BOTH IN A SERIOUS PLIGHT.

An Iowa Salconkeeper and His Wife are Arrested for Murder.

SUICIDE OF A MOUNT PLEASANT GIRL.

Herculean Task of State Secretary Jackson-The Search for the Murderer of Ernest Reed-Death of a Monk.

Stoux Cirr, Ia., Dec. 17.-|Special Telegram to Tue Bee.]-Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin osephson were arrested this afternoon on a charge of murder. On the night of November 4 John McVeigh and two companions went into Josephson's saloon and while there got into a row in which Josephson struck McVeigh on the head with a beer mallet from the effects of which he died this morning, after being in the hospital since. The doctors had trepined his skull but it did not save him. Josephson and his wife came into prominence in the Haddock case by swearing that they saw the fatal shot fired. Their testimony was broken down, however, and was not effective for the prosecution as had

MOUNT PLEASANT, In., Dec. 17 .- [Special Telegram to THE BEE. |-Mary Harshbarger, a dising room girl at the Harian house here, was found in her room last night in the last agonies of death from poison administered by herself. Before taking the fatal dose she made preparations and left instructions for her burial. No motive for the deed is known.

DES MOINES, Ia., Dec. 17. - | Special to THE BEE.] - Secretary of State Jackson has just completed the herculean task imposed upon him by the anti-trust law enacted at the last legislature. The act makes it a conspiracy to defraud, for any corporation, firm or individual doing business in this state, to enter into any combination or agreement to fix the price or limit the production of any article or product, under penalty of a fine of from \$500 to \$2,000, and possible imprisonment in the county jail for one year of any person so convicted. There are other penalties, such as the inability of any corporation so convicted to enforce its contracts, forfeiture of charter, franchises, etc. The secretary of state was required to issue a letter of inquiry to each corporation in the state, to ascertain whether they were obeying the law. About six thou-sand of these letters were sent out in July last, and up to date less than half have been properly heard from. Of these 23 changed the affidavit so that it was illegal, 951 were returned uncalled for at the postoffices to which they were sent, and no reply at all was receive i from 1991 of the letters; also 49 for-eign corporations doing business in the state failed to answer. Under the law it is the duty of the secretary of state to certify these delinquents to the attorney general, and the latter official is required to bring suits to compel answers to the letters or to enforce the penalties for failure to answer. has been prepared for that purpose, but it is doubtful what action will be taken. A peculiar phase of the situation is that many of culiar phase of the situation is that many of the alleged delirquents are corporations that have gone out of business, burjust what ones there is no way of finding out, as no record is kept. Then again hundreds of them are churches and other non-productive insti-tutions, in whose favor the law does not dis-criminate, but against whom it would be manifestly unjust to try and originate the law manifestly unjust to try and enforce the law. It would be an enormous expense to the state and comparatively few fines could be collected if laid. The matter will be laid before the executive council, and more than likely a test case will be made up for a decision as to

the meaning or validity of the law. Handed to a Syndicate.

CEDAR RAPIDS, Ia., Dec. 17 .- [Special Tele gram to THE BEE. |—This afternoon the transfer was made by which the Cedar Rapids & Marion railway and the Codar Rapids street railway passed from the control of corporation to a syndicate of local capitalists. They will replace the horse cars with an electri one in the spring, both in the city and be-tween here and Marion. The officers of the tween here and Marion. The officers of the Cedar Rapids & Marion railway are: P. E. Hall, president; W. D. Douglas, vice presi-dent; John S. Ely, secretary; George W. Bever, treasurer, and the officers of the Cedar Rapids street railway are P. E. Hall, presi-dent; John S. Ely, secretary; George W. Haver, treasurer. Bever, treasurer.

Tried for His Life.

BEDFORD, Ia., Dec. 17 .- [Special Telegram to THE BEE.]-The district court is engaged in the trial of M. B. Foster for the murder of Ernest Reed about November 2, 1887. Foster was tried in the December term of 1887 and convicted of murder in the first degre and sentenced to be hung. The case was appealed to the supreme couct and sent back for a new trial for some irregularity in the matter of evidence. A motion for a change was overruled by the court on Saturday. This week has been spent in impaneling a jury and witnesses are now being examined of which there will be a large number, prob ably over fifty. Much interest in the cas manifested, as the court room is crowded.

LeMars Gets a Depot. DES MOINES, Ia., Dec. 17 .- [Special Telegram to Tire Bes.]—General Manager Beck of the Illinois Central railway today informed the railway commission that his company would at once begin the erection of a commo dious depot at LeMars. The present arrangement there is a shed-like affair which was ment there is a shed-like affair which was built by the citizens, and has long been a reproach and an eyesore. It is not known whether the Omaha road will join in the erection of the depot as is desired, but if not the Illinois Central will proceed alone.

