ANOTHER OMAHA SMELTER

It Will Be Established on the Belt Line.

TONS OF ORE ARE IN SIGHT.

S. H. H. Clark Endeavoring to Induce Jay Gould to Extend the Missouri Pacific Road to Yankton.

Reducing Ore.

John Smiley has gone east to inquire into some new schemes for reducing ore which are now in operation in that part of the country.

He says he intends with several other capitalists to erect smelting works in this city. The place selected is the tract of land immediately east of the present fair grounds, which is reached by the Elkhorn & Missouri Valley, the Missouri Pacific, the Chicago, St. Paul, Minneapolis & Omaha, the Union Pacific and H. & M. roads.

The men associated with him are possessed of means and are also interested in mines which have tons of ore ready to ship. Some of these have invested heavily in reduction works near their mines, but have found that the ores cannot be worked without fusion with other ores which cannot be had in the vicinity. These ores could be brought to this city from other points and used in the reduction, which would render valuable a vast amount of material which is now comparatively worthless.

There is plenty of material, he holds, to keep another smelting works running day and night and Mr. Smiley says he intends that it shall be built.

ON TO YANKTON.

S. H. H. Clark Endeavoring to Extend the Missouri Pacific.

It is understood that S. H. H. Clark, general manager of the Missouri Pacific, left St. Louis last Saturday for New York, the object of his mission being to consult Gould about extending their line from Omaha to Yankton. Mr. Clark is quite anxious regarding this matter, and will use all his influence to push it through.

Vice President Holcombe said before leaving Omaha that no action would be taken at present toward the appointment of a successor to the late Francis Cope, as general freight and passenger agent at Salt Lake City. Mr. Parker is in charge of the office now and possibly may be retained permanently.

The cut in passenger rates has not reached Omaha as yet, but it is bound to come if insisted on by the Burlington & Northern from Chicago to St. Paul. There is no possible way of preventing such a result unless the association of railroad presidents should have power and influence enough to force matters. Missouri river lines must either meet these reductions or lose business destined to Portland, Seattle, Puget Sound, Victoria and other northwest Pacific coast points. The tariff making $9 and $7 schedules on first and second class tickets respectively, to St. Paul, applies as well on all business over the Northern Pacific to Portland, therefore, unless the other transcontinental lines effected thereby do the same, they surrender all claims to any portion of that traffic. However, since the reduction there is confined to that portion of the route between Chicago and St. Paul, it will have to come here, east of the river. Unless the Northern Pacific should add an additional reduction to that made by the Burlington & Northern the Union Pacific is compelled to depend upon its eastern connections meeting the rate and thus keeping its Portland business intact. This system is very liable to bring about a great revolution in western rates. But it will not come unless the Kansas City lines get troublesome. If they should sail in and make the same rates to Kansas City as the Burlington & Northern give St. Paul and as the Iowa lines must make to Omaha there will be a lively war. St. Louis, Memphis, Louisville and Cincinnati will then be brought into the fight, and nothing can stop them from seeking revenge by knocking the bottom out entirely.

Mr. Ward of the Mobile & Ohio road has been quoted as saying that he favors the removal of differentials and placing south bound Omaha rates on an equality with Kansas City. This seems to amuse freight agents here very much. They say that Mr. Ward has nothing whatever to do with this matter and exposes his ignorance by allowing his expressions to get into print. His road stops at St. Louis and all differentials talked about by him exist north of that point.

C. S. Mellen's illness has developed an abscess in his head which threatens serious results. It comes from an attack of Russian influenza, that annoying epidemic so prevalent all over the country. It effected W. N. Babcock the same way though his gathering broke Sunday and he is now on the road to recovery. Mr. Mellen's condition is reported to be quite alarming though his friends believe that he will recover.

S. S. Stevens, general agent of the Rock Island, left for Chicago yesterday. It is understood that upon his return he will leave for Los Angeles and take the agency for the same road at that point.

A Well Established Fact.

The fact has been abundantly proven that Chamberlain's Cough Remedy is the most prompt, most reliable and most successful medicine yet discovered for acute throat and lung diseases, such as coughs, colds and croup.

Maryon-Wheeler.

