DAY FOR ALL TO REJOICE

Rich and Poor, Sick and Well Made to Feel Glad.

HOW OMAHA PEOPLE SPENT CHRISTMAS

Ideal Weather for All Except the Boy with a New Sted_No Attempt Made to Transact Business.

Before the first peop of day, before the first rays of the Christmas aun were to be seen, Omahans-a goodly number of the adults and twice as many children-were up and about, wishing each other "A Merry Christmas." The inquisitive tots and many of their big brothers and sisters were up long before dawn, and on tip-toe and gowned only in robes de nuit crept to the spot where the Christmas tree stood or where the family presents were piled. Many of their parents were but a little while in following them, for they wanted to be on hand for the earliest church service, and while it was still dark the streets leading to the principal Catholic and Episcopal churches were well filled with devout worshipers on their way to return their thanks to the Father of the Christ Child and to

invoke His divine blessing. Three and four hours later it was another lot of people who were seen on the streets-the streets of the residence portions of the city, for the business section of the city had not yet been invaded. These were the folks who were armed with large buadles and small packages, hurrying hither and thither to present their gifts to their friends. A short time later out came those who wel-come the merrical day of all the year be-cause of its serious side, and who eagerly embrace an opportunity to do good to the ever-present poor. The poor and needy, the sick and unfortunate in Omaha appeared to be well remembered yesterday. The hospi-tals were frequently visited, and there was not a visitor who had the heart to enter into the sick wards without some remembrance even though it were but a flower. The various home for unfortunates were not alighted, and the indigent sick who are nursed by that most humane and philanthropic organization that has recently aprung Christman is the brightest day of the year,

after all.
The American youth who resides in Doug las county had the suiks during the morn ause there was no snow on the He wanted a chance to try the new sled, but coasting was not in order vester- regular boarders knowing twinkle.

few of the other stores or offices were ope-The cafes that kept champagne punch in big bowls on their gilded bars ready for freand unlimited circulation were very popular and their popularity did not diminish one whit as the day wore on. There were There were numerous fine lunches, too, that appeare most inviting, especially to him without money and without price.

Just how the festal day was celebrated by the classes and the masses, by the rich and poor, by those who look up and those who look down, by those who rejoiced be-cause of the birth of the world's Savior and by those who did not know or did not care what it was all about, is told by those who spent the day among such.

WITH THE POOR. While many an Omaha lad and lassic looked out this morning on the dry pave ments and glowing sunshine and longed for the white covering that would bring with it the chime of sleigh bells and add the real winter enjoyments to those of Christmas day there were others to whom the absence of snow and ice brought a sentiment of thank fulness. For while sleigh bells and a vista of pure white snow might make the day beautiful to some, it would have brought cold and misery to hundreds who had no coal bins piled high with fuel, and to whor warm furs and ulsters were an unknown luxury. Many a family in Omaha was happy yesterday that would have suffered if the day had been one of those wintry occasion that carry out the real sentiments of Christ They looked through broken window panes at the bright sunshine and reveied in thankfulness that the winter winds did not blow through their rickety habitations and that the season had been tempered to the needs of those who could not protect them-

selves from its rigors. The open weather that interfered materially with the holiday sales of the business establishments made Christmas a more than usually joyous occasion for the poor. No one could suffer from the cold, and the good people who had something to spare saw that none of them hungered. The various char-ltable organizations provided some substantial assistance for the poor families on their liets, and if the wolf menaced the threshold of others whose needs had not been brought to their attention there were kind neighbors who offered their assistance and provided the material for many a bountiful meal that made Christmas something more than a name. Many a family was helped yesterday that could have scarcely been induced to ac cept aid on any other occasion, and if any one was hungry it was because their necescity was not suspected. There is scarcely grocery in town that did not send out loads of provisions yesterday that had been or-dered by the benevolent for those who needed them. It was not an unusual sight to see a wagon drive up to some abode of poverty, deposit quantities of potatoes, bread and meat and drive away, leaving no information as to the source of the kindness. Those who make a practice of such benevolences say that there seemed to be less demand for these attentions this year than there has been for several years. Few people suffer as long as the cold weather does not come, and hundreds of people were comfortably

situated yesterday who would have suffered exceedingly if the month had been what business men were wishing for. The Salvation army barracks, on Daven-port street, was one of the most popular places in town yesterday afternoon. This was caused largely by the announcement that a Christmas dinner would be given to all who applied. At the hour announced the fun to begin the space about the building was crowded and the doorway was jammed by men, women and children who had their appetites concealed about their persons. About seventy-five were admitted at one time and they were seated in the pews, which had been converted into temporary tables by laying wide boards across the tops and covering these with table cloths. A generous supply of the things necessary to constitute a regulation Christ-mas dinner was placed before the hungry people and all disappeared as if by magic. When the first lot had been satisfied they

WORKS

In curing torturing, disfiguring, humiliating humors of the Skin, Scalp, and Blood when all else fails.

Bold throughout the world. Price, Currectal, Se., Boar, 25c.; Resolvant, 50c. and \$1. Porras Dato AND CREM. CORP., Sole Props., Boston sir" How to Cure Every Disfiguring Humor," free.

were turned out and the next installment let in, when the same form was gone over. let in, when the same form was gone over. This was repeated several times. No tickets were issued and it was impossible for these in charge to tell exactly now many bad on fed, but it was estimated that nearly people had availed themselves of the

The provender peressary to feed so many had been collected from friends of the Salvation army during the past weed by the members of the army under the direcion of Captain Gregory. The commission non and process had contributed liberally and a number of the churches had sent fruit, candy and nus remaining from their

CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS.

