He Neglects a Meagre Practice in His Quest for Office.

ROW HE IMPOSED UPON A CLIENT.

As an Assistant County Prosecutor He Defends a Criminal in Violation of His Sacred Oath or Office.

J. W. Edgerton, independent candidate for the supreme court, located in South Omaha in the fall of 1887. Previously he had hved in Stromsburg, where he practiced law with indifferent success. He rented quarters in Hunt's block on the corner of Twentysixth and N streets. The town was then under village organization. It was hard work for lawyers to make a living, and it was especially hard for a man who lacked the magnetism and the ability which arouse and command respect. He formed a partnership with John Grice, who secured most of the business done by the firm. The partnership, however did not thrive, It was a one-sided affair, Grice did nearly all the work and spent nearly all the money. He had lost caste in Edgerton's eyes. It was necessary for the latter to secure a more reliable snubbing post to which to moor his bark and found him in the present of his present

partner. One of the partner's duties is now, as it has been, to pay the rent. About a year ago the firm moved to Omaha, where it is still located, although the greater part of that time has been spent by Edgerton traversing the state and hanging around the legislature as one of the alleged leaders of the inde-

endent party. Edgerton had been a republican but had always failed to secure a nomination from that party. The party did not experience a crying desire for his services and the great barrister leaped the barriers and landed in the Union Labor field. The law was not a paying venture and he accordingly looked around for a berth which would give him a regular income something which he needed yery badly. HeGot an Office.

South Omaha, at the time was overrun with transients. Daily, numbers of these would be arrested. The town was too dis-

tant from Omaha and duties of county attorney too onerous to enable him to presecute all the minor state cases which originated in the former place. Edgerton bethought him it would be a good idea to suggest the appointment of an assistant county attorney, whose duty should be to prosecute state cases at South Omaha. The appointment depend-ed upon the county commissioners. The latter were petitioned to appoint him, M. Hunt, Captain Cockrell and David Anderson yielding to importuning, made the re quest. The prayer was granted and Edger-ton became an employe of the county under a republican county attorney under a republican county attorney at the munificent salary of \$50 per month. Since that time, Eugerton has been more or less before the people. He has done so at his own solicitation and it is the prevailing opinion of those who know him best that he has on divers occasions sold out the ople whom the county paid him to repre-nt. This opinion would seem to find conclusive attestation in the records of the jus-tice, the police and other courts into which

carried him. There is not so much to be said of his cafeer as an attorney in private practice as there is of his conduct as assistant public prosecutor. This is perhaps because his pri-vate practice has been so infinitesimal as to be almost unworthy of notice.

the prosecution and the handling of certain

Pocketed the Fees.

There is one case of a private character which is readily recalled and vouched for by an who was the wi peculiar method of doing busi-The former found it necessary o foreclose on two houses and lots which re being occupied by purchasers who had been long in default.

Edgerton told his client that the foreclos-dre would not cost much. In fact the expenses would be a fee of \$15 and the court costs \$0.70. The latter amount But that, as alleged, is all that was done. effort was made to push the case, for a long time the default-purchasers held possession of property. One of them, in fact, since in the house for a year and then oft without paying a cent of rent for the time mentioned. That was not all. When the owner of the property went to look up the records of the foreclosure he found that the costs which he had advanced to Edgerton had not been paid. He was then selled to pay them a second time. But at last ecounts the would-be supreme court justice had not explained to what use he had applied e money which had been given him to pay the costs of the suit.

Dismissed a Murderous Prisoner. Three years ago, during the holidays, Edgerton still occupied the chair of assistant

ounty attorney.

One night there was a band of convivial revellers in Oscar Hill's saloon on Twenty aixth street between N and O streets Among the party were Farmer Johnson, Peter Petersen and — Fredericksen. About 10 o'clock these men started for home. Their way lay over the hills to the southwest, Johnson's being on Twenty-third street near Q street, Fredericksen's home being in Brown park. The trio were walking in Indian file, Johnson in the lead. A sharp scream and then a groan as from some one in pain reached Johnson's ears. The latter was somewhat in the lead and hastily turned and ran back to his companions tinguish in the darkness.

When he reached the spot whence the sound had proceeded, Johnson discovered Peterson on the ground groaning in agony, with Fredericksen standing above and beat

Johnson endeavored to drive Fredericksen Bway, when the latter pounced upon him and with a sharp knife slashed him on the nose, causing about half an inch of that organ to hang only by a very slight cartilage. Jonnson then picked up a cane which had fallen to the ground in the melce and with it was about to belabor Frederick-

sen when the latter fied. Johnson helped Petersen to his feet and both wended their way to the former's home, Which was distant from the scene only about

There each discovered the extent of his injuries. Johnson feit that he was disfigured for life, his nose being almost cut off and two lingers being badly stashed.

Peterson was bleeding terribly. Doctors were summoned. Peterson's injuries were in the head. They consisted of a number of bruises and a wound which raised a section of scalp as large as a horsestoe. The wounds were dressed but for sometime Petersen lay in a precarious condition and Johnson was also Incapacitated. The two parts of his nose were reunited by meams of statches.

