COUNCIL BLUFFS.

DEFICE

Delivered by carrier to any part of the city

H. W. TILTON, Lessee. TELEPHONES Business office, No. 43; night

### MINOR MENTION.

Mayre Real Estate Agency, 539 Broadway. A meeting of the city council will be held this evening. Mrs. Carl Gilmore, who has been lying

dangerously ill from the effects of a surgical operation, is improving rapidly, and her final recovery is hoped for. Rev. Stephen Phelps preached yesterday morning at the First Presbyterian church

on the subject of education. His remarks were intended mainly for those who expect to resume their studies with the opening of the fall term, either in the schools of this city or in college.

Yesterday morning's rain had the effect of bringing to life the grass all over the ety which was supposed to have been killed by the long drouth. In the parks during the afternoon, as well as in other parts of the city, could be seen the blades of a new growth, as green as though it were May in-

Bargains in real estate, Pluses for

### PERSONAL PARAG RAPHS.

Towle, 235 Pear! street.

P. P. Kelley of Glenwood is in the city. Mrs. J. J. Bolin left for a business trip

to the east last evening. Mrs. L. F. Whitehead and son have re turned from a visit to Nunda, N. Y. Joe Spalding has gone to Pittsburg to at-

tend the national Grand Army encamp-

Kirby of the Boone County New was in the city yesterday, the guest of Dr Pangle. Mrs. W. C. Dawson has returned from

three weeks' visit with friends in the east ern part of the state. Miss Kathernie Ogden left Saturday for Woodbine, where she will teach school during the present autumn.

### OPEN FOR INSPECTION.

Telegrams from Our New York Office. We will place on sale this week the greater part of our fall goods, in various lines, the most important and complete at present in our dress goods department, comprising the very newest weaves from the English. French and German looms, and call special atention to our exclusive line of dress pat terns, no two alike, and positively no dupli-

Netwithstanding the news from our New York office of the strong market and prices advancing generally in staple merchandise we are glad to say we were secured previous to the arrival of buyers, which were more numerous than any previous season, and ac counts for the sudden advance in the cotton

This season's wool goods have not been affected by the tariff bill, and our import order on fine dress goods is owned at the low est possible figure for this season, the new tariff not taking effect until January 1st, '95. BOSTON STORE Council Bluffs, la.

### Farmers Learn by Experience.

"The failure of the corn crop makes the farmers feel pretty blue," remarked a prominent implement dealer yesterday, "but after all there is no disguising the fact that it will be worth thousands of dellars to them in the long run. In years gone by the farmers have not known what such a thing as absolute want is, because there never was a failure of the crops. This yar, with the price of corn and hay climbing way up towards the top of the ladder, they are begin-ning to see that they have to look elsewhere for fodder for their stock, or else allow the stock to starve to death. The fact is corn stalks make the very best of fodder for st.ck. provided they are cut before the heat has evaporated the sap. For the first time in their lives many of the farmers have been cutting down the stalks and are putting them away carefully for winter use.

"There is no reason under the sun why they shouldn't do the same thing every year. could get plenty of fidder from their e rn fields and sell their hay to the people who haven't any corn stalks of their own. Economy is the one great lesson that the farmers of Iowa have to learn, and when they earn it ince they will be even more pro percus than they have been in the past

No delay in closing loans on improved farm lands at low rates. Abstracts of title prepared and real estate for sale. Pusey & omas, 201 Pearl street, Council Bluffs.

Instruction on the plane will be given to a limited number of pupils by Mrs. J. A. Roff,

### 1022 Fifth avenue. Pythian Dedication.

Next Mouday evening the Knights of Pythias will dedicate their new hall to the uses of the order. The hall is located in the southeast corner of the Merriam block, on the third floor. The room formerly occupied by the Young Men's Christian association gymnasium and the room just north of have been thrown together by the removal of the partition, and make a fine, large room the purposes of initiations, part'es and the like. A bard maple floor has been put in, as smooth as glass and as hard as iron, so that for dancing parties it will be just the thing. Besides the lodge room there are three smaller rooms for use as cleak ro and antercoms, those formerly occupied by the Omaha & St. Louis railway effices. The new quarters will be dedicated with suitable exercises. There will be a musical program to be followed by dancing. The knights and their ladies, with some invited guests, will

be present. Eagle laundry, 724 Broadway, for good Work. Tel. 157.

For cobs go to Cox, 19 Main street. Tele-Phone 48.

