#### MILLIONS IN MEXICAN MINES.

Gold and Silver Holes Which Have Been Worked For Centuries.

THEY ARE OPEN TO EVERY FOREIGNER.

How Sure-Footed Indians Climb Per pendicular Poles Loaded (Wth Precious Ore-English and American Capital Invested.

[Copyright 1891 by Frank G. Carpenter.] ZACATEGAS, Mex., June 22.- [Special Correspondence of THE BEE. |-A city of 50,000 people a mile and a half above the sea. A reat jumble of flat roofed, box shaped houses built up close to cobble-stone sidewalks above a network of tunnels which run in and out, across and above each other with all the wanderings of Resamond's bower.

These tunnels dug through veins of soild silver. Silver in specks all around and about you from the hundreds of mines which dot the sides of the mountains, to the clear sit very sky which hangs overhead. This is a bare outline of the great Mexican city of Zacatecas. Here everything is silver. In the days of Cortes the mines were worked, and from then till now the work has gone on giving hundreds of millions to the world. It goes on still and under my feet the Aztecs of today are working away as they did in the past, and across the way I see the mules tramping their hoofs off in the vitriol and quicksilver with which the ore is mixed in order to reduce it for the market. Mexico has given to the world more than four thousand million dollars' worth of gold and silver and much of the latter has come from here. This whole region is full of silver. The mountains on every side and in fact in nearly every part of Mexico are filled with ore, and from the Pacific ocean to the Gulf of Mexico there is a vast country of incalculable possibilities. Travelers and old Mexicans tell me that the southern part of the country is even richer in minerals than the northern paat and all agree that the land hus not as yet been prospected. The western coast contains undeveloped regions of gold and silver, and this will soon be opened to the milroads. In Chihuahua, just north of here, there are mines out of which \$314,000,000 have been taken in about one hundred and thirty years, and seven days' ride by stage to the west of these are the Bartopilas mines, which are owned by Governor Shepherd, and out of which he is taking great quantities of good ore. So far he has put all his profits back into his mines, and he is, I am told, developing them on the same magnificent scale that he improved Washington. He lives in the hope of a vast fortune in the future, and is spending, it is said, in improved machinery and fine mining furniture what any Mexican or ordinary American would consider a fortune. About twelve miles from Chihuahua there is a little mining territory the size of an Ohio township, or about six miles square. It is among the mountains, and in it more than wo hundred mines have been developed, he veins run deep down into the earth, and fifty of the shafts are more than six hundred feet deep. These mines have been worked for nearly ten generations, and the mines of Governor Shepherd are 250 years old. They have already cost millions and it is easy to spend millions in the development and furnishing of a mine. The count of Regia, who made so much out of the famous mines at Pachuca, spent, it is said, \$2,500,000 on his reduction works of an hundred years ago, but he cleared \$500,000 a year out of them for twelve years, and was so rich that he had a way of making his distinguised guests walk on bars of silver when they see him. It was scendants who founded one charity the government pawnshop of Mexico and the original count who began life by driving mules and who bought his title for a cool \$1,000,000, when he struck it rich, had the check to ask the king of Spain to come to

visit him and told him be would plate the walls of his bedroom with silver if he would do so, and that wherever he walked about the place, he should have the paths paved with silver bars. Count Regla made an immense fortune, and these mines are among the largest in the world. English Capital in Mines. Sin on these very mines, some English capitalists lost millions. They spent something like \$20,000,000 in developing them some years ago, and got out less than three-fourths of that amount. This was at the time that England had her last great craze for American investments. It was about fifty years ago, and they then lost more than \$50,000,000 in Mexican mines. They have a similar craze today, which extends to all kinds of syndicate enterprises in the United States.

They are buying our breweries, our salt works, our iron foundries, and our railroads, and the same is the case with Mexico. A great deal of English capital is now coming here, and though they have been trying to swallow up the cotton factories and other industries, their chief investments have been dustries, their chief investments have been in mines and estates. I saw an American at Silao who has sold out his mines near Guanahuato to an English company at a big profit and has held enough of the stock to give him a big thing out of the profits if they make mine and is now placing on the market a big mining zone in Sonora, on the west coast,