Feeling ran high against Frederickson, al though it was unknown what had occasioned the assault. The trie were apparently on good terms when they left the saloon and the fight had not been anticipated by Johnson. Some people believed that the attack tack was as premeditated on Petersen, others differed fromthem Nevertheless, the people demanded that the assailant be prosecuted. Fredericksen was of course arrested, and it was expected that Edgerton Who, as has been stated, was assistant county

attorney, would respect the wishes of the people and prosecute the case. The preliminary hearing was held before dudge Reuther, who was then presiding over the police court.

The surprise of the populace may be imagined, therefore, when the representative f the county prosecutor, Edgerton, instead of appearing for the state and indirectly in favor of those who had been cut, appeared in behalf of the man who had done the cutting. In other words, instead of prosecuting he mided in defending the bloody assailant. He was aided by his partner, tirice, and both all they could to have their client ac-

One theory advanced by the defense was that the assault was unpremeditated on the cart of Fredericksen and that he had simply acted in self-defense. It was also self-defense. It was also be shown that Johnson's d been cut off by a small square, and

JOSEPH EDGERTON AT THE BAR the s me instrument had alsed the circular piece of scalp off Petersen's head.

Drs. Glusgow and Kirkpatrick, however. brs. Glasgow and Kirkpatrick, however, were subpoensed and testified that the wounds in question could not have been made by so blunt an instrument and one of that peculiar shape.

Judge Reuther thought the case was too important to be decided in his court and held the accused to the rext term of the district court.

district court.

Worse Yet.

Several months later, Johnson called on Frank Moores, clerk of the district court, and asked when the case would be called, and his surprise may be imagined when the clerk informed him that the case against Fredericksen had been dismissed! When this announcement was made in South Omaha, the people became greatly incensed. They considered it, however, as a method of payment adopted by Edgerton, who had violated the law in defending an assailant. and still further violated it by dismissing the

charge against him.
But this fact might have been anticipated, because the day after the preliminary hear-ing, Grice and Edgerton went around South Omaha endeavoring to sell a mortgage which Fredericksen had given them as security for their claim against him for defending them before Judge Reuther.

Would "Work" the Church.

Mention has been made of Edgerton's connection with the South Omaha Methodist Episcopal church.

He has been a prominent member of the organization. With some of his official acts. however, it may be presumed that all the members of his society are not familiar, and one of these acts, which is vouched for by competent witnesses, is described as follows: Three years ago, South Omaha was a boomng town. Money was plenty and real estate

Among those who desired to avail them-selves of the reigning prices was the church society in question. It owned two lots on the northeast corner of N and Twenty-third streets. On one of these it had erected primitive church. It almed to dispose of some of its realty and, with the proceeds, grade the lot and erect a more modern and ornate temple. The object was a laudable one and the society has been successful in attaining it, though the mercenary scheme which Edgerton devised has had nothing to do with he undertaking.

When the society decided to dispose of its roperty or part of it, the sale was entrusted o Edgerton. He approached a well known real estate man of South Omaha and asked him how much the church lot, with the small building which was then upon it, was worth.

The real estate man said he thought he could get \$2,400 for it. This declaration caused Edgerton to open his eyes with surprise and to smile with satis-"Do you want me to sell the property!"

asked the agent. Edgerton said that he did, most certtinly.
"Well, said" the agent, "if you wish me to sell the property you must give me written authority. I don't want to have the trouble of hunting a purchaser, making a sale and then find that the church won't sell or that some other person has disposed of the prop-

Accordingly, Edgerton sat down and wrote this authorization:
"I hereby authorize ----- to sell the lots -- in the city of South Omaha, the same being located at the northeast corner of N and Twenty-third streets and owned by the South Omaha Methodist Episcopal church.

[Signed] J. W. EDGERTON. Thus far, everything appeared all right, out when the question of terms was raised Edgerton said:

"If you can get a customer for \$2,400 you buy the lots yourself for either \$1,400 or \$1,600 and then you and I will divide the diference between us and give your purchase

price for the lots." The real estate agent did not find a purchaser for the lots. If he had both he and Edgerton would have divided from \$500 to \$1,000 between them. The agent might perhaps have claimed a fair commission but what amount seever of the sale went to Mr. Edgerton would have been just so much out of the church society, a circumstance concerning which he proposed to keep his people in the

Edgerton is still a trustee of the South Omaha Methodist Episcopal church.

Bleeding the Graders.

The nost important of the earliest public of South Omaha was the grading of the principal thoroughfares of that town.

Among these streets were Twenty-fourth from the north city limits to Q street. The rading on this thoroughfare was done under contract by P. Egan & Co., who received \$3.214.01 : Pritchett \$2.698.19 : Daniel Cash 83,453,13; Twenty-sixth street from Q to J., R. R. Stewart, \$6,346.62; Twenty-fifth street from Wyman to I, John Condon and Daniel Cash, \$21,908.99; N street from Twentieth to Twenty-seventh, C. H. Pritchett, \$3,077. In round figures, the cost of this improvement was considerably over \$80,000. The above contract figures represent only the cost of the work as assessed against the city. The same amount was assessed against the property owners. The expense was paid by warrants issued against the city and against abutting property. The city's money came out of the general fund, in which it had been placed some time previously.

