TRIED TO BURN THE TOWN

Chapman People Discover a Plan to Destroy the City.

RISING CITY'S COSTLY CONFLAGRATION

Thirteen Thousand Dollars Worth of Property Go up in Smoke—Nebraska Political News—Interesting State Crop Reports.

RISING CITY, Neb., July 9.—[Special to THE BEE.]—Fire last night destroyed five stores, causing a loss of $13,000. The flames broke out in the drug store of Ross & Co. at 11 o'clock and the entire stock of drugs was consumed. The hardware store of C. W. Day was burned, but part of the goods were saved. The millinery store of Miss Newcomer, the brick building belonging to Thielen of Shelby and the store of A. P. Day were entirely destroyed. The loss is covered by $7,100 insurance.

CHAPMAN, Neb., July 9.—[Special to THE BEE.]—Great excitement was caused yesterday by the finding of a 12-foot piece of water fuse attached to a can which was placed under the meat market run by D. S. Shields. It is supposed the can was placed there for the purpose of blowing up the building. A fire was built on the sidewalk and the fuse connected with the fire. Had the building caught fire almost the whole town would have burned.

NEBRASKA CROP CONDITIONS.

Farmers Generally Agree That Recent Rains Have Done Much Good.

MCCOOK, Neb., July 9.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—THE BEE correspondent has made careful inquiries of the farmers of this county regarding the condition of the crops and reports are unanimous that the acreage will exceed that of last year by one-half. The rye harvest is in full blast and winter wheat will be ready as soon as the rye is out of the way. Spring wheat is looking fine and promises a big yield. Corn is growing fast and is of good color. The leading farmers say the quality and yield will equal that of last year.

TALMAGE, Neb., July 9.—[Special to THE BEE.]—The farmers of Otoe county are in the midst of the winter wheat harvest. Wheat was never better. Many believe that there will be an average of thirty-five bushels per acre. Corn and other crops are growing nicely and prospects are good for crops generally.

MADRID, Neb., July 9.—[Special to THE BEE.]—A steady, soaking rain, beginning at about 10:30 Friday evening and continuing throughout the night, has practically assured for Perkins county a most abundant crop. Corn has never looked as well as at this season of the year, while winter wheat, which will be harvested in about a week, will certainly yield from twenty-eight to forty bushels to the acre. It is stated by conservative men that spring weat promises a sure yield of from at least eighteen to twenty-five bushels. The stand is good, and it only required this bountiful rain to properly fill and mature the grain.

ELSIE, Neb., July 9.—[Special to THE BEE.]—A heavy rain last night insures big crops in Perkins county. Corn and wheat are looking well and farmers are happy.

EDDYVILLE, Neb., July 9.—[Special to THE BEE.]—Crop prospects in this vicinity are very flattering now, although rain is needed for the maturing of small grain. Corn is a little backward, but is doing well and farmers are feeling good over the outlook.

VENANGO, Neb., July 9.—[Special to THE BEE.]—One of the finest rains that ever visited this country began to fall Thursday evening about 6 o'clock and continued in a steady, soaking fall until early yesterday morning. From all appearances the rainfall was general over western Nebraska and eastern Colorado and will aid millions of bushels to the crops. Farmers in this vicinity are jubilant and are making extensive preparations to take care of a large acreage of grain.

SMOOTH MR. PENWARDEN.

He Offended the Good Citizens of South Sioux City.

SOUTH SIOUX CITY, Neb., July 2.—[Special to THE BEE.]—Some months ago a young man appeared in South Sioux City claiming to hail from Omaha, a lawyer by profession and F. W. Penwarden by name. Wearing good clothes, a smooth talker and naturally shrewd, he soon worked into fair business. He ran quite a board bill at one of the hotels, which remains unpaid. The landlord attempted to secure the bill by attaching a trunk, but the court decided in favor of the young attorney, who defended himself before the county judge. Matters worked on for some time without any apparent notice being taken of the young man. Meantime he had secured the agency of a prominent fire insurance company and was writing several prominent risks. Parties began to complain in regard to the time elapsing before the policy should be forthcoming, approved by the insurance company, and those having paid premiums wrote to the home office asking why the delay. The reply came back, "We have received no application for such risk as you mention, neither have we received the premium from our local agent."

About this time he made a small deposit in one of the banks and secured a check book. Numerous checks began to show up in the hands of innocent holders, who had cashed them "after banking hours" to accommodate" Penny. The locality got too warm to suit his complexion, and he quietly stole away about two months ago, and rumor had it he had gone to Chili to assist in the affairs of that remote republic. A few days ago he again appeared on the streets of this city and in more ways than one offended some of the prominent citizens. A committee waited upon the young man, requesting him to leave town at once. As the leader of the committee had a rope in his hands and a hint of tar and feathers being given, with possibly something stronger, he took to his heels.

Fell Down a Stairway.