# Washerwomen use Domestic scap.

J. d. Hathaway Dead. J. Hathaway died yesterday afternoon at 3:30 o'clock of consumption, aged 54 years, at his home, corner of Graham and Park avenues. He has been ill ever since October 19, 1893. He took a trip west in the hope of benefiting his health, but to no purpose. Ever since his return he has been constantly sinking, and for severa months past has not been seen on the streets. The deceased was 54 years of age and has been a resident of Council Bluffs for a great many years. Last year he occupied a seat in the city council, but F. O. Gleason was de cided by the courts to have the best claim to the position, after the election had beer contested. Mr. Hathaway was a Knight Templar, and that order will take charge of funeral exercises, the time of which has not yet been determined upon.

First class table board for \$3.50 per week at 38 North Seventh street. Also furnished rooms. Mrs. M. M. Sackett.

Gas cooking stoves for rent and for sale at

# The laundries use Domestic soap.

I reparing for the Century Run. The Ganymede run to Sloux City next Sunday is a matter that is exciting a good deal of interest among local wheelmen and the prospects are that a large number of the members will start, at any rate, for the Sioux City goal. The riders will leave the club house at 4 o'clock Sunday morning and will traverse the 115 miles in time to take the train back in the evening. Besides those who really intend to cover the entire dis tance, barring unforeseen accidents, of course there will be several among the starters who do not hope to be able to be in at the For the benefit of these there are plenty of railway, depots along the line where they can drop off when they think they have ridden as far as they care to and wait for

### Evans Laundry Company. 520 Pearl street. Telephone, 290.

Domestic soap outlasts cheap soap.

Best paints in the world. Davis, druggist.

# THE OMAHA DAILY BEE. NEWS FROM COUNCIL BLUFFS

- NO. 11 PEARL STREET Rev. Dr. Askin Draws Fome Corc'utions from the Life of Elijah.

GREAT MINDS MUCH THE SAME IN ALL AGES

Depression that Follows Introspection Re-Level by Work Which Never Fails -Lesson of the Fire Prophet's Experience in the Cave.

"The Man in the Cave" was the topic of the morning sermin of Rev. Dr. Askin, who resumed his labors as pastor of the Congregational church after a vacation of nearly two months. The discourse was based on the incidents in the life of Elijah, narrated in the opening part of the nineteenth chapter of First Kings.

The sermon opened with a charming picturing of the mountain scenes of the bible, from the how of promise above Ararat to the crucifixion on Calvary and the glerious ascension. From among these scenes the speaker dwelt more in detail upon that wonderful sight on Carmel when the fire-prophe of God called down the victorious answer from heaven. Following this wonderful vie rent. Fire and tornada insurance written. Money loaned for local investors. Lougee & tory came the threat of Jezebel and th flight of Elijob. It was a season of strange and deep spiritual depression, hardly to be expected in one of Elljah's self-sufficient and inspiring nature. Yet in many good men their most signal failures took place in those points of character for which they

were remarkable in excellence.

The causes of Elijah's depression of soul were such as in other less noted lives have

First, there was the exhaustion which f llowed upon the unusual laber and the mental excitement. With some men there was little effort put forth in praying. But Elijah was given to struggles. There was an interaction of body and mind, resulting

in this depressed feeling.

Another cause was the lack of companionship and want of sympathy. Elijah laid great stress on the thought that he was the only prophet of God left. This sense of lonel ness was the frequent penalty of great minds. Christ himself had felt sorely the seed of human companionship and sympathy Another cause was a morbid introspection Men of great breadth of character and lofti ness of purpose were more given to this than the sensuous and trifling, for the latter had no time or inclination to examine self Like Eljah, a man sometimes hies himself into the care of self-conscious weakness, and peering out from the gloom the world wears a cheerless garb. Criyle, when seized by he very grip of the devil, but when in hap d the outlock was one of hope and orightness. Still another cause of soul depression was the lack of occupation. So long as Elijah had prophet's work to do, although severe, his sprits were stimulated to their best, but for an active nature to simply wait is torture.

GOD'S RELIEF FOR DEFRESSION. Depression was caused, too, by a disappointment in the expectation of success On Carmet he thought his hope realized and that Israel was to be at once transformed into a kingdom of Ged, but day the bright picture vanished. The people had yielded to the voice of the queen, whose threat had sent the fire prophet into timorous flight. God's treatment of the prophet's de-pression was suggestive of like helpfulness for others similarly tried. In the first place food and sleep, physical requirement, and exercise were provided as needed. Then the stormy wind was calmed by the healing influence of nature. As the tear in the eye gives relief to the sorrow burdened heart of woman, so the storm of the mountain, ex pressing Elijah's stormy self, brought relied to calm. Then God made him feel the earnestness of life. Man was not made to live in a cave of despondency. Life meant doing. Elijah was bidden go his way, new activities called him from his gloom. With this call to labor came the complete cure of despondency in the divine assurance of final victory. Elijah thought himself alone in clinging to the true faith, but God pointed to the 7,000 in Israel who had not bowed the knee to Baal. Elijah's eyes were opened to the fact that his life had not been failure, and that the future glowed with one. He learned that no work done for God's world can fail. There was much difference between real and apparent The shouts on Carmel were nothing to the silent inspiration given to the 7,000 souls whose spiritual life had been sustained by watching Elijah's faithfulness

