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CORRESPONDENCE. All communications relating to news and editorial matter should be addressed to the Editorial Department. BUSINESS LETTERS.

All business letters and remittances should be addressed to The Bee Publishing Company, Omaha. Drafts, checks and postoffice orders to be made payable to the order of the Com-pany.

The Bee Publishing Company, Proprietors. The Ree Riding, Farnam and Seventeenth Sts. SWORN STATEMENT OF CIRCULATION

Butte of Nebrasias.
County of Douglas.
George B. Tzschuck, secretary of The Bee
Publishing Company, does solemnly swear
that the actual circulation of The Daily Bre
for the week ending May 17, 1899, was as fol-Romday, May H.
Monday, May 12
Thesday, May 13
Wednesday, May 14
Thursday, May 15
Friday, May 15
Friday, May 16
Satorday, May 17

Average..... GEORGE B. TZSCHUCK. Sworn to before me and subscribed to in my presence this 17th day of May, A. D. 1890. [Seal.] N. P. FEIL. Notary Public

State of Nebraska,
County of Douglas. (88.
George B. Tzschuck, being duly sworn, deposes and says that he is secretary of The Bee Publishing Company, that the actual average daily circulation of The Daily Bre for the month of May, 1889, 18,529 copies; for June, 1889, 18,838 copies; for July, 1889, 18,738 copies; for August, 1889, 18,651 copies; for September, 1889, 18,710 copies; for October, 1889, 18,555 copies; for November, 1889, 19,310 copies; for December, 1889, 20,048 copies; for January, 1890, 19,555 copies; for February, 1890, 19,551 copies; for March, 1890, 20,815 copies; for April, 1890, 20,556 copies.

George B. Tzschuck.
Sworn to before me and subscribed in my

George B. Izscheck,
George B. Izscheck,
George B. Izscheck,
George B. Izscheck,
In my
bressence this 3d day of May, A. D., 1800,
[Seal.]
N. P. FEIL, Notary Public. SINGLE COPY POSTAGE RATES.

8-page paper.... U. S. 1 cent Foreign 2 cents 2-page paper..... " 1 cent " 2 cents

HAS Jailer Miller been retained to

assist the defense in the the Neal trial? WITH Carlisle out of the house the

minority ship loses what little ballast It is worthy of note that every enter-

prising Iowa town is pronouncing for high license in original packages. The proposed chain of stock yards from

the Missouri river to the Pacific coast marks a long stride in the westward tendency of a great industry. Between original packages, licensed

saloons and the steady increase of resubmission clubs, prohibition is being hopelessly pulverized in Kansas. MR. STANLEY'S engagement to one of the belles of Britain will doubtless

prove more enjoyable than his engagements with the Bohoos and Wawahs of the dark continent. THE vociferous Bynum of Indiana ac-

cepts the censure of the house as a dec-Bynum and his party friends will be and survey, mighty glad to cast away the decoration and expunge the record.

SENATOR MANDERSON is not ready to exchange his present position for a mission to Spain, but there are a surplus of patriots in Nebraska who would cheer-Iully sacrifice themselves for the public service at home or abroad.

THE latest deal of reform boodlers is to send three or four strikers out into the state to beat the bushes for the Broatch boom. The expenses of these political missionaries are to be borne by the riprapping contractor.

FREQUENT copious rains have placed the ranges of Wyoming in better condition than for years past, insuring a year of prosperity for the great industry of the territory which will be felt materially in the Omaha market.

A REDUCTION of five dollars a mile in the cost of street sweeping shows the value of frequent competition. Even at the reduced rate there should be an improvement on the present method of lusting the streets and dumping the refuse on the sidewalks.

THE reports of the movements of the American squadron of evolution in the Mediterranean cannot fail to thrill every patriot at home. Dull to every sense of national pride is he or she who will not rejoice to learn that the new navy is evoluting baseball where Paul preached and filling the grotto of Calypso with three-baggers and home runs.

THE war raging between Major Powall, director of the geological survey, and Colonel Dick Hinton, recently appointed to boss the artesian bores, has stirred up the fossils in that department. The major assails the colonel with a jawbone of the tertiary period, insinuating that the boss of the bores does not know mough about the irrigation question to 'urnish moisture for his tongue. The colonel retorts with the neozoic bombthell, pointing to the report of the senate committee accusing Powell of misappropriation of funds. The friction between these two distinguished surveyors at the public crib promises to bring to the surface the methods employed in scattering government funds in annual western junkets.