BEATRICE, Neb., July 9.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—George Clark, a veteran of the war of 1812, fell down a cellar stairway at the residence of Alf Conine, this city, last night and was seriously injured about his lower limbs. The injured man is 95 years of age and totally blind.

Miss Sadie Kurth, aged 18 years, was thrown from a buggy by a runaway this morning, and striking the pavement on her head and shoulder, suffered a severe fracture of the skull, which is feared will result fatally.

Senator Paddock telegraphs from Washington that Hon. Roswell G. Horr of Michigan will surely be at Beatrice to deliver a speech on July 14, republican day at the Chautauqua grounds.

A delegation of fourteen young Beatrice people and teachers departed today for the National Educational association, which meets at Saratoga, N. Y. The party was in charge of Prof. C. G. Pearse.

Injured in a Runaway.

NEBRASKA CITY, Neb., July 9.—[Special to THE BEE.]—Mrs. C. P. Lloyd was the victim of a serious accident last evening. She was out riding with Mrs. Montrose and her little daughter when the horse became frightened and ran away. The buggy was overturned in a ditch and the horse continued on his mad race. Mrs. Montrose and child escaped injury, but Mrs. Lloyd was unconscious when picked up. Her face was badly cut and bruised and the physician fears internal injuries which may prove fatal. The horse was caught about two miles out of town.

Drowned While Wading.

CEDAR RAPIDS, Neb., July 9.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—Freddy Reith, aged 7 years, was drowned in Cedar river this forenoon. He was wading in the river and stepped in a deep place and sank. His playmates gave the alarm, but too late to rescue him. His parents reside at Postville, Ia. The boy was stopping with his grandparents in this place.

Struck by a Hand Car.

BLAIR, Neb., July 9.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—Hans Stane, a watchman at the bridge, was struck by a hand car this evening and dangerously injured.

Earned by Honest Toil.

COLUMBUS, Neb., July 9.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—Patrick Murray, aged 65, who has lived here forty years and who was married to Fredericka Schuldt, aged 21, last Sunday, gave a reception to his friends tonight which was largely attended by the old settlers. Murray is worth $100,000, which he made tilling Platte county soil, proved himself to be a pleasant host.

DIXON COUNTY REPUBLICANS.

Delegates Selected to the State Convention—Other Nebraska Political Notes.

PONCA, Neb., July 9.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—The Dixon county republican convention held at Martinsburg today resulted in the following nominations and appointments: For representative, E. E. Ellis; county attorney, J. J. McCarthy; delegates to the state convention, F. M. Dorsey, A. E. Barnes, H. P. Shumway, J. E. Moore, A. Reynolds, W. L. Mole, W. Jenkins, and J. T. Marriott; delegates to senatorial convention, S. K. Bittenbender, H. P. Shumway, J. L. Seis, C. G. Swanson, A. E. Barnes, W. H. Filley, E. E. Ellis and J. J. Kellogg.

Judge Norris, the aspirant for congressional honors in this district, was empowered to appoint the delegates to the congressional convention.

MADISON, Neb., July 9.—[Special to THE BEE.]—The republican county central committe of Madison county has selected John B. Barnes, W. M. Robertson, C. A. Randall, E. H. Tracy, M. L. Stewart, C. E. Burnham Isaac Powers, jr., W. N. Huse and James Clark delegates, and John R. Hays, F. H. L. Willis, E. H. Jenkens, Millard Brown, Thomas Ostergard, Claus Young, T. A. Shafer, F. A. Long and George D. Smith alternates to the state convention at Lincoln August 4. The delegates and alternates were instructed to use all honorable means to secure the nomination of Eugene Moore for auditor of public accounts. The chairman and secretary were authorized to issue a call for the county convention for the nomination of a county ticket.

BEATRICE, Neb., July 9.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—A meeting of republicans of Beatrice is called for Monday evening at the city hall to organize a republican club.

In the Alliance Ranks.

BEATRICE, Neb., July 9.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—An independent club of 100 members was organized here last night with J. J. Totten as president and Frank Wagner secretary.

HOLDREDGE, Neb., July 5.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—The grand rally of the independents here today, as far as the crowd and enthusiasm was concerned, was a complete failure. The name of "Cyclone" Davis of Texas lost its potentcy and power on the intelligent and thrifty yeomanry of this county. The people of Phelps county have little use for this element when everything around them shows thrift and prosperity. The greater part of the crowd were republicans and democrats who were drawn hither from sheer curiosity. The majority of the people in this district want a stable government, and the indications are that Harrison will carry this county by a very large majority.

CLAY CENTER, Neb., July 9.—[Special to THE BEE.]—The Clay county independents took advantage of the semi-annual county alliance meeting here yesterday to hold a ratification meeting. The meetings were well attended, both in the afternoon and evening, Hon. C. H. Van Wyck and State Lecturer Dech of the alliance being the principal speakers. General Van Wyck devoted most of both his afternoon and evening speeches to an effort to attribute the Homestead riot to vicious tariff legislation. Mr. Dech made the usual independent speech, in which the 30,000 millionaires and 3,000,000 tramps figured conspicuously. Music was furnished by the Corn Stalk club of Sutton.