At high noon yesterday Miss J. L. Wheeler, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. S. E. Wheeler, 1814 Webster, was united in matrimony with Mr. E. A. Maryon, a commercial traveler well known in Omaha. The wedding occurred at the bride's home. The parlors were darkened for the occasion and a dozen wax candles in each room shed a soft light. Dean Gardner performed the ceremony. The "Wedding March" was played by Meyer's orchestra. The bride was prettily attired in a dress of cream albatross with brocade satin front. The trimmings were of white ribbons and lace. She wore La France roses. Mr. J. A. Jopp acted as best man and Miss Ida Wheeler as bridesmaid. After congratulations the friends and relatives present sat down to a fine wedding dinner. A reception followed until 7 p. m. At that time the happy couple took the train for their future home in Salt Lake City.

Plattdeutsche Verein.

The Plattdeutsche verein celebrated its sixth anniversary Monday night at Germania hall. It was a private affair, only members and invited guests being admitted. Good singing was rendered by the musical club, under the direction of Prof. Dworzack. At midnight an excellent supper was served, after which dancing continued up to an early hour in the morning. Prof. Thiele furnished very good music. The arrangement committee were P. F. Anderson, John Roeschman and H. Boselin. The Plattdeutscher-verein is the strongest German society in Omaha, having a membership of nearly three hundred, comprising many of the leading Germans in the city.

Pears' is the best and purest soap ever made.

Stewart Succeeds Jacobsen.

John M. Jacobsen, deputy collector of internal revenue at Hastings, will end his official career January 15. Deputy Marshal R. Q. Stewart of the United States court says that he has for some time been promised Jacobsen's shoes, but has received no official notification of his appointment.

If you are aware of the success attending the use of Dr. Thomas Jefferis' preventive and cure for diphtheria (during the last 25 years) and permit your children to die without giving it a trial, "their blood is on your head." Best of references given. Mortality under other treatments, 50 to 100 per cent. Under treatment of Dr. Jefferis' remedy less than one in 1,000. Address lock box 657, Omaha, Neb., or sent by express C. O. D. Price $3.00.

WEBSTER'S WORK.

He Tells How He Has Served the City.

CITY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE, OMAHA, Neb., Jan. 1, 1890.—To the Honorable the Mayor and the City Council of the City of Omaha—Gentlemen: I have the honor to submit herewith my report as city attorney, for the year ending January 1, 1890.

At the expiration of my predecessor's term of office, in May, 1887, it was reported by Mr. Connell that there "were pending in the several courts, 157 suits against the city, involving claims to the amount of $203,043.42." After a term of two and one-half year's service, I am able to report that, notwithstanding the fact that a large number of cases were commenced, growing out of the extensive improvements throughout the city, and added to by reason of the growth of the city, so large a number of cases have been disposed of by me that I shall leave to my successor only about two-thirds as many cases as were turned over to myself. Although during the year 1889, seventy-four new suits were commenced against the city—a larger number than were ever commenced in any one previous year—I leave only a total of 108 cases now pending, out of the accumulation of cases for several years past.

During the past year seventy-one cases have been finally disposed of, aggregating a money value of $125,000. Of this large number of cases, only three were decided adversely to the city, upon final trials fourteen were settled for small sums of money, by direction of the mayor and city council, and fifty-four of these cases were disposed of in favor of the city of Omaha.

Of the amount of money involved in the suits disposed of during the last year, if the amount claimed by the suitors is to be the criterion of value, there was saved to the city in these litigation $118,000. During my entire term of office I have disposed of 190 suits, involving claims to the amount of $400,000.

When I took the office there was in the judgment fund $12,724.37. That fund has been accumulating until today there is in the judgment fund $71,259.45, notwithstanding the fact that for the year 1889 no tax was levied for that fund. The sum remaining in the judgment fund is amply sufficient, under any ordinary circumstances, to carry on the affairs of the city without the levying of any tax for that fund for the year 1890. An examination of the judgment fund discloses that a less sum of money has been paid out of that fund during the years that I have held the office of city attorney than during a like period of time for many years past.

The duties of the office of city attorney are very burdensome, and there are yet pending many suits of great importance, touching the taxing power of the city for local improvements. There are some cases pending in the supreme court of the state, involving the constitutionality of the provision of the charter authorizing the taxation of benefits, where land has been taken for the extension of streets.

I do not report herewith a tabulated statement of the suits pending, as it would be of no value to the public. I have in my office a complete docket of all pending suits, containing a brief history thereof, together with copies of all the files and records therein, which, when turned over to my successor, will furnish him all the information necessary to take charge thereof, and fully understand the same.