The Women's Christian association Old Ladies' Home was the scene of a fitting celebration of the joyous Christmas time. The hearts of the eleven old women who make their home at this inatitution were made glad by the generous gifts showered upon them from all quarters. The ald societies of the various churches, as well as the various women's organizations in the city, contributed most liberally to the home and each of the immates was the recipient of a number of timely and useful presents calculated to gladden the hearts of the sil ver-haired mothers of the present genera-tion. Not the least appreciated was a bountiful supply of the many good things which go to make up an old-fashioned Christmas

The Children's Home, an adjunct of the Old Ladres' Home, and conducted as well by the Women's Christian association, is in the same yard. In this are twelve child and they were not allowed to lorger the occasion. A number of presents of toys and clothing were provided by the friends of the institution and these were distributed to institution and these were distributed to institution and these were distributed as a second communion. The musical features a second communion. among the little ones. A generous dinner of turkey and the usual accessories was provided for their entertainment, and the ocbered.

Out on the rolling prairie northwest of the city stands the rather imposing brick structure known as the St. James Orphanage and old Santa Claus did not fail to remember the eighty-six children of all ages who know no other home than the comfortable quarters presided over by the Sisters of Mercy. A bountiful dinner of goodies and delicacies was followed last evening by a Christmas tree weighted down with gifts for drums and horns for the boys, dolls innumerable for the girls and candy and nuts without stint. Toys of every description were distributed freely and the occasion was The numerous friends and benefactors of the orphanage had contributed liberally in order to supply the ele-ments necessary for the occasion, a young woman on California street having done meritorious work in this direction by colecting donations. The Christmas celebration at the Creche

ommenced Christmas eve with a tree which was leaded with toys, candy and nuts for each of the thirty-three youngsters who are at the institution day. He regained his composure as the as well as the thirty or more who have morning wore on, however, and when noon graduated from its fostering care. These arrived and the plum pudding and mines former inmates were invited to be present pie were served he felt quite like himself at the celebration and they were out in full again. The plain American girl was screeely force. The occasion was a memorable one happy all day long, and kept her weather and the enjoyment of the sixty or seventy eye on the suspended mistletoe with a little tots knew no bounds when the tree twinkle, was stripped of its burden. Pandemonium were but few people on the down-broke icese at once and was only stopped town streets in the morning. The confectioners and the florists kept open bouses till to bed. It broke out again yesterday mornnoon and had to hustle hard to fill their ing at daylight and continued unabated all ing at daylight and continued unabated all numerous orders, some of which had been day. A dinner of turkey and all the acces-placed with them a fortnight ago. Very sories, including plum pudding, served to mark an epoch in the lives of the little ones yesterday and made the occasion one long to be remembered. Liberal contributions were made by the supporters of the Creche and its friends in order to provide for the celebration. WITH THE AFFLICTED.

At the hospitals the holiday was celebrated in true festal style. Everyone served a Christmas dinner much out of the ordinary to the patients and almost everyone had a Christmas tree and gifts for the unfortunate ones who are compelled to remain as occupants. Much of this enjoyment was the result of the donations that had been received, although the hospital officials themselves assisted financially and other-

At the Presbyterian hospital the tree was spread for the little ones on Christmas eve. It carried gifts not only for the children in institution, but also for some of adults. At noon yesterday a substantial Christmas dinner was served

The Methodist hospital celebrated in much the same style. The donations were large and afforded a great amount of pleasure and

enjoyment to the patients.

The Clarkson Memorial hospital also refeature of the day yesterday. On the night before the children enjoyed a huge tree, which bore gifts, candy and nuts for every

one of them.

At the Immanuel hospital one tree was set up, but gifts were given to every child in the institution and to some of the adults. The Christmas dinner was a big feature of the celebration. The donations received from the stores of the city and from the

churches were very large.

The religious aspect of the day was considered at St. Joseph's hospital. At midnight on Thursday night high mass was celebrated in the building and at 9 o'clock yesterday morning services were held. A fine dinner was served at noon. In the evening the children were entertained by

atisfactory Quite a little was made of the day at the county hospital. In the morning at 10:30 o'clock services were held in the building. At noon a very substantial and extensive dinner was served to every one in the in-stitution. The bill of fare included turkey, cranberry sauce, vegetables, plum pudding, fruit, candy, nuts and popcorn and cigars and tobacco for the male patients. In the evening a concert was given by the mem-bers of the St. Andrew's Brotherhood of

St. John's church. Both the city and the county fails were the scenes of some Christmas festivities yesterday. At the former a chicken and rabbit breakfast was served in the morning, and a big turkey dinner, with all the holiday concomitants, was dished up early in the afternoon. The spreads were en-Joyed by between twenty and thirty pris-At the county fail the dinner oconers. curred at 2 o'clock. Turkey, cranberry sauce, celery, apples, coffee, mince ple and cigars comprised the bill of fare. The meal was served to every one in the jail, bread and water prisoners included, to the num-

HAD LITTLE TO GIVE. The Associated Charities were able to throw ut a gleam of sunshine into the dark lives of the poor, destitute and ill yesterday. The donations were small and meager, both of clothes and provisions. What was sent in was distributed on Thursday among some fifty families who were of the most deserv-ing character. The result of the appeal that was made publicly by the charities was of a most disappointing character to the sec-

The demand for assistance was far in excess of the amount that was available for the purpose. Yesterday morning the little dingy office at Eighth and Howard streets was visited by many men, women and children who had come for provisions and clothng. The vast majority of these were turned

The cash donations were just as unsatisfactory. In all \$10.50 was received. Secretary Laughland hinted that he considered it a somewhat sad commentary upon the Chris-tianity of the people of the city that almost one-half of this amount, \$5, was given by a woman of that other half world, whom Christians would be disposed to shun. This amount was expended in provisions, which were all distributed.

as it solicited such charity and furnished the donor with the addresses of deserving people.