SIDNEY, Neb., July 9.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—The people's party had a grand rally and torchlight procession tonight. There was nearly 200 farmers in line and on the line of march there was a magnificent display of fireworks. Addresses were made at the court house by Hon. L. C. Stockton, editor of the Sidney Pontiard, George Lingenfelter, Wallace Boynton, Judge Ayers and many others. General Van Wyck was expected, but failed to materialize.

The Cheyenne county Cleveland club will have a rally next week and several prominent speakers from eastern Nebraska are expected to discuss the issues of the day.

Herman's Commercial Importance.

HERMAN, Neb., July 9.—[Special to THE BEE.]—Herman is one of the most important stations along the line of the Chicago, St. Paul, Minneapolis & Omaha road, and is far ahead of most towns of three and four times its size. The freight business done here is marvelous. THE BEE correspondent has gathered information that justifies the following statement, which shows the amount of business handled during the present month:

SHIPMENTS.

	Pounds.
Live stock	400,000
Grain	2,929,000
Sand	137,000
Merchandise	24,000
Total	3,490,000

RECEIVED.

	Pounds.
Flour and feed	90,000
Coal	600,000
Lumber	200,000
Merchandise	260,000
Total	1,150,000
Grand total	4,240,000

The sale of tickets amounts to about $350 for the month.

The express business covers 20,000 pounds for the month.

Convicted of Thieving.

HOLDREGE, Neb., July 9.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—W. R. Harris, colored, who styles himself a pugilist, was arraigned today before Justice Austin, charged with assaulting and robbing a traveling man, who was stopping at the Palace hotel. He was found guilty, and fined $25 and costs. Not being able to pay his fine, he was placed in jail.

NEW ATTRACTIONS.

Treats in Store for Theater-Goers During the Coming Season.

Theatrically, the season is at an end, but here and there an attraction will be put in at the play houses just to keep up the public interest and pave the way for the regular opening of the opera houses in August, which is rather earlier than usual. Nellie McHenry and her wonderfully successful play, "A Night at the Circus," will be seen at Boyd's Sunday evening, July 24, for one night. The new play, "Cupid on Bicycles," which will have its premiere in Omaha, will open the regular season at Boyd's August 5 and 6. Two of the principals, the Powers brothers, are already here, the company beginning rehearsals July 15.

Mr. Boyd, who has just returned from New York, announces an exceptionally strong list of attractions for the season, principal of which are "Tuxedo," "The Ensign," Frank Daniels, Milton Nobles, Robert Downing, "Blue Jeans," John T. Kelly, "Alabama," "A Texas Steer," "Niobe," Alexander Salvini, "Miss Helyett," Sol Smith Russell, Lillian Russell Opera company, Julia Marlowe, Thomas W. Keene, Margaret Mather, "The Still Alarm," Stuart Robson, "Natural Gas," Rhea, James O'Neill, James T. Powers and Pete Daly in their new play, "A Trip to Chinatown," Joseph Murphy, Anna Lewis, Rose Coghlan, Evans & Hoey, "Incog," "Fantasma," DeWolf Hopper Opera company, Modjeska, "Superba," E. H. Sothern, "Old Homestead," Effie Ellsler, John Drew, "Far and Tartar," Lewis Morrison, The Bostonians.

Mr. Burgess will begin the season at the Farnam Street theater with "Ole Olsen" August 21 and will play many of his attractions four nights instead of a week, as last season, thus securing two shows a week, which, he believes, will largely increase the patronage of the house.

The Dodd Opera company, after a tempestuous week at Garfield Beach, gave up the ghost Saturday night. As walking is good quite a number of the company will no doubt join the ranks of the trugedians and count the ties between Ogden and Chicago, where the company was organized.

Raised the Necessary Amount.

CHICAGO, Ill., July 9.—The completion of the $1,000,000 subscription for the Chicago university by July 10, on which conditional contributions of large amounts depended, was accomplished. A. A. Rust, one of the board of trustees, came to the rescue and pledged himself to give $50,000. This more than rounded out the $1,000,000 by $12,000.

IT WAS GRAND ARMY DAY

Nebraska Veterans Handsomely Entertained at Crete's Chautauqua.

MANY INTERESTING THEMES DISCUSSED

Nice Distinctions with Reference to the Colonial Struggle for Independence—Other Attractive Features of the Assembly Work.

CRETE, Neb., July 9.—[Special to THE BEE.]—Today is Grand Army day at the Crete Chautauqua and the influx of the veterans and their families from the surrounding country has increased the attendance to some extent, although not as much as had been hoped. The day has been warm and at times threatening, but the assembly grounds serve as a refreshing retreat.