and moral courage. That was though not the seeming success. Teachers, weary over some thankless task, shall remember the power of indirect influences Christian workers shall remember that crowded churches, applauding listeners counted for less than changed lives and growing characters. One should not cove the brilliant victory on Carmel nor seek the solitude of the despondent cave. It was the quiet walking toward God and heaven that won the final recognition, no less certain, even if less brilliant, than that with which God graced the heavenly reception of the great fire prophet, Elijah.

That was the real.

# BENNISON BROS.

# An Enormous Purchase.

The big sale begins Monday morning at 9 o'clock. 200 cases of new fall merchandise arrived last week, all bought since the great reduction of the new tariff bill, at a saving of 25 to 50 per cent less than early

More than 1,000 pieces of black and col-ored woolen goods. Ten pieces of 40-inch all wool silk finish black Henrietta, worth 60c, at 39c a yard. 40-inch black all wool serge, worth 65c,

STORE OPEN AT 9 O'CLOCK.

at 46c a yard. Fiftien pieces of the finest quality 46-inch black serge at 74c a yard, worth \$1.25. 50-inch black gloria silk, worth \$1.25, now

69c a yard. Ten pieces of neat figure novelty black dress goods, worth \$1, now 50c a yard. Buy your dress goods during this sale. It's a big saving to you. 5,000 yards of fine embroideries, worth

surprise you. 35c, 40c and 50c fine wide embroideries at 1,000 yards standard dress prints at 31/20 a yard.

15c, 20e and 25c, at 9c a yard. They will

Good bed ticking at 5c a yard, worth 10c. Fifty pieces outing flannel at 5c a yard. 500 pairs Nottingham lace curtains at 75c, 1, \$1.48 and \$1.98 a pair, worth fully Come in Monday and see the goods. Thou

ands of other bargains not mentioned in Sale begins promptly at 9 o'clock Monday morning. BENNISON BROS.,

Council Bluffs. SURPRISED BY A SUDDEN SHOWER.

### Thirsty Paving Blocks Float Away on the Torrent to Indian Creek

The cedar block paving was about as pro foundly surprised at the sudden dash of rain vesterday morning as the pe ple of the city. who had nearly forgotten what the sound of rain was like. When the water came tearing down Harrison street the blocks along the entire east side of the street rose up about a foot and danced in surprised delight on the top of the floid, and many of them accompanied the flood on its way down Indian creek. The long hot and dry spell had evaporated the last drop of mois-ture from the half rotten blocks, leaving them loose in their beds. When the water came they floated like corks. The water flowed beneath them and cut out the sand and gravel tamping, and damaged fully half have to be relaid. Several members of the council and the street commissioner looked over the wreck yesterday, and put men to work constructing a defense at the upper end of the street to throw the current on the opposite side in case of another rain storm. The damage will amount to several hundred dollars, just how much cannot be ascertained until the loosened blocks are

taken up. The work will be commenced this merning. Brick will be used in place of the lost and damaged blocks,

suffer severely, but no damage was done beyond sweeping away the piles of rotton blocks that had been taken up when the new sewer was laid. The full course of the current went down over the place where the sewer was laid, but the earth had been tamped in so lightly that very little of it was cut away.

HOW CLAUDE WALLER WAS SHOT.

Details of the Tragedy in Chicago Which

May tost His Life. The shooting of Claude L. Waller in his law office in Chicago by Leo V. Roeder, a law student in the office, mentioned in The Surday Bee, will, in all probability, prove fatal, as appears from the further details of the affair as they were received here yesterday. The wounded man now lies at the Polyclinic hospital in a critical condition, his assailant occupies a ceil at the while.