The work had been ordered by the council and the ordering was not without some crit

It was held to be illegal for a number of reasons. It was claimed to be unnecessary, excessive and entirely too expensive, more especially as the law limited the amount which should be expended yearly in public improvements.
Some of the leading property holders.

while opposed to the extravagance, allowed the work to go on until it seemed that city and taxpayers alike would be bank

rupted.
In the light of recent events there is no one who will deny that the undertaking was llegal. Mayor Sloane, speaking on the subject a few days ago, said: 'We all admit now the work was perhaps not according to law. But then we were young. Our people didn't exactly know what

the law was or how to live up to it. But the city has been benefitted, property has ap-preciated and the town looks a great deal like one with push and energy."

The work progressed, and at length opposition was encountered in the snape of an injunction, to restrain the city from paying the con-

tractors for the grading they had done.

This injunction occasioned the greatest excitement in South Omaha. An indignation meeting was held, and it has since been asserted that the graders proposed to nang some of the men who had sought the innunction. It was argued that the grading, if illegal in quantity, had then been almost completed; that the graders had done their work and should be paid for it, and finally that the city had been benefited, even if the

benefit was an expensive one. The injunction was filed by Edgerton and one of the men at whose instance the action was taken, gave him \$2.50 with which to pay for the filing. Edgerton was also given a certain other sum to pay for the issuing of

certain other sum to pay for the issuing of certain papers in the case.

When the indignation meeting was held, it had a perceptible effect upon some of the men who had petitioned for the injunction. They withdrew their names. Those who did not at first consent to the withdrawal of the suit were approached by Edgerton so to do. He claimed that they had gained their point in having a certain understanding as regards the manner in which the work was to be paid for, and that they could withdraw with credit to themselves. He promised to refund them the money they had already advanced in the case, and that he would then have the matter dismissed by the courts. To this showing the petitioners made no objection.

In the meantime, however, Edgerton had been among the graders and told them that

the injunction had cost him a large sum of money and that it could not be withdrawn unless he was reimbursed. The fact of the matter was that Edgerton had not incurred one cent's expense and this story was calculated to spur the men who had already done their work to get up a purse for Edgerton in order that they might secure their half of the \$14,000 in the work before he got a cent of it. If he should now be cut out of part of it it would make a pauper of him. He cannot afford to turn a deaf ear to Edger-ton's story, no matter how untrutaful it may be. Neither could the other contractmay be. Neither could the other contract-ors. So they got together and agreed to pay Edgerton \$250 to remove the suit. In this manner the injunction was withdrawn.

Speaking on this subject the other day, one of the contractors said: also of the contractors said:

"Yes, Edgerton was paid, I think, \$250 to

y a remove the suit, though I am not sure as to

that the amount. I don't know how much I paid toward it. John L. Miles, the banker, paid

inv share. "Why did John L. Miles pay your share?"
"Well, he tock all the warrants and it was from time to time we received the money, be cause he discounted the warrants."

Englatous. The hymn "Corosation" was written by Oliver Holden at Charleston, Mass., nearly

00 years ago. Mr. Spurgeon is spending his period of ence at Eastbourne, on the coast of Sussex, England. The Indianapolis minister who has been

predicting the end of the world in ten years has been asked to resign his charge. Indiana people wish to postpone the hereafter as long as possible According to statistics prepared by Rev. Frank Russell, secretary of the Presbyterian Sunday School association of New York, there are in the Sunday schools of the world 20,078,595 members, and more than half of

these are in the United States. The Moravians are actively engaged in ission work, having had in the field since 1732 about 2,500 missionaries. At present they have 400 missionaries in active service. Ac cording to the Moravian manual there are 96,952 members of that church.

There are about 3,200,000 Presbyterians in Scotland. There are 1,650 places of worship in connection with the Church of Scotland, and 1,575 in connection with the Free and United Presbyterian church—in all 3,335, or more than one church for each 1,000 of population.

Now that the Georgia Episcopalians must try again to secure a bishop, it is thought that Dr. Cailor of Tennessee will again be chosen, though the Rev. Chauncey Williams of Augusta is also much talked of. The diocesan convention meets at Macon on November II.

The Episcopal bishop of Delaware took a walk of 375 miles, roughly clad and with no insignia of his business about him. Some copie took him for the advance agent of a rcus, others for a moonshine detective, others thought him a crook, and some drove him from their premises with dogs. The bishop thinks he has found several things out, chief among which is that a man isn't necessarily bad if he doesn't wear good clothes.

The first woman ordained in America was a graduate of theology at Oberlin forty years ago. The statistics as to the full number of women ministers are somewhat defective. The Society of Friends has about 350, the Universalists about 35, the Disciples of Christ 43. The Free-Will Baptists, the Primitive Methodists and the Protestant Methodists have ordained women on a small scale. Among the Unitarians several women preachers have already become quite famous.

CONNUBIALITIES.

Let him be dark as Ethiops are, The not impossible He, Or fair as Norseman from afar, This son of Destiny.

Let him be monstrous tall and spare, Who shall my heart control, Or even short and somewhat square, He yet shall own my soul.

But, O sweet Cupid! let him be No titled foreign man, But one of our nobility-

A straight American!

A "tough" tender-The offer of a slugger's hand in marriage. A feature of the Portland (Ore.) exposition was the marriage of two couples in the presence of 12,000. Tie parties are popular every-

Saturday evening Eugene Hector of the Chicago Tribune and Miss Alta McNorton of Greencastle, Ind., were united in marriage in Chicago.