Present a Chair to the Chief. Fire Chief Redell spent a good share of the Christmas day in a fine new chair. As he stretched himself in its capacicus confines he frequently thought of Hose company No. 6 and Hook and Ladder company No. 4 and every time that he thought of them he gave them the glad hand in spirit, and his face beamed like that of a Christmas cherub with whiskers. The two fire companies are located at Twenty-fourth and Cuming streets. For some weeks fourth and Cuming streets. For some weeks at the past they labored surreptitiously at the chair, but the chief knew nothing about

hauled to his residence and placed within. A card read: "Christmas greetings to the hief, from Hose company No. 6 and Hook and Ladder company No. 4." The chair which also has a stool is a beautiful piece of handlwork. Its legs, arms and back are made out of great steer horns, arranged in ished. It is very richly upholstered. I was made entirely by the members of the two fire companies, who have spent weeks

CHRISTMAS DAY AT THE CHURCHES. Prief Sermons and Elaborate Music

In Many Institutions.
The Omaha churches observed the day of peace and good will with the usual servces of appropriate significance. Sermons were generally brief and elaborate music and the holy communion composed the general celebration of the occasion. In some cases the chancels and organ lofts were draped with smilax and evergreens, while a few potted plants diffused their fragrance rom the altar rails,

At St. John's Episcopal church the servces began at midnight Christmas eve, when the holy communion was celebrated and Monk's service in C sung by the full choir. The auditorium was handsomely draped with evergreens and illuminated by numerous candies, which lent a really impressive effect to the altar and decorations. Services were also held at 7:30, 10 and 5 o'clock yester-

The Christmas celebration at All Saints a second communion. The musical features were especially creditable and included a harp solo and accompaniments by Miss Pauline Lowe. At Trinity the holy communion was cele-brated by Bishop Worthington immediately

after midnight Christmas eve. The cele-bration was repeated at 8 o'clock and the egular Christmas services followed at 11 Felcek. The musical program was exceptionally elaborate and well rendered. At St. Philomena's cathedral Bishop Scannell celebrated the pontifical high mass at This was followed by the papal benediction and low masses at 7, 8 and 9 o'clock. 9 o'clock. At 10:30 o'clock the solemn high mass was celebrated and was followed by the

benediction of the Biessed Sacrament. At the 5 and 10:30 o'clock services La Hache's mass was sung by the cathedral choir.

At the Catholic church of the Sacred Heart the masses were celebrated at 6, 8 and 10:30 o'clock, the last being the high mass. This was accompanied by the seron and followed by the benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. Farmer's mass in B flat was rendered by the full choir, the solo-ists being Mrs. T. F. O'Brien, Misses Knight, Jacobberger, Margaret Cannon and Reynolds and Messrs. Louis Gutting, Emerson and Peter Henstebeck.

nasses were celebrated with high mass at At 10:30 La Hache's mass was ung by a choir of twenty voices, the soloists being Mrs. T. J. Mahoney, Misses Gertie Rush, Perrie Braum. M. Rourke and Mahoney and Mesars, McMillan and Braum, Perhaps the most unique of this year's Christmas entertainments was that given last evening at St. Philomena's school hall. In its name and in many of its features it was suggestive of the old-time performances that were the beginning of the modern thea ter. It was a mystery play, entitled "The Nativity of Christmas." It was under the Nativity of Christmas." It was under the suspices of the Sisters of Mercy, who are eachers in the school, and the parts were taken by pupils as follows: The Virgin Mary, Miss Eliza Tracey; Elizabeth, Miss Blanche McKillip; Angel of the Annunciation, Miss Annie Garvey; heralding angel, Miss Genevieve Croft; the infant Jesus, Baby Cobrey; Joseph, Edward Kennedy; King Herod and court, Christopher Mason, Jerry Maher, Joseph Connor, Richard Maher, Arthur Kensen ney, Richard Kennedy, Frank McInerny and Edmund Schuhart; kings from the east, Harry Lahey, John Croft, Edmund Johnson, shepherds, Patrick Kennedy, Albert Falls

and Albert Moore.
The chorus choir of forty-five children's voices was supplemented by the cathedral choir, and all the music was under the direction of Miss Swift, the leader of the organist

The stage was festoconed with ropes of evergreen, and above in gilt letters was "Merry Christmas." The youthful actors had indulgent critics and met with applause at every point. The entertainment was en-joyed by several hundred. The proceeds are for the benefit of the school. The day began with an 8 o'clock prayer service at the People's church. Then while

ceived large donations, particularly from the a part of the working force were preparing the threes. A big Christmas dinner was the the trees another party went with the pasfeature of the day yesterday. On the night tor to the funeral of a little child, and from there they went into the homes of the poor and destitute, carrying provisions for the families, and candy and toys for the children. Thirty-five calls were made before sunset and much good was accomplished. A special invitation had been extended to Mr. Savidge and his workers by Mr. Wright, superintendent of the poor farm, and Sheriff McDonald of the county jail. Handsome bouquets had been secured and these were especially acceptable to those who were shut The time at these institutions was profitably spent in conversation, short addresses, prayers and songs. The evening was spent at the church, where a delightful time was given the children. The attend-ance was large and the program excellent, Santa Claus and his Christmas tree. Every and the little ones pleased with gifts from the trees. The best singing that this party remembered with gifts. The donations were of singers heard during the day was at the jail, all the prisoners joining in heartily.