A discussion, which spon developed into a quarrel, arose over the signing of a receipt by Mrs. Herveck, a client of Waller's, to Roeder, and it is said her attorney advised her not to sign it. That, it is claimed, angered Roeder. A few hasty words were spoken, and a moment later a shot was fired and Walfer fell to the floor with a wound in his left groin. The crowds from the adjoining offices, including the justice courts on the floor below, rushed into the office and found Waller on the floor, blending and gasping for breath, while Roeder was walking up and down the office, with the revolver still in his hand and admitting that he had done the shooting. Mrs. Horveck had left the office and could not be found a few moments

Waller stated that he had been shot by Roeder, and added: 'He shot to kill." A few moments later the police ambulance arrived, and, at Wailer's request, he was taken to the Chicago Polyclinic hospital. He also dictated a telegram to his father at Charles City, Ia., requesting him to come on at once. He was perfectly cool and was not in the least excited, giving directions as to his removal and the doctors he desired, and who were afterward summoned.

stated that Roeder was about eight feet from him when he shot. The wound in the groin was very small and bled very little. On the way to the station Roeder told the detectives that the shooting was accidental, the revolver discharging when he opened the drawer in which it was kept. He asked frequently for news of the condition of his victim, and steadily insisted that he had no intention of shooting him. He would not talk of the details of the shooting, nor the talk which led up to it. Soon after Roeder was locked up at the

Central station word came from the hospital hat Waller's condition was growing worse, and arrangements were at once made to secure an ante-mortem statement from him as o the facts of the shooting.

The injured man was 30 years of age, and had been practicing law in Chicago for three years. His home was formerly in Charles fity, where his parents still reside. about three years ago he lived in this city and was well known, being in the insurance business with his brother, B. M. Waller, who still resides here. He was a Knight Templar and a member of the Scottish Rite. Roeder, who did the shooting, is 24 years of age and graduated from the Chicago College of Law two years ago.

### FOUGHT IN THE GUTTER.

### Three Young Men and a Hotel Proprietor Mix Up in a Ridiculous Row.

Mr. Leik, who keeps the St. Joe house, on Main street near Seventh avenue, was the victim of a lively rumpus yesterday morning. Three young men, names unknown, came along while Leik was trying to scrape the mud from the sewer manhole in front of his establishment and let the water, which had been falling in torrents for hours, run into the sewer. Something or other led to warm words between Leik and the three young fellows, who immediately proceeded to pummel him. At that time the water was nearly knee deep in the gutter, but the quertet soon found themselves all in a heap n the wet. Look was, unfortunately for h m, at the bottom of the heap, and was completely immersed in the not overly-clean flood. Mrs. Leik saw the dismal predicament her liege lord was in, and, arming herself with a brick, rushed to his rescue. One of the young men caught the brick on the side of the head, and when the fray was over found the blood running out of a hole in his scalp about three inches long. Mrs. Leik prostrated herself on top of the heap, and by scratching and pulling hair finally convinced the young men that it was time to move on. Lelk was unburt, although the fact of his being plunged in the ball was something galling to his finer sensibili He claims to have a clue to the iden tity of the three men who assaulted him, and declares he will file an information against them this morning.

The cause of the present boom in real estate is due somewhat to the successful sale of fruit and garden lands by Messrs. Day & Hess in the Klein tract. They have 200 acres in amounts to suit, suitable for fruit and gardens. Also bearing fruit farm:

Try a glass of Sulpho-Saline or Soterian miteral waters from the famous Excelsior springs at George Davis', Paul Schneider's and O. H. Brown's drug stores. John Li der, general agent.

Domestic sosp breaks hard water.

# AN IMPRESSIVE TRAIT.

A Queer Man Who Made a Friend by Respect for His Mother. During my behemian days it occurred that I sat in an uptown cafe with the sort

of a man whom this incident will reveal says a writer in the New York Press. A wild-looking, unkempt chap, gaunt, shabby, with a four days' growth of beard, rushed in, looked wildly around and then

hurried over to my companion and took him sside. As a result of their conversation the man with me turned to me and said in "I am going to ask you to loan me \$2, but

don't you do it."

Then he asked me and I refused the loan, and the gaunt man went unsteadily out.
"Queer duck, that," said the man at the
table with me: "always getting into scrapes, taking out opera companies and leaving them stranded. The last scrape he got into was in Montreal. He telegraphed home: am in jail on a technicality, but don't tell mother.' That struck me as very funny, 'Don't tell mother.' But he was always an

ill-balanced ass, anyway."
Now, that thoughtfulness of his mother in the young man who wanted to borrow \$2 struck me as a rather descrying trait, and I left my companion abruptly and followed him out. I saw enough of him to convince me that he was not a man of business, and not even an admirable character. However ned him the \$2. Since then he has been onsiderably in the public view in many upand downs. But he is now coming home from the other side as the impresario of a lot of continental stars. I wish him well. Like Mark Twain, I love a man who never shakes his mother. This one's name is

# Robert Grau.

Trick of the Cigar Trade. There is a little trick in the cigar business to which some dealers will confess good-naturedly if you ask them about it, says the New York Tribune. The dealers display a card in a box announcing that the clear is sold for 20 c nts, \$19.50 a hundred, The extremely innocent person would sup-pose that a dealer could not expect to sell many of those cigars at wholesale when a buyer of 100 would save only one-half a cent on each cigar. Well, the dealer doesn't expect to s-ll them by wholesale, and he doesn't sell them, but he knows that it just tickles a smoker to death to think that he is getting a single cigar for practically what it would cost him if he bought a ship load of them.