THE advance guard of an army of twelve hundred Mormon converts successfully passed inspection at the port of New York, and are now on their way to the kingdom of Brigham. The admission of this batch of deluded foreigners, while ministers and musicians coming to the country have been subjected to annoying and costly delays, brings into contempt the enforcement of the contract labor law. It is a notorious fact that Mormon immigrants are brought over under a direct or implied contract. The church pays their passage and they are compelled to work it out in the fields or workshops of the institution in Utah. They are the chattels of Mormon power and their admission is a scandalous breach of law.

IRRIGATION PROSPECTS

The senate committee appointed to prepare legislation on the subject of irrigation, while conceding the magnitude and importance of the problem, divided upon the question of how much the government should undertake. There was no disagreement as to the expediency of congress continuing appropriations for surveys, the selection of sites for water storage, and the designation of lands which may be reclaimed by irrigation, but a portion of the committee insisted that the government should go no further in the actual work of irrigation than to provide for the establishment of water-storage sites, leaving the ditching to state, territorial and private enter-

If this is the policy to be finally adopted by congress, and it probably is, it is clear that a great many years must elapse before the vast unwatered empire of the nation will be reclaimed. So far the states are concerned which there are arid lands they may be able to redeem them as rapidly as the demands of a growing population may require. Having authority to borrow money or to contract with private capital for carrying on such enterprise, the states can go on, as some of them have done, to work out the irrigation problem for themselves without any assistance from the government, and this undoubtedly in time they will do. But the territories have no such privilege, and it is in these that irrigation must wait indefinitely if the government refuses to do anything beyond what the minority of the senate committee recommend as expedient, namely, the completion of the irrigation survey and the designation of irrigable lands. The very fact of the government refusing to do more than this must retard the progress of the territories and delay the time when they will be able to carry forward the work of irrigation. That the problem is a formidable one everybody at all fa-

miliar with it fully understands. Of the little more than three million square miles embraced in the area of the United States, exclusive of Alaska, over onethird must have artificial irrigation to insure regular annual crops. Thus reclaimed it would become the most valuable land in the country, and would unquestionably many times repay the cost of redemption, granting that the largest estimates were equalled or exceeded. But in accomplishing this private interests would necessarily to some extent be benefitted, which is a chief source of objection to the government making provision for irrigation out of the public treasury, while there is opposition on the general ground that this is not work in which the government can properly engage, although the necessity for its intervention is obvious from the fact that the matter concerns public lands in which the right of reservation for storage sites belongs to the general government alone. The hostility to the government going into the business of completing the details of irrigation is manifestly too strong at this time to permit the hope that a much larger appropriation can be obtained from the present congress than was provided by the last, which was simply for bration of honor. Before many years the preliminary work of investigation

HARRISON'S POSITION ON SILVER. It is reported in the eastern papers that President Harrison has for several weeks past been in constant consultation with prominent men in both houses of congress regarding the proposed silver legislation. It is also said in explanation of the failure of the many conferences on this subject to result in an agreement, that the president has announced his unwillingness to sign a free coinage bill. He is said to have made the positive statement that he will veto such a bill if sent to him, and that while he is anxious for the passage of a silver bill in order to redeem the pledges made by the republican party to the people, he does not think that the country is yet ready for free coinage.

There is nothing improbable or incredible in this, in view of the very positive attitude of the president regarding silver in his annual message to congress. It will be remembered that while expressing the opinion that a larger employment of silver in the currency was desirable, Mr. Harrison suggested that it was necessary to prescribe a limit to its use and distinctly declared his conviction that free coinage would be dangerous. While it is probable the views of the president have since then undergone some modification, as is fairly to be inferred from the treasury bill which is understood to have represented the opinions of the administration, it is to be presumed that the president is no more willing now than when he communicated his views on silver to congress to approve free coinage. There has been no new light shed on the question by the advocates of unlimited coinage to produce a change of opinion, but on the contrary the weight of argument in the discussion of the subject is to confirm the conviction that free coinage would be a very

grave mistake. But notwithstanding the attitude of the administration and the undoubted sentiment in accord therewith of a majority of the people, the supporters unlimited coinage persist in urging that policy, regardless of the danger to any silver legislation involved in their course. They claim to have a majority of votes in both houses, though this is questionable, but allowing that they have it is certain that they are not strong enough to pass a free coinage bill over a veto, and none of them appear to doubt that such a measure would encounter executive disapproval. They do not expect the president to stultify himself by giving his approval to a policy which he has declared would be unwise and unsafe. Obstinate adherence to their position by the advocates of free coinage, therefore, not only endangers silver legislation, but it may result in an issue between the executive and congress that would prove harmful to the party in power. There is nothing more certain than that the intelligent and conservative judgment of the country is not in favor of free coinage, and the uncompromising fight