Bakers Assign. BOONE, Ia., Dec. 17 .- | Special Telegram to THE BEE. J-A. Schanaman & Co., grocers and bakers, have made an assignment for the benefit of their creditors. The First National bank of this place has a mortgage on the stock for \$1,300 and other liabilities amount to about \$1,500. The stock will prob-ably invoice the latter amount and the book

O. P. Reinhart, an old settler, died this morning aged sixty years.

Deserted the Oatmeal Trust. FORT DODGE, Ia., Dec. 17 .- [Special Telegram to THE BEE.]-H. R. Heath, late proprictor of the big Des Moines oatmeal mill, today telegraphed his resignation to the secretary of the national catmeal trust. Mr. Heath has been a member of the trust for ten years. He is now erecting a large oatmeal mill here. It will have a capacity of 300 barrels a day and will be operated independently of the combine.

Jordan's Promotion.

Stoux City, Ia., Dec. 17 .- [Special Telegram to THE BEE.]-E. W. Jordan, who for fourteen years has been connected with the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul road here, today received notice of his appointment to the position of division freight and passenger gent in charge of the Sioux City and Dakota visions with headquarters here.

Ratified the Agreement. NEW YORK, Dec. 17 .- [Special Telegram to THE BEE.]-It is officially announced that the Louisville & Nashville has purchased control of the Kentucky Central railroad. The Missouri Pacific directors have ratified the presidents' agreement, and S. H. H.Clark, with the president, will represent the company on the advisory board.

A Keckuk Grocery House Assigns. KEOKUK, Ia., Dec. 17 .- Collier, Robertson & Hamilton, who gave a mortgage on their wholesale grocery stock and building a few days ago, made an assignment today. Liabili-tics, \$184,000; assets, less than one-half of

Harvester Agents Discharged FORT DODGE, Ia., Dec. 17.—[Special Telegram to THE BRE.]—Every local agent of the Champion harvester company in this barritory has been requested by the company

to forward his resignation at oace. The reason given for this wholesale decapitation is that the American barvester company will hereafter transact all business of the company. To some of the older and most trusted agents it was intimated that the trust might offer them situations shortly. As this course will be followed by the other companies of the combine, hundreds of men will thus find themselves out of a situation in this terrimselves out of a situation in this terri-

Death of a Monk. Dubuque, Ia., Dec. 17.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—Brother Edward, one of the best known of the Trappist monks at the New Mellery monastery, died last night, aged thirty-four. He was famous as a veterinary surgeon.

A PRIVATE RANK COLLAPSES.

One of the Oldest in Chicago Forced to Suspend.

Curcago, Dec. 17.-The private banking house of S. A. Kean & Co., one of the oldest in Chicago, will not open its doors tomorrow. Mr. Kean made a statement to the press tonight announcing the suspension. He declined to estimate the liabilities or assets, but was of the opinion that every claim would be paid in full. They had been negotiating some time, he said, for reorganization, either as a state or national bank, and expected to reorganize without stopping business. It had been found, however, that it would be impossible in a short time to raise the necessary funds to continue business with safety pending reorganization. It was thereupon decided to accept the next wisest course—suspension. to accept the next wisest course-suspension. "Our business," continued Mr. Kean, "has grown too rapidly the last year or two for our capital, and the stringency in the money market made it impossible for us to turn over securities again at once after we had loaned money on them. Our nominal capital was \$100,000, but our reorganization would be

\$500,000. Dut our reorganization would be \$500,000.

The firm, which was formerly known as Preston, Kean & Co., has done a large business in floating city, county and public improvement bonds issued in the west. These, when not otherwise disposed of, would be pledged to the banks for call loans. At New York and other eastern points these loans have recently been called beavily and the drain on the house apparently reached the limit today. Another factor was the circumstance that the demand for securities of comparatively newly settled districts, districts such as were largely dealt in by Kean & Co., had fallen oft to a considerable extent. Deposits in the institution recently aggregated between \$600,000 and \$700,000. Wide celebrity was given the nouse some years ago by the was given the house some years ago by the extraordinary incidents following the defactation of it cashier. Ker, who was traced to and brought back from Peru, and after a long legal fight incarcerated in Joliet.

AN AFTER CLAP.

One Hero of Pall Mall Exposures it Trouble at Seattle.

SEATTLE, Wash., Dec. 17 .- [Special Telegram to THE BEE.-Charles R. Hammond was convicted in the superior court today of grand larceny and is now in the county jail. Hammond was formerly proprietor of the notorious Creveland Street house in London, whose infamous exposures were made in the Pall Mall Gazette.