He gets a good salary for managing the which he has discovered. Reopening Water Logged Mines. A great deal of capital is now going into the redevelopment of old mines in Mexico. Humboldt estimated that there were 3,000 mines in operation in Mexico at the begin-ning of the century, and if the legends are correct there was never so great a success in Mexican mining as at the time when the Spaniards were overthrown and driven out of the country in 1821, when the republic was founded. During the revolutions which followed each other in quick succession, these mines were abandoned. They became filled with water and names and records. and in fact the very locations of many of them were lost. Others of the old mines had paid very well until the miners struck water. The pumping machinery of the time was such as to preclude their being worked fur-

ther, and they have from time to time beer abandened. Such mines are to be found all over the great mining territory of Mexico, and there are hundreds of men on the lookout for good ones. If Humboldt's figures are correct, there must be at least two thousand mines yet to be reclaimed, ane the search for these is active. A number of Americans are among the seekers. They talk with the Indians, look up the old legends and now and then they find a mine which they can pump out with our modern numps and strike a be-nance is tunder the water. I was a pump nanza just under the water. I met a Denver man who was going to a mine which he had discovered in this way in the state of Durango. He owned it in company with Henry R. Wolcott and a Kansas City man, and he told me they are making it pay, though it cost them \$36 a ton to get the ore from the mines to the railroad and to the Denver smelters.

Wealth in the Refuse.

Senator Taber is having some trouble with an oil mine which he is re-developing. He bought an interest in the mine for \$80,000 and agreed to erect reduction works and began to tunnel through the side of the hill to strike the ven in that way. While they were tunneling he did not want his mill to lie idle and began to work on some refuse which the owners had thrown aside as not worth bothering about. It mail so well that worth bothering about. It paid so well that he kept at it, and now it is said that the original owners are making a great fust the cause he is not working on the mine itself. The probability is that the matter will be settled without trouble and that he will make a big thing out of the mine, as he has out of so many in Colorado. The fact is that out of so many in Colorado. The fact is that a Mexican mine, to be considered a good atrike, must be far better than what would be considered a good mine in the United States. Miners won't touch ore here that would be looked upon as spiendid ore in Callfornia or Novada. A Mexican mine must pan out at least \$30 to the ton or it is not thought worth operating. In the United States if it is worth \$30 a ton it is a good mine.

How Mines are Held. I had the idea that the mining laws Mexico were less safe than those of the United States, and that Americans and for-eigners had not the greatest security of property. I have made many inquiries among miners, both Mexican and foreigners, and I find that this is a mistake. The Mexican mining laws are among the bost in the world. They are rigorously enforced and there is no country where the miner of any nationality has a batter change than here. The laws

has a better chance than here. The laws permit any man to claim a mine, but in order to hold his title he must work at least four men in it for twenty-six consecutive weeks every year. If he fails to do this, his mine however good can be "denounced" as it is called by any third party and the government will recognize that party's right to it if he takes the mine and fulfills the above con-ditions. Good mines are carefully watched here and failure to work them results in their loss. As long as the law is complied with, the miner whether Mexican or foreigner is protected. A record has to be kept at all mines in Spanish of the work done, and the only cases in which the government grants a only cases in which the government grants a fee-simple title to mines is where the com-pany gets a concession of zone by agreeing to keep thirty-four miners constantly employed and within five years to build reduction works at an expense of at least a quarter of a million dollars. These mining zones are very valurble sometimes and they are not granted without investigation. They comprise at times from ten to twenty square miles of land and the company having the right to one of them can work thirty claims upon it and have the right to "denounce" and work such other claims in the zone whose owners do not fulfill the law. They do not, as I understand, have any right except to the mineral products of the land.

Smelting in Mexico. Until now the United States has done a great part of the smelting of Mexican ores. The provisions of the new tariff in regard to lead is driving them to England and Germany and several large smelters are being erected in Mexico. The McKinley bul fixed the tariff on lead so that it makes the lead in a ton of silver ore cost so much that it is practically prohibitory. An American is building one of these new smelters at San Louis Potosi. It will soon be completed and will be, it is said, the biggest smelter in the world. It can probably be run cheaper here than in the United States, as labor is much

