ton, committed suicide last evening. The act was accomplished with strychnine, a part of a bottle having been found on his person after death. Disappointment over a love affair is supposed to have been the cause.

EXCITING CHASE AFTER A THIEF.

Unknown Man Takes His Employer's Money and Escapes in a Buggy.

DECATUR, Neb., Jan. 3.—(Special.)—One of the boarders at the Decatur hotel, who never gave his name, went out to work for a man near Bancroft and last night stole $65 from his employer. Besides this he took a horse and saddle and when he arrived here turned the animal loose. The thief hired a rig and was soon headed for Tekamah. Officers got on his track and at one time were within talking distance. The driver was told to stop, but the thief in some way scared the horses and off they went into a wild gallop. When within two miles of Tekamah the robber, grabbing his satchel, jumped from the buggy and disappeared over a hill. The county sheriff and a number of deputies got out and made a scout, but the man without a name was gone.

Otoe County's Mortgage Record.

NEBRASKA CITY, Jan. 3.—(Special.)—The records in the office of the county recorder show that in Otoe county twenty-two farm mortgages were filed during December, aggregating $25,835.66. Fourteen releases were filed, in amount of $17,756. Six city mortgages, amounting to $2,353.38, and ten releases, $3,945, were placed on record.

The record for the year shows 295 farm mortgages filed, aggregating $421,239.08; 241 releases, $365,679.88; seventy-nine city mortgages, in amount of $59,252.86, and eighty-two releases, $48,970.13.

Elgin Firm Branches Out.

ELGIN, Neb., Jan. 3.—(Special.)—W. F. Hammond has sold a half interest in his elevator, grain, lumber and coal business to W. H. Cratty and L. J. Alcott, both of Elgin, and the firm will be known as W. F. Hammond & Co. in the future. They have added the live stock business to their enterprise. This now makes one of the strongest and most substantial firms financially in this part of the state. The members of this firm are men of sterling business qualifications and are well and favorably known, being of the first old settlers in Elgin.

Lumber Industry at Dunbar.

DUNBAR, Neb., Jan. 2.—(Special.)—The farmers who planted cottonwood trees years ago did not know what great benefits they were preparing for those who were to come after them. These young trees have now grown to be from sixty to 100 feet in height, and are being sawed as fast as they can be taken to the machine. This will cut off the shipping of lumber here to a large extent, as the cottonwood can be worked into lumber at a cost of $7.50 per 1,000.

Free Silver Enthusiasm.

BATTLE CREEK, Neb., Jan. 3.—(Special.)—A free silver county convention was held here yesterday. It was not a big turnout but it was full of enthusiasm for free silver and reform movements. There was a good deal of opposition to the sugar beet bounty. The following delegates to the state convention were selected: G. A. Luckart, L. B. Baker, W. E. Reed, F. J. Hale, R. D. Scott, C. G. Somers, C. D. Jenkins, J. B. Donavin, J. W. Stirk, J. B. Gibbs, C. W. Crum.

Odd Fellows Install Officers.

CENTRAL CITY, Neb., Jan. 3.—(Special Telegram.)—W. W. Burroughs, D. D., grand master, assisted by C. E. Lind, A. F. Brininger, John Palmer and W. S. Desch, publicly installed the officers of Merrick lodge No. 73, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Friday night, after which there was a banquet participated in by more than 200. Last night the same officers installed the officers of Chapman lodge.

Palmyra Firm Brings Suit.

NEBRASKA CITY, Jan. 3.—(Special.)—Charles A. Sweet & Co. of Palmyra yesterday commenced suit against Henry and Michael Malone in the county court to recover $577.56.

Mrs. J. Armstrong of Creston, Ia., purchased the millinery store of Mrs. J. W. Black and will conduct the business at the same location.

New Year Surprise Party.

ELGIN, Neb., Jan. 3.—(Special.)—A party of ten couples made a surprise party for George N. Seymour Thursday evening. The evening was pleasantly spent at games of various kinds. As the old year ended and the new came in, they were seated to a sumptuous feast.