making for it is doing the cause of silver | and abuse. serious harm

AN AGGRESSIVE POLICY NEEDED. At this time of more than usual conflict and disturbance in the railroad situation, it is natural to inquire whether the interstate commerce commission is taking such vigilant interest in the condition of affairs as may be necessary to protect the public from evasions and abuses of the law. It is hardly to be presumed that the vigorous warfare going on between the railroads is being prosecuted with absolute freedom from any violations of either the letter or spirit of the interstate commerce act. On the contrary, few will doubt that infractions of the law are numerous. It would, perhaps, be a somewhat difficult matter to discover them, and vet the common impression is that this is one of the functions of the commis-

In its last report the commission said that the educational process necessary under the interstate commerce act having been complied with, the time had come when more aggressive steps properly be taken. No excuse can longer be made, said the commission, that the law is not understood, or that sufficient time has not elapsed to give the carriers opportunity to conform their methods to its requirements. This was in effect notice to the railroads and the country that the commission would tolerate no more excuses for a disregard of the requirements of the law on the score of ignorance, but would bring its penalties to bear whenever violations were discovered. This was an assurance the public had been anxiously waiting for, and the absence of it unquestionably had a measure of influence in discrediting the law with some. A member of congress who is opposed to the law recently urged as one reason for its repeal that it is and is likely to be imperfectly enforced.

The present extraordinary state of affairs among the railroads imposes upon the commission the duty of unusual vigilance. In a general way the law is perhaps being complied with, but that it is being violated in some 'particulars is not to be doubted. It is highly probable that before the conflict is ended the commission will find opportunities for showing the public what it means by aggressive steps.

THE legal department of the Union Pacific, having met defeat in the Elmwood elevator case in the state supreme court, announces that the case will be appealed to the United States supreme court. This result was predicted at the outset. The sole object of the contest is to carry it through the various courts, to delay and harass the producers and strengthen the grip of the elevator combine. The corporations employ their lawyers by the year. They can afford to fight an interminable legal battle, trusting to political changes or the demise of the original plaintiffs to score a victory. The assertion that the decision of the supreme court is "taking property without due process of law" is one of the most absurd pleas ever advanced, but it serves the purpose to prolong the settlement of the issue. There has not been the slightest attempt to take property "without due process of law." The vital principle involved is whether a common carrier can deprive producers of adequate facilities for storing and shipping grain and compel them to patronize a monopoly of elevators controlled at least indirectly by the railroads. The common law sustained by court decisions prohibits discrimination by common carriers against any class of shippers or patrons. The Elmwood farmers did not seek to take property 'without due process of law." On the contrary, they offered to pay for the privilege of trackage the charge exacted from the existing elevator, and the supreme court confirmed the justice of their demand for equal privileges and facilities with the most favored patron of the railroad. On that issue there need be no fear of the final determination if the producers see to it that their side of the case is properly presented to the United States supreme court.

THE petition of Madison county taxpayers for a radical revision of the present system of assessing property strikes at one of the greatest evils in the state. Every county and particularly the municipalities are seriously affected by a system of taxation which not only invites discrimination, but materially injures the people when the tax rate is placed side by side with that of other states and communities which assess property at or near its actual value. In all comparative tax tables the Nebraska per cent of levy appears excessive to intending investors who are not familiar with the fact that the assessment of property in the state is scarcely one-tenth of its actual value. It is useless, however, to expect an equitable assessment of property under the present revenue law. Some system must be devised whereby the state will secure its revenue without exacting a per cent of the total assessment. As long as that system exists it places a premium on low valuations so as to escape paying a fair share of the expenses of state government. Higher valuations and lower levies will remedy the evils pointed out by Madison county taxpayers, but it is folly for one county to try to revolutionize the system while the remaining eighty-seven stand aloof.

THE railway conductors in annual convention have taken a step which places them in accord with the labor organizations of the country. The antistrike clause of the constitution was stricken out and western men placed on guard. This action was necessary to prevent a disruption of the order, as the western members were determined to no longer hold aloof from kindred organizations. The action of the convention is significant. It foreshadows a complete federation of railway employes in the west, whose power, guided by intelligent, conservative leaders, will prove beneficial to all concerned.

Crude But Effective Machiavelism.