Primitive Method of Working. The most of the work in the mines in Mexneo is done by the Mexican Indians. They make splendid miners and they never strike. They get all the way from 50 cents to № a day, don't get drunk and work right along. Here at Zacatecas there are thousands of them and you will not find a quieter or more orderly town of 10,000 people in New Eng-land than this city of 50,000 here in Mexico. An old Californian who has mined in both the Sierras and the Rockies and who has large interests near Guanahuato, tells me he thinks these are better workers and better men than the miners of our country. They are satis-fled with what they get and they are more polite than we are. They are for many things cheaper than machinery and the oldest of these Mexican mines are run on the processes of a generation and more ago. The ladders up which the ore is carried by these Indians in bags here at Zacate-cas are merely logs or rafters with notches cut into them about eight inches apart, and the wonder is that men do not fall daily. They do lose their balance sometimes, I am told, and are crushed to sometimes, I am told, and are crushed to pieces at the bottom of the mine, but as a rule they are sure-footed, and I saw men working who had passed their three-scoro years. All of the miners wear but little clothing in the mines. They do most of their work barefooted and barelegged, and the little clothing they have on is searched before they leave the mines to see if some silver has not slipped into the mistake. The average not slipped into it by mistake. The average Aztec has little idea of property rights, and he takes what he can get as a gift from God. In some of the mines the men are searched by three different sets of men, and they conceal the silver under their arms, in their ears and under their toes, and in fact in every con-ceivable manner and place. Mexican henor is not built on the conscientious Calvanistic plan, and the mine owners take every pre-

Crushing and Washing Ore. The mines about here are not quite as old as those of Pachuca, but they were being worked twenty-eight years after Montesuma died. About the same time the mines at Guanabuato were found. They have been worked ever since, and out of them has come a great part of the \$1,000,000,000 worth of gold and silver which Mexico has given to the world. It is estimated that the mines of he country now every year, and I saw a stream at Guanahuato which contains the refuse washings of the mines there, and which is said to carry off about \$1,000,000 worth of silver every year. There were little knots of dark-faced, bare-legged, black-haired, big-natted Indians washing the dirt of this over and over again to catch something of what the big works

had thrown away, but a large percentage is never gotten. After the ore is dug, blasted and picked out of the mines, it is crushed in a most primitive way by dragging a sort of millstone around over it, and when it has become fine enough it is reduced by what is known as the patio process. Imagine a great round vat of chocolate-colored mud a foot round vat of chocolate-colored mud a foot or so deep and in the center of this a Mexican Indian in dirty shirt and white cotton pants rolled up to his thighs. Let him have four ropes in his hand and to each of these lot there be attached one or two or three mules. Put a long whip in the other hand and let him thrash the mules vigorously with this keeping them on a dog-trot as they plow their way around and around and through and way around and around and through and through the chocolate mud for hours until it is thoroughly mixed. This chocolate mud is the crushed silver ore which has been chem ically troated and is now being mixed with vitrol, salt and quicksilver in order that the silver in the ore may be united with the quicksilver, and this be reduced by chemicals, washings and evaporation until the silver is run out in bars or bricks I saw this sort of work going on in many places, and I counted tweive mules trotting around in one of these big mud vats. They were sorry-looking ani-mals, and in the vat beside them I saw what looked like broken-down, bob-tail car horses. Upon inquiry I learned that only the oldest and poorest of animals were used, as the quicksilver rotted off their noofs in a year or two and they had to be killed. The process is by no means an economical one, as it wastes about twenty per cent of the ore, and it may be that in the future the old streams of Mexico may be rewashed by our modern processes. Practical mining is in fact in its infancy in Mexico, and the Mexico of the future will produce a and the Mexico of the future will produce a much greater quantity than has the Mexico of the past. So far, it is said that every dollar of gold and silver taken out of Mexico has cost a dollar's worth of labor to get it. The failures and waste have eaten up the profits and while many have grown rich,

many have been worked to death and have gained nothing. Great Future Prospects. There are, however, no better mining fields the world today than here. The hills of the old regions seem to be inexhaustible, and the new fields are many. The new railroads that are being built all over Mexico will open that are being built all over Mexico will open up much new territory. Attention is now being turned to the west and south, and I heard it predicted today by a man largely interested in mines, who has travelled over Mexico for years, that this country will be the scene of the next great mining excitement, and that it will surpass that of California in 1849. Said he: "If you will take a map of Mexico and draw a line from Tampeo on the Guil of Mexico to Maratlin, you pico on the Guif of Mexco to Mazatlin, you will divide the country into two somewhat equal parts. The upper one of these con-tains the greatest of the mines now known, but they are nothing in comparison with the mines which are yet to be developed in the south. The best of our gold mines of the future will be in the south, and the new railroad that is now being pushed down towards the isthmus will open the eyes or both Mexicans and the eyes of both Mexicans and foreigners. Montezuma got a great part of the millions of dollars which he gave to Cortez from the southern provinces, and one of his presents was a plate of solid gold as big as a wagon wheel. In the state of Oaxaca there are fine gold mines, and in Sonora there is a vast field of minerals that is known to no one. The number of Americans who have the history of the property of the state number of Americans who have invested in Mexican mines is rapidly increasing and I ex-pect to see more Euglish and American capi-

ness judgment." FRANK G. CARPENTER A Good Temperance Beverage during the spring and summer, avoid alcho-lic drinks and use Soterian ginger ale, bottled at Excelsion Springs. Mo.