The subject of the president's address at the morning prayer was "The Lame Man Healed" and drew a fair audience from among those who are permanently located in the vicinity. The children's class and the chorus training class went on as usual, while the adult normal class members continued their study of the life of Christ by discussing the year of popularity. This latter class seems to have proven most interesting to its members, who show their appreciation by asking numerous questions.

At 10 o'clock Dr. Duryea concluded his series of lectures upon the history of this country. The fact that today is set aside as Grand Army day furnished an appropriate suggestion upon which to commence his talk. In relation to the late war the words "rebellion" and "war for the union" have come to be used as representing to us a concrete thing. Rebellion can exist only when there is a constituted authority to resist, and so the question arises, how came this national government to be formed?

The speaker then went back to the period of settlement, traced the order of colonization and pointed out the essential differences between the various colonial establishments. This led up to the revolution and the formation of the union which finally achieved independence of Great Britain. The tribulations of the people which resulted in the federal constitution came in for a portion of the lecture. Dr. Duryea concluded by detailing the various steps by which that instrument was evolved and declared that the compromises of the convention of 1787, as all compromises must necessarily be, was only a postponement of the issue of state sovereignty which was conclusively determined on the battle fields of the late rebellion.

Congressman W. J. Bryan was advertised to deliver an address but failed to show up, his excuse being, as announced, that the continued session of congress demanded his presence in Washington. In his place, Prof. Curtiss gave an informal talk to those interested in the education of young men for the ministry.

The afternoon exercises were preceded by several musical numbers, of which a cornet solo by Mr. Jelinek was well applauded. Rev. A. R. Thain gave the Grand Army oration upon the subject "Days in Dixie." He said he intended to celebrate the heroic deeds of all those below a major in rank and paid a high tribute to the character, intellectual, moral and educational, of the men who formed the rank and file of the union armies during the late war. The interpolation of many amusing anecdotes was a pleasant feature of the oration, which all through retained the attention of the auditors.

Late Afternoon Hours.

The later afternoon hours were devoted to regular classes, the bible students' class, the chorus training class and the primary teachers' class. During the Sunday school hour the attention of the audience was taken by Rev. D. Eritt, who talked on teachers' meetings and normal classes in the Congregational headquarters. The Round Table under Mr. W. E. Hardy discussed the subject of favorite books, the students giving their opinions of the Chautauqua publications and telling from what literature they have profited the most. The best way of reading newspapers was also a point for elucidation.

In the evening, a lecture by Rev. C. C. Lasby upon the passion play of Ober Ommergau illustrated by original stereopticon views, formed the day's final attraction. Sunday is to be set aside exclusively to devotional exercises.

The dining hall this year is being run upon a new plan. In previous sessions the privilege was given over to some outside lady. The last experiment in this direction resulted in a balance on the books of only a few cents, and so to prevent a similar outcome this time the ladies of the Crete Congregational church have taken it upon themselves to conduct the dining hall economically and wisely in order to swell the treasurer's receipts. In this they are succeeding finely, as well as from a culinary point of view.

Dr. Scott announced Thursday evening that the various classes of this year's Chautauqua assembly were much fuller in membership than ever before, although the attendance of outsiders for the more popular features of the program was not quite up to the standard of former times. This seems to be, in a nutshell, a statement of the condition and prospects of the present meeting. From an educational standpoint it promises to be successful in every respect and to enrich those who attend systematically to the exercises offered by a considerable addition to their present stock of knowledge. If the Chautauqua movement means anything at all, it is systematic self-effort at educational progress, assisted by guidance of others in mapping out and assigning the work. The annual summer meetings were expected to serve at the same time as a diversion and a review of the work already done, and this purpose seems to be what the Crete Chautauqua is approximating.

The pleasant weather continued Friday, and found a fair audience up and about before the morning prayer. President Scott spoke briefly upon the "First Christian Church," after which came the regular classes for children and for chorus training. The younger people were also regaled at 10 o'clock with a chalk talk in the Congregational headquarters. The adult normal class members, who are following out the life of Christ, busied themselves Friday morning with the year of obscurity. Dr. Duryea's course in American history is by all means the best and most encouraging feature of the assembly. And it is a good omen to see his audience well filled by both young and old. In the morning he took up the period of exploration and impressed it on his hearers that all the great navigators were moved almost solely by a longing to find a passage to the Indies, from which they had been shut off since the fall of Constantinople in 1453. He also explained the position and part played by Spain and attempted to show why it was that Spain had lost its industrial foundation and had thus become unable to hold any considerable portion of the continent which had been opened up to civilization under her auspices. The gold fever of the Spaniards afforded an opportunity for Dr. Duryea to assert that he could see no way by which piling up silver dollars in the treasury at Washington would help the Nebraska farmer.

