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### THE OMAHA DAILY BEE: SUNDAY, APRIL 23, 1893-TWENTY PAGES.

Some of the Traps Set for the Downfall of Rural Visitors.

ALLUREMENTS OF WINE AND WOMEN

PITFALLS OF THE METROPOLIS

Visitors Want to See the Elephant and are Taken In-Stories of Some of the Victims They Know More Now.

Despite the efforts of a certain class of people to give the impression that. Onado is a notbed of vice and lawlessness, the trost casual observer of daily events is forced to the conclusion that if such a condition of things exists it is far from being apparent on the surface. The perusal of the daily apers and of the statistics of the paties department reveals nothing near the amount of crime that is found in other cities of its class. Crime in Omaha is for the most part confined to small robberies, and the comparatively un saul occurrence of those murderous brolls which spring from human tempers crazed by passion or despair, or from the maddening insuration of bad whisky. Holdups are of very infrequent occurrence. The delusive accents of the "con" man are almost unknown. Variety theaters with their attendant cylls are conspicuous only by their absence, and desperate characters of all descriptions are learning to give the city a wide berth.

The Omaha police force take a certain amount of just pride in this condition of affairs, and claim that the record of the city in this respect is unsurpassed by that of any city in the United States of the same size and governed by the same conditions.

But because the city is comparatively free from the depredations of the criminal fraternity it is not to be supposed that it is a place where innocence can walk abroad without being victimized. There is no large city in which there are not many men swindled or robbed who pocket their less and go on about their business saying nothing to anyone about their misfortune because more than all they dread the ridicule of

more than all they dread the ridicule of their acquaintances. Omaka is not without its snares for the anwairy and unsophisticated and it is fair to assume that the poly orimes which come to the notice of the police and the public are supplemented by a long list of similar of-fenses of which the story never sees the light of day. It is a matter of record that the victims of these minor crimes are most frequently men from the country who visit the eity for some nurpose or other and ac-quire the desire to see the dark side of met-ropolitan life and often with disastrons re-sults. No matter how often the victim may have read of similar experiences, men are coming into the city every day who are simple enough to fall into the same trap and only find out when it is too late that the same old game can be played over and over with such changes of detail as to blind the sime of the country coisin and felleve him of his hard earned shekels before he knows it. Perhaps soven out of the of the men who have been i windled or robbed in this city during the past ten years owe their mis-fortune to their propensity for visiting the purch district, where either their evident prediction of partial condition of intoxication marks them out as ready victims only wait-ing to be plucked. It is claimed that in the swell resorts of the demi-monde a man may

marks them out as ready victims only wait-ing to be plucked. It is claimed that in the swell resorts of the demi-monde a man may lay his pocketbook down and it will be re-turned to him when he leaves in the morn-ing. But don't try it, if there is anything in the pocketbook. There are some women of the town who are honest and honorable, too, after a certain standard of their own, but money is their idol; it is that for which they have sacrificed their womenhood and their happiness, and as a rule they are not their happiness, and as a rule they are not particular by what means they obtain it. There have been several instances known where men have had their meney and valu-

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(Specially imported by us from Paris) läinenes wide and 14 inches high, rep rescuting th ee beautiful children in a garden of flowers. It isvery tastily embossed, decorated owith with and the girden flowers has every appearance of being ( ainted by haud. It is without a doubt the handsomest preinium ever given away in Omnha or elsewhere

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bles stolen from their clothing while they slept in one of the most gorgeous and pre-tentions of the resorts on the "Avenue" and gone away loser, prefering to lose the money rather than to admit that they had been a devotee of the shrine of lost women. These women, through long experience,

have become adepts at guaging a man's ma-ture and the amount of money he carries ture and the amount of money he carries with him. There are dozens of little tricks by which they obtain the information they desire and there are but few men who are smart enough to fool them. Men who have become inured to the ways of vice in its pilded stage seldom display a roll of money in a place of this sort. They place the bulk of their funds in an inside pocket and retain orbit the sum which they expect to pay for only the sum which they expect to pay for