poet to see more English and American capital come here during the future than ever before. There is, of course, a fair chance to lose, but there is also a fair chance to win, and both in the redevelopment of old properties and in the opening up of new, I believe there is money to be made by any man who is possessed of a fair amount of capital and an ordinary amount of uerve and good business judgment." Fank G. Carrentes.

#### WAR AND WEATHER DIVORCED

Congress has Granted the Decree to Take Effect in July.

CHANGES IN SIGNAL SERVICE CONTROL.

Hereafter Weather Forecasts Will be Manufactured by the Agricultural Departments-Predicted Results of the Change.

A bill which passed congress and was signed by the president on October 1 last will mark a new era in one of the most important bureaus of the government. This bill provides for the transfer of the weather bureau of the signal service from the war department to the department of agriculture, the change to be made July 1.

The present signal service corps has been established since 1870 and General Albert Myer was the first chief signal officer. Of late years the work has grown to such an extent that it became necessary to drop many of the military features. It has been part of an observer's duty, besides being thoroughly posted in meteorology, to keep up his studies in signaling, both visual and sound.

This matter of military signaling is provided for in the new bill, which calls for a body of fifty men, all experts in the manual of signals, to hold the rank of sergeants of the line. This will be the only military organiza-tion in the world which is composed entirely of officers.

The duties of these sergeants will be to

instruct the enlisted men of the army in the

art of signaling by heliograph, flag and torch and to operate and maintain the military telegraph lines on the frontier. The work of the service that is to be trans-ferred to the agricultural department is the forecasting of the weather, the issuance of storm warnings, the display of weather and flood signals for the benefit of commerce, agriculture and navigation, the guaging and reporting of rivers, the maintainance and operation of sea coast telegraph lines and the collection and transmission of marine intelligence, the reporting of temperature and rainfall, display of frost and cold wave signals and the taking and distributing of general meterological

Change of this service has been agitated for years, but the bills which have come before congress in the interest of the transfer have always been fought by prominent officials of the country. In the corps itself the majority of the men are in favor of the change as it will materially increase their pay besides placing them in civil life and doing away with many of the objectionable

features of the military service. As the service now stands, considering the work expected of the men and the accuracy and promptness with which this class of work has to be performed, the men of the signal service are the poorest paid under the government. In the service today no man can tell how long he will remain on one station. Frequently an observer no sooner becomes a quainted with the climatic conditions of the locality in which he is sta-tioned than he is ordered to some new post, perhaps a thousand miles away. These men are expected to be ready to leave at a mo-ment's notice, and these frequent changes greatly increase their work and, in many in-stances, make it unreliable so far as accurate

predictions are concerned.
"If under the new bureau," said an old signal service man, "the service can be kept free from politics and the men allowed to remain on one station, so as to be able to study the local peculiarities of the climate and be-come familiar with the section of country in which they are stationed, the work of the service will no doubt increase considerably

"The great danger will be the introduction of politics into the department and the plac-ing of men wholly incompetent in positions where only old and experienced meteorolo-

General Greely is without doubt the best chief signal officer the army ever had. He being far more of a scientist than any of his predecessors in the office. Since the general assumed command of the signal corps there has been many improvements in the service, all tending to the public the most reliable in-formation possible: When asked to give his views on the transfer General Greely said that he thought the scheme a bad one, as it would impair the efficiency of the service and tend to make it a political machine.
"For the good of the service it is to be

hoped that General Greely will remain in charge of the weather bureau!"

As the orders now stand the chief signal officer will have command of the new signal The twelve lieutenants of the signal corps

have all been detailed to the line, some going to the artillery and cavalry, but the majority were assigned to the infantry.

We want every lady and all the boys and girls to call on your druggist and get some of our beautiful cards and a book of valuable

nformation free.
HALLER PROPRIETARY Co.