The vocalion has arrived and was used for the first time in Friday evening's concert. It is a handsome instrument, in the style of a miniature pipe organ, but loses some of its effect by reason of the imperfect acoustic arrangements of the auditorium. This vocalion has been supplied by the courtesy of a Chicago musical goods firm, whose kindness in so doing Dr. Scott loses no opportunity to acknowledge in his daily remarks by glowing free advertisements.

Christianity and Socialism.

The address of the morning was by Rev. Albert Bushnell upon "Christianity and Socialism." He treats socialism as necessarily hostile to Christianity and as aiming to correct the same evils by approaching the problem from opposite sides. Socialism seeks to obliterate personality, upon which the church is built. The true remedy for socialism, then, is the spread of true Chistianity and the extension of the church's activities among the poor.

One hour of the afternoon was devoted to a lecture by Dr. A. R. Thain of Omaha upon the subject, "Books and Reading." This was a plea for well selected, well digested reading, for reading with a distinct purpose and for a dismissal from service of the yellow-back novel and lightest novels.

The hours from 2 to 4 were taken up by Prof. Curtiss in a continuation of his course for bible students, in which he makes use of modern interpretation and methods to support many of the orthodox views of biblical subjects. The class for primary teachers followed this, as also the Sunday school hour, where Mr. R. E. Cochrane discussed the work of the superintendent. The Round Table was devoted today to the subject of prison work, a topic which was elucidated by several members connected with the work among the convicts at the state penitentiary. The exercises closed in the evening with a lecture by Rev. C. C. Lasby, descriptive of a voyage from New York to Egypt, illustrated by numerous stereopticon views.

Mr. and Mrs. DeLong of Omaha are here attending the assembly.

Fremont's Assembly.

FREMONT, Neb., July 9.—[Special to THE BEE.]—Mr. Leon H. Vincent's lecture at 3 p. m. yesterday was upon "Thomas Carlyle." It was a clear, forcible and well-pleasing address. At 4 p. m. Mrs. G. W. Clark of Omaha spoke upon "Social Purity." Mrs. Clark spoke in earnest, stirring words upon the duty of parents to talk freely with their children, and of all to speak a cheering word and lend a helping hand to the fallen. The Chautauqua Literary and Scientific circle round table at 5 p. m. was an interesting one. The subject was "Methods of Work," and brought out many helpful thoughts for those who find it hard to find time for reading the required amount each year. The choral union at 1:30 and 7 p. m. is doing good work under Prof. Torrens, and is preparing for a grand concert on Monday evening.

The lecture last evening by John DeWitt Miller was an intellectual treat, and the audience was kept in continual merriment to the close. Mr. Miller is one of the most witty, interesting and pleasing speakers in the country. His subject was "What Shall We Do with the Stranger at Our Gates!" and the lecturer outlined the solution to the vexing question of foreign immigration. His subject for tonight is "Love, Courtship and Marriage." Mr. Miller will also preach at 11 a. m. Sunday.

Rev. H. A. Elliott, Ph. D., of Columbus, one of the workers for Long Pine Chautauqua, is present, and will preach tomorrow evening. Among other workers just arrived is Mrs. E. A. Blair of Creighton, assistant national superintendent of the Loyal Legions, who will speak on Wednesday of next week. Mrs. Blair was much pleased with the improvement of the grounds, and expressed her belief that soon the Fremont assembly grounds would rival most of the older assemblies. This forenoon the Fremont Normal school visited the grounds in a body. Nearly 600 students, headed by the Fremont Normal band, marched upon the grounds, and after having their picture taken by Mr. Steadman, the assembly photographer, they were soon at home in the classes and lectures or in the boats and plunge-bath.

The teachers institute work is one of the important features of the assembly. Here 140 teachers are enrolled, and the work is in charge of Prof. D. V. Stephens, superintendent of public instruction in Dodge county. Prof. Stephens has been highly complimented by individuals and the press for his excellent methods for institute work. The entire course of instruction is divided into four years' work; covering all subjects required by law for all of the grades certificates.

The work of the first year is in charge of Miss Christine Lonquist of Fremont, who also has the "Synthetic method." The second year's work is in charge of Mr. C. A. Manville of Dodge. The third year by Mr. J. A. Collins, and fourth year by Prof. Dan Miller of Fremont city schools. Prof. Miller is at present called to Iowa, and Miss Selby of North Bend has charge of his work. The regular examinations will commence next Monday and continue two hours each day until close of the assembly.

There has been a change in the program, and Monday will be children's day, and temperance day will occur on Wednesday instead of the order published.

More people are coming every day, and each session is more interesting than the former and better attended.

Hamling's Great Luck.

F. M. Hamling, if life is worth anything to him, has reason to congratulate himself that he is alive. Mr. Hamling is employed at the Dime savings bank and lives at 2724 Miami. He was coming downtown yesterday on a Hanscom park car and jumped off at Sixteenth.