New developments in the case indicate that Hammond is the victim of a conspiracy of which Alexander Todhunter is at the head Todhunter is supposed to be an English de-tective and after failing to get Hammond on English soil worked this case against him charging him with stealing a sealskin sacque from a woman whom Todhunter induced to visit Hammond's. Hammond claims that there is \$250,000 at his disposal on deposit in the Bank of California and other banks. It is said to have been placed there by wealthy Englishmen as bush money. Hammond has been in Seattle more than a year and has abundant means. He refuses to talk, but admits having threatened to return to London and says that parties there are trying to on and says that parties there are trying to prevent his return, and that in order to do so Todhunter, as their tool, trumped up this charge against him. He expects to get a new trial and says that he will return to London and take the consequences, but s'eadfastly refuses to betray the men who patronized his Cleveland street house.

WESTERN PACKING INTERESTS. A Falling Off in the Number of Hogs

CINCINNATI, O., Dec. 17 .- [Special Telegram to THE BEE.]-Tomorrow's Price Cur-

rent will say : Packing places making returns have handled 510,000 hogs for the week, against 560,000 the preceding week, and 440,000 last year. Estimating places not reported, the total from November 1 is 3,335,000, against 2,810,000 last year. Undermentioned places

compare as follows:		
Citios	1890	1889
Chicago Kansas City Omaha Sioux City Indianapolis Cincinnati Milwaukee	1,135,000 418,000 232,000 125,000 162,000 141,000 133,000	120,00 285,00 140,00 145,00 135,00 147,00 128,00
St. Louis Cedar Rapids Cleveland Ottumwa	115,000 113,000 108,000 56,000	185,00 87,00 89,00 47,00

Switchmen Strike.

RAWLINS, Wyo., Dec. 17 .- [Special Telegram to THE BEE. |-The switchmen in the vards here struck this afternoon, resulting in a complete tie-up of everything except passenger and mail trains. The strike is in sym-pathy with the Ogden strikers and is thought will be general on the system.

Death of an Embezzler. MILWAUKEE, Wis., Dec. 17 .- A dispatch from Geneva says that Bert B. Scott. late treasurer of Ashland county, died at Hot Springs, Ark., this morning. At the most critical time of his illness news came from Ashiand that his official affairs were in bad

Engineer of the Chicago Canal. CHICAGO, Dec. 17 .- William E. Worthen of New York was today appointed chief engineer of the Chicago canal, vice Cooley, discharged. Worthen is a former vice president of the New York & New Haven railroad, and was president of the American Society of Civil Engineers in 1887.

French Foreign Trade. Paris, Dec. 17 .- | Special Cablegram to

THE BEE.-Returns issued by the French board of trade show that during the month of November the imports decreased 6,972,000 francs and exports decreased 54,196,000 francs as compared with the corresponding month

Shot and Killed His Wife. LEADVILLE, Colo., Dec. 17 .- J. E. Phelan shot and instantly killed his wife last evening at Cardiff. He barricaded himself in the house after the shooting and denied the authorities admittance. The sheriff and crowd finally captured him.

On Economical Grounds. BERNE, Dec. 17 .- [Special Cablegram to THE BEE. |-The government of the Argentine Republic has decided to withdraw its ministers from Switzerland and close its le-gation here. This action is taken on the

grounds of economy.

Gladstone Getting Better. DUBLIN, Dec. 17.—Though Paraell suffered intense pain from the effects of the lime thrown into his eyes at Castle Comer yester day, he was able last night to address from a window of the hotel at Kilkenney a large crowd. During the address his face was covered with bandages. He detailed the events of the day, and the crowd became ex-asperated at the manner in which he was treated and many threats of vengoance were made. An examination of Parnell's eyes re-vealed the fact that his sight is not injured. The surgeon declares, however, that inflama-tion may set in, and has ordered the patient

to keep his eyes closed. Cork City and County Convention. CORK, Dec. 17 .- The city and county convention assembled here today. The name of Parnell was greeted with cheers by the dele-

gates, but the crowd grouned it. The high

sheriff of Cork presided. The chairman read a telegram from Patrick Egan, giving instructions for the transfer of his shares of United Ireland to McCarthy. McCarthy in an address declared that if the Irish party wanted authority or sanction for what they had done the magnificent gathering there assembled gave it to them.