THE BEE FLYER. It Travels at the Rate of Sixty Miles

Per Hour, THE OMAHA BEE, on Sunday, in the western, northwestern, and many places in the southwestern part of the state, reaches its readers from eight to twenty-four hours ahead of all its competitors. In fact, when the latter reach their destination they are like back numbers. They are not used for reading, but for wrapping and carpet padding purposes. In each of these respects they are quite valuable.

How is THE BEE able to so distance its ompetitors! Because it has established a number of

orse routes throughout the state! Because it has its own special train which nakes a run to Grand Island, 154 miles distant from Omaha, in four hours! -Making allowance for the stops at rail-

acad crossings, this train travels at the re-mark able speed of sixty miles an hour. It stops at only two stations. The Ber, however, stops at every station. It is thrown from the train as the latter files past each town in bundles and quantities of all the way from five up to 500 copies. This BEE contains every line of news dis-

tributed to subscribers within the shadow of THE BEE building in Omaha. When the subscriber in this city is unfolding his paper at breakfast, the subscriber in Grand Island is doing the same thing, the great paper being placed in his hands at 7:10

harp. This enterprise costs money. It is, however, appreciated by The Bre's readers. No other paper in this section could stand the expense. No other paper could stand half the expense. Some of them have tried it and THE BEE alone sends out a special train.

This is something which is done by no other paper in the country.

This train leaves Omaha at 3 o'clock in the norning. It reaches the other stations on he Union Pacific as appears below. Cut out this time table and past it upon the wail. It will tell you when your Sunday paper is due. It will tell you also when to look from your door or window and see Tim Bee Flyer rushing through your town with the swiftness of the wind:

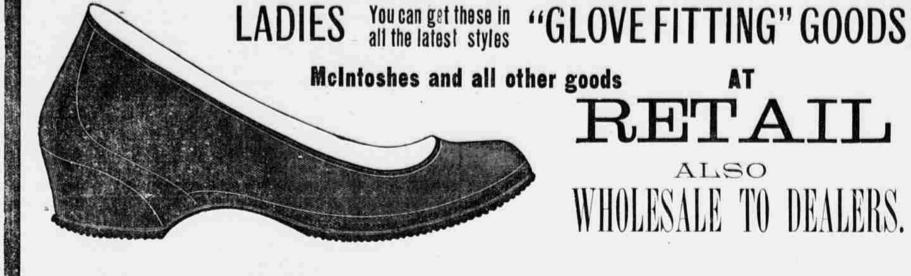
Gilmore	S:20 a.m	Benton	17 0 1
Papillion	3:27 p.m	Warrack	23 4
Millard	.3:37 a m	Columbus	20 6.1
		Cayuga	
		Duncan	
Waterloo	.5:52 a.m	Gardner	50 n
Valley	4:00 a.m	Silver Creek	:57 B.1
Mercer	.4:10 a.m	Havens	:05 a.r
Fremont	.4:18 a.m	Clarks	:13 m.
Sanberg	.4:23 n.m	Thummel6	23 n.
Ames	4:30 a.m	Central City	135 B.3
North Bend	.4:40 n.m	Paddock	:40 p. 1
Hay State	4:40 n.m	Chapmans	150 B.
Rogers	4:55 a.m	Lockwood6	:58 m.
Schuyler	.5:05 n.m	Grand Island 7	10 a
Lambert			

sects with the early train on the St. Joseph and Grand Island road and Bess are sent fly-ing in sacks to Belvidere, Davenport, Doniphan, Edgar, Fairbury, Fairfield and Steele City. Tobias, McCool Junction and Milligan are reached by horse route from

Fairbury; Hebron is supplied from Belvidere.
At Columbus connection is also made with

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a train from Platte Centre, Humphrey, Madion and Norfolk, and a horse run is made to

caught which supplies Elm Creek, Gibbon, Gothenberg, Kearney, Lexington, Shelton, Wood River and North Platte. The Ber reaches the last mentioned place at 2:20 p. m. Its would-be rivals tumble in there at 9:25 at night, seven hours later! It is too late to read them then, and they are accordingly de-livered next morning, when they are about twenty-eight hours old!

Do not forget that Haller's Pam Paralyzer will cure all cases of dysentory, relieving the griping pain and restoring the bowels to

#### A FEW FLOATING FACTS.

Ten days per annum is the average amount of sickness in human life. The Tay bridge in Scotland is the longes bridge in the world, being 10,780 feet in ength.