Another man jumped on at the same instant, knocking Hamling down and rolling him under the wheels. A shudder ran through the car and the passengers held their breath until Mr. Hamling came up, not exactly smiling but alive and comparatively uninjured. His pantaloons had gone the way of all such garments and he looked as if the street sweeper had been rolling him, but no bones were broken and he was only slightly scratched.

He is an Old Offender.

CHICAGO, Ill., July 9.—M. Auzat, arrested here charged with swindling the Parisian millionaire, De Escombrera, was granted a continuance without bail today. The French consul says the accused has a long record of crime and has been imprisoned eleven times. The consul adds: "Auzat is the Frenchman calling himself an American citizen who was arrested in Tangiers last year for swindling. He then gave the name of Adams and escaped through the intervention of the American consul."

THREE ON BIDWELL.

Chicago Tribune: Governor Bidwell is a great improvement over St. John. St. John would never have destroyed $250,000 worth of vineyards. He would have sold them and pocketed the money, every time.

Philadelphia Record: The discovery that Candidate Bidwell is a California grape grower will be nuts for the anti-prohibitionists, who will argue that the convention was guilty of a straddle, or at least a squint. This does not follow, of course, since there is as much distinctiou between grapes and wine as there is between corn or rye and whisky. Nevertheless, a higher respect for practical politics would have spared the convention from all risk of getting a slip-down on a grape skin.

New York Advertiser: General Bidwell, the prohibition candidate for president, has 500 acres of his California Rancho Chico planted in grapes, the annual yield of which is about 1,000,000 pounds. The general formerly converted all his grapes into wine and brandy; but that was when he was sowing his wild oats, as it were. It was his second wife who taught him the error of his ways, and now the entire product of his vineyard is classed as "table grapes," and as such are placed upon the market. Still, grapes by any other name would make but little difference in the morning.

BLASTS FROM RAM'S HORN.

Inexperience is the mother of self-conceit.

No man is any stronger than the weak spot in his character.

The man who tries to be religious for pay will steal every chance he gets.

The reason some men remain honest is because they are watched too close.

You now and then meet folks who have all kinds of sense except common sense.

It was a hopeful day for the devil when he saw the cook stove go into the church.

It is never hard to do the right thing. It is in deciding to do it that the tug comes.

Give the devil his choice and he would rather start one church fuss than two saloons in any community.

Aim to be happy five minutes at a time, and you will be surprised to find how easy it will come to rejoice all day.

The kind of religion that is not contagious is the kind that never speaks half as loud in business as it tries to do in prayer meeting.

There are people in the church who wear long faces because they are afraid they wouldn't be considered religious if they didn't.

The man who makes the right kind of a prayer for a corn crop is the one who does all he can to keep down the weeds with plow and hoe.

Building Permits.

The following building permits were issued by the superintendent of buildings yesterday:

John Withwell, two story and attic brick residence, Thirty-fifth and Farnam streets	$20,000
August Schipperite, one and one-half story frame residence, 3159 South Fifteenth street	1,500
Three minor permits	900
Total	$22,400

HELFENSTEIN KNOCKED OUT

Judge Hopewell Destroys the Last Hopes of the Land Grabbers.

SHERIFF CAM. REEVES' SALE SET ASIDE

End of a Case That Has Clouded Many Titles—Mrs. Carter Wins Her Case Against the Paxton—Ex-Councilman Madsen Sentenced.

Again the property owners and home builders are on top. Again they have won a victory and the banner of the Helfensteins has been torn down and trampled in the dust.

From the judicial bench Judge Hopewell of the equity division of the district court has announced that the Helfensteins cannot rob the people who are the owners of lots in the E. V. Smith's, Foster's, Paulsen's Idlewild and other additions in the north part of the city, which now are a part of the original pre-emption entry made by Robert Shields.

There is a large amount of happiness in that part of the city, but none of the home owners are happier than Wharton & Baird and A. C. Troup, the attorneys who won the victory.

History of the Land.

The history of the case is a long one and dates back more than a quarter of a century. In 1857 Robert Shields pre-empted the land in question and in 1863 received his patent from the government. Shields was in the grocery business and dealt with Helfenstein & Gore, wholesale grocers of St. Louis. Times were hard and at last he became involved. He owed the St. Louis firm $150. They secured judgment in the justice court and levied on the land.

In 1858 the land was sold and bid in by John P. Helfenstein, the senior member of the firm, but for some reason the sheriff, J. Cameron Reeves, failed to execute a deed. Shields continued to occupy the land, but a year or two later Thomas L. Sutton, then sheriff, executed the deed and the sale of 1858 was confirmed. During the time that intervened Shields sold to other parties, in each case giving a warranty deed. The property was platted into additions and much of it highly improved. The residents and owners of the lots prospered and grew rich and not a cloud crossed their skies until a few years ago, when John P. Helfenstein appeared upon the scene and at once brought suit in the United States court to quiet the title to the tract and to oust all of the purchasers under Shields' title. In its regular order the case was reached for trial. The jury had been empanneled and the case was being stated by the attorneys when a telegraphic message was received announcing that Helfenstein had died. That brought the case to a sudden termination, as far as the United States court was concerned.