Sullivan Sails for Liverpool. New Your, Dec. 17 -T. S. Sullivan, one of the Irish delegates, sailed for Liverpool

The Fire Record. KEORUK, Ia., Dec. 17 .- A Gate City Skahoka, Mo., special says the Keckuk & Westera depot, 1,000,000 feet of lumber and Bott's elevator burned this morning. Loss \$210,000. Cinesgo, Dec. 17. — Fire in the Burton block, occupied by several small manufacfories, tonight caused losses aggregating

Restricting the Mckinley Bill. WASHINGTON, Dec. 17. -In the senate today Sherman, from the committee on foreign relations, reported a bill providing that the McKinley tariff act shall not be held to impede or impair the force of any treaty between the United States and any other gov-

Trainmen Want Wages Readjusted. CHICAGO, Dec. 17.—Delegates representing the railway conductors, engineers, firemen and brotherhood of trainmen are in the city to confer with the officials of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul relative to the adoption of a new schedule of wages.

ALASKA AND ITS PEOPLE.

Miner W. Bruce's Interesting Account of This Mysterious Country.

Miner W. Bruce, one of the pioneer explorers of Alaska, passed through Omaha yesterday on his way to Washington to look after the bill now pending before the house looking to vesting the rights of the inhabitants to acquire title to Alaskan lands. As the law now stands they may take mining claims, but can get no clear title to lands.

Nearly two years ago Mr. Bruce went to Alaska in the interest of a syndicate of newspapers and sent back some of the most comprehensive letters ever written about that mysterious land.

Mr. Bruce was seen by a BEE representative, and said:

"I have been traveling by canoe the past five months, covering that portion of southeastern Alaska which I did not cover last "What is the climate of Alaska?" he was

"It is similar to that of Washington, but I think hardly as wet. The people don't begin to know anything about Alaska. It covers a vast territory and is so sparsely settled. There are only three towns, and not one of them exceeds 800 inhabitants. The chief industries are mining, fishing, canning and "What country did you cover during your

canoe trip!"
"I went from Cape Fanshaw to the extreme southeastern part of the territory. It was a dry season and very comfortable for traveling, except the last six weeks when it rained most of the time "What are the agricultural resources of the

"While it is not a strictly agricultural country by any means, yet the soil and climate are susceptible to the cultivation of the finest fruits and vegetables, and in fact all root growth. Some of the finest vegetables I have ever eaten were grown there by the Chinese and Siwasnes who worked in the "What do you think of the country and its

future?" "I am more than pleased with the country, and think that it has a great future. While I regard Alaska as a country of most wonder-ful resources, I must be careful about advis-

ing emigration for the present, for the rea-son that the country is sparsely settled and from the fact that settlers under the present law cannot obtain title to lands. "What sort of people are the natives or Indians in Ataska?

"The Siwaspes, or Indians—we do not call them Indians out there—are very intelligent and make a better—living than half the farmers in Nebraska. It is a curious fact, but in my estimation correct, that the Siwashes of Alaska are the descendants of the Japanese, have wandered across the straits cen turies ago and formed a race that is Oriental and yet occidental. You may cover the lower face of any one of the natives and above will be found the oblique eyes, the straight hair and all the characteristics of "What is the consensus of opinion in regard

o the seal fishing question ?" "The last seal contract was the result of one of the biggest schemes ever put up in this country. Seals are not any scarcer than they were before the contract was made. Some of the members of this new company will make more money from the catch of 20,000 skins than they would if they caught the full catch of 60,000 skins. The attitude of our government on this question is preposterous, and I think that Secretary Blaine instead of indulging in a controversy with Prime Minis-ter Salisbury over the seal question, might better divert his attention to the opening of Alaska for settlement and devote his services to the development of its rosources." "Would you advise emigration to Alaska?"

"No, I would not. Alaska will some day be the elysium of the immigrant, but just now I would not aguise anyone who has not means to emigrate there. You see, the ac-quirement of land, until the bill pending is passed, is impossible, and the slim population and lack of industries as we know them bac east would render it impossible to support a large influx of people. I have not been in a position to get my mail, except at long inter-vale, but I understand that the bill I have een laboring for has passed both houses and is now before a conference committee on

THE GUN WAS LOADED.

John Mortensen Accidentally Shot and Seriously Wounded.

John Mortensen, a laborer, was accidentally shot vesterday afternoon at 617 Pacific street. He and a friend named Christian Bach were looking at a revolver, one of those proverbial guns that "are not loaded," when the thing very unexpectedly went off and Mortensen received a bullet of a 28-calibre in the lower part of the abdomen. He was re-moved to St. Joseph's hospital and a physi-cian summoned. The wound is not consid-ered particularly dangerous, although it may develop into something more dangerous than the suffering of the wounded man at present would indicate. Mortenson said the shooting was purely accidental, and he attaches no diame whatever to his friend, Bach.