HOTELS FURNISH FINE DINNERS

ew People in the Houses, but the Tables Are Fairly Well Filled Christmas is never a brisk day with the notels. Too many people are anxious to be at home on that day, and those who are compelled to be on the road traveling invariably aim to spend the festal day with relatives or dear friends in the territory in which they happen to be. In view of this fact it is not surprising that all the hotels yesterday reported light houses. There was not a hotel in Omaha that con-tained the number of guests that it did on Thanksgiving day. The proprietors of these hostelries were not disappointed either, for they have learned not to look for any great

nflux on Christmas day. Those who were at the hotels in Omaha on the one right merry day of the entire year. however, have no reason to regret it. There had been planned the most elaborate menus at all the hotels, and it would be none other than a chronic grumbler who could find fault with the Christmas dinner served at any of the handsomely appointed tables. At all the hotels the guests sat down to as fine repasts as ever loaded the tables of the

respective hostleries.

At the Paxton hotel dinner was served at noon and for an hour afterward. It was an elaborate affair from the blue points down to the English plum pudding and the tutti frutti ice cream, and it appeared to be thoroughly appreciated by all who partook of it. The menu card was of attractive design, the outside cover being ornamented with a picture of a fine looking girl holding a branch of mistletoe in her hand. At the Millard hotel Ginner was served in the evening from 5:30 o'clock until 7. The chef of the hotel said he had never prepared a finer dinner. The menu was lengthy, and the card on which the various courses were enumerated was of unusually pleasing ap-pearance. In addition to the regular patrons of the hotel and a few travelers, quite a few Omahans dropped in to take their Christmas dinner there. The Merchants hotel presented what was probably the daintiest menu card in the city to its guests for dinner vesterday at according for dinner yesterday at noon. The outside cover was of parchment, and was ornaamount was expended in provisions, which were all distributed.

About seventeen families were provided with turkey dinners directly by the donors. The credit for this is due in a measure to the Associated Charities, however, inasmuch as it solicited such charity and furnished the donors with the addresses of deservers.

Cover was of parchment, and was orn mented with a sprig of holly and berrie and the appropriate words, "Wishing Ye as Merry Christmas." Within was an angel Christmas scene, and on the next page we given the long list of good things with the donors with the addresses of deservers. which the tables were spread. The dinir room was prettily adorned with holl mistletoe and small Christmas trees pro erly ornamented. The Dellone served di ner at noon, also, and presented its patro, with a sumptuous dinner and a beautif menu card; both were significant of the a vent of the new management. The ca

CHRISTMAS WITH RAILROAD MEN Most of Them Managed to Be at Home

for the Festive Day.

individuals—they like to be at home on Christmas day. General Manager Dickinson of the Union Pacific came, in with his family from Chicago yesterday morning in order o be in front of his own fireside during the merry festal day. President Clark of the same company left on the preceding day to Join his family at the St, Louis home. Master Mechanic McConnell of the Union Pacific got in from the west in time to greet his friends with a merry Christmas General Manager Holdregs of the B. & M. cut short a trip through the Black Hills and over the Burlington's western lines says a writer in the New York Sun, the river many friends. General Agent Nash of the Milwaukee rushed back from Chicago in order not to be counted out, and General Agent Rutherford of the Rock Island's pasmorning, just in time to answer to the famof the Rock Island's freight department tened to his inside pocket. It is commonly whispered that he brought a most beautifu present to his family—Mrs. H. A. Snyder in honor of his appointment to the high office that he will hold after January 1.

The example set by the general officers all the local lines was closely followed the subordinate representatives. All traveling passenger agents temporarily abar-doned the search for tourists, and the trav-eling freight agents postponed their fight for big cargoes in order to draw up by thei own hearths yesterday. The city passenge agents were not anxious about working yes terday, so they all made a solemn vow each other that they would close their offices at noon. For once the members of the "lov joints" stuck to their word, and some of the bolts were even drawn across the front doors before the bells tolled high noon.

The ticket sellers might just as well have

taken the morning off, too, for there was scarcely a sale of any moment along Far-

num street yesterday morning. All the morning trains were filled, but the passen gers purchased their tickets at the depot office or had supplied themselves at the up-town offices the day before. There was a fair amount of local travel the day before At St. Patrick's Catholic church the usual day morning the bottom dropped clear ou of the business. It became so awful dull in fact, that City Passenger Agent Duny ook his wife and went over to St. Paul be fore the agreed hour of closing had arrived. As there were very few sales, nothing of a sensational nature occurred among the joints," and one more day passed without rease of a cut rate or of too much intimac; with brokers developed. Some folion said the "low joints" had enough fun left over from their meeting on Wednesday to

last them through the holidays.

At the various railroad licadquarters al but the executive officers were quiet and sleeping and still. Most of the cierks secured a holiday, though a few disobeyed their rders and reported at the regular hour jus o convince their bosses that they were vorkers. In the offices of the general mana gers and of the general passenger agents most of the attaches were on hand, as was expected of them, and labored faithfully unil the noon hour. The other office: cenerally deserted except by the janitors.