I wish to thank his honor the mayor, and the members of the city council, as a body, and individually and personally, for their uniform manifestation of kindness and courtesy extended to me during the term of my official service. Respectfully submitted,

JOHN L. WEBSTER, city attorney.

Announcements.

This morning at 9 o'clock seats for the engagement of Eugene Tompkin's Boston theater company in the great melodrama "Mankind," will be put on sale. No melodrama since "The Silver King" has had the success in the eastern cities that "Mankind" has. It will be produced by a magnificent cast and a wealth of scenic effects.

Mr. W. H. Thompson in the character of Daniel Groodge, does a piece of character acting that is worthy to rank with Captain Cuttle and Mr. Florence. So vivid and startling a picture of a grasping, feeble old wretch, tottering on the edge of the grave, hugging his own passion—the love of gold—has not been seen in drama in years. Forest Robinson, S. E. Springer, Clarence Heritage, Alf. Fisher, Herbert Ayling, James L. Carhart, Misses Sibyl Johnstone, Maggie Holloway, Marie Greenwald, and little Gertie Bosswell, have prominent characters and contribute effectual aid to the production.

James Fort, agent of Monroe & Rice's musical farce comedy, "My Aunt Bridget," which will be at the Boyd on the first three evenings of next week, is in the city.

Succeeds Himself.

Official notice of the approval by congress of Mr. Peters' appointment as collector of internal revenue in the Omaha office was received at the revenue headquarters yesterday.

Mr. Peters' appointment was made during a recess of congress and he entered upon the duties of the position before that legislative body passed upon his appointment.

According to the constitution of the United States this is perfectly legal, but his position meanwhile is only temporary and the disapproval of the appointment by congress would have ended his official career. Now that congress has approved the appointment he will have to go through the form of succeeding himself. He must renew his bonds and have new bondsmen chosen or the old ones re-chosen to go his security as permanent instead of temporary collector and disbursing agent.

Mr. Peters is at present at Albion, but will return in a few days when he will go through the formality of ending his uncertain term and entering upon the duties of his permanent position.

Bogford's Case.

A paragraph was published in Monday's Bee about a bogus engineer named Bogford, who claimed to be a member of the engineers' association. It was also stated that an engineer named Hodson had offered in consideration of $50, $12 of which had been paid, to secure his appointment as engineer in a very important institution in this city.

Leading members of the association say that Bogford never has been a member of the organization and that the report was circulated with a desire to injure it.

They also say that at the next meeting on Friday the action of Mr. Hodson will be discussed by the association, and that he will be punished for the part he has played in the transaction.

SOUTH OMAHA NEWS.

Proceedings of the City Council.

Steps will be constructed from Twenty-sixth street to the railroad tracks south of the Q street viaduct to cost not more than $15. The license to sell liquor granted to George Palmer, may be used in the Second instead of the First ward.

Special ordinances Nos. 12, 17 and 18 were passed. No. 12, for assessing the cost of paving N street assessed the property to the alleys dividing the squares north and south of N street. Messrs. Melcher, Boyd, McMillan, Johnston and Savage voting for it. Nos. 17 and 18 were for assessing the expense of grading done on Twenty-fourth street by C. H. Prichett and Daniel Cash.

After spending nearly the whole evening on C. M. O'Donovan's claim for several thousand dollars the matter was cut short by postponing it till the next meeting, to be taken up in the presence of the committee on streets and alleys of last year's council. While this matter was being discussed ex-City Engineer H. H. Lawrence was called in and catechised, but calmly and courteously answered all questions by requesting a verification by the records in the engineer's office, which would show all to a certainty.

The finance committee will collect from the South Omaha land company the amount subscribed to help build the L street viaduct.

The lighting of that viaduct was indefinitely postponed. City Treasurer Thomas Geary's request for an assistant was refused. George W. Makepeace's bill of $15 for trying seven city cases was cut down to $10 and allowed.

The following bills were referred: James P. Maloney, $37; Marie City Hopper, $10; Charles Split, $17.50; Holmes & Smith, $53.85; Nebraska Telephone company, $14.75; Burness & Parks, $55; Athow & Co., $12.50; L. T. Sunderland & Co., $15; American Water Works company, $1,711.02; Carter Manufacturing company, $5.35; Millspaugh & Caddington, $20.50; Gibson, Miller & Richardson, 75 cents.