Case Passed Upon.

But there was more to follow. Andrew Rosewater had bought two lots in E. V. Smith's addition, lots that had their original title in Shields. Two years ago he found James H. Curry in possession under the terms of a lease which he had secured from Campbell. Mr. Rosewater visited Curry and demanded the payment of the rent. Curry refused, and suit in ejectment was brought. The case was tried in justice court, and forty minutes before the hour of hearing Curry showed up with a quit claim deed from John P. Helfenstein. The deed, bearing the evidence of fraud upon its face, failed to impress the justice to any extent and the case was decided in favor of Mr. Rosewater. An appeal was at once taken and the decision of Judge Hopewell is the final outcome.

In passing upon the case the court stated that the sheriff's deed executed to Helfenstein by Thomas L. Sutton could not be considered in evidence. The sale by J. Cameron Reeves, who was the sheriff in 1858, must be set aside as an invalid conveyance.

This fact is what makes the other property owners happy, as it cuts Helfenstein out of bringing suit to eject them from their homes. It also settles the fact that the parties who claim under the Shields transfer have a good title.

While only two lots were involved in the Curry-Rosewater case the decision quiets the title to more than $4,000,000 worth of property.

In all of these suits a remarkable providence has dealt harshly with a number of the plaintiffs Helfenstein has passed to that land beyond the skies. One of his heirs, a plaintiff and a party to the suit, has also joined him. Curry died shortly after he brought his suit and not long ago Mrs. Curry followed her husband. Then the heirs took up the prosecution of the case. A few months ago one of them died.

A Verdict Against the Paxton.

Delia Carter, the wife and administratrix of the late Captain Carter of the fire department, who was caught and killed beneath the falling walls of the Paxton hotel annex, has won her suit in the district court against J. B. Kitchen, the owner of the hotel, and the jury has awarded her $5,000 damages. When the fire was in progress Captain Carter was working on the west wall of the annex. He was standing on a ladder. Without a moment's warning the wall swayed and fell out, crushing him beneath tons of brick and debris. Suit for $5,000 damages was brought by the widow. She set up the claim that the wall was in a dangerous condition and not constructed in accordance with the building ordinances of the city. The defendant attempted to justify by entering a general denial.

Damages for a Crushed Foot.

In the case of Etvena Smart against Charles R. Lee, on trial in Judge Keysor's court, the jury returned a verdict fixing the plaintiff's damage at $1,225. Smart was driving one of Lee's wagons.

While on the Omaha and Council Bluffs bridge his team, unable to hold the load, ran off the approach. Smart got out of the wreck with a badly crushed foot and at once brought suit to recover $10,000, alleging that the horses were not capable of handling the load and that the wagon was defective.

Councilman Madsen's Sentence.

Ex Councilman B. F. Madsen, who was convicted of toying with a $500 check which he secured from O. H. Ballou on April 1, 1891, and which it was alleged was given to him to influence his vote on an electric light franchise that was before the city council for consideration, was in court yesterday morning for the purpose of receiving his sentence. The judge imposed a fine of $500 and granted a stay of execution during the pendency of the case in the supreme court.

Other Cases.

Judge Davis had the John J. Wills case before him again and, after hearing the arguments, set the verdict aside and ordered a new trial. On June 9 Wills was tried and convicted of shooting with intent to murder.

A new trial was granted in the case of Frank Kramport, convicted of selling diseased meats in violation of the state law and the city ordinances.

In the suit of George H. Payne et al against the city of Omaha, to enjoin the changing of the grade of Forty-second street, from Cuming to Hamilton, in Walnut Hill addition, Judge Irvine has granted a permanent injunction.

Mary Elizabeth Grimbie has brought suit to sever the matrimonial ties that bind her to her husband, Jackson Sullivan Grimble. She alleges desertion and failure to support.

The May term of the district court has practically come to an end. All of the civil cases that are for trial by jury and have not been reached have been continued until the September term. The jury has been discharged, but Monday a special panel consisting of twenty-four will appear to remain for two weeks in assisting Judge Davis to finish the criminal docket.

Judges Doane, Ferguson and Irvine have adjourned their divisions of the court. The other judges will be on the bench a greater portion of next week, taking orders and hearing exparte matters.

Holt County School Troubles.

School district No. 44, Holt county, is all torn up, financially speaking.

In April, 1889, the school directors of that district took a notion to raise some money for the alleged purpose of building a large schoolhouse. But the district was already bonded to the full legal limits, so the directors simply issued school district orders amounting to $4,000, and sold them to the Clark-Leonard Investment company of Lincoln. The taxpayers held a meeting and repudiated the orders and secured a permanent injunction prohibiting the county treasurer from paying these orders. Nothing more was heard of the orders until a few weeks since, when the National Life Insurance company of Montpelier, Vt., appeared in the United States court with the orders and brought action to secure an order for their payment. The school board of district No. 44 acknowledged service and did not appear in court; in short, let the matter go by default because they probably wanted to see the orders paid as they had created them in the first place.