NOT MUCH INCLINED TO DANCE

mas Entertainments Lacking. There was somewhat of a dearth of Christmas balls in Omaha last night. Union Paific lodge, No. 17, A. O. U. W., gave a monthly ertertainment, consisting of literary features and a dance, assisted by the lodge of the Degree of Honor, at Myrtle hall. The whole affair had a decidedly Christmas coloring. There was a Christmas tree load ed with candy, nuts and popcorn for the de-lectation of the little ones, who were there in great numbers, the boughs being ran-sacked very good-naturedly by Alexander Miller, who ficiated as Santa ing was a winter song and drill by twenty little people—fourteen girls and six boys. About 250 couples took part in the dance. Those who appeared on the program of mu-sic, recitations and addresses were Pearlie Morris, Helen Arnold, Freddie Copeland, J. H. Boonstra, Cloy Miller, Harry Edwards Hazel Wagner, Ida Pitley, Effic and Ida Turner, Bert Hammel, Mable Blackwell and Ernest Kelley, Mrs. Young, Leona Wilford, Irene Butler, Charley Copeland and By Lun-

A ball was given at the Athletic club building by the Crescent club (colored). About forty couples were present. The committee on arrangements comprised R. Work luff, M. L. Wilson, M. C. Delaney and Roy

BURLINGTON ROUTE

"Fast Mail" Discontinued Sundays. Commencing Sunday, Dec. 27, the Bur-ington's 2:55 p. m. train for Lincoln will not run Sundays.

Nipped a Pair of Pants. Pete Carroll was captured on Christmas eve while he was running down the alley between Farnam and Douglas street west of Thirteenth with a pair of new trousers on his arm. The article was stolen from a buggy, but the owner is unknown, be-cause when an officer had succeeded in cap-turing Carroll and returned the vehicle was gone. Carroll had a companion, but he got away he got away.

FORECAST OF TODAY'S WEATHER.

Now that Christmas is Past It Wil Grow Colder in Nebraska. WASHINGTON, Dec. 25.—The forecast for Saturday is: For Nebraska—Slightly colder; fair; northerly winds. For Montana-Generally fair; warmer; outherly to westerly winds,

For Wyoming-Fair; slightly warmer; va

For South Dakota—Generally fair; light variable winds; slightly warmer. For Missouri-Generally fair; westerly winds; warmer in southern, slightly colder n northern portion.
For Iowa-Generally fair; slightly colder; for Kansas—Fair; variable winds.

Local Record. Record of temperature and precipitation at Omaha for the day and since March 1,

Normal temperature for the day Excess for the day. 23

Accumulated deficiency since March 1, 118

Normal precipitation for the day. 03 inch
Deficiency for the day. 30 inch
Total precipitation since Mch. 1, 34,22 inches
Excess since March 1, 34,22 inches
Deficiency for cor. period, 1895, 11, 97 inches
Deficiency for cor. period, 1895, 14,79 inches
Benefits from Stations 38

Reports from Stations at S p. m.

cover was of parchment, and was orna-	Fifth meridian time.			
mented with a sprig of holly and berries and the appropriate words, "Wishing You a Merry Christmas." Within was an angelic Christmas scene, and on the next page was given the long list of good things with which the tables were spread. The dining room was prettily adorned with holly, mistletoe and small Christmas trees properly ornamented. The Dellone served dinner at noon, also, and presented its patrons with a sumptuous dinner and a beautiful menu card; both were significant of the advent of the new management. The card was cleverly ornamented and among other things contained a cut of the hotel building. The Murray reported a fair list of guests at its noonday dinner, which abbunded with game and sweetmeats and fine wine. The Barker, as usual, entertained a host of actors and actresses, who arose in time to enjoy a rich Christmas dinner before the	STATIONS AND STATE OF WEATHER.	Temperature at	Maximum for	Precipitation
	North Platte, clear. Salt Lake City clear. Cheyenne, clear. Hapid City, clear. Huron, clear. Chicago, cloudy St. Louis, clear. St. Paul, cloudy. Davenport, cloudy. Helens, clear. Kansas City, clear. Hayre, partly cloudy. Hismarck, clear. Williston, clear. Galveston, cloudy.	36 42 36 34 32 16 30 30 34 32 36 26 18	42 52 44 50 48 28 30 38 32 34	00.000.
afternoon matinees. The Arcade, the Wind- sor and the other hotels of the city also pre-	 Indicates trace of precipitation. L. A. WELSH, Local Forecas 	it Of	licial	77

until this morning. Then the chair was pared fine Christmas dinners, which they auled to his residence and placed within. served to a fairly numerous list of guests.

Freighting on the Plains Before the Era Railroad men are not different from other of Railroads.