Boston Journal Having failed to crush that determined agitator, Captain Tillman, by milder methods of coaxing and flattery, the South Carolina which the advocates of that policy are bourbons are now resorting to threatening

and abuse. If Tillman does not keep a sharp eye about him ar may go the way of John M. Clayton and other men who have been bold enough to challenge the rule of the free-trade

Before many years it will be the noblest

distinction and title to honor of the veteran

soldier that he is not a pensioner of the gov-

The Lottery Must Go.

Indipropolis Journal.
Congress will subject itself to severe cen-

sure if it adjourns without enacting a law to

oligarchy in the southern states.

ernment.

A missionary convention will be held at Vail May 28 to June 1. Tendency of Bogus Pension Claims.

> A Keokuk man has a fig tree which promises to yield heavily this season.

an association. The one-year-old child of Carl Liverenz, of

exclude the lottery from the use of the mails. Mr. Breckinridge's Graceless Attitude and before the mother could get it away swa Philadelphia Press. This country would be much better satisfled, also, if, instead of constantly repeating a wish that the committee would find out who

killed Clayton, he would go to work and help it discover the guilty persons. Petitions Backed By Bayonets.

New York Herald. Petitions are being circulated, addressed The annual report of the Episcopal diocess to the czar of Russia, mildly suggesting that the outrages practised on Siberian exiles are "not in harmony with the humanizing sentiments of the age."

Despotic governments, unfortunately, have never been reformed by petitions except when the petitions were backed up by men ready to fight.

OUR CONTEMPORARIES.

Chicago Tribune. Mr. Butterworth points out clearly that the rade relations between the people of the United States and their northern kinsmen have been to the advantage of the former to the extent of \$250,000,000 in the last forty years. He also shows that during the same time the balance of trade with the Latin races to the south of us has been over \$2,000,000,000 against this country. Yet every effort is making to establish unrestricted trade with Mexico and south Central America, while fresh difficulties were thrown in the way of trade with Canada, which always buys

An Evil of the Registration Law.

more from us than we do from her.

Chicago Inter-Occan. The new law will make it necessary for the cepublicans of New York to be constantly on their guard and each year see that the far mers are registered, because when a man has to travel several miles over bad roads to register his name and then give up another day to go over the same ground again to vote he will become careless. It places a double burden on him simply because dishonest men have corrupted the ballot in the cities.

The Superabundance of Bills.

St. Louis Globe-Democrat. Thousands of measures are introduced in one branch or other of congress every year which never can pass, and which the members standing sponsors for them know never ought to pass, either body. Some, happily, never get beyond the committee stage, and some are not even considered in committee, and these do not have much effect toward de laying legislation. But even these have a detrimental influence in taking the attention of the members responsible for them away, to some extent, from legislation which is possible and needed.

A Damper on Prohibition Spies. Philadel phia Record. Under this decision and the interstate comnerce act, which it affirms, the states have ample power to utterly prohibit the internal liquor traffic or to regulate it in any manner they may deem fit. But they cannot send constables and spies to sniff into railroad and express parcels in interstate transportation in order to confiscate the private property of the citizen. This, and only this, is what the prohibitionists seek to accomplish by the Boutelle amendment to the interstate commerce law. The decision of the supreme court stands between the citizen and as mean a system of legislative e as ever was perpetrated in a free state

The Origin of the Hoar Bill.

If the southern democracy had been content to conduct congressional elections decently and fairly Senator Hoar's bill never would have been thought of. And even if that bill becomes a law its provisions will not be operative except upon the petition of a certain number of respectable citizens of a district, who have reason to believe that the state officials will not conduct the election fairly. The south has not been abused and will not be abused. But it will be made to behave itself about election time.

STATE JOTTINGS.

Nebraska. Seward's new Methodist church will be dedicated June 1. The Covington school board has decided to erect a \$10,000 school building.

About one thousand acres have been sown to hemp in the neighborhood of Fowler. Rev. A. W. Cooper was last week ordained is pastor of the Bantist church at Loun City Kearney has another paper, the Democrat

ng made its appearance, published by H. P. Mason. The second annual Sunday school conven-

ion of Perkins county will be held at Grant All the merchants of Kearney have agreed o close their stores at 8 o'clock every even-

ing except Saturday. Charles Dunn of Brewster had his leg so badly crushed by a horse falling on it that amputation will be necessary. The Brady Blade has made its appearance

at Brady Island, Lincoln county, with Stockon & Stockton as publishers. The sixteenth annual convention of the Adams county Sunday school association will

be held at Kenesaw May 21 and 22. Lightning struck the residence of John Hall in Blaine county Wednesday night, instantly killing a boarder named Dearn and badly shocking Mrs. Hall.