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only the sum which they expect to pay for their evening's dissipation. But here again the ingenuity of the woman goes them one better. Enter one of the fashionable resorts and order a round of drinks, presenting a \$10 bill. The woman in charge takes it and after a brief absence re-turns and asks you if you have something turns and asks you if you have something smaller, saying that she cannot change it. Nine men out of ten will fish out a roll of bills from their pockets and try to find a smaller note. If they do not their enter-tainer will pretend to send out for chance, which is presently forthcoming. Of course, there was any amount of money in the house, out she has attained her object and found out just how much money the visitor has on his person. This trick is susceptible of many changes, and it is a susceptible of can spend an evening in such a den without unconsciously giving the inmates an exact tip as to the limit of his funds. There are grades of vice, however, and it is only a step from the glided resort with the beneface for such the source of t

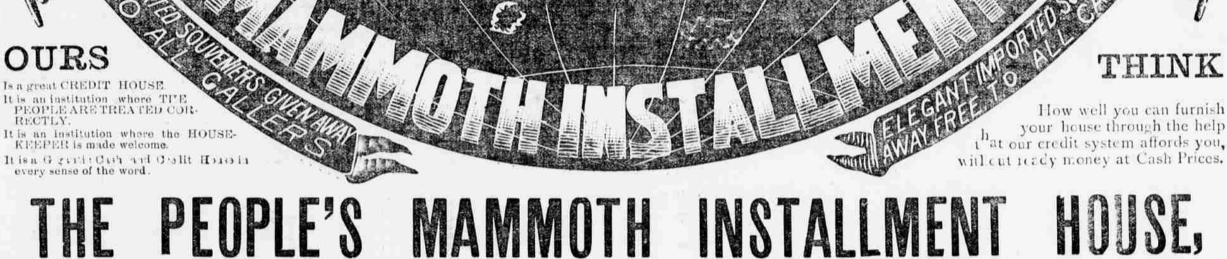
its luxurious furnishings and air of wealth to the vile den peopled by women lower than the beast, and to whom crime is a pastime and robbery an every day occurrence, the unsophisticated are never safe. Here Before he has been there five minutes his fate has been decided. Either he is given the cold houlder as one from whom no revenue is to he expected or he becomes the victim who has entered the toils and must be plucked by fair means or foul.

fair means or foul. If he has the air of a well to do business map and the father of a family the creatures around him well know that he will never disgrace himself for the sake of bringing them to justice. If he has been drinking funder much the better. A little disk freely so much the better. A little uplo-matic pumping will suffice to make the impression certain and he is judiciously plied with liquor until what few wits he had when he came in are scattered, and the rest is casy,

There are numerous ways in which the last trick in the game may be played. Per-haps the victim becomes so inebriated that it is safe to rifle his pockets and turn him out on the street where he thally pulls him self together with an indistinct recollection of prolonged depauchery and feels in his pockets for money to buy a breakfast only to awaken to the fact that he has been robbed. When he was plundered, but if he does it is a ten to one bet that he charges the result up to profit and loss and goes back to his rural home with a more vivid idea of the man traps of the metropolis than he has ever But if this plan fails there are other

methods by which the stranger may be robbed of his valuables. In many cases the deed is not performed in the house. That might injure its goed name." The victim is taken to some more favorable locality where he may be drugged and robbed at their leisure. Sometimes he may be in-veigled into an innocent game of cards or verified into an innovem particle for the soft dice, in which some of the male friends of the women take a hand. Then the scheme is less direct, but fully as effective. In some cases the victim is lured into a dark alley, where he is knocked on the head and his pockets picked and when he recovers his senses it is impossible for him to positively senses it is impossible for him to positively swear who struck the blow in the dark. There are but few of the dives of the

lowest class in which more or less crimes of this sort have not been perpetrated. But it is almost impossible for any of the immates to be convicted. If some unfortunate more to be convicted. If some unfortunate more courageous than the rest masters nerve enough to complain to the police and bear the consequent publicity he has his trouble for his pains, for when he swears that he was robbed by a certain woman a dozen other women will be on hand to prove an alibi. The court from long experience with the classes with whom he has to deal knows well computed that the withersace are performwell enough that the witnesses are perjur-ing themselves, but there is no way to prove it, and much against his will he is compelled



### ARTH'S GREATEST TRADERS IN MERCHANDISE, 1315.1317 Farnam Street, Omaha, Nebraska.

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to discharge the accused and send the countryman home with no other satisfaction than an admoniton to keep in the straight and narrow way during bis future visits to

the city. Readers of the criminal items in the daily Readers of the criminal items in the daily papers have, during the past few years, be-come familiar with the names of Fannie Mil-ler, Mag Johnson, Nell Frazier, Etna White, Anna Brown and a number of other females who have semioccasionally been arrested for robberies complained of by susceptible gran-gers. Some of them are colored and others white, and the crimes committed by the women named could probably be numbered by hundreds. The whole gang were run out of town by Juige Helsley during his term as ponce judge, but soon returned, and since then most of them have been con-victed of various crimes and sentenced to erms in the penitentiary.