The Deep, Deep Sea-It is a remarkable fact that the deepest parts of the sea are in all cases very near the land. The deepest sounding known, 4,665 fathoms, or 27,930 feet, was obtained 110 miles from the Kurile islands; the next deepest, 4,561 fathoms, was found seventy miles north of Porto Rico. With a few ex-ceptions like these the depth of the ocean as far as now known does not reach 4,000 fathoms, or four sea miles. The North Pacific has a mean depth of 2,500 fathoms, the South Pacific of 2,400, the Indian ocean of 2,600 and the Atlantic, by far the best investigated ocean, has a mean depth of 2,200 It was expected that Oakland avenue would fathoma.

Further Facts with Fegatd to the Cutting Affray at Albright.

### BELIEVED THAT DAN SMITH WILL RECOVER

Committee's Report on Annexat on Matter Severely Criticised-Indications of Improvement in the Real Estate Line-Magie City Gassip.

Dan Smith, who was cut with a razer in Albright by Frank Derr Saturday night, is at the city hospital. The indications are that he will recover. The gash on his face will mark him for life. The cut is a deep one, extending from the right temple to his throat. The blade sank far enough into the flesh to injure the jawbone. Derr was seen at the police station by a Bee reporter. He at first refused to talk, as his attorney had instructed him not to. After his wife went away, however, he made a statement. He said:

"After I closed my barber shop I went ever to the dancing platform, where quite a crowd was congregated. There was some jangle about a girl named Nellie Griest, and the man in charge asked me if I would send for an officer before the men became involved in a row. I went over to Mullen and he tele graphed for a policeman. Two officers came In the meantime Smith censured me for sending for an officer. Finally he said he had it in for me anybow, and gave me a and climbed on the platform. He followed me and said he ought to cut my head off, at the same time flashing a knife. I was so weak in one leg that I could not stand and was sitting when Smith rushed in toward I drew my knife and struck back at made the remark that he was done for. My wife and other women and men saw whole affair, and they will tell you the same story.

An eye witness, Al Donga, says that Derr has threatened to stab Smith on several oc-casions and that Smith said before the assault that he did not want to have anything

The police say that Derr has threatened others. Smith has been employed at the Omaha packing house and has the reputation of being quiet and peaceable. Officer Mulcahy says that Derr had a shetgun in his possession when he was arersted.

In addition to the wound on Smith's face there is a long cut on his left side, which extends from the collar bone to the abdomen It is hardly possible that Derr made all the gashes with a single stroke of his knife, but says he only made one pass at Smith Smith's statement is to the effect that Derr assaulted him without provocation, but he is so weak that it is difficult for him to

Derr's examination will not take place until Smith is able to appear in court and

## Favorable to Appenation.

The report of the special committee of the cky council in regard to annexation has been criticised since it was read. The committee stated that a thorough canvass had been made among the property owners and that the people seemed to be almosunanimous against annexation. There are property owners here who claim that the report does not state facts and that it merely expressed the opinions of a few. The packers and stock yards people are in favor of annexation. There are many citizens who own their bomes here who voted against annexation before who are heartily in favor

of it now. "As a member of the South Omaha city council," said one gentleman, "I do not think that report should have been submitted, It is too positive and too radical. I am in favor of submitting the proposition to the people and let them decide by their ballots what they wish. That report shuts off all chance for argument and I am not pleased

The real estate men of South Omaha claim with capital," said L. C. Gibson, "realize that property in this city is now at the very lowest price. Bargains are being offered now that inside of thirty days could not be. Values are bound to go up a little later in the season, and the wise ones are buying now and they are the ones that will reap the harvest inside of the next year."

As for houses to rent, there are no desir able ones in the city, though there is a good demand. Rents are higher here than they are in Omaha. A house that would rent for \$15 in Omaha brings \$20 and \$25 a month here. But little building is going on, but as the population increases it makes the domand for houses greater, and this is the principal reason that rents remain so high."