EXPERIENCES ON THE SANTA FE TRAIL

Alexander Majors, the Pledge He Pat to His Employes, and His Mastery Over Men. Utah Expe-

dition Freighting.

in order to be at home in time for Christ-mas eve. Assistant General Passenger stands to Nebraska City were the dis-Agent Arthur Smith of the same road, ac-companied by Mrs. Smith, hurried home from the balmy climes of southern Cali-early settlements in the far west. St. Louis fornia so that he might play the part of was the great market, and hundreds of steam Santa Claus and fill the stockings of his packets plied upon the Missouri river between two little children yesterday morning. Gen-eral Passenger Agent Lomax of the Union that city and the landings along the eastern Pacific got home from his trip through New border of the great plains. Before gold had England a few days before Christmas, in ample time to purchase gifts for all of his silver veins of Nevada, Colorado and Montana were known only by vague traditions brought into the settlements along the river by trappers and traders, quite a transportation bus-iness grew un between the river landings and settle the question who shall rule. senger department arrived home yesterday liness grew up between the river landings and Santa Fe, N. M., the front'er trading post H. A. Snyder, formerly agent of the Mexicans. Mexico was producing or the Rock Island's freight department in this city, and now assistant general great quantities of silver, and Mexican silver Van Winkle burst out into tears and freight agent of the same road, came in dollars were eagerly sought after by the buson a morning train from Chicago with the iness men of this country, for by reason of replying that he had no time to bury dogs, credintials of his new post securely fast the scarcity of silver in this country, the walked away, and the train was soon in Mexican dollar was recognized as legal ten-As early as 1822 a Captain Rockwell sent a train of pack mules across the plains to Santa Fe, loaded with inerchandise for the Mexicans, and silver dollars sewed up in green hides were brought back as the profits There were no well-defined trails or roads

between the Missouri river and the Mexican settlements for many years after Captain Rockwell's expedition returned. All sorts of vague ideas prevailed regarding the desert country. Tribes of nomadic Indians were to be feared; the sand storms of the desert were deadly to stock; water was scarce and bad; no roads could be made in the shifting sands and a caravan might easily get lost. Many men doubted if there ever would come a time when well-defined roads and trails would be made across the prairies. But as the years went by and the desire for Mexican silver dollars encouraged men of adventurous nature to persist in making expeditions across the plains, the knowledge of the country became more positive and the Santa Fe trail became an established

By the time the United States declared war against Mexico a wagon trail had been so well established that it was determined to send a military expedition across the plains to operate against the Mexicans from the north; and Doniphan's expedition made the Journey in safety and succeeded in driving the Mexicans back until Chihuahua fell and the United States army marched into the northern capital. After peace had been declared, trading between the Mexicans and the Americans rapidly grew in volume until Santa Fe became a great commercial cen-REIGN OF THE BULLWHACKER.

For a time mule teams drove the heavily oaded freigh ers' wagons across the plains but it was found that oven were a more satisfactory motive power for long journeys, and the reign of the bullwhacker began. One freighter, named Spires, set out somewhere about 1840 from the Missouri river landing of Wayne City with several heavily loaded wagons, drawn by mule teams. Along the Cimarron one hot day, after the mules had struggled through the sands for several ours, a severe hall storm came upon the rain and chilled the heated animals, and efore night every mule had died, leaving the wagons stranded on the plains. A guard was placed upon the train, and a party of men walked on to Santa Fe, where the purchased mules from the Mexicans and re-turned to the wagons. For years afterward a monument of skulls of these mules was a

familiar landmark on the plains. One of the men famous throughout the ountry during the days of the freighters was Alexander Majors, now residing in Denver. He was reared upon a farm in western Missouri, and he passed his life on the frontier. His father had tramped across the plains with a party as early as 1826 in a vain search for a wonderful silver mine mentioned by a trapper, and Majors early determined to engage in the freighting business. His first application for employment as wagon master of one of the freight trains managed by the leading firm of freighters at Independence Landing was promptly refused. Majors was too religious for the business, they thought; he was known to exhort, he observed the Sabbath, he did not swear nor drink whisky was, therefore, self-evident that he never could manage a company of bullwhackers on the plains or fight Indians with much courage or wisdom.

THE MAJORS PLEDGE. Majors insisted that despite these appar ent disadvantages he could manage a train, and he proposed that if he did not satisfy the firm at the end of the journey he would not charge for his services, while if he made a quicker trip than had been done by any ther man in their employ he would ask only one wagon and team as payment. But the firm had doubts and declined the offer. Majors found a firm of St. Louis merchants to back him, and he had the satisfaction of passing one of the trains of his rivals on he road, while he made the round trip is ninety-two days, the best record up to that time. He brought his oxen back looking well, and his journey had been made with-out difficulties of any kind. The St. Louis firm was so delighted with the venture that Majors was employed to go out with a larger train the next year. From a beginning of six wagons Majors increased his business so fast that in a few years he was running more than 100 wagons across the plains and had an advantageous contract with the gov-

ernment to supply the frontier posts with rovisions. The men he took with him on his firs lourney in 1848 were neighbors and friends who knew his ways; but as his business grew he had to employ a great many of the men who were to be found along the border settlements. All had to agree to his rules of conduct. Before accepting men for serv-ice Majors presented to them a written pledge which they were required to sign. It

read as follows: "While I am in the employ of A. Majors, I agree not to use profane language, not to get drunk, not to gamble, not to treat animals cruelly, and not to do anything else that is incompatible with the conduct of a gentleman. And I agree, if I violate the above conditions, to accept my discharge without any pay for my services." STRICT DISCIPLINE.

During the civil war Majors added a clause pledging allegiance to the United States. Although he employed in his time thousands of men, no man was ever discharged for vio-lation of this pledge. He never heard his men swearing, nor did he ever have com-plaints from his wagon masters of cruelty to the cattle. His reputation for strict dis-cipline was well understood, and no man ought employment of him who did not care to obey implicitly his authority. Majors was a master of men, and he knew how to handle them without friction. Few men ever took issue with him. On his second trip he suppressed a mutiny with remarka-ble tack, and he never was bothered a second ime in that manner.