Not very long ago a distinguished gathering of divines congregated in this city. One inight during their stay an elderly elergyman approached a hackman who was standing in approached a flack hard what and asked to be driven to the sluns. He was accommodated and found himself in a Ninth street resort which makes some pretentions of respecta-bility. He stayed half an hour and after bility. He stayed half an hour and after sa'isfying his curiosity turned to go. At the door he discovered that his gold watch and a small diamond pin were missing. He accused the woman with whom he had been talking of robbing him, and to his surprise she readily admitted her guilt. But when he demanded the return of his property he was laughed at, and when he threatened to somplain to the police the size size size size. complain to the police the siten smillingly said: "Oh, no, there is no danger. You are a clergyman and cannot afford to ruin your reputation." The woman knew her business and of course her visitor bottled up his wrath and went away.

It may be news to many of the denizens of the big city, who imagine that they know pretty nearly everything that is going on within its limits, that the leading resorts have a system of advertising by which they swell the ranks of their patrons and obtain the spare change of a large percentage of the business men who come to Omaha occa-sionally on business. About once in so often the smaller towns in the state are flooded with circulars calling attention to a certain resort as a very pleasant place to spend an evening when in town. There is nothing offensive in the letter, which apparently might emanate from some first class board-ing house, and there is no doubt that many of the men who receive these circulars find their way to the address mentioned during

their way to the other sty. Some evening when they find the hotel lounging room unattractive their minds recur to the half forgotten invitation, which offers "all the comforts of home" and at the

same time an opportunity to gratify their already excited curiosity. It is one of the more gilded and attractive resorts to which it leads them, where, although they may be in no danger of having their pockets picked, the dollars are drawn from their purses with such allurements as the practiced female seducer knows how to invent.

But the painted women of the slums are not the only ones who subsist on the cred-ulity of our country visitors. There are others who distain the viler methods prac-ticed by the more hardened creatures of the lower depths. They allow the stranger to make their acquaintance as if by chance. They are very reluctant to accept the They are very reluctant to accept the proffered advances of their victim, and so work upon his vanity that he is ready to be-lieve almost anything that the charmer chooses to tell him. Nothing flatters the average man so much as to redize that he has made a "mash," and if the woman be pretty and possessed of a certain amount of tact her chances are all the more certain. Presently the sizen relaxes her scuples far enough to allow her admirer to accompany her home, and when her abode is reached he succeeds in reting himself invited in. he succeeds in getting himself invited in, and when the game has advanced just far enough a "husband" appears on the scene and the ingenue is usually glad to pay well to save himself from exposure and perhaps

hodily violence The female pickpocket is also rapidly be-coming a successful rival of her masculine contemporary. Experienced detectives de-clare that a woman is far more dangerous and successful than a man in the business, and it was only a few weeks ago that some of the sporty men about town had a practi-cal illustration of the fact. A party of five women spent six weeks in Omaha in February and March and succeeded in lifting a large amount of currency and jewelry from the pockets and shirt bosoms of would-be mashers before they were chased out of town by Detectives Savage and Dempsey.

Another species of humanity from whom many country visitors are made to suffer is found among the cab drivers and hackmen. Some of them are honest, but others are willing to add to their carnings by robbery when it can be done without detection. The recent experience of a leading member of the Methodist church of Red Oak, Ia., who was pounded into insensibility on the Doug-las street bridge and robbed of a considerable sum of money has many counterparts in the unwritten criminal history of the city. It is not always, either, the ruralist who suffers the result of his indiscretion. Some

men who think themselves pretty smart have been known to fall into the hands of the Philistines and come out without a cent. glad to escape alive.