The Mexican government runs a big pawnbroking shop for the accommodation of the The velocity of electricity has been found by the revolving mirror method to be nearly

one-half that of light. The largest passenger engine in the coun try, weighing 187,000 pounds, pulls a Royal Blue line express between Philadelphia and Baltimore.

Probably the rarest stamp in existence has just been sold in London for £250. It is an American 5-cent stamp issued at Brattleboro, Vt., in 1840.

The lowest body of water on the globe is the Caspian sea: its level has been gradually lowering for centuries, and now it is eighty-five feet below the level of its neighbor, the A cane with an electric light, which will enable inebriated individuals to find the number of their house late at hight, has been in-

vented. Now if somebedy will invent a key that will find its way into the right key-hole midnight closing will bring wholesome joy to the householder. Probably the liveliest railway junction in the world is at Clapham, in England, where

the London, Brighton & South Coast and the London & Southwesterr railways cross. Between 7 o'clock in the morning and 10 at cht 1,000 trains pass this function-an aver age of one every 54 seconds

As a tobacco-growing state, New York is now ahead of Connecticut. The statistics published by the census office give New York 3,532 tobacco planters as against 2,815 in Connecticut, give the state a product of 9,216,135 pounds as against 8,874,924 in the other state, and give New York's tobacco area at 8,629 as against Connecticut's 6,331 acres.

AGENUINE MICROSEKILLER Is KIDD'S GERM ERADICATOR—Cures all diseases because it kills the microbe or germ. Put up and retailed in \$2. \$2 and \$5 sizes, the latter 2 1-2 gailons Sent anywhere prepaid on receipt of price or C. O. D. We issue a guarantee to cure. The public trade and iobbers supplied by the Goodman Drug Co. McCormick & Lund. Olmaha; C. A. Melcher, Howard Myers and E. J. Seykora, South Omah; A. D. Fogter and M. P. Ellis, Council Bluffs.

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LeDuc's Per indical Pills. This French remedy acts dire. Iv upon the generative organs and cures suppression of the mease E2 or three for E5, and can be mailed. Should sop be Exorthree for E., and can be mailed. Should got be used during pregnancy. Jobbers, druggists and the public supplied by Goodman Drug Co., Omaha.

# The New Stocking.



Knit to Fit the Foot. Saves Discomfort; no wrinkles, no cramped toes. (Notice the shape.) Saves Darning; the big toe, having roomenough, stays inside this stocking. A sure relief for those afflicted with ingrowing nails, corns, bunions, or unnatural heat and perspiration of the feet-Man'f'd by WAUKENHOSE CO., Boston, Mass.

FOR SALE BY Jones of Omaha, 115 South 16th Street. Helin, Thompson & Co., 16:2 Farnam Street

Gonorrhoea, Gleet and Leucorrhae curen in 2 days by the French Remedy entitled the KING. It dissolves against an is absorbed into the inflamed parts. Will refund money if it does not cure or causes structure Gentiemen, here is a reliable article. Sia package or 2 for 55 per maii prepaid. Mc-Cormick & Lund, Omaha; C. A. Melcher, Howard Meyers and E. J. Seykora, South Omana; A, D. Foster and M. P. Ellis Council Bluffs.

#### HOTEL.

The Murray, Cor. 14th and Harney, E.E. NAUGLE COMPANY, Telegraph Poles, CITY TREASURER. is the most substantially constructed Hotel Building in Omaha. Several heavy brick fire walls running from basement to roof. All the ceilings and floors lined with Asbestos fire proof ni ng, making it impossible to burn quick. Fire escapes and fire alarms throughout the building. Steam heat, hot and cold trater and sanshine in everyroom. Table unsurpassed any where. B. SILLOWAY, Prop.

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Just completed, has 100 rooms, three stairways, from the top to the bottom, has fine elevator and dining room service, is fire proof throughout, fine billiard rooms and the finest toilet rooms in the city. Large sample rooms. Suites with bath, etc. Cor. 14th and Capitol Ave. Street car service in all directions. Rates, from \$2,50 to \$1

#### BARKER HOTEL

Mr. and Mrs. George Van Orman have thken the BARKER HOTEL under their well-known management. This hotel is the best Two Dollar a Day House in Omaha, ball and theatrical compracies. Table un

#### with all modern conveniences. Fire escapes and fire proof floors. Special rates for base

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