She-You say that my consenting to marry you has made you very happy. He—Yes. You see what a simple thing it takes to make

The marriage of Miss Bessie Webb, the daughter of General and Mrs. Alexander S. Webb, to Mr. George Parsons, will be one of the important of the November ceremonies in New York.

At the old-fashioned, homelike residence of ex-Governor Bedie, fronting on Van Vorst park, Jersey City, on the evening of October 14, Miss Althea Randolph Bedle and Mr. Adolphe Rusch were married. One of the attractions at the Ottumwa (Iowa) coal palace a night or two ago was a wedding. A marriage ceremony in a coal palace would seem to be unpleasantly suggestive of coal bills-not one of the least of She—You are not half as interesting as I

thought you before we married. He—And you are not half as beautiful as I thought you. She-it's a good thing that neither of us has money enough to live apart, isn't it! He—Yes; we ought to congratulate our-

selves. Novelists and poets will have to revise their rhapsodies on "the leafy month of June" as the season when lovers build how-ers and woo the hymeneal delty. The crown that June has so long worn as the wedding month has been transferred to autumu-hued October. The columns of the newspapers are filled with accounts of society events in which

a ring, two young people and a ciergyman are the predominating features. A marriage and the death occurred in a Somerville (Mass.) home on Tuesday last. The groom was Mr. Louis P. Rollins of Brooklyn, N. Y., and his bride was Miss Kate E. Norcross. She was on her death bed at the time, and ten hours afterward she was a corpse. Miss Norcross had been sick a week with pneumonia, and when it was known that she had not long live, her lover was summoned by telegraph and reached her bedside that night. When told that she could not recover. Miss Norcross insisted upon an immediate marriage. A marriage ticense was procured and as the church bells tolled the hour of 3 the brief service was ended, and the bonds were scaled which were soon to be broken. Then her will was drawn, and, though she was growing weaker she signed it with a mind perfectly clear and a hand which seemed to gain strength and steadiness for that special purpose. The will was witnessed by the clergyman, the physician and an attendant. It gives the most of her preperty, reported to be worth not far from \$100,000, to Mr. Rollins.

remainder goes to Charlston (Me.) academy. EDUCATIONAL.

The money gifts to Columbia college last year amounted to \$123,248. Twenty-five thousand children are without schoolroom in New York city.

A law school has been opened in connection with the University of Pennsylvania. The students of Lehigh university have passed resolutions recommending the dis continuance of the cane-rushing practice. J. Homer Wade, jr., of Cleveland has given land valued at \$25,000, near the park pearing his name, to the womans' college of

the Western Reserve university.
The new Cornell library building, costing \$60,000, was dedicated last week. The library has an endowment of \$600,000, the revenue of which is used in purchasing books

which is used in purchasing books.

Several of the professors of the departments of history, mathematics, philosophy and English literature at the University of California have decided to introduce university extusion lectures in San Francisco.

A scholarship of \$200 is offered by the Vassar Students' Aid society to a student who passes without conditions all the requirements for admission to the freshman class of Vassar college at the examination to be held in June, 1892. This scholarship, like that awarded by the society last June, is be held in June, 1892. This scholarship, like that awarded by the society last June, is offered as a loan, and covers one-half of all charges made by Vassar college for one year's board and tuition. Examinations will be held in Chicago, Denver, Cleveland, Cinciunati, St. Louis, Washington, Louisville, Detroit, Omaha, San Francisco, and if necessary arrangements may be made for examinasary arrangements may be made for examinations in other localities. Applications for this scholarship must be made before April

A Brave Woman Routs a Mob.

"Red Men" attacked the residence of William Rickey on Stave Run, W. Va., on a recent night and dragged Rickey from bed, threatening to whip him. Mrs. Rickey procured an ax and came to her husband's rescue, and was doing good work, when one of the scoundrels drew his revolver and fired, the ball going through the woman's wrist. This seemed to infuriate her, and she fought all the harder, finally putting the mob to flight. From the blood on the floor and road some of them must have been severally wounded. Several arrests have been made, but there was not positive evidence enough to convict the prison-

A MOST DAMNABLE RECORD.

Joseph Edgerton at Stromsburg Duped and Sold Out His Clients.

HE PREYS UPON A DESTITUTE WIDOW.

He Put Up a Job to Confidence an Honest Man Out of His Farm Lands-Unvarnished Facts.

STROMSBURG, Neb., Oct. 15 .- Special to THE BEE. |- J. W. Edgerton, the independent aspirant for a seat on the beach of the supreme court, formerly fived in this village, and its residents have the livliest recollection of his career while here. He came to Stromsburg about 1882, and remained about five years. He posed as a lawyer, but in the five years he had only forty-three cases in district court. An examinathe tion of the records reveals a series of failures and miscarriages that tell, an eloquent story

ods and capacity. It is a fact which members of the bar comment on as significant that in thirty-nine civil actions, Mr. Edgerton was attorney for the defendant in only six. He won only two of these suits, and the plaintiff got judgment in one. The other three, for various reasons, were dismissed.
People familiar with his career here ex-

of this ambitious lawyer's professionel meth-

plain this fact with the intimation that he instigated a considerable number of the actions in which he figured. The record of the cases in which he was attorney for the plaintiff lends color to that inference, Mr. Edgerton was such attorney in thirtythree suits. He won a clean victory in honest, open contest in two of them.

these his client got judgment for \$37.75. In five divorce cases defaults were taken, and in three others divorces were granted at the plaintiff's cost. Nine suits were dismissed at plaintiff's cost and seven were dismissed by agreement or stipulation. Two were stricken from the docket and one dismissed on motion of the defendant. There were two decrees against defendant by stipulation, and one suit for \$10,000 was settled by Edger ton for \$100 without the knowledge of his client.