One evening last summer a traveling man who represented a Chicago wet goods estab-

lishment was a guest at the Paxton hotel. He approached a hackman at the corner and He approached a nickman at the corner and inquired if he could take him where he could have a good time. "Sure," answered the accommodating cabby, "just jump in and I will take you where you will have a h-1 of a time." and before the evening was over the drammer decided that the driver had literally heart his meaning. literally kept his promise. As they left the hotel the driver remem

bered that he was acquainted with a woman who was quite respectable, but who was not unwilling to go out with the right sort of company once in a while and have a gay time. He explained the matter to his passenger, who was anxious to drive around and secure the services of the "friend" to assist him in his laugiable desire to decorate the municipality. The woman was found and after some simulated reluctance got into the carriage and the party drove off toward Fort Omaha. Two hours afterwards a tat-tered and a mude-bespattered remnant of a man picked himself up out of the street in front of Moynihan's saloon and shamefacedly sneaked into the hotel. It was our commercial friend of sporting ten-dencies and he bore add the earmarks of hard rage. The hackman and his female con federate had drugged him in the vehicle usage. robbed him of everything he had and dumped him out as mear his hotel as they dared, leaving him to make the best of his way home. His clothes were nearly torn from his person and even his hand painted suspenders which had been a present from a young lady friend had gene to satisfy the cupidity of his entertainers. He told the story to a few of his friends, including a well known police officer, but when urged to prosecute the thieves he resolutely refused. saying that he would rather lose ten times the amount than to figure before the public as the victim of such an affair.

Almost without exception the numerous victims of the various species of sharpers who infest every large city are lod to their misfortunes by indulgence in some sort of vice. It is either the passion for wine or for women that robs them of their wits and makes them easy victims of thugs, pickpockets and designing wo.den. No visitor to a city like Omaha has anything to fear as long as he shuns those two evils. He can will the streets at any hour of the day or ni ht unmilestel as long as he has a sober In all dimensional as only as he has a soler head, not does not allow himself to be vic-timized by a woman's smile. The path of recti ude is emphatically the path of safety for the country cousin and if he followed it directly the people who thrive on his frail-ties would soon have to seek more honest comployment or starve. employment or starve.

The Congregationalists are negotiating for a desirable college site in Wyoming,

#### FLOWERS AND SHRUBBERY.

Oriental gardeners produce "changeable h are white in the shade and blood red in the sunlight.

Plant the roses where you can easily look fter them. The soil should be very rich. and grass and weeds must be kept out of the soil around them. The best liquid fortilizer for roses is a tablespoonful of saltpeter (ui-trate of soils) in a two-gallon watering pot of water, applied twice a week.

The bloom of nearly all plants can be forced, but not so with the chrysinthemum This popular flower knows when its time to bloom has come, and it blooms then or not at all. It may be kept in the dark and cold and its growth retarded, but when the scason arrives it blooms, no matter how small it may be.

Mr. Richard T. Lombard of Wayland, Mass, in a paper recently read before the Horticultural society of that state, stated that nearly 4,000 florists are engaged, wholly flowers. It is estimated that fully 200,000. 000 of these flowers were sold last year, yield ing above \$1,000,000 to the growers. Mechan's Monthly says that one of the

pleasantest features in gardening for small places is a rockery, that is to say, small bands, or bluffs made of projecting stones and earth in which certain kinds of plants love to grow. A considerable degree of taste is, however, required in order to make these little rockeries ornamental. The great idea should be to make them look as natural as

possible One of the most striking and handsome varieties of the maple is the cut-leaf purple Japan maple. In form it is dwarf and weep-ing. The leaves are of a rose color when ing. The leaves are of a rose color when young and change to a deep and constant purple when older. They are deeply and delicately cut, giving them an elegant fern-like appearance. The young growth is long, slender and pendulous. It is not only an at-tractive tree for the lawn, but it is also use-ful for conservatory decoration in the spring. The Department of Agriculture bas an in-teresting collection of ouese plants. Among The Department of Agriculture has an in-teresting collection of queer plants. Among the most remarkable of the plants is the lace-bark tree of Jamaica, the inner bark of which is composed of many layers of fibers that interlace in all directions. Caps, ruf-fles and even complete suits of lace are made from it. It bears washing with common s app, and when bleached in the sun acquires a degree of whiteness equal to the best artia degree of whiteness equal to the best arti-ficial lace, with which this surprising natural product compares favorably as to

beauts' The lilac never goes out of fashion, and

some of the comparatively new varieties are well approved. Among leading kinds ar

Frau Dammann and Ludwig Spath. The former is a white variety, and its flowers are borne in immense panleles of graceful picturesque form. The last named variety is totally different in the form and habit of the plant, and the color of the flowers. which is pale line, each individual flower being of exceptionally large size, although it is a striking and noble shrub. It is well to arrange the filme in bold masses on the lawn or near the boundaries of grounds.