Magic City Gossip. The free silver democrats will organize a club some night this week. A great many South Omaha people will

visit the state fair this week. It is expected that Mr. J. J. McMillan will take charge of the South Omaha postoffice this week. A special meeting of the bog butchers

union will be held at Ancient Order Hibernians hall tonight. George Chapman, a car repairer in Al-oright, says that thieves entered his room and stole his watch, coat and vest and \$7 'n

The McKinley club meets tomorrow evening at Pivonka's hall, Twenty-fourth and L streets. All republicans are invited to attend. Candidates will speak. The city council and school board meet

tonight. The ordinance prohibiting gambling will come up for passage at the city council meeting. It is thought that it will pass. Mrs. J. M. Tanner spent Sunday in 1 as tings with Mrs. Dr. Everett and her pa ents. Mrs. Everett will return home today and occupy a cottage at Twenty-four h and I streets

Tom Dvorak appeared at the police station last evening with a bruised face and secured a warrant for the arrest of four mon who he claims assaulted him at the corner of Thirty-third and L streets Saturday night.

### THE PRETENTIOUS DRUMMER. He is Taken Down a Peg or Two by the Humorist Peck.

The Chicago Record tells a characteristic story of George W. Peek. When his fame as the author of the bad-boy experiences was at its height, and while he was actually rolling in riches, Peck made a trip to California, partly for rest and partly to see the country of which he had heard so much. A notoriously poor dresser, he was at this particular time very shabbily clad, and in his coarse, ill-fitting garments you would hardly have recognized the man everybody was talking about, and the man, too, whose check was good for a cool hundred thousand. One day, crossing the plains, Peck was curled up in a seat in the smoking car, when

drummers across the nisle. The train boy had just gone through the car vending his literature and the drammers were discussing the book entitled "Peck's Bad Boy." One of the party, a particularly noisy fellow, boasted of a personal acquaintance with the author of the book-yes, he knew Peck intimately forthwith he preceded to regale his friends with elabora's stories of his experiences with the Wisconsin humorist. From his point of vantage across the way Peck listened in silent surprise to the preposterous inventions of the fellow, and his amazement deepened into horror and chagrin when the garrulous drummer, encouraged by the in-terested countenances of his hearers, pursued his discourse to the extent of narrating, with scrupulous attention to detail, the incidents of an alleged spree which "me an' Peck" once enjoyed together. You can fancy how wroth poor Peck became when he heard himself pictured as the veriest sot and libertine, for if there are virtues upon which he prides himself they are his temperance and his morality. Having heard himself dragged by this superb liar through the boozing dens finally arose, gathered himself together and

AFFAIRS AT SOUTH OMAHA broke in upon the mendacious drummer's narrative. He said he had known Peck a great many years and was able to declare that Peck never tasted liquor and never visited disreputable places. Warming up to his business in hand, Peck dilated with se-verity upon the evil practice of laying claim to acquaintance with people, a practice too often indulged in by vulgar, noisy persons. He concluded his castigation of the offender by disclosing his identity, by denoun blatant drummer as an impostor and by say-

> Hereafter, sir, when you are tempted to the about me, pray let your fancy concern itself with me alone. When you report that I am a libertine you reflect upon my home relations, and that is an offense which I shall not tolerate. You may advertise me as a fool, as a drunkard, as a thirf, but be precious careful not to libel or slander me in such wise as to wrong and pain those whose relations to me as wife and children are my paramount, sweetest, tenderest, most sacred consideration!"

The story goes on to relate that by the time Peck concluded his remarks the loquacious drummer had shriveled up into such a little wad that you could almost have plugged a keyhole with him.

### I OUR CONSUMPTIVE GAMBLERS. The Ret They Made as to Which Would

Live the Longest. In the year 1881 there were few men better known in the sporting world than Billy Emerson, Jack Sheridan, Johnny Pratt and Winnipeg. No one ever seemed to know just what Winnipeg's first name was, but, like the other three, he was a man whose nerve, when it came to making a heavy wager on card or horse, was never questioned. Among racing people in the east and west these four men were known and respected, for, in addition to being heavy gamblers, they were men who had never been in any way identified with any scheme or deal that was not, to use a race-track expression, "on the level." It was during the year 1886 that they were at the top

notch of prosperity.

Although different in many ways, relates the New York Sun, there was one common allment among them, and it was probably this that made them such fast friends. four were consumptives, and, although at that time the disease had barely more than shown itself, they got worse and worse as the years relied by, until one by one they died. Al-though they must have known what was the trouble with them, it was utterly impossible to get any of them to acknowledge that he had consumption. If it was said to one of them that he was looking ill, he would simply laugh and say: 'Never was better in my life. May have been drinking a bit and stayed up to late; but sick? Not a bit; never felt so well before," and he would slap himcough.