During his five years in Polk county Mr.

Edgerton was engaged in four criminal cases, twice for plaintiff and twice for defendant. One Hung and the Other in the Pen-

In the former, both of minor importance, the defendants pleaded guilty and were fined in nominal sums. One of the clients defended by Edgerton was hung and the other was

sent to the penitentiary.

Numerous stories are in circulation here reflecting upon Mr. Edgerton's professional conduct and personal nonor, and they are vouched for by responsible persons who express a ready willingness to back their state ments with affidavits. One of the first of Mr. Edgerton's undertakings after landing in Stromsburg was the drafting of a number of village ordinances. It is alleged that he omitted to provide these legal "dont's" with penalties, and the people who know him attribute the omission to his ignorance. At any rate it made him the laughing-stock of the community, and the humor of the thing is not yet exhausted.

Villainous Betrayal of Clients. Two cases in which Mr. Edgerton betrayed his clients will serve to show what manner of man and lawyer he was. In one instance he acted as the attorney for W. A. Frawley in the purchase of a tract of land from Samuel Rutherford. Edgerton made out the deed and took Rutherford's acknowledgement The buyer paid the price agreed on and put the deed on record. A few months later Rutherford made a second deed to the same property, this time transferring it to Thomas Rutherford. The latter immediately mort gaged the land for \$200 in favor of Edgerton

When Mr. Frawley learned of this remark able transaction he interviewed Samuel Ruthbe was under age at the time of giving the first deed, but had reached his majority be-fore signing the second. The young man was arrested on a charge of obtaining money under false pretenses and put under \$1,000

Rutherford at once began begging for a settlement. Frawley had surmised that Edgerton was at the bottom of the affair, and he was convinced when the latter appeared as the young man's attorney. Be leving that the lawyer had made a Rutherford for the sake of an attorney's fee, the prosecutor agreed to settle the case. Thomas Rutherford gave him a quit claim feed to the property and Edgerton released his mortgage .
This is the case as Frawley knew it at

the time, but Horace Putman throws a strong side light on the lawyer's scheme. After the deal between Samuel Rutherford and Frawley was made, Edger-ton went to Mr. Putman and said he had a deed from Thomas Rutherford to Putman for this same piece of land. He wanted Putman to take the deed and put it on record. Mr. Putman naturally was surprised that a val-uable property should be transferred to him without consideration and with no previous negotiation or understanding. The thing looked bad on the face of it, and he demanded an explanation. Edgerton's statement was not satisfactory. Mr. Putman became satisfied that it was a scheme to beat some one out of the land, and he declined to be a party to the trickery, although Eugerton assured him he "could get the land." There can be no mistake about this, for Mr. Putman saw the deed and read it.

Duped a Poor Widow.

In another instance a poor widow was the ictim of Edgerton's duplicity. After considerable begging on his part he was em-ployed by Mrs. Kaspar Johnson in a suit against an Osceola saloonkeeper named Cole for \$10,000 damages. It was alleged that Cole had sold liquor to the plaintiff's hus-band and that while under the influence of said liquor he was frozen to death.

Mrs. Johnson and Edgerton entered into a

contract by which the latter bound himself to prosecute the case on a contingent fee of one-half and to pay all expenses. It was also agreed that neither should settle or dis-miss the case without the consent of the other. Several months later, however, Edgerton settled the case and dismissed the action, and that, too, without the knowledge or consent of his client. He said he had received \$100 in settlement. When Mrs. Johnson was notified of this

action and called at his office. Edgerton put in a claim for \$15 for expenses and insisted that it should be deducted from the \$100 before making a division. He said he had paid A. J. Sawyer of Lincoln \$35 for preparing he petition and he reckoned the expenses of his trip to Lincoln at \$10. The contract was produced, and after much parleying Edgertor. paid his client \$50, less the court costs.
Mrs. Johnson was not only a widow in poor circumstances at that time, but had four small children dependent upon her for sup

At the time of this meeting there were present, besides the attorney and his client, l'eter J. Anderson, N. P. Monson and C. A. Johnson. Edgerton first proposed giving the widow about \$25. When see refused to cept so small an amount he called Monson into his private office, irged the latter to betray the widow's inter ests by advising her to accept Edgerton's tender. Mr. Monson had befriended Mrs Johnson, and spursed the contemptible proposition. During these negotiations the law-yer made a great display of temper and used profane and vulgar language in the lady's presence. He even went so far as to order Mr. Johnson, her brother-in-law, to leave the office.

Gentlemen acquainted with the facts of Johnson's death and familiar with legal pro-ceedings think the widow had a very strong case against the liquor seller, and they ex-pressed great surprise that the suit should have been settled for so pitful a sum. These stories are not mere hearsay. Many of the statements may be verified by the public records, and the others will be gladly substantiated by some of the oldest and best

SOME NOTED MEN.

As Colonel William R. Morrison's term of service on the interstate Commorce Commis-sion expires in December, the president will soon need to make three appointments to that board.