One evening when the train was several hundred miles from the river, his wagon-master brought him word that the men intended to defy him on the morrow, and i he refused to agree to their proposals they would seize a wagon and drive back to the states, leaving him stranded on the plains. It was the universal custom while on the march for the trains to make the first stage before breakfast, in the cool of the day, but Majors permitted his men to eat before starting out. On this trip, however, he had seen that the men were taking entirely too much time in their morning preparations, so be had ordered them to move out before breakfast thereafter. It was this change of plan that did not suit the bull whackers, and

they decided to make an issue on it. "Two years later, late in the fall, Jake Bensley, who lived back in the hills a few miles from the Bushkill road, discovered one day that a bear was fooling around his pig

muting he walked over to the campfire and the Cheesman tragedy was no exception where Van Winkie, the ringicader, was to the rule of realism. He began a new sitting, and asked him if the report was true. Van Winkle said it was, and showed by his hearing that the men proposed to handkerchief about his neck and in the stand by him. Without discussing the matter then Majors told the men to go to bed, saying he would see about it in the morning. At break of day toe guards came in his seventh failure, with the oven, which had been grazing on this wife then he the nutritious grasses of the prairies, and Majors was up, ready for the contest.

Majors was up, ready for the contest.

Called for all Bands to assemble, and then he gave them a lecture. Having explained asylum. He was discharged six months asylum. He was discharged six months later, and shipped on a man-of-war, but later, and shipped on a man-of-war, but his side of the case, and having shown them that he had performed his part of the agreement, he said in conclusion

END OF THE MUTINY. "And now, boys, I admit that you have the power and the numbers to propose. Your pien is certainly a good one. and it looks as it you ought to win, but there is one thing you have forgotten. Before you succeed there will be a funeral. Either I will manage this train or you will have to bury my body right on this spot. All you who will stand by me and my orders walk over there where the wager master is standing, and you who refuse re Then we can scon He had scarcely finished before the mer with one accord moved over on the side of

order, leaving Van Winkle standing alone. replying that he had no time to bury dogs, motion. Van Winkle was exchanged for another man of a train which was met a motion. few days later. Mutinies were not uncommon on the

plains, and sometimes a freighter would be left alone on the prairies, or would be com-pelled to submit to the dictation of his men. no matter what their demands might be. Instead of eards and noisy demonstrations about the campfires, the men of Majors' trains sang hymns and read the scriptures. and often Majors led in prayers. Sundays were regularly observed, and the teams and bath room, a wan, a stranger to her, who calmiy regarded her. It was too great a men had the entire day in camp. THE UTAH EXPEDITION. When the government decided to send

General Albert Sidney Johnston with an army of 5,000 soldiers out to Utah to compelthe Mormons to obey the courts and ter-ritorial government the business of transport-ing government supplies quickly assumed large proportions. The army haited in the fall of 1857 at Fort Bridger to await the arrival of supplies before proceeding for ward. The delay of the government in get ting the supplies up the river to Fort Leavenworth, and the difficulty of moving the immense quantity of freight across the plains, compelled General Johnston to put his men on short rations before the winter was over. He sent Captain Marcy with a detachment of men and pack mules across the Rocky mountains in the winter season to Fort Massachusetts, in the San Luis valley, for supplies. The expedition floundered through deep snows until their limited supply of provisions was exhausted. The mules starved to death, and the soldiers had to subsist upon starved mule meat for weeks. Their sufferings were terrible, and when they finally straggled into the valley many were barefooted and in rags, and had a relief from the fort not come in time they would have perished.

Three of the trains with supplies from Fort Leavenworth were captured near Green river by the Mormons, the men were sent back, the exen driven off into Utah, and the goods burned. Early in 1858 the freighters had matters moving in good shape, and be-fore the end of that year they had 3,500 wagons and 40,000 oxen moving about 16,-000,000 pounds of freight into Utah for the ubsistence of the army. To assemble such great number of wagons, to purchase and irive to the frontier post the number o exen required, to put under discipline the several thousand men employed demander experience and executive ability of the highest order. Majors had the needed qualifications, while his partners had the energy and skill necessary to handle the usiness end of the contracts.

business end of the contracts.

When the government stores had been all safely landed in Utah the freighters sold some of the wagons and oxen to emigrants bound to California and the remainder of the bound to California and the remainder of the wagons were stored until the following year, when they were sold at auction for about \$10 apiece to the Mormons, who broke them up for the hard wood material they contained, and used the heavy tires in the manufacture of nails. The oxen were driven over to Nevada to be kept over winter and then taken on into California to be fattened for the market but a spew store of great the market, but a snow storm of great severity overtook them and ont of the 40,000 head only 200 survived. The army returned to the states in 1860 and the government stores were sold to the Mormons at auction at absurdly low prices. The military occupaion of Utah was a profitable matter for the

Mormons. That was the climax of overland freighting on the plains. Majors and his partners cleared \$2,000,000 in two years out of the business and lost much of it afterward by he pony express and a daily stage line from Fort Leavenworth to Denver. Majors con-tinued the business until the railroads pushed across the plains. Freighters then confined their labors to distributing supplies from railway stations into the mining regions of Idaho. Montana and Wyoming. Now there are no long wagon routes, for the railroads each every place of any importance through out the entire mountain region and the bul eams with the bullwhackers have pas Iway.

DEATH LAUGHS AT CHEESMAN.