John F. Barron, agent of the Union Pacific at Ord, has resigned to accept the position of cashier of the Ord national bank. He will enter upon his new duties June 1. Daniel Hilbert, who had just completed a

term in the penitentiary, was arrested at Al-bion last week for mortgaging property he did not own and was taken to Logan, county The Loup City Citizen has been discontin-

ued and the plant has been sold to a company that will publish a paper in the interest of the Farmers' alliance. Rev. W. H. Ogle will act The Norfolk Congregational church celebrated the twentieth, anniversary of its or-gunization last week. The church started

with ten members, and today the membership numbers 155, Charles Balsley, an old veteran of Boone county, has been adjudged insane and sent to the asylum. His hallucination is that every body is trying to poison him, and his actions led his wife to secure a divorce several months

Miss Kate Houstra, who resided with her

parents a few miles north of Niobrara, drowned herself in a lake because she did not want to marry John Holland, the husband who had been selected for her by her father. The wedding day was fixed for last Saturday. Charles, Fred and August Schmeichel three wealthy farmers living near Brownlee, Cherry county, have been arrested by the sheriff of Blaine county, charged with burglarizing a store at Purdum. The stoien

goods were found in the possession of the Little Clay Chambliss of Paxton thought he would like a pig for a pet and attempted to he would like a pig for a pet and attempted to take one with a nice currly tail from a littler in a pen. The old sow objected, however, and made a ficroe attack on the boy, biting him badly, and would undoubtedly have killed the little fellow had not a big dog taken a hand in the struggle and driven off the infuriated hog.

Iowa Items.

midget calf, born a few days ago. It is per-fectly formed, stands 19% inches in height, is 21% inches long and weighs 23 pounds. Storm Lake ladies have organized a boat

The new Methodist church at Muchakinock was dedicated Sunday.

The Kossuth county Sunday school convention will be held at Algona May 27 and 28. The editors of Hamilton, Wright, Hancock, Winnebago, Kossuth, Humboldt, Webster, Calhoun, Pocahontas, Palo Alto and Emmet counties are planning to get together to form

day found an iron staple about an inch long, owed it. No serious result has as yet fol

The Congregational churches of Iowa con tributed to home mission work in the state during the year ending April 30, \$16,954.25. The year closes with \$1,160.05 in the treasury. plan was to raise \$18,000, but the present is an increase over any previous

of lows shows the number of parishes in the diocese to be 49; organized missions, 30; unorganized, 38; churches and chapeis, 776; rectories, 25; families registered, 3,727; individ ual members, 14,018; regular communicants 6,007; contributions last year for religious purposes, \$14,726,025; value of property in the

Scranton City is threatened with a novel damage suit. A well-to-do farmer named Colder visited the city on business and after cracking several "originals" found himself behind the bars of the city lockup, where he remained all night. He awoke the next morn ing with a severe cold, caught, he claims, through the negligence of the city to furnish comfortable accommodations to guests, and thinks he has been injured to the extent of \$5,000 or thereabouts.

The Creston Gazette publishes extracts from a letter written at Oskaloosa, March 17, 1865, by the mother of a soldier in the Thirtythird Iowa, at New Orleans, but who was then a prisoner of war. The captain of his company got the letter and not being able to deliver it filed it away among his papers. In looking over his army effects a short time ago he found the letter and sent it to its rightful owner, who received it on the twenty fifth anniversary of the day it was written.

The Two Dakotas. There will be a band tournament at Doland

The pontoon bridge just completed at Pierre cost \$35,000.

Three silver tip bears were killed near Devil's Tower the other day. Fort Pierre claims a population of 1,000 and a proposition to incorporate will be voted

The South Dakota theological institute will meet at Yankton July 8 and continue in ses-Whitewood is to have a new reservoir, with

a capacity of 50,000 gallons, to be located 130 feet above the town. Miss Josephine Crowfeather, a full-blooded Sioux maiden, has taken the veil at Yankton and become a Benedictine nun. Her father

Charles Finch, a placer miner in Bear gulch, the other day stubbed his toe against gold nugget weighing four ounces, the argest found in the Black Hills for some

Supervisor of Census Wakefield, whos district includes all that part of South Da-kota east of the Missouri river, states that he has divided his district into 420 sub-disdriets, all the enumerators for which have been appointed. The expenses of the recent session of the

South Dakota legislature amounted to \$95. 034.09. The senate cost the state \$23,553.10 and the house \$59,482.30, while \$10,000 was expended in legislative printing. Elkton citizens, and farmers in the neighborhood, have raised a \$3,000 bonus for the parties who are to build a \$12,000 roller mill

at that place. It is expected the mill will be in operation by November next. A Northwestern train pulled into Redfield the other day and the engineer was somewhat surprised on going to the front of the locomotive to find a sheep lying on the pilot, uninjured and contentedly chewing its cud.