District Court. In the district court Catherine Haley has brought suit against Jeseph C. Christie and Joseph Sipe to quiet the title to a lot in Brown park. The plaintiff alleges that on December 9, 1890, she owned the lot, having deed to the same, and that about that time Sipe as her agent, and acting in that capacity without her knowledge, fraudulently pro-cured her signature to a deed running to Christie. She further alleges that the property in question is worth \$1,600, and will ask the court to order the possession of the prop-erty back where it was before the transfer

Marriage Lacenses. The following marriage licenses were issued by Judge Shields yesterday: Name and address. An Alleged Whisky Thief. Herbert Warner was put on trial before

Judge Dundy yesterday on the charge of

stealing several barrels of whisky on which

the tax had not been paid. The whisky was

locked up in the government warehouse at the Meadow Grove distillery and the ware-house was broken into last August and the whisky stolen. A Fugitive From Justice. W. M. Sanford, a young man from Lincoln was arrested yesterday as a fugitive from justice at the request of the Lincoln authorities. It is understood that he stole a watch

OF INTEREST TO THE FARMER.

Some Suggestion at to the Science of Gil Edw Bu w Making.

THE N CESSTY OF A FEED FLOOR.

Value of Smalt Fruits on the Farm-How to Raise Butter Fat-Winter Care of Chickens-Early Crops.

The possession of a pure bred herd of dairy cows is a decided advantage, yet native or grade in good health, with good care, feed, and abundance of pure water, will furnish milk from which firstclass butter can be made; although probably in smaller quantity percow thanockfrom a butter breed, says Ella R wood, in the American Agriculturalist The milk should be drawn from the cow quickly and quietly, after the udder has been well cleaned. No noise or confusion can be allowed, much less harsh words or blows. The cows must be kept quiet and contented to secure pure milk, the first requisite in the manufacture of good butter. Remove each pail from the stable as soon as it is filled; as every moment it remains exposed to odors of any kind injures the flavor of the milk. Strain as soon as possible into deep cans, either in a creamery or tank. The cans, should not be more than six inches in diameter, and four is better. After the milk has stood twelve hours at a temperature of 44° or thereabouts the cream will all have risen and should be drawn off to ripen. A can made of heavy tin, provided with a close fitting cover with a small hole in it to allow of ventilation, should be used for the cream. It should be large enough to hold the entire quantity for a churning. Then it is allowed to sour slightly, stirring it frequently to insure evenness of acidity. Be very careful that the cream does not become too sour, nor too warm. In my experience if the cream rises much above 650 it does not make butter that will be firm and solid. It soon becomes soft and sticky when exposed to warm air. Do not add cream to that to be churned less than twenty-four hours before churning. It will not ripen perfectly, and much of that added last will be lost. Use a churn with no dasher or paddles inside, They injure the grain of the butter. Have the cream at 62° in summer and 64° in winter. Don't guess at it: have a thermome

ter. This costs but a trifle and is indispensable in making good butter. As soon as the butter begins to grain test it with the thermometer. If it is too warm, which it is quite likely to be in summer, put in lumps of ice until the temperature fails to 60 degrees. Then revolve the churn slowly until the gran-ules of butter are the size of wheat ker-Draw off the buttermilk, or as much of it as possible without the butter; add a pailful of cold water, re-volve the churn a few times, draw off again, and repeat this process until the water comes away clear. Then add a handful of salt to a pailful of cold water, pour it over the butter, let it stand a few minutes, draw off and let the butter drain. Take out the butter either in a butter bowl or a butter worker; if the former, take only a few pounds at a time, sprinkle salt evenly over it at the rate of one and one-half ounces to the pound, or according to taste. Press the butter with the ladle, chep the salt in well, turn and press again. Pour off the ac-cumulated brine and work lightly by pressing with the ladle, always bearing in mind that the granules of butter must not be broken. When the salt is sufficiently incorporated with the butter pack it away at once. No further working is necessary. After the package is full, cover the top with a circle of parchment paper wet in cold water; press smoothly to exclude the air, and

cover the whole with salt, wet to a 'slush" with cold water. A Feed Floor.

It would be a strange fall indeed in which it never rained enough for the feeding hogs to make a mortar bed of their feed lot. What are we going to do? Shall we throw them down their corn in this mud, and let them root for it, eating as much mud as they do corn? pon every farm is to be found a lot of

old plank laying around and doing no good, and often rotting upon the ground, writes F. D. Beck in the Swineherd. Gather these all up and haul them to your feed lot, and make a feed floor upon which you can feed your hogs. Have it ample for the accommodation of all your hogs, so there will be no crowding. A few minutes work each day with a hoe will keep your feed floor clean and your hogs will not be compelled to root among the filth and mud to get their food.