Governor Boies of Iswa is a broad shouldered man of 64 years. He has a ruddy, smooth shaven face, a hearsy manner and a pleasing voice. He is a native of the state of pleasing voice. He is a native of the state of New York, and like the regulation poor boy

in search of fortune started west with only a few cents in his pocket.

Ten years ago Bernard Forst was a clerk in a men's furnishing goods store in Bradford, Pa. He dabbied in oil speculation, gave him-self up to it, threw aside his legitimate business and is today a millionaire. Forst is one of the owners of the "McDonaid gusher," which produces, it is said, \$4,500 worth of oil a day

Webster Fianagan, who grew famous by asking one simple little question, and is now the collector of the port of El Paso, is a small man of florid face, blue eyes and brown hair. He is an excellent lawyer, a shrewd businessman and possessed of very engaging manners. His father was a republican senator from Texas.

Charles H. Allen, the republican candidate for governor of Massachusetts, is a young man who affects eye-glasses and dresses in the height of fashion. He is a favorite in society. His business is that of a number

President Dill, in jail for wrecking the Clearfield, Pa., bank, was formerly a preacher, but he left the ministry to go into financial matters on his marrying a wealthy woman. He should have stuck to his text. Parnell, if one may believe the Boston Globe correspondent, loved and sought in marriage a Providence girl twenty years ago, but her stern father, a millionaire by the way, would not approve of the match, as the suitor was without a calling. The Irishman's affection was reciprocated and the separation brought sorrow to two hearts.

Secretary Blaine is very proud of the suc cess achieved by his eldest son, Emmons, who has just been appointed assistant to the president of the Baltimore & Ohio railroad, with general charge of the western depart-ment of the road. Secretary Blaine has never recovered from the shock of his son Walker's leath, but his pride now enters in his eldest

ing appearance. He has a massive head, broad brain, and heavy hair, in which there is not a single gray thread, despite his age— 62 years. As a good feeder he has few su-periors. He speaks English fluently, and is always happy to meet Americans.

Osman Pasha, the hero of Plevna, has been located as a scaler in the kitchen of the sul-tan of Turkey. His peculiar business is to scal all the dishes for the sultan's table as soon as they are prepared, and thus, secure against poison, they are carried into the royal dining room and the seals broken only in the sultan's presence. Dr. Hayes Agnew of Philadelphia and Dr.

Robert Reyburn of Washington are the only two physicians surviving of the notable staff of medical men who tried to save Garfield's ife. Dr. Revburn took voluminous notes of the case and is preparing to publish them.

General Booth, the Salvation army com nander, whose authority extends over 1,000, 000 soldiers, is a loose jointed and rather awk-ward man of medium height. He is angular and narrow chested, but the possessor, nevertheless, of great physical vigor. His eyes are dark and piercing, and an iron gray beard falls in profusion over his chest. His hauds are large and remind the observer of the typical horny hands of the son of toil. General Booth is now 62 years old, and for forty years he has been preaching the gospel. He is a man of great earnestness and force, and eems entirely devoid of sham and preten-

Beecher at Seventeen.

My first meeting with Henry Ward Beecher was in the early part of May, 1830. He was a classmate of a brother of mine, in Amherst college, and very close friends. The two were just out of their freshman year when, together with another college classmate, they walked from Amherst to my father's house at west Sutton for their spring racation, writes Mrs. Henry Beecher in the first paper on "Mr. Beecher as I Knew Him," in the October Ladies' Home Journal. At that time young Beecher was not quite 17 years old, but so young and boyish was his appearance that no one would have thought him more than 15-an age when boys are sually awkward and painfully bashful For that reason my family feared we might not be able to entertain or make the young man comfortable. But awkward he never was, and his reguish mouth, his laughing, merry eyes, his quaint humor, and his quick repartee oon dispelled all such anxiety.

Before the first evening he spent at our house had passed, none of the family elt him to be a stranger. My father was absent with some of his patients when the young men arrived. but returned in the evening when all were laughing heartily at some story Henry had just told. Father stood in the doorway—tall, dignified and somewhat stern, at such a tumult.

aware of his presence, my brother at once introduced his classmates. Little by little the same subtle influnces which had pervaded the whole evening's enjoyment stole over father's face, and long before it was time to retire, they were telling mirth-provoking stories as cheerfully as if they were

boys together. When at length the "good nights" were exchanged I left father and mother by the fire I made some preparations for breakfast.

As I returned to the room father "Well, he is smart! He'll make his mark in the world if he lives."

"Who, father?" I asked. "Why, that young Beecher." Such was Henry Ward Beecher when first saw him; and, truth to tell, he was not remarkable for his beauty.

He settled back in his easy chair, pu his feet on a foot rest, lit a eigar, and for five minutes let the smoke curl up around his head. He was a picture of comfort, says the Chicago Tribune.

Then his wife interrupted his medita tions. "George, you're getting lazy, she said He shook his head. "But when we were engaged," she persisted, "you were as active as any man I ever saw. Why, you were a ways getting up excursions, and you were the life of every party. "

He puffed out a little whiff of smoke and nodded his acquiescence. 'What's the matter?" she asked. He took another puff at his eigar and

hen said: "Ever see a man try to catch a train? "Why, yes," she replied in surprise.
"Ever see one rush on to the station platform just as the train seemed al most gone?