Bills as follows were approved and warrants authorized: Mayor William G. Sloane $41.67, St. Joseph's hospital $5.00, engineer's department $311, police department $405, Mayfield Brothers $14.15, L. F. Hilton $101.50, Daniel Enas $13.50, Patrick Rowley $76, Z. P. Hedges $25, fire department $185, street department $280.10, E. T. Farnsworth $50, Thomas Geary $25, Clark Howard $50, city clerk's department $81.67, council department $180.60, L. W. Wolf $202, Midland electric light company $22.92, Magic City Boomer 85 cents, South Omaha lumber company $13.51. Total $2,287.62.

Adjourned to meet Monday evening, January 20.

Board of Education Meeting.

President Person, Secretary Carroll and Messrs. VanAken, Honan and Slate were present at Monday's meeting of the board of education. Secretary Carroll read a letter from County Superintendent Bruner, stating that "on advice of the county attorney I have this day divided the $1,009.01 in the hands of the county treasurer to the credit of old school district No. 37, and have allotted $559.01 thereof to school district No. 1 and $350 thereof to school district No. 3."

The following bills were ordered paid: Eggers & Bock, $786.60; J. C. Carroll, $25; Thomas Fox, $35.52; Holmes & Smith, $18.00; Bruce & Carpenter, $2; Spellman & Blair, $190; Rowland & Bradford, $195.40; Brewer & Sullivan, 60 cents; J. W. Edgerton, $40; Strang & Clark, $220. The building committee was directed to get the the advice of the board's attorney whether the contract for the plumbing can be taken from Robert Parks & Co., or whether the board must notify Parks & Co.'s bondsmen that they will be held for all damages by delay or otherwise. The services of Superintendent W. H. Spellman were again engaged. The superintendent and committee on teachers may employ Miss Sadie Spellman as a substitute teacher. Miss Augusta Mahn, the substitute teacher, will report every morning to the superintendent and will receive $25 per month when idle. Janitor Fox of the Third ward will receive $40 per month during the next three months and after that time $35 per month. Superintendent Munroe is authorized to endorse teachers' certificates till the meeting of the examining board in March.

Electric Light Election.

At the annual election of the South Omaha electric light and power company, Messrs. C. M. Hunt, David Anderson, C. F. Fahs, A. J. Baldwin, Fred M. Smith, Peter Cockrell, Charles W. Key, John L. Miles and E. A. Howland were elected directors. The directors will meet Friday afternoon at 2 o'clock to organize.

Notes About the City.

Members of Robert R. Livingston post, No. 283, Grand Army of the Republic, will go to Omaha Friday evening to attend the Grand Army of the Republic public installation in Goodrich hall.

J. L. Martin drew the horse and buggy raffled off at the exchange.

The final game of the Emmon billiard tournament will be played Saturday evening. Messrs. Z. Cuddington, Arthur W. Saxe, A. N. Millspaugh and Eli H. Doud are the contestants.

The county board of the Ancient Order of Hibernians will be in Sheridan & Clair's office, New York Life building, Omaha, Wednesday evening at 8 o'clock.

THE INFERNITO.

A Region Which Abounds in Asphalt and Petroleum.

Some strange natural phenomena are described in a recent report from the United States consul at Maracaibo, in Venezuela. That part of the department of Colon situated between the rivers Santa Ana and Zulia and the Sierra of the Colombian frontier is very rich in asphalt and petroleum, says Nature. The information we have regarding this extensive and interesting region, which is an uninhabited forest, is derived chiefly from the reports of the searchers after balsam copaiba, which abounds; but the following data were taken from the personal observations of an American gentleman who made a special exploration. Near the Rio de Oro, at the foot of the Sierra, there is a very curious phenomenon, consisting of a horizontal cave, which constantly ejects thick bitumen in the form of large globules. These globules explode at the mouth of the cave with a noise loud enough to be heard at a considerable distance; and the bitumen, forming a slow current, falls finally into a large deposit of the same substance, near the river bank. The territory bounded by the rivers Zulia and Catatumbo and the Cordillera is rich in deposits and flows of asphalt and petroleum, especially towards the south, where the latter is very abundant. At a distance of little more than seven kilometers from the confluence of the Tara and the Sardinete, there is a sand mound of from twenty-five to thirty feet in height, within an area of about eight thousand square feet. On its surface are a multitude of cylindrical holes of different sizes, which eject with violence streams of petroleum and hot water, causing a noise equal to that produced by two or three steamers blowing off instantaneously. For a long distance from the site of this phenomenon the ground is covered or impregnated with petroleum. The few explorers for copaiba who have visited this place call it the Infernito (little hell). Among other things, it is stated that from one only of these streams of petroleum was filled in one minute a receptacle of the capacity of four gallons. This represents 240 gallons in an hour, or 5,760 gallons in twenty-four hours; and even if this calculation is somewhat exaggerated, the fact remains that such a considerable number of petroleum jets in constant active operation must produce daily an enormous quantity. This petroleum is of excellent quality, with a density of eighty-three degrees, which is a sufficient grade for foreign markets. Considering the immense amount of inflammable gases which must be given out by the flows and deposits of petroleum as described above, it may be easily believed that this has direct bearing upon the phenomenon known since the conquest as the Faro of Maracaibo. This, consisting of constant lighting without explosion, may be observed toward the south from the bar at the entrance to the lake, and Goddazzi in his geography, explains it as being caused by the vapors arising from the hot water swamp situated about one league from the mouth of the Escalante, at the southern extremity of the lake. Near the mountains, and not far from the River Turondoy, there are various flows of substance which seems to be distinct from either asphalt or petroleum. It is a liquid of a black color, with little density, and strongly impregnated with carbonic acid, and is almost identical with a substance met with in the United States among the great anthracite fields.