Their food will be clean and their meat will be wholesome and well flavored. In building our feed floor our object should be to get it as nearly upon a level with the surrounding ground as possible. Heavy hogs are liable to inure themselves getting on or off if the floor is placed any distance above the surrounding ground. Nail your boards down solid so there will be no danger of any being rooted from place and letting

hog drop through and cripple itself. am sure that before another fall you will have it under roof, and the upon which the storm strikes sided up without my telling you that you should do so. Yes, build a feed floor if you have to buy new lumber to build it with. The first lot of hogs you feed upon it will pay for the Tumber in additional gains for feed consumed, and your floor will be ready for future use.

Small Fruits on the Farm.

On a small plot of ground enough fruit can be grown, if preper care is given, to supply a family of ordinary size three times a day the year through. I am aware that this statement may seem a rather broad one, but those who have a "little garden well tilled." will bear me out in the assertion, says Vick's Magaine. It is surprising to those who have had no experience in this line, to find out how much can be grown on a very small piece of ground, if proper atten-tion is given. It does not require such an amount as one often imagines it must. because the regular use of it on the table has a tendency to prevent as great indulgence in it as would naturally be the case were it used only as a delicacy brought out on extra occ sions. Used regularly, it becomes a sort of appetizer, and really acts as a tonic of the beskind. Its pleasant acid tones up the sys tem and whets the appetite for a keener appreciation of more solid food. It is a direct aid to digestion, and those who eat of it regularly are seldon troubled with those ailments which call for pills and physic. The fruit eater is seldom

By all means set out plenty of small fruit. Have a row of currants, a bed of strawberries, raspberries along the fence, and grapes wherever a support can be arranged for them. If you have never tried your hand at small fruit

culture, make up your mind to experi-ment in it, and the chances are, if you take care of the "venture" with which you start out, you will be so pleased with your success that in a year or two you will "branch out" until you have all the fruit your family requires, It is just as easy to care for a garden of this kind as it is to properly cultivate a field of corn, but most farmers have got the idea into their heads that it is puttering work, and nothing will get this idea out of their heads except a trial, which will be sure to convince them that no other part of the farm pays so well, all thing considered, as a goo d garden.

Chicken Quarters for Winter. We have presented, during the year, quite a number of designs of poultry-houses, and our readers should have made a selection from among the number before this time, as it is important that preparations for winter be made before the cold season arrives, says Farm and Fireside.

To procure eggs in winter it is essential that the fowls be kept warm, for warmth is more essential than food during a period of cold weather. No matter how well a flock may be fed, fowls cannot lay unless they are kept under conditions of comfort that conduce to the production of eggs. Good quarters are also economical, for the more warmth the smaller the proportion of food re-

quired to support the birds.

In erecting buildings, it should be kept in view that fowls must have a space for exercising and dusting, and also have plenty of light. There are periods dur-ing the winter when the hens can enjoy the outside yards, which is always bene ficial, but at no time should they be subject to exposure to cold winds or northeast storms. See that all cracks and crevices are stopped, and that no cold draughts come in on the fowls at night.

About Gooseberries. While it seems impossible to grow the finer foreign gooseberries in this country, owing to mildew on foliage, we may enjoy such native varieties as Houghton. Downing, etc., with as little care and experience as currants. Indeed, says Josiah Hooper in New York Tribune, it seems curious that not more of the latter are planted, owing to their abundant crops and culinaly usefulness. It is possible for any one to raise the young plants with little trouble, and without any previous experience. Houghton or American Seedling is usually grown from cuttings of mature wood during autumn, made into lengths of about six inches, and either set at once in rows or tied in bundles and buried in an upright position in the soil. Fall planting is preferable provided it be done early, and the cuttings protected during winter by mulching. Fibers form whenever the ground is not frozen, and if set in autumn or even in very early spring, they will have obtained a very firm hold before hot, dry weather can hurt them. The Downing gooseberry will not readily grown from cuttings, but if the young shoots are bent to the ground. pegged down and covered with soil coots will start out during summer, and by fall will be ready to separate from the parent plant. Gooseberries delight in deep, rich, moist soil; no other plant responds more quickly to generous applications of manure. It pays to treat the gooseberry well if fine fruit is desired; it is useless to permit them to grow at will, as too many cultivators do.

Preparation for Earliest Crops. For our earliest cabbage, lettuce and other outside crops we employ a method of fall preparation, says a writer in Pop-ular Gardening, which is not in general use, we think, and which gives a start of more than a week in the spring over or-dinary preparation. This is done by applying a heavy coat of manure in the fall and ridging the land with a plow. The ridge consists of a double furrow thrown up in regular order across the field. Several advantages arise by this method. The soil is thoroughly exposed to the benefit of freezing in winter, thus insuring finer tilth the coming season; the larvæ of the May beetle and other insects are destroyed by freezing. In the spring the soil dries out sooner than in adjoining land that is not thus ridged. Immediately it is dry enough to level with the harrow, seeds can be sown, for the manuring and plowing were done in the fall, and thus the crop is started a long time ahead of what would have been possible on land that was only manured and plowed in the spring.