Emerson kept a swell gambling house in New York at one time, but gave it up after he became interested in the turt. Sheridan and Pratt had been gamblers all their lives. and Winnipeg was a young man of good family and good education, who had had a little money left him, and had happened to strike luck by investing it in horse races. Every once in a while nowadays, w bookmakers get together over a cold bottle and begin telling stories, the story of the four cons," as they were called, comes up. In the Hoffman house bar one evening last week a bookmaker was telling the story to

a number of acquaintancis.
"A peculiar thing about those men," he said, "was that although none of them would ever acknowledge that he was on the brink of the grave, they would take great pleasure in guying one another about their ill health. Emerson, pale and emaciated and emitting hollow coughs, would walk up to Pratt, whe was in a similar condition, and say 'Look here, old boy, you're a sick man. Go away somewhere and recuperate. You need rest.' Then Pratt would brace up and reply indignantly: 'You go to - . What do you mean by telling me I'm sick,' and then he would stride away, mad clear through. "This sort of thing went on for some time

until one day Emerson remarked to the others that he was going to have his life insured. 'What!' they gasped together, 'you insured. don't think any company would take a chance on you, do you? Emerson ignored the in-sinuation, and the next day had an examination for life insurance. Of course he didn't pass. When he gloomily told the others about it they gave him the grand laugh. Then each one in turn quietly informed sured. They all tried, and all were re-

One day they met at the race track an Emerson remarked: 'Say, boys, we couldn't get insured, but I've got a better game than that. Let's put up a thousand apiece, and the one who lives the longest takes the pot. peg, who was at that time the worst case o all, 'it's a dead certain will for me.'
"'Oh, you don't say so,' put in Pratt.

'Why, one of your lungs is missing now, and I don't think you'll live a month.'
"After an hour of that sort of chaffing the four men agreed to put up the money. It was given to Billy Elliot, a bookmaker, and he deposited it in a New York bank. It was deposited in such a way that any one of time. This was done so as to be sure that

the last man would be able to get the money without any trouble.

"At this time poor Winnipeg was an awful sight, and the people thought he would die any minute. His cheeks were pale and sunken, his eyes shone like balls of fire, he coughed incessantly, and he could scarcely totter along, he was so weak. Yet he would come to the track every day, and whenever he'd run across one of the other three he'd guy him about the money they had put up. You fellows will be dead and gone before they put me in bed, he'd say. Those who they put me in bed,' he'd say. knew him used to smile pityingly on him

whenever he made this boast.
"Two months after the money had been deposited Emerson's physicians told him that he had to go away or he'd die in a week So Billy took his money and went to Texas where he bought a ranch and tried to set tle down. In six months he was dead. Early in 1887 Sheridan died, and this left only Pratt and Winnipeg, who was verily a living corpse, to contest for the money Pratt got worse and worse, and his condition was soon as bad as his friend's. These two used to totter around the betting ring and when they were not betting would tell each other how bad they looked. 'Jack and Billy have gone,' said Winnipeg one day and you're next, Johnny. That coin's mine. 'You'll be dead in a week and I'll

collect that \$4,000," Pratt replied, and both 'The next week Pratt lost his every dollar in an attempt to make enough leave his wife independent when he d The week after he was too weak to ge up one morning, and after being confined to his bed a couple of days he died, leaving his wife penniless. The very day he died money was drawn from the bank by Elliot and given to Winnipeg. 'I knew I'd win it,' said the latter. 'I knew I'd outlive them, and now I can't die too soon to suit myself. My living for the past six months has been a mere matter of pride,

anyway. "Winnipeg had lost all his money in the same deal as Pratt, but he had no need for the \$4,000, for three days later he died Just before he breathed his last he drew the \$4,000 he had won from beneath his pillow, and with trembling hand passed it over to Elliot, who sat at his bedside. 'Give that to Johnny's w.dow,' he said. 'I haven't got a relative left on earth, and I don't reckon it'll ever do me any good.'"

# Seven Years Without a Birthday.

A Scottish elergyman, who died thirty years ago, Mr. Leishman of Kinross, used to tell that he once lived seven years without a birthday. The statement puzzled most who heard it. They could see that if he had been born on the 29th of February he would have no birthday except in a leap year. But leap year comes once in four years, and this accounts for a gap of three years only. The first thought would, therefore, naturally be that the old man, who, in fact, was fond of a harmless jest, was somehow jesting about the seven. There was, however, no joke or trick in the assertion.

At the present time there can be very few,

if there are any, who have this tale to tell of themselves, for one who can tell it must have been bern on the 29th day of February at least ninety-eight years ago. But a similar line of missing dates is now soon to return; and, indeed, there are, no doubt, some readers who will have only one birthday to celebrate for nearly twenty years to

in the fact, which does not appear to be widely known, that the year 1800 was not a leap year, and 1900 will not be. The February of 1892 had twenty-nine days, but in

all the seven years intervening between 1896 and 1994, as well as in the three between 1892 and 1896, that month will have only twenty-eight.