The animal had evidently saved its life by a quick jump just as the engine reached it. In grading the railroad near Deadwood the was found a small cave or well full to the brim with snakes. Thousands of the reptiles were killed by the men, but not one rattler was found. They were of the varieties known as bull and garter snakes.

PERSONAL AND POLITICAL.

Chicago Tribune: Let nobody ask the old uestion hereafter: "What is Butter-worth?" Washington Post: The John M. Palmer senatorial boom is scudding along under a full head of wind. In fact there are some unkind enough to intimate that the propelling force is about the only substance there is in the boom.

Providence Journal: The Boston Journal says that the farmers of Vermont are greatly pleased with the McKinley tariff bill haps this is because the more intelligent and enterprising have left the state or have gone into more profitable business. St. Paul Pioneer Press: Hill may plant

and Cleveland may water, but they do say that next spring Governor Campbell will transplant his own little boom from the soi of Ohio to the political hotbed. Minneapolis Times: Since Senator Sher man declared himself on the poker question the other candidates for the presidency have

been feeling about in an uneasy manner fo mething striking to counteract the boom the distinguished Ohioan has given himself. From the Augusta Chronicle: But Mr. Watterson is a brilliant v/riter and a graceful speaker. He makes his mark wherever he He wants it understood that he has st \$1,800 in poker. Mr. Watterson i

either a Puritan nor a prohibitionist, but

withal, is a striking figure in Kentucky and Washington Post: They have commenced putting Chicago democrats in jail for the re-cent election frauds, and General Palmer's senatorial boom has fallen off twelve points

within the last two days. Springfield Republican (Ind.): With such men as Vest and Cockrell posing as great leaders on the democratic side of the United States senate, and "Cal" Brice on the way, it s time that Carlisle was made a senator. Louisville Courier-Journal: The startling admission of Mr. Butterworth, that improved

methods of manufacture cheapen manufac-tured articles, will "bust" the home market if he persists in it. Rowing Over Dakota Dirt.

CHAMBERLAIN, S. D., May 18 .- [Special to THE BEE.]—A struggle that promises to be of several years' duration has commenced for the possession of 320 acres of land which lies directly north of this city in what was until recently a portion of the Crow Creek and Winnebage reservation. When these lands were opened for settlement in 1885 the two claims above mentioned were taken by homesteaders. Upon the withdrawal of the reservation from the public domain two mouths after it was thrown open, the original settlers left and the claims were shortly afterward taken by settlers, who have since remained upon the land. About four years ago the two claims were, by legislative act, included in the city limits of Chamberlain. Recently an organization of citizents put a town site filing on the claims, and attempts were repeatedly made by the town-siters to erect dwellings thereon, but the settlers did not take kindly to the idea of having buildings erected in their onion and potato patches, so they con-fiscated the building material as fast as it was put upon the ground. The town-siters, be-fore attempting to build, had the tract surveyed into two acre lots, and now the settlers are engaged in pulling up the survey stakes and using them for firewood. It will be man; years before the matter will finally be settled. The two claims are handsomely located and are very valuable.

Barn Fired by Lightning. LIBERTY, Neb., May 18 .- [Special Telegram to THE BEE. |-The first rain this spring

fell yesterday evening. The farmers are ubilant, as the ground was very dry and all the small grain suffering greatly on account of the drouth. During the thunder storm a en force miles southwest of town, contain ing a burgy, corn sheller, about five hundred bushels of corn and a quantity of hay, was struck by lightning and burned. Loss, \$300: T. M. Condiff, living near Bidwell, owns a insurance, \$400.

NO SUNDAY AMUSEMENTS.

Acting Mayor Pace Closes the Eden Musee at Lincoln

PYTHIAN LIFE SHOWS FIGHT

Replies Filed to the Charges Made by J. R. Powell-Arrested for Laboring on the Sabbath-Col-

lision at Waverly.

LINCOLN, Neb., May 18 .- [Special to Tite Ber.]-A meeting of citizens was called yesterday to consider the best means to close up the Eden Musee on Sundays. There were nine men present and they unanimously passed a resolution demanding the mayor to see that the musee was not allowed to give any more Sunday exhibitions. Messrs. John R. Clark, C. G. Dawes and A. H. Dorris were appointed a committee to call on the chief executive of the city and inform him of this action. Mayor Graham being out of the city, the two called on acting Mayor Pace, and he in turn called on City Attorney Holmes and asked him if there was any law under which places of amusement could be closed Sun-days. Mr. Holmes said that there was, and the acting mayor instructed Marshal Melick to arrest Mr. Lawler if he opened his place

Mr. Lawler will not attempt to give any Sunday entertainments until the mayor re An officer was posted near the musee and watched it closely all day to see that no tickets were sold.