Largest Farm in the World.

In the extreme southwest corner of Louisiana lies the largest producing farm in the world. Measuring 100 miles north and south and twenty-five miles east and west, it is owned and operated by a syndicate of northern capitalists, says Spare Moments. The 1,500,000 acres of the tract were purchased in 1883 from the state of Louisiana and from the United States government.

At that time it was a vast grazing land for the cattle of the few dealers of the neighborhood, over 30,000 head of half-wild horses and cattle being thereon. Now this immense tract is divided into convenient pasture stations, or ranches, existing every six miles. fencing alone cost in the neighborhood of \$50,000. The land is best adapted for rice, sugar corn, and cotton. All cultivating, ditching, etc., is done by steam power. A tract, say half a mile wide, is taken and an engine placed on each side. The engines are portable, and operate a cable attached to four plows, and under this arrangement acres a day are gone over with the labor of three men. Harrowing, planting and other cultivation is done in a like manner. There is not a single draft horse

on the entire place. Of course horses are used for the herders of cattle, of which there are 16,000 head. The Southern Pacific railway runs for thirty-six miles through farm. The company has three steamboats operating on the waters of its estates, of which there are 300 miles navigable. It has also an icehouse, a bank, a skipyard, and a rice-

Rain Storms and Poultry.

Diseases that affect fowls in winter are more prevalent during the continuance of rainy weather than during a cold period, says the Farm and Fireside. Clear, cold weather, when the air is dry, seidom affects poultry unfavorably, and at such times there is nothing to prevent turning the hensoutside, giving them litter to scratch in and allowing them to keep warm by healthy exercise; but poultry of all kinds suffer from some one or more of the various allments due to exposure to damp weather. Roup is a disease that seldom puts in an appearnce in dry weather. The dampness is also fatal to chicks during the winter. The best remedy is shelter, a warm, tight house, and the fowls confined during damp days, or until the weather becomes clear. A Cow (tub.

A cow club is in existence in Iron Mountain, Mich. Each cow owner on joining pays 75 cents for every cow in his possession. When a member's cow dies an assessment is made and the owner of the dead cow receives \$40.

Ancient Modes of Writing.

The most ancient mode of writing was n bricks, tiles and oyster shells, and on tables of stone, afterwards on plates of various materials, on ivery, on barks of trees, on leaves of trees.

SEVERE STORM IN THE EAST.

Eastern Ohio, West Virginia and Pennsylvania Suffer Heavily. PITTSBURG, Pa., Dec. 17 .- The heaviest now storm in five years is prevailing here and a heavy fall is reported at different points in the Allegheny mountains. Telegraph, telephone and electric light wires are down, trains delayed and business practically

suspended.

This city, being almost the storm center, has suffered more severely. The monetary damage is very great, all branches of trade especially the railroad and street car lines, which have practically suspended, paralyzing business and causing a total stoppage of operations in the oil and stock exchange. Through the breaking of electric light wires three horses have been killed, two drivers knocked unconscious and a street car filled with frightened passengers set ablaze in a moment. The police switch boards and telephones have been burned out, and as a result the outlying police districts are solated. Millions of tons of coal are lying in the backwater from the dam, and should rapid thaw ensue the greatest damage will be long the rivers.

Reports from the country districts show ven greater damage owing to the lack of facilities for transportation. At Bedford, Pa., two feet of snow are reported, with a complete blockade of the lumber business along the Blue and Laurel Ridge mountains.

West Virginia and eastern Ohio have suffered greatly and the situation is growing worse. A sudden flood is the greatest calamity now feared.

At 11 o'clock tonight the snow is still falling and has nearly reached the two-foot line.
A few roofs have been crushed in by the weight of the snow.

In New York. New York, Dec. 17.-The storm today seriously interfered with river and harbor business. Several small boats were sunk and a large number of passengers who had engaged passage on steamers which were to sail today were unable to do so. Tele-graphic communication south and west is seriously interfered with. A portion of the roof of Daly's theater was blown off this afternoon. One man was severely injured. One of the iron smokestacks on the postoffice building was blown down and went crashing through the glass ceiling over the mailing room, injuring quite severely a letter carrier.

HE MURDERED MOORE.