He Has Stabbed, Poisoned, Shot and Hanged Himself, and Still Lives. Frank H. Cheesman, 38 years old, living at 2227 Ohio street, South Berkeley, breaks the local record for suicidal effort, relates the San Francisco Examiner. Eight times has he attempted to ferry the Styx, and only his last call to the grim boatman seems likely to attract old Charon's sullen attention. Cheesman's persistence in seek-ing a ready exit from the stage of life is consistent with the varied methods of his lethal experiments. Some of his failures were unique, notably, when he interrupted the circuit of a live electric wire and survived the deadly voltage of an alternating current of innumerable ohms. He has also current of innumerable ohms. He has also current of innumerable ohms. swallowed poison, and jumped from the promenade deck of a Southern Pacific ferryboat. Last Saturday he shot himself through the lungs, narrowly missing the heart, and the doctors diagnose his symptoms as fatal. Cheesman's first attempt on his life was sensational. He threw himself from an upper-story window in this city, involving nimself in two possibilities of successful sui-cide. He hoped in the first instance to perish on the wires of an electric light in tercepting his descent to the pavement, which he in agined would mangle him sufficiently if the wire should break. It hapened that the wire was tenacious, and heesman was rescued.

His next adventure was a plunge from a ferryboat, reckoning on the chronic lethargy of the Southern Facific to achieve his pur pose. But Cheesman could not sink. It is the custom of the Southern Pacific officials to arrest people who jump from their ferryboats and turn them over to the police. 'was the procedure on this occasion, Cheesman, while on his way to the station drew a knife from his pocket and stabled himself three or four times in the neck. This time his lack of precision as an anato mist saved him.

After his wounds were dressed they locked

Cheesman in a cell, and half an hour later he was found hanging by his suspenders to the grating of the ceiling. When he had recovered his breath suffi-ciently to explain, Cheesman said he wanted to die because Effie Lambert would not marry

A few morths later the old craving came upon him again, and he poisoned himself in the basement of his parents' home in Lorin. Again the doctors interfered, this time with the pump, and Cheesman came up smilin once more out of the valley of the shadow. But Cheesman was still unsatisfied. Hi But Cheesman was still unsatisfied. His desire for death may even be regarded insatlate. A little while after the poisoning episode he climbed upon a windmill loftier than those at which his prototype of La Mancha tilted, and, probably imagining himself an airship or a thunderbird, leaped head foremost into space. Death at this time was inevitable, but a big dog passed opportunely and Cheesman landed safely on the animal's and Cheesman landed safely on the animal back.
The object of these evidences of an in

"There wasn't nothin' surprisin' about that, said Red Drake, telling me this, sane regard, thus emphatically importuned,

"cause it wasn't no uncommon thing to see bears almost any day in Pike county in them days. As for a metter o' that, it'd a been somethin' more to talk about if a bear somethin' more to talk about if a bear than it would 'a been it he seen one every mile or so."

When Majors learned of the proposed mutiny he walked over to the campfire

series of tragic episodes by trying to shoot his wife. Failing to do so he knotted a to death. Mrs. Chassman summoned as sistance and her husband made record of His wife then left him and Cheesman

came to San Francisco, where he found a deserted at San Diego and returned home.

He had a lucid interval for seven months, during which he worked at the trade of house painter in Oakland. He was paid off iast Saturday night and went to his home in South Berkeley. He carried his suicidal tendency with him and with a revolver, for the eighth time, attempted his life. Dr. Rowell was called and located the bullet in Cheeswan's lung. The doctor says the wound in serious.

STRANGELY WARNED.

Supernatural Visitor Saved Her from the Sting of the Cobra. The following remarkable occurrence, an absolute fact, is related in the Hartford Times, by a lady visiting friends in Hartford, as it was told her by her cousin in Mecrat, northwestern India. It took place in the house of the sister of the narrator. Of its absolute accuracy there can be no question. The two sisters in India are connected with families of repute and with the officers in the British array in India. She is a devout member of the Episcopal church, and is inexpable of misrepresenting in the

slightest particular.
Her cousin, in whose house the rence took place, was scated at a lighted table engaged in reading, when, thinking it about time to retire, and happening to lift her eyes from her book, she was auton-ished to see scated in a chair before her, and between herself and the door to the surprise for her to speak and demand who was thus intruding unbidden upon her privacy and what was wanted. She remained for a moment in silent asionish-

ient. Then it gradually dawned upon her that the figure was probably not that of a person of real flesh and blood, but a visitor from the unseen world of life. She remembered havng once, as a child, seen a similar figure, nder circumstances which seemed to preside the idea that it was any person still in the body, and in later years, in reveing those circumstances, she had reme bered how the apparition had after a little while faded away into invisibility. Con-cluding that this new visitor also was not a person of flesh an blood, she sat silently gazing at the silent object, while the in-truder, whoever or whatever he was, sat also in silence; steadily regarding her. how long this state of things lasted the lady did not accurately know, but it was probably not very long when the mysterious stranger began to vanish into a thinner and thinner personal presence, until in a moment or two he had vanished quite away.

It was the lady's hour for her evening bath, but she thought she would first let out her two pet dogs from their confinement in another room. They came barking furiously and running directly toward the bath room. There, through the open door, the lady was horrified to see on the floor a montrous cobra-the snake whose bite is certain and speedy death. Springing forward to cave her dogs, she quickly shut the door, but not so instantaneously as to prevent her seeing the reptile turning and escaping down through a hole in the floor, where the drain pipes of bathtub and washbowl went, hole which had been carelessly left larger than was necessary.

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