219 S. 15th street.
E. Alpine, 1305 Douglas.
W. J. Bonner, 1320 Douglas.

DRUG STORES.

S. E. Howell, corner Leavenworth and South Twenty-ninth.
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ELEVATOR BOYS.

Geo. Cooper, Mercants' Bank building.

SOUTH OMAHA.

J. S. Stott, Postoffice.
G. Reuther, at news stand and on street.

Patrons of THE BEE will notice the above new agencies at drug stores and elevators, which have been placed for the further accommodation and convenience of BEE readers.

Persons who fail to procure THE BEE when wanted, will confer favor by reporting facts to the BEE office.

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