## CHICAGO'S COSTLY DITCH.

Bringing the Waters of Lake Michigan to the Mississippi. About \$7,000,000 in cold cash has been expended thus far on Chicago's big ditch-

the drainage canal. Published estimates, according to the latest authorized revision. put the cost of the work at \$21,000,000. The engineers and everybody the about the Drainage Board offices refer to the probable cost as \$25,000,000, says the Chicago

The whole channel is under contract except about a mile and a half at the Joliet end, and proposals for that work have been advertised for. Contracts call for the completion of the canal in 1896, and the Drainage commissioners are confident that another two years will witness the conclusion of the mammoth undertaking-that is to say, as much of the project as they now care to talk about.

With \$25,000,000 the drainage board will be able to finish a channel forty-one miles long and big enough to carry a volume of water equal to 300,000 cubic feet a minute. will have an average width of 305 feet at the top and 202 feet at the bottom, and a depth of twenty-six feet. At the surface the canal will be about three times as wide as State street, and at the bottom twice as wide, while the depth of the stream will be nearly equal to the height of an or-

To be effective for drainage purposes and carry water out of the Chicago or at the rate of 300,000 cubic feet a cinute the current must be about two and one-half miles an hour. Inasmuch as the channel of the canal will be very much wider and very much deeper than the average of the south branch of the river, with which it makes connections and from which it is get its supply, the water must go from e lake to the head of the canal at a greater velocity than two and a half m les to keep the canal full and enable it to perform the work that is expected of it. There are men, and they are men of experience, too, who will tell you with alarm pictured on their faces that the water would rush from the lake through the river in a torrent of such force that it would wash out the foundations of buildings and warehouses along the banks, wreck vessels and cause waste and ruin that \$20,000,000 would not repair. These visions of devestation and ruin are largely the production of heated imaginaion, for no drainage board would be idiotic enough to open flood gates that would turn the waters of Lake Michigan with Niegarathe waters of Lake Michigan with No. like force in upon the devoted city. No, that is not what will occur. The program will be different.

Earth was broken on the canal in September, 1892, on the "rock cut," below Le-

tember, 1892, on the "rock cut," below Le-mont. Since that date work has progressed steadily, and, as before stated, excavation is in progress along the whole line, excepting a mile and a half at the Joliet end. Between 5,000 and 6,000 men are at work on the canal. Villages and settlements have sprung up and tremendous activity is the order of the hour.

In the prosecution of the work it was

found necessary to divert the chang Desplaines river for a considerable distance, and accordingly a new riverway was cut for a distance of about four miles at an expense of over \$1,000,000. On the maps and in the literature of the district that improvement is known as the "river diversion.". It was upon that labor that most of the army of poor fellows went to work who were out of the city last winter by the various aid societies. This artificial bed of the river is of a size sufficient to carry off 300,000 cubic feet of water a minute.

### DELIGHTS OF OFFICE HOLDING. The Situation as Viewed by a Friend of Poe's

in the Forties. In the Pos correspondence, published in the September number of the Century, dealing with a period of the poet's residence in Philadelphia, is given the following letter from Poe's friend, Frederick William

"WASHINGTON, May 20, 1841.- \* \* \* How would you like to be an office holder here at \$1,500 per year, payable monthly by Uncle Sam, who, however slack he may be to his general creditors, pays his officials with due punctuality? How would you like it? You stroll to your office a little after 9 in the morning, leisurely, and you stroll from it a little after 2 in the afternoon, home-ward to dinner, and return no more that day, If, during office hours, you have anything t do, it is an agreeable relaxation from the nenotenous laziness of the day. on your desk everything in the writing line in apple-ple order, and if you choose to lucubrate in a literary way, why you can lucubrate.

'Come on and apply for a clerkship; you can follow literature here as well as where you are—and think of the money to be made by it—'Think of that, Master Brook,' as Sir John sayeth. Write to me, if you love me on the reception of this \* \* \*. "My kindest regards to your mother and wife, Your friend, F. W. THOMAS.

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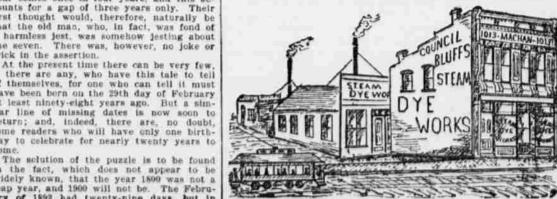
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