Mr. Labouchere on Two Sultans.

I read last week with interest a letter from a Turk that appeared in a contemporary, says the London Truth. The writer is incorrect in saying that the present Sultan is insane, and that there is a strong party desirous to replace him by the ex-Sultan Murad, who has recovered his wits. Murad was never mad, but he was always drunk. Possibly, he has not been allowed an unlimited supply of liquor of late, and is, therefore, more frequently sober. The present Sultan is the son of a Kurd slave who was in the harem of his reputed father. His real father, it is believed, was an Armenian coachman attached to the court. Far from being mad he has all the sharpness of an Armenian. He is an abject coward and he is probably making a curse for himself, as he is as ready as any pasha to take bribes. The writer of the letter also alludes eulogistically to the late Midhat Pasha. Every one who resided in Constantinople during the career of this worthy is aware that he was one of the vilest among the vile.

A WORM IN THE EYE.

Curious Case in the Practice of a Bridgeport Physician.

Not long since a well-dressed and intelligent appearing lady called at the office of Dr. F. J. Young, on State street, stating that she had a worm in one of her eyes, desired to have it removed, says the Bridgeport (Conn.) Standard. Dr. Young was somewhat surprised at the novel proposition, and made a careful examination of the eye said to be inhabited by the strange tenant, but was unable to discover anything and told the lady that she must be laboring under a mistake, and he could find nothing abnormal about the eye. She replied that the worm was quiet just then, but had been giving her considerable trouble by its activity of late, and on that account she desired to have it removed. She then picked up a hand-glass lying on the office table, and while looking into it the doctor, who was meanwhile scrutinizing the eye, saw suddenly a worm-like object crawling under the skin across the upper lid of the eye indicated, and the lady herself exclaimed: "There it is." Dr. Young acted promptly and taking up a fold of the lid between his thumb and forefinger, so as to inclose the object and hold it, cut open the lid with a pair of sharp scissors and with fine tweezers seized hold of and extracted from between the inner and outer skin of the lid a live, hair-like worm, about two inches long and having a clearly defined head. This singular find squirmed as the doctor held it upon the tweezers, but it soon died upon exposure to the air. The lady stated that she was a missionary, and had been stationed at Benita, on the west coast of Africa, near Gaboon, and in that particular section this phenomenon of a worm in the eye was not unusual, as a large number of the natives and many of the missionaries were similarly affected. She herself has had one extracted from her other eye at Basle, Switzerland, by Dr. Hugler, and she thought that one or two similar operations had been performed elsewhere—one in this country. The natives of Africa who are thus affected do not generally pay any special attention to the matter, and the worm in time disappears, causing no apparent trouble. Sometimes it appears on the ball of the eye under the outer covering, which is transparent, and then the natives prick through the outer skin and extract it with a sharp thorn which has a hooked point or barb. As a general thing, however, they do not attempt to meddle with the intruder. As it is probable that not more than one other such case has ever occurred in this country, this one occasions considerable interest among physicians and surgeons, and the matter is being looked up. The singular specimen is preserved in glycerine, and is now in the possession of Dr. F. M. Wilson, the oculist. It is double from the head for more than half its length, and is a peculiar and very interesting specimen.