So the Jury Decides in the Case of

of Charlie Ford. OTTAWA, Ill., Dec. 17 .- | Special Telegram to THE BEE.]-The trial of Charlie Ford, accused as the principal in the murder of David Moore, the Omaha traveling man, in Allen park, in this city, on July 21 last, a crime for which Bill O'Brien, who assisted Ford, is now serving a life sentence at Joliet, ame to an end at 9:30 o'clock tonight, after twenty-five days of court, the jury finding Ford guilty of murder and fixing the penalty at death by hanging. The crime was one of more than local interest and has no parallel in the history of the county of Lasalle. Moore was a prominent Mason and weil-tolo citizen of Omaha. He was employed as

firm and came to Ottawa on business on the morning of the murder. Twenty-four hours ater he was found with his head crushed by a dozen blows from a coupling pin, which lay beside the body beneath the trees of Ailen park. Kate Ford, wife of the man whose neck has just been placed in the balter was found acting suspiciously and the balter was found acting suspiciously and upon being arrested made a confession that she had met Moore in the park by appointment on the night of the murder and that her husband and Bill O'Brien had by previous agreement attempted to blackmail Moore. Moore resisted and the men then killed him, beating his head with a coupling pin. The murder created intense excitement and pub-lic interest is as active today as it was on the morning after the crime. A special grand jury was called and the men together with Kate Ford and Minnie Winterling, who was

traveling salesman by a Wisconsin lumber

with the gang, were indicted. The women plead guilty, but sentence was deferred as they were to be used as witnesses. O'Brien's trial came off in August and after two weeks of exciting court work O'Brien was sentenced to jail for life. Nearly a month ago, after a hundred veniremen had been examined and a week's time exhausted, a jury was secured to try Charlie Ford. Two weeks have been consumed in the examination of witnesses and four days in argument by States Attorney Blake and ex-States Attorney Maloney for the state and F. G. Allen and W. Boys, young attorneys, for the defense.

Ford was proven guilty beyond a shadow of a doubt, Minnie Winterling describing the crime in detail and many witnesses testifying to seeing Ford and his wife together and to seeing the crowd go over to the park. Ford is an ex-convict, having served time in Joliet for a Chicago burglary committed in 1831. He is about twenty-one years old. The verdict is a very popular one. When it was announced the large audience almost broke into applause.

Government Gun Factories. WASHINGTON, Dec. 17.-The preliminary

report of the board on gun factories, etc., appointed by the president in accordance with the act of congress, was transmitted to the senate today. It brief it says a factory should be located on the Pacific coast to fur nish the guns required for its defense, but the board does not consider it advisable at this time to recommend the erection of, a factory at Rock Island arsenal, at Indianapolis or or or near the gulf coast.

Business Troubles. PORTLAND, Ore., Dec. 17 .- News has been received here that Charles Hussey, owner of banks at Murray and Wallace, Idano, has assigned for the benefit of his creditors. is believed that the assets are sufficient to cover the liabilities. The suspension is due to a lack of funds to meet the present heavy

The Death Roll. Louisville, Ky., Dec. 17 .- Ex-Congressman H. D. McHenry, a member of the national democratic committee, died suddenly of heart disease this morning at his home.

Louisiana Sawmills Shut Down. LAKE CHARLES, La., Dec. 17 .- All the sawmills on Lake Charles and the Calcasieu river have been shut down owing to a strike of the men for a ten-hour day.

At Morse's You can purchase now any kind of Christmas goods and bave them stored away in a safe large room especially provided for the purpose, and we have made special arrangements to deliver anyhing so left with us the day or evening before Christmas; should you desire us to do so we will make deliveries Christ-

mas morning. DICTIONARIES \$1.25. We have received 200 more of the Webster's unabridged dictionaries bound in Russia leather at \$1.25 each, Read adv. on 8th page.
THE MORSE DRY GOODS CO.

BREVITIES. Mrs. Maynard, the woman from Blair

who was arrested for shop-lifting, was fined \$2 and costs. She paid her fine and took the evening train for home. The Crystal fee company yesterday began the work of erecting new buildings upon the site of the ice houses that burned Monday. The main building will be 132x110, two stories high. The cost of the new buildings will exceed \$5,000 and will be ready for the new ice crop by January 1.

Commissioners Turner and Corrigan and Auditor Evans went to Glenwood, In., yesterday to inspect the electric light plant in the state institution at that point. They were escorted by the agent of the electric company, who is nished the wherewith for the junket.



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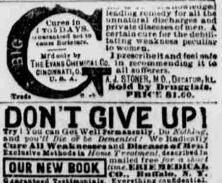
HELENA, MONTANA,

THE RICHEST CITY IN THE WORLD. NOTICE THE BANKING CAPITAL.

L. G. PHELPS, Sec'y Citizens Committee, Helena, Montana

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