THE PYTHIAN LIPE SHOWS FIGHT. Two representatives of the Pythian Life association, Messrs. Bechtel and Porter, wer

association, Messrs. Beentel and Porter, were in the city yesterday and in the afternoon filed replies to the charges made by John R. Powell, general solicitor of the endowment rank, that the Pythian Life association is not a secret organization and is not, therefore, en-titled to do business under the provisions of the act governing such companies. These gentlemen in their reply make the following The association was chartered according to

legal requirements November 16, 1888. A revocation of the authority of the association to do business would cause it to suffer irre-parable injury. The members have now in force insurance amounting to \$1,500,000, and the business has been conducted in a thor-oughly legitimate way. The members deny that they were incorporated under the secret society act of 1887, although they have complied with its provisions. They assert that the association is a fraternal and benevolent one as contemplated by the act, and the membership is restricted to the members of the order of the Knights of Pythias. They submit the opinion that the auditor has no jurisdiction to hear and determine the mat ters and assertions set forth in Powell's complaint; that Powell is a non-resident, as he makes his home in Mil waukee; that he was not a member of the Pythian Life association, and therefore is not a competent complainant; that he is traveling as a solicitor for a rival company, and that the complaints filed by him were simply intended to do injury to the Pythian Life and to

ouild up his own company.

If the request of Powell is enforced it is claimed that it will drive out of existence also the endowment rank, the Masonic insurance companies and many other similar penevolent associations connected with the secret orders. ARRESTED FOR WORKING ON SUNDAY.

L. Walpa, while working in I. Sandusky's shop at Seventh and Q streets this morning, was arrested on the charge of 'laboring on Sunday." Walpa was engaged in beating or breaking from at the time, and the policemar laimed that he was making too much noise Mr. Sandusky was present and asked the officer why he did not go down to the depot and arrest all the engineers who run locomotives into the city on Sunday, as one engine makes more noise," said he, than a dozen blacksmith shops.

The officer, becoming somewhat nettled, told Mr. Sandusky to "dry up." The officer then attempted to drag Walpa away, when Sandusky seized his employer by the arm and released him from the policeman. The officer then placed Sandusky also under arrest and escorted both men to the city jail. Walter Bohanan, a prominent went their bail until tomorrow, and employer and employe were both released.

RAIDED A GAMBLING DEN. The officers have been suspicious for two or three weeks of the business carried on in a room over Hood's saloon at 130 South Elev enth street, and finally were satisfied that it was a gambling establishment. A raid on the place at 2 o'clock yes-terday morning by the police proved their suspicions true, as the room was found equipped with a full gambling outfit, while exted at one of the tables dealing cards at seated at one of the tables dealing cards at fare was J. R. Harvey, a knight of the green cloth well known in Omaha. About him were a number of sports well known in the city, and the entire company were placed inder arrest and taken to the police station The chips, roulette wheels and other gambling parapharnelia were confiscated by the police On being arraigned all the men arrested pleaded guilty to the charge of visiting a gambling den, and were each fined \$10 and

There has been considerable talk of late concerning the sanitary condition of the Q street school, but after a careful examination of the building yesterday Drs. Paine, Case seer, Mitchell, Lowry, Hook, Garten and Dayton pronounced it perfectly safe for the school children. They assert that the baseaent is perfectly dry and wholesome; that the cesspools are all right and that there are no noxious gases of any kind as claimed. These gentlemen unanimously recommended that in order to provide for any scares that are liable to result in the closing of the schools, a board of physicians should be ap-pointed whose business shall be to investigate just such matters. COLLISION AT WAVERLY.

A collision occurred on the B. & M. at Waverly at 2 o'clock this morning, No. 78 east bound, running into a west bound extra Three box cars were badly damaged and both of the locomotives were smashed but nobody was hurt.

CITY NEWS AND NOTES. The east Lincoln prohibition league at its neeting last evening adopted as a badge a button covered with the stars and stripes. The league will hold its first meeting in its ew wigwam Monday evening.

