

WORSE THAN WARBINGTON.

The Exhibit of the Art Association Narrowly
Escapes Total Destruction.

BAD BREAK IN THE STEELE BUILDING.

A Section of the North Wall Gives Way—A Number of Workmen Injured, But None Seriously.

Shortly before noon yesterday a section of the north wall of the D. M. Steele building, at the corner of Thirteenth and Harney, fell to the sidewalk with a deafening crash, but very fortunately no one was passing at the time.

The building is being remodeled and another story added, and is to be occupied by the Lee-Clark-Andresen hardware com-

pany. Preparations were being made to raise the roof, and it seems that the work will be completed in about a month.

The section that tumbled was about thirty feet long and fifteen feet high and comprised the center of the front end of the top story. Five large windows and about 5,500 brick were in it. The top of the building was so high that the joints that had been put in position for the fourth floor were torn from their places and splintered.

Several workmen were struck and bruised by the falling brick, but none of them received severe injuries.

Guards had previously been placed across the sidewalk to keep pedestrians out of danger's way, although in this case they failed to enclose all of the dangerous territory, as many of the falling missiles landed in the middle of the street.

The building is just being vacated by the Omaha Art Exhibition association and over

Hierstadt's \$30,000 "Buffalo Hunt" was another painting which was destroyed by the flames against the wall at the time, and Bouengerous's \$18,000 "Return of Spring," which was so sadly mutilated by the crank Warshawski, is now in the hands of the artist, who is the topping section of the wall and again narrowly escaped destruction.

Mr. Jay Smith, the art director, who had been in the library, remarked after reviewing the wreck: "I am not inclined to be superstitious, but here is food for reflection. I have not forgotten that when I was in Denver and was notified of Washington's destruction of the 'Return of Spring,' Mr. Allott said to me: 'You made your money in the stock market on Friday, you went to Omaha on Friday, you

gave your opening banquet on Friday, and now you'll be lucky if you get out of Omaha alive! It begins to look that way, but still I

hopeful. I am preparing to ship about 100 of the pictures to Denver, and I have already sent home a number of them.

The O'Connells are not the owners of the pictures or the Buongiorno. I am endeavoring to get the consent of both sides to allow me to take the pictures out of the house. I don't want to have it settled without going into court, and in the meantime I suppose it will have to do.

There is an O'Connell house. The pictures now has a national reputation, and I would exhibit well anywhere. If I was to exhibit it I would keep it just as it is, as it would be in in the best patched condition that I have ever seen.

Building Inspector Whitlock examined the structure after the accident, and will require the O'Connells to put up a new wall on the west wall which has been bulged for some time. The damage done will not be heavy, as

much of the failed portion was to have been rebuilt in any event.

South OMAHA NEWS.

Illegally Swapped Coats.

Thomas Kelly of Grand Island is in jail as a suspicious character. Thomas is suspected of being an accomplice of a man who today wears a pilfered coat. Yesterday morning two men went into J. Hasell's clothing store on Twenty-sixth street, and while one was trying on some garments the other deftly slipped off his old coat and slipped into a new \$3-coat and walked out. On discovering his loss, J. Hasell called the police and told them. Mr. Kelly answers the description of the man who claimed he wanted to buy, but the new coat and accomplice have gone where the wind blithely.

Good Templars' Election.

South Omaha lodge, No. 103, I. O. G. T., closed their annual election of officers and members last evening. The following were elected:

D. S. Curfman, C. T.; Miss Swiss Lee El.
Hott, V. T.; Miss Lottie Nunn, Supt. J. T.;

Elroy Tibbets, secretary; Clarence C. Buck,
P. S.; Miss Ruby Griffith, treasurer; W.
Boed Davis, chairman; G. E. Hatcher, sec-
retary; Fred Rice, G. O. Rn; Merrill, senti-
ment.

Celebrate an Anniversary.

The invitation by Omaha Lodge No.
2, Daughters of Rebekah, to Alpha Lodge
No. 44, Daughters of Rebekah, South Omaha
Lodge No. 148, N. O. O. F., and Encampment
No. 76 to attend a celebration of the thirty-
third anniversary on Friday evening,
February 6, has been accepted by the local
lodges.

Notes About the City.

Mrs. Bayless, wife of Daniel P. Bayless, is
listed among the sick.

Miss Mary Lou Ada Grove, Ia, is visit-
ing her sister, Miss Mary Stange, Ia.

Fred Craftman and James Reynolds of Des Moines, Ia., are visiting in this city.

Mr. and Mrs. Isaac Jackson of Dunlap, Ill., are the guests of Mr. and Mrs. S. W. Francis.

Editor Bruce McCulloch of the Stockman was taken suddenly ill yesterday and was unable to attend.

Residences are being erected by S. R. H. Cherry and M. Traill, near Nineteenth and M. streets.

M. M. Parrish has made application to be appointed justice of the peace, vice Horace Jackson.

The Epworth league will give an entertainment in the lecture room of the Methodist church Friday evening.

Mrs. Taggart, wife of Veterinary Surgeon J. W. Taggart, has returned to Omaha. Mrs. Taggart is dangerously ill in Illinois.

Misses Catherine Hayes and Phoebe Phillips of Platte Center are the guests of Mrs. J. W. Taggart.

Mrs. J. A. Pierson of Centerville, Ia., who has been visiting her daughter and son-in-

The Odd Fellows' hall building committee has been authorized by the city to acquire the site of the old Odd Fellows' hall, which was destroyed by fire in 1904. The committee has been authorized to acquire the site of the old Odd Fellows' hall, which was destroyed by fire in 1904. The committee has been authorized to acquire the site of the old Odd Fellows' hall, which was destroyed by fire in 1904.

Distances Held to the Distance Course

Marriage Licenses.
The following marriage licenses were issued yesterday by Judge Shields:
Name and address. Age.
John Gwin, Washington county, Neb. 24
Mary Tuttle, Omaha. 22
Eugene Padgett, Omaha. 24
Mary Knudson, South Omaha. 22