NEW YORK'S ARISTOCRACY.

Origin of the Wealth of the Astor's, Vanderbilts and Lorillards.

An old inhabitant writes to the New York Times: John Jacob Astor had his store in Vesey street in the building in which Dr. Halleck lived. Fitz Green Halleck, the doctor's son, was one of Astor's clerks. Old Astor got his start in life by hiring out to a furrier to beat furs—keeping the moths out of them—at $1 a day. He was economical and saving, and presently began to buy cat furs and muskrat furs, and when he had accumulated them he took them to England and sold them at a large profit. Then he established his own business here, and extended his connections westward and northward until he became the largest dealer in the country.

Commodore Vanderbilt was at this time running a "perry-auger" (perigua—a small ferry boat carrying two masts and a lee-board) between quarantine station and the city, and was becoming very popular with boatman and others who were thrown in his way. Fulton & Livingston owned an exclusive charter to run steamboats between New York and Albany, and the monopoly was paying immensely. Two old Jerseymen then started an opposition line, but as they could not run direct between New York to Albany they got around the difficulty by going from New York to Jersey City and making that the starting point for Albany. The encountered all sorts of difficulties, however, the monopolists going so far as to willfully run their boats down and otherwise crippling them, and they were threatened with bankruptcy.

One of the proprietors was at New Dorp one day when he asked old Mr. Guion if he knew of a man who was competent to take hold of their line and make a success of it. 'Yes,' said Guion, 'I know such a man. His name is Cornelius Vanderbilt. He'll take your boats to the mouth of hell if you want him to.' 'That's just the man I want,' was the response, and in a little while the bargain was concluded and Cornelius Vanderbilt took charge of the line. The monopolists tried every possible means to prevent the line from doing business in New York, and at last put a sheriff on board with instructions to arrest Vanderbilt if he should attempt to move the steamer from the wharf. Vanderbilt got all ready to go, and then stood by with an ax, and when the wheels began to revolve and there was a good strain on the hawser he up with his ax and cut the hawser and steamed away to Albany with the sheriff on board. A continuation of his vigorous policy finally broke up the Fulton & Livingston monopoly and established the opposition line on a profitable basis.

Vanderbilt's daughters were a wild kind of girls. They were perfectly at home everywhere on Staten island and were very popular. I used to see them in a grocery over there, sitting on the counter and swinging their feet, and talking to the young fellows who were chaffing them.

The Lorillards had a snuff and tobacco business and they made a great deal of money out of it. There were three brothers of them—Jacob and Peter and George. Jacob had a butcher shop up near the Bowery theater. Peter—that was the Dutch of it—it came to be Pierre after it had been transplanted into French soil a few months—Peter and George were the snuff and tobacco dealers. After they got wealthy nothing would do but old Lorillard must have a carriage and a coat-of-arms upon it. He chose for his coat-of-arms "Who'd thought it—snuff bought it." This made the people laugh, and so he changed it after awhile, putting on in place, "Quid ridos," which means "At what do you laugh?" His tobacco store was in Chatham street.

Shot His Brother.

TEHAMAH, Cal., Jan. 7.—A. J. Clark, jr., shot and killed his brother, Johnston Clark, this morning as a result of a family quarrel. The coroner's jury returned a verdict of justifiable self-defense.

OKRA FIBER.

Its Claims as a Substitute for Jute and Ramie.

For several years various experiments have been made with okra fiber, and recently the department of agriculture has been furnished with beautiful specimens of it, but little has been known of it, availability for the manufacture of cheap products, says a special dispatch to the Globe-Democrat. An Edgefield county farmer recently sent to the department of agriculture a sample of okra fiber as glossy and strong as ramie. The department sent the specimen to the national department at Washington. Secretary Rusc, in acknowledging its receipt, says that the specimen is a very fair one; that letters from all parts of the south indicate a general inclination to substitute the okra fiber for jute, not only for cotton bagging but for all purposes for which jute is used. Secretary Rusk is very anxious to know the process of preparing the fiber. Now comes Mr. W. E. Sudlow with the assertion that he can produce it at a cost not greater than about 1c per pound. Mr. Sudlow is an Englishman, born in Oldham, raised in Manchester, who has large experience in textiles. He is a practical engineer and machinist, and has put up mills in England, France, Australia and Mexico. Mr. Sudlow has been in this state for two years, during which time he tells the department he has been looking into the okra fiber question, and has now reached such conclusions as assure him of its cheap production. He says that the okra stalk is essentially different from the jute, cotton and ramie in this, that the wood surrounds the fiber, while in the others it is mixed with it, and this is the key of the problem of cheap production. His experiments last summer and fall prove that the okra fibre and wood are naturally separated. The mixing of the fibre with the wood of jute, ramie and cotton makes it necessary to employ manual labor, chiefly to decorticate is, and this is so costly that only in India and China, where labor is excessively cheap, is it possible to produce the fibre at low prices. The okra on the contrary can be separated by machinery.