J. Angle was arrested yesterday afternoon

for violating the city ordinance requiring pawnbrokers to make a full list of all articles received by them. The officers claimed that Angle was not complying with the ordinance, and fearing that he might be keeping a "fence" for thieves caused his arrest. He was found guilty of the charge against him and was fined \$25 and costs. He refused to pay the amount and took an appeal to the dis A. P. Hallenbeck attempted to kill a neigh-

bor's dog, and was arrested for discharging firearms within the city limits

Neuralgia pains have necessitated a temporary change of climate for Mayor Graham, and yesterday he left for St. Louis, where he will stay at least two weeks. Joe Wild, alias Joe Lockwood, was released

from the penitentiary yesterday after serving a two years' term for stealing, and two hours after he breathed free air again he was caught stealing a pair of shoes from an O street store. He was promptly arrested.

A WOMAN'S DEVOTION.

She Publishes Her Own Shame to Save the Man She Loves. A bigamy case having some remark

able features was heard before Recorder J. F. Bradner of this city, says a Mid letown, N. Y., special to the New Yor-Times. The accused, a boyish-looking brakeman named Utter, employed on the Ontario & Western railroad, belongs to a respectable family of Warwick. father is an engineer on the Pough ceepsie & Boston railroad. who was a Miss Edith Decker, and to shom he was married at Goshen by Mr. Winans on September 28, 1888, accuses him of having deserted her five months later and of having contracted a second marriage on June 30, 1889, with Miss Jannie Griffis of this city.

Th district attorney introduced proof

of the first marriage with the complain ant. He next placed upon the witness stand Mrs. Harriet Griffis, mother of Jennie Griffis, who testified that Utter and her daughter went to NewYork, June 30, 1889, and on their return exhibited a marriage certificate showing that they were married on that day by the Rev. Richard Hartley, paster of the Laight Street Baptist church, and that they had since lived together as husband and wife. Utter went upon the stand in his own behalf, and testified that he never was married to either of the women

who claimed him for a husband. Jennie Griffis, who is a pretty and modest-mannered young woman, was then called as a witness for the defense. Apparently her only anxiety was to save from punishment the young rascal who had basely deceived her. She testified, i flat contradiction to her mother, that she had never been married to Utter nor exhibited a marriage certificate. She was sharply cross-questioned by the dis-trict attorney, but stuck to the story of her shame with a persistency that could could not be shaken. Her devotion and self-sacrifice were, however, unavailing. The recorder committed the young bigamist to the county jail in default of \$2,000 bonds, to wait the action of the grand jury.

WANTED TO EAT HIM.

But Sailor Skillings' Fatal Rifle Won the Respect of the Savages.

Harry S. Skillings of Freeport hasreturned home after wandering since 18 66 He left Portland the day after the great fire and shipped from Boston to San Francisco, says a Portund (Me.) special to the Boston Globe. From there he went to the South seas and when near Manila was wrecked.

Skillings and another man volunteered to swim ashore with a line. They succeeded after being dashed about, in reaching shore and in saving the rest of the crew. He then served on board an English vessel and was in several battles with Chinese pirates. shipped for Sidney, stopped at Pleasant island and changed for a ship bound for New Zealand,

This craft proved to be a slaver and Skillings gave it the slip and returned to Pleasant island in the missionary chooner John Wesley. Then he shipped on a vessel that was short of provisions and all aboard nearly starved.

Skillings at last made his home on Greenwich island, among the cannibals They wanted to try the flavor of a white man and Skillings was soon put to it to save his life.

For two months he slept on his arms, expecting every moment to have to fight for his life. One day a fleet of thirty canoes hove in sight and a herd of will natives made an attempt to capture him. Skillings, who speaks seven languages held a parley, and told them that if they made the attack he would kill all he could with his rifles. He would die fighting. The natives were afraid of the mysterious rifle. Skillings set them all to work and

made each one contribute 300 cocounuts a day. They buried spears in the grass as they worked in the field, and several times attempted to kill him by strategy, as they do missionaries. Skillings killed two or three and was afterwards respected.

He then went to Ponape, married, and made \$10,000. July 1st, 1847, the natives rose in rebellion, and the massacre of Ponape followed. He saved himself and sixteen others by putting to sea, but nearly starved. Skillings bought a schooner and went

back to Ponape, but the Spanish government would not allow him to land. drove him from another small island which he had leased for ten years. After many adventures Skillings went to Srn Francisco, where he had sent his daughter to be educated, but she was

dead when he got there. Then he concluded to return to Maine, d was rather astonis he was the owner of a considerable forture here. Mr. Skillings proposes to go back for his sons, and will have them

educated here. The secretart of beauty lies not in cosmetics, but is only in pure blood, and a healthy per formance of the vital functions, to be obtained

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