"Got a pretty lively move on him, didn't he? "Why, yes; he ran the entire length of the platform as fast as he could. But George -Yes, he just barely caught it. He-

"Certainly I have."

"But he caught it?"

"Of course he did. But, George you're straying-"Did he keep right on running?" in terrupted George. "Certainly not. He settled down in a seat and made himself as comfortable as possible; got a palm leaf fan, and five

minutes later seemed perfectly con-tented and happy." "Well, what of it?" "Do you expect me to keep on running?

Time No Object.

"By getting your ticket over our line, urged the traveling passenger agent of the X., Y. and Z. rallway, "you will save sixteen hours' time on the trip." "On the A., B. and C. route," said the agent of the rival line, "you get 297 miles more riding for the same money." agriculturalist from Hawcreek bought his ticket over the A., B. and C. route.

Drake's Magazine: A good Har is better company than a truthful man with an impedtwent la his specca.

Joseph W. Edgerton first became known in Nebraska fourteen years ago as a patent well borer in Furnas county. Becoming tired of boring holes in the earth he spent a brief time in an attorcopy of the statutes, an abundance of assurance and a tin sign as a lawyer.

A short time afterward he was discovered as a republican office seeker in Polk county with an office in Stromsburg. Failing in his ambition there in the republican ranks he became a rapid anti-monopolist.

Six or seven years ago he drifted to South Omaha and between real estate speculations and a salary of \$50 a month as city attorney he managed to eke out an existence. The city council which elected him was democratic and Edgerton had by this time again changed his politics. As city attorney and solicitor for a city council which plastered the young city with mortgages, his record was discreditable if not corrupt. He helped a disgracefully incompetent and corrupt city government to hide from public view some of the ugliest jobs ever perpetrated by a municipal administration in this state.

After dropping out of his job in South Omaha he became a union labor candidate for something or another and then went back to the democracy to take a position as assistant to the democratic county attorney in criminal cases arising in South Omaha.

In due time he joined the independents and his vaulting amoition was gratified by a nomination for the office of attorney general. He was no more fit to become attorney general than he is to be a cardinal. He ran behind his ticket everywhere, and especially at home. where he was best known. He could not carry South Omaha for justice of the peace. In face of a clear majority of over 3,000 for George H. Hastings he united with the defeated prohibitionists in a baseless contest which cost the taxpayers of Nebraska over \$11,000, plunged the state into turmoil and contention.

He signed and approved the contest papers in which the county in which he ives was malgned and standered. He knew he had no right whatever to the office and no show of claim to it but there was a chance to disfranchise his own people to his personal advantage and he seized upon it with that avidity for which he is noted when an office and a salary are sighted however dimly.

The next thing that comes to him is a fat job in the lobby at the legislature. He remained on deck at the capital during the long session and he is credited with some very sly manipulations of stockyards bills and other measures. Paul Vandervoort was there for the telegraph and telephone monopolies. He and Edgerton became bosom friends and Paul is now stumping the state for him. The next turn in the wheel of this pol-

itical weather cock pointed him toward the state capital as the independent candidate for justice of the supreme court. He has never had practice enoug to make either a reputation as a lawyer or a living. He is not in his office two hours a week. He is scarcely known at the district bar. He has never held a judicial office. He does not possess a single qualification for a judicial posttion. His election would debase our supreme court and disgrace the state.

This is the unvarnished truth

GETTING THEIR EYES OPEN.

The people of Nebraska are beginning to see the true character of Mr. Joseph Edgerton, candidate of the independent party for associate justice of the supreme court. They are carefully measuring the mental and moral proportions of that individual and investigating his qualifications in the light of what he has accomplished during a dozen years as a member of the legal profession. This is all that is required to insure the overwhelming defeat of this impudent aspirant for the highest judicial position in Nebraska. It is only necessary for any intelligent and fair-minded man to examine the record of Edgerton to be convinced of his utter unlitness to occupy any judicial office, to say nothing of a seat on the supreme bench. That record is one of unbroken failure, furnishing evidence of intellectual inferiority and lack of both practical and professional qualifications that would make his present pretensions altogether ludicrous if they were not seriously backed by a considerable party. The simple truth regarding this presumptuous aspirant for a supreme judgeship is, that he knows almost nothing of law, that his general acquirements are meagre, and that he is wholly without the judicial faculty. Edgerton is merely very common place member of the class of lawyers known to the profession as 'shysters," a term that touches the button of depreciatory characterization.

As the people learn more of Mr. Edgerton his chances of election grow less There can be no doubt that he is steadily losing ground. The hope of his supporters that he will receive a large part of the democratic vote is certain to be disappointed. A majority of the democratic voters of Nebraska are intelligent men who have as strong desire to maintain the character of the supreme court as any other citizens, and thousands of them will sacrifice a possible partisan advantage rather than vote to place on the supreme bench an utterly unfit and unworthy man. There are undoubtedly some democrats who will not allow themselves to be influenced by any higher sentiment than hostility to the republican party, but there is excellent reason to believe that the number of such will be found to be very much smaller than the independent supporters of Mr. Edgerton expect. It is also a very safe prediction that Edgerton will fall a good deal short of getting the full vote of the independ ent party. He failed to get it last year, when he was not so well known as he is now, and acquaintance with him and his record is fatal to vote making. It is to be presumed that there are men in that party, and the number is perhaps not small, who have too much independence and self-respect, and too high a regard for the judiciary