The judgment of the court was secured favorable to the payment of the orders, and not until after this order had been issued did the taxpayers and citizens in general of district 44 learn anything about the status of the case.

Now comes James Skirving, a solid resident of the district, and asks on behalf of the taxpayers that the payment of the orders be restrained. The judge seemed to think that this action was too late, but he allowed the attorney to file his application for a hearing, and the matter will come up some day soon before "hizzonor" in chambers, as next Monday will probably be the windup of the present term of United States court.

Federal Court Notes.

Barnacle & Co., plumbers, appeared in United States court and paid the fine of $1 and costs to the amount of about $50, in the contempt of court case, in which the firm was accused of tapping the water mains without first getting a permit from the receiver of the water works.

Samuel Williams (colored) and Josiah Simmons, both of Chadron, were brought in today upon a charge of selling liquor to Indians.

Reuben F. Sione of Albion, who carries mail on one of the star routes across the country from Albion to Cedar Rapids, was arrested and brought in on a charge of having robbed the mail pouch.

BITS OF OMAHA LIFE.

Attorney ——— is as fond of a practical joke as most comfortable, healthy widowers with a good income to draw from. But like some other people he has learned that a practical joke is a gun which sometimes kicks. A short time ago he refurnished his very comfortable house and called to his assistance the good taste of a very charming young lady friend, who agreed to go with him to the furniture store and assist in the selection of the new furniture. Everyone at the store knew the attorney and knew that he was a widower, and of course all this refurnishing pointed to one felicitous event. The joker grasped the situation of course, and with cold-blooded malice helped the thing along by repeatedly propounding in a loud tone of voice such queries as: "My dear, don't you think this carpet would suit the north bedroom?" The young lady also grasped the situation and waited her opportunity. It came when her tormentor was on the other side of the room and all the clerks and visitors were between them, when she called out sweetly:

"Oh, papa! Come and look at this lovely table."

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At any hour nowadays visitors to the city jail will notice a "car," with a clear cut, rather refined face, busy with a broom or scrubbing brush, and working as if he were drawing pay for it, without once raising his eyes to anyone or anything. This is old Phil Corbett serving out a fifty-day sentence for striking a woman with a bottle. Except for the fact that he works hard and conscientiously there is nothing remarkable about him until his story is told.

Not many years ago poor old Phil was a promising young school teacher in a little Irish village. He was well educated and ambitious and came to America with visions of fortune and fame dancing before his eyes. His fondness for drink lost him one good position after another and he finally drifted to Omaha. Here he secured work out in the country and his fellow workman was Sergeant Mike Whalen of the police force. Then the two of them went to work in the Union Pacific shops on an equal start with the odds in favor of Corbett. Corbett still drank and now he is scrubbing the floor of the jail, while Mike, with his town lots and bank account, is watching him.

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"From Omaha, eh? You say the young lady is of age? Well, I've no doubt it's all right, but I can't give you a license unless you bring the young lady herself, and she answers the question for herself."

This was the decision of the marriage license clerk in Council Bluffs yesterday, and the youthful applicant turned away with a sorrowful look, promising to see him later.

After the young man had departed the clerk explained: "We have to be careful about these folks who come from Omaha. About half of our licenses are to Omaha couples. I don't know what makes so many of them come over here to get married. A good many do so because they want to do it quietly, I suppose, and don't want their friends to know it. But almost every week some one comes in here with blood in his eye and wants to know why we issued such a license and threatens to have us fined or sued for damages or something of that sort. The only way we can get rid of them is to tell them to go ahead and sue. It don't cost us anything to law it, and they will find it poor paying business for them. With their threats and not talk, however, they succeed in making life a burden for us. So we are getting more and more particular about issuing licenses to Omaha lovers.

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This little oyster story is related by an eminent and well known Omaha specialist. He and a fellow student were studying under a preceptor and boarding at a private boarding house, presided over by a lady of uncertain age, whose name was Martha.

The would-be knights of the scalpel were more than anxious to have for their very own a skeleton, and to that end they cast their eyes in places, no doubt, dark and dread, and in that gruesome search we will not follow. But suffice to say that in time they obtained a man—long since dead—and mother earth had done much, but not enough to deprive him of the "drapery of his bones." It was necessary then to bleach the bones in order to have a specimen of anatomy to be proud of. Martha's copper bottomed washboiler was borrowed and the coveted prize deposited therein and covered by a generous quantity of lime and lye.

Merrily boiled the bones, while an odor not of beef and cabbage saluted the nostrils of those who tarried near. Martha wondered what it was, but held her peace. Boarders like these must be humored a little.

Patiently the embryo M. D.'s wired together the numerous bones, great and small, which go to make up the