There are certain roses whose color is en-hanced by light and others that droop and fade quickly when exposed to the same conditions. Red or pink coses are bloached by exposure to the light, while the color of yr-low roses is deepened. A good supply of light is better for white roses. Therefore, the rule is to keep red and pink roses in a the rule is to keep red and pink reasts in a shaded place and put white and yellow ones near the window. Water on roses should be changed at least twice a day, and a little should be sprayed over the petals whenever convenient. When the roses are lifted from the vase to change the water the ends of the stems should be trimmed a little. The water should be cool. A little solt added to the water will assist materially in keeping the water will assist materially in keeping the

olor of the flowers bright and strong. Not many years ago, says the New York Tribune, most American men would been ashamed to wear a boutonniere. They would have considered it a mark of effemin-acy. Now it is becoming one of the most common, as it is one of the most appropriate, adoraments of gentlemen, not merely on formai or festive occasions, but during business hours. In itself the wearing of a flower may seem a small thing; but it may have an unsuspected influence in the direction of manners and tastes. And if there were no other consideration, it is a good thing for men, most of whose lives are immersed in the artificialities of life, thus to be brought into contact with a bit of nature, with its manifold suggestions of simplicity and becaute

beauty. Lovers of the oid-fashioned snowball are recommended to try the Japan snowball. It needs no pruning such as the other does to make it a shapely shrub, but from the start it forms a bunch of uniform outline. The leaves are online, not ragged locking, have a leaves are online, not ragged locking, have a plaited appearance and are of a thick sub-stance that high winds will not tear. The leaves are of a rich, dark green velvety color and retain their color long after the foliage of nearly everything else has turned brown and dropped off in the fail. But it is in its flowering that its high claim for favor is found. A more beautiful shrub does not exist. The leaves are arranged opposite each other all along the stems and from the base of each leaf stock springs a ball of flowers. There are often as many as ten

pairs of these, or twenty balls of beautiful white flowers, on a branch of eighteen inches long. It is one of the easiest shrubs transplant, as it has a mass of small brous roots.

THINK

How well you can furnish

HOUSE.

Rose hushes that grow blossoms for the Rose bushes that grow biosoons for the trade are soldom more than three or four feet in height. They are slender as to branch and very green as to heaf, showing in these two particulars the result of the fording process which they undergo from the time that they are small shoots. Their lives are short, seldom more than a year. The object of taking out the old bushes every year and growing an cuttrely new lot is to raise blossoms with a stronger perfume s to raise blossoms with a stronger perfume and better in form and more compact. It It has been found that roses grown on young, has deen tound that roses grown on young, well nourished bushes are more perfect than those grown on old bushes, no matter how well they may be cared for. A rose grown on an old bush is soft and sponzy compared with one grown on a new branch, and it does not last so long by many hours when cut.

### Missed a Fortune.

"Yes," said the convivial looking man, 'there's a terribul sight of truth in what

the poet says about every one havin' an opportunity to get rich at some time or other in his life. Now, I had a mighty good opportunity onest."

"What was that?" asked the Buffalo

Express reporter. <sup>4</sup>I met an old feller in a city where I was who was on a big drunk. He was richer'n mud an' was blowin' in his stuff to heat the band. I kinder trained with r him for a day or two an' then one after-noon he went off into the blamedest fit of the jerrys you ever see. He seen all kinds of things. I took him to a hotel an' nursed an' tended him like he was my father. When he got well I found out that he was a big miller from out west. He called me inter his room one day, just afore he was going' home, an' handed me a paper. It began: 'In consideration of \$1 in hand paid an' other good an' valerable consideration,' an' went on to say that the of' feller give me 2.000 barrels of flour. Flour was \$10 a barrel them days, an' that would have made a mighty good stake for me. But I didn't get it."

"Why?" asked the red-faced sports-

man. "Didn't have the dollar," replied the convival-looking man, sadly.