Mr. Sudlow declares that he can make a machine which will not cost more than an ordinary cotton gin, and which can be employed as gins are employed, on each large farm or in each neighborhood, and that by its use planters of okra can turn out their fiber and sell it as they do cotton for so much a pound. Into this machine the okra stalks will be fed, butts forward, and it will cut the wood from the fiber. By means of an ingenious device, which Mr. Sudlow has explained to your correspondent more fully than he cares the public to know, the strips of fiber and wood will be separated, the glutin will then be removed from the fiber by a simple process, and after drying the latter will be ready for the market. Mr. Sudlow is now making arrangements for the manufacture of an initial set of machinery, which will practically demonstrate the the truth of his assertions.

As to the quality of the fiber there is not the least doubt. It is long, strong and glosso. It can be so subdivided that it can be used like ramie for the making of cloth for personal wear, as well as for bagging, rope, etc. The cheapness of its growing need not be argued about. Abandoned rice fields in the low country would raise forests of it. It thrives in undrained lands. The quantity which can be raised on an acre must be considered only by the ton, and the fiber constitutes most of the stalk, the wood and bark being very thin and papery. The stalks need not be cut at any special time. They can be allowed to lie in the field before the fiber is extracted.

MARRIAGE IN ENGLAND.

Births Have Now Reached the Lowest Rate Ever Recorded.

The unpopularity of marriage continues unabated, says the Pall Mall Gazette, and last year was the first in recent times, in which, while the price of wheat fell, the marriage rate remained stationary. It is now 14.2 per 1,000. The decline in the popularity of matrimony is greatest with those who have already had some experience of wedded life. Between 1876 and 1888 the marriage rate 12 per cent for bachelors and spinsters, 27 per cent for widowers, 31 per cent for widows. The drop in the remarriage of widows, however, is probably due to the glutting of the marriage market with surplus spinsters. The excess of women over men in England and Wales is estimated at 765,000.

Another interesting fact is that the birth have now reached the lowest rate recorded since civil registration began. In 1876 the rate was 36.3 per 1,000; it is now 30.06. This is very satisfactory, and it is also notable that the illegitimate birth rate has declined, the proportion, 4.3 per cent, being the lowest yet registered. The worst feature in the registrar-general's returns, however, is the fact that the male birth; has fallen in proportion to the females in the last ten years 1,038 baby boys were born for every 1,000 girls, and last year the male preponderance had dropped by 5, and is now standing at 1,033 to 1,000. With a surplus female population of 750,000 this is a move in the wrong direction.

It is worth noting that while the increase in marriages between English people has not kept pace with the population (having increased only 4 per cent in the last nine years), marriages according to the Jewish rites have grown no less than 65 per cent. If this rate is kept up we shall become Anglo-Israelites indeed in a way not dreamed of by those enthusiasts who have identified us with the lost ten tribes.

A PROMINENT REGULAR PHYSICIAN

Of New York City gives the following directions

FOR PREVENTING AND CURING

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1	PRIZE OF $300,000 is	$300,000
1	PRIZE OF $100,000 is	100,000
1	PRIZE OF 50,000 is	50,000
1	PRIZE OF 25,000 is	25,000
2	PRIZES OF 10,000 are	20,000
5	PRIZES OF 5,000 are	25,000
25	PRIZES OF 1,000 are	25,000
100	PRIZES OF 500 are	50,000
200	PRIZES OF 300 are	60,000
500	PRIZES OF 200 are	100,000
APPROXIMATION PRIZES.		
100	Prizes of $300 are	30,000
100	do 200 are	20,000
100	do 200 are	20,000
TERMINAL PRIZES.		
999	Prizes of $100 are	99,900
999	Prizes of $100 are	99,900 00
3,134	Prizes amounting to	$1,054,800

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