of the state, to permit themselves to be whipped into the support of a man whose election to the supreme bench would subject Nebraska to the ridicule and contempt of the country, and could by no possibility result to the advantage ney's office and blossomed out with a of any interest. There are intelligent men in the independent canks who must see that the most serious injury that could be done their organization would be to elect to the highest court in the state a man so conspicuously

unfit as Joseph Edgerton. The campaign of education as to the true character and qualifications of Edgerton will go on. His record, almost barren though it is, will be kept before public attention. There is no present duty of greater importance than this. And it can be confidently asserted that the more thorough the inspection of Edgerton the smaller he will appear. Of all blunders that have been made by the promoters of new political movements during the last year or two his nomination as a candidate for the supreme bonch was the greatest.

OFFICE SEEKER EDGERTON and Lobbyist Vandervoort are awakening no enthusinsm. As bosom friends they worked the legislature far more successfully than they are now working the people. Legislators are more easily bamboozled than the people who elect them.

ALBERT M. Post is above suspicion as citizen, lawyer and judge. The opposition press has sought in vain for a flaw in his record. He is gaining strength every day because the more his career is investigated the clearer becomes the truth that he will be a credit to Nobraska's highest judicial tribunal.

VANDERVOORT and Edgerton were bosom friends in the lobby of a legislature which appropriated half a million more than its most extravagant predecessor. They are bosom friends on the stump today and they are engaged in the same bamboozling business on a larger scale.

Shooting Story Which Took the Cake. "I had an experience near Cheboygan last week which I would not go through again for several hundred dollars."

'What was it?" ssked the crowd. "I was out in the woods with a couple of friends shooting. You know that the game is not so plenty around that region as it once was, and in default of deer or bear or other game which was worth the killing, we put in the afternoon shooting at a mark. A small piece of paper pinned to a tree about as ar away as from here to Fort street was the mark. One of my companions carried a small rifle, and it was his turn first. I was standing about twelve feet from him. Just as he raised the rifle to his shoulder 1 turned my face to him. He pulled the trigger, and as the report of the rifle rang out I felt a sharp blow on my ear. I clapped my hand to my ear in an instant and let out a yell which would have done credit to a Comanche Indian. Both of my companions commenced to laugh at me. They thought I was jumping at the report of the rifle. But I assured them it was no laughing matter and that the bullet had bit me

"'Nonsense!' they all exclaimed in one breath. "'Nonsense or not, gentlemen, I know that bullet hit me on the ear, replied I, and as I did so I took my hand down, expecting that they would find the ear all blood. The only thing they could see out of the way, however, was a dark red mark, but that was enough of a surprise for them. At my instanceth ey searched in the leaves at my feet for the bullet, and sure enough they found it. We then examined the tree and found that the bullet had hit a hard knot, leaving a small dent and rebounded to where I stood. You'd better believe I got right out of the woods and next time you catch me in the vicinity of a rifle you can send me to a lunatic asylum. Why, if my face had

been turned toward the tree I would have got it right in the eye." "Do you mean to say that that mark was a block anda half away from you?" required one of the auditors.

"It was fully that:" "And that that bullet rebounded all that distance and hit you in the ear?"

"Whew! It's no wonder you can sell real estate. One of the listeners to the restaurant man's story was a certain interior decorator whose work is to be seen in a large number of homes every day.

broke in he. "Well, out with it," said the real estate agent. The decorator began deliberately. "I was once shot in the back-

T've got a story that beats that,'

"You don't say?" said the real estate "Perhaps you'd like to be again. And the entire aggregation, with the exception of the newspaper reporter,

dropped into a cool basement and sampled the buttermilk. How Journalists Aid Justice. October Century: Another instance to illustrate this branch of the subject

presented itself in Secretary Bristow's able and crushing campaign against the gigantic western whiskey ring. Fortunately, just before he undertook it, he discovered that the cipher of the department had been betrayed to members of this ring. It was impossible to fix the responsibility, and this uncertainty caused both uneasiness and perplexity. The remedy devised was to limit knowledge of what was intended, an dof all preliminary movements, to the sec-retary himself and his solicitor, Major Bluford Wilson. It was further agreed that the dis-patches of the department, to and from St. Louis should pass in an arbitrary cipher prepared and held by two journalists, one in Washington and the other in St. Louis, and that no copy of that cipher should be furnished to any one, not even to the secretary or the solicitor. And so it came to pass that all orders and directions which were given by the Treasury department in regard to preparations for surprising the whiskey ring at its work, and all information received by it from St. Louis up to the moment that the government was ready to make seizures, were first sent to the journalists for translation and transmission in their cipner. As a result, a ring of immease proportions and influence was broken, millions were recovered by the government, and other millions saved. Later in the case guilty men escaped because a president and cabinet officials did not observe confidence in regard to vital points of the government evidence.

Jewelers' Creular: Poppinjay - Young Noodle has a large bump of curiosity. Ponsonby - Never noticed it. Poppinjay - But he has, though. Some time age he bought a nickel clock guaranteed for a year, but it really ran accurately for two years.

Ponsonby—What of that? Poppinjay—Well, he had to break the cic to pieces to see what was the matter with it