Troubles in the Business World.

HASTINGS, Neb., Jan. 3.—(Special Telegram.)—The large harness and saddlery factory of John J. Pickett was closed last night and is in the hands of the mortgagees. It is impossible at present to give assets and liabilities.

Hog Cholera in Otoe County.

DUNBAR, Neb., Jan. 2.—(Special.)—Hog cholera is making great devastation in this vicinity. Some of the leading farmers have lost over 100 head.

Nebraska News Notes.

The Niobrara packing house is now running full time.

The Knox county teachers will meet at Bloomfield, January 9.

Hog cholera is taking off many swine in the vicinity of Aurora.

Alma merchants have been troubled considerably of late by shoplifters.

A farmers' institute will be held at Tecumseh the last week in January.

A movement is on foot to organize a company of militia at Bloomfield.

The people of Hildreth, Franklin county, sent $135 to the Armenian sufferers.

The Harlan County Teachers' association meets at Republican City January 9.

Delevan Bates and wife of Aurora have donated land to be used for a public park.

The authorities of Schuyler are making trouble for saloons that keep open on Sunday.

Ed Rohan of Newcastle was severely injured by falling about ten feet onto the ice in a gulch.

A traveling grocery salesman is reported to have done up a large number of farmers in the vicinity of Ponca.

R. A. Barrows of Boone county wishes to get on a cornhusking match for $100 a side, open to all comers.

Charles Trulinger of O'Neill fell from a windmill tower to the ground and broke both legs just above the ankles.

A. L. Stewart of the Newman Grove Gazette has purchased the Advertiser plant and consolidated the two papers.

The Gresham Gazette laments over the manner in which quail in that vicinity are being killed off by market hunters.

Johnson county orchardists complain that rabbits are doing a great deal of damage to young fruit trees by gnawing off the bark near the ground.

While running to a fire recently one of the members of the North Platte fire company fell and was run over by the hose cart. He was badly bruised, but not dangerously injured.

The McCook band, which played at the State fair in Omaha, had a concert recently, and the proceedings were wound up by presenting Director Sutton with a gold mounted baton.

First

Last and always advertised as a true blood purifier, the most wonderful cures on record are made and the greatest sales are won by

Hood's

Be sure to get Hood's, only Hood's Sarsaparilla

Hood's Pills cure all liver ills, biliousness.

The Perfume of Violets

The purity of the lily, the glow of the rose, and the flush of Hebe combine in Pozzoni's wondrous Powder.

TREMBLING IN THE BALANCE

Fate of the Bill for Funding Debts of Pacific Roads.

LIVELY DEBATE LOOKED FOR SOON

Friends and Foes of the Measure to Lock Horns in the House—Senate May Postpone Action.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 3.—The house will get down to serious business as soon as it reassembles after the holiday recess on Tuesday. Probably the two most important pieces of general legislation to be acted upon at the short session have been made special orders, and will consume the entire week. They are the Loud bill to amend the laws relating to second-class mail matter so as to prevent the shipment of books and serial publications in connection with newspapers at the 1 cent per pound rate, and to cut off the newspapers' sample copy privilege, and the bill prepared by the Pacific railroads to extend their payments for fifty years at 2 per cent. The funding bill has already been debated one day, and under the order adopted the debate will continue Tuesday and Wednesday, and the bill will be brought to a vote on the latter date.

The Pacific railroad bill will be taken up on Thursday. The general debate will continue until Friday evening. On Friday the bill will be opened to amendment under the five-minute rule, and on Monday the vote will be taken on the bill and pending amendments. The fate of the measure will determine whether the government will foreclose its mortgages on the Union and Central Pacifics. Both these roads have defaulted, and President Cleveland served notice in so many words in his message to congress that unless some congressional action was taken immediately, steps would be taken under the authority of the present law to protect the government's interest by foreclosure proceedings.

The friends of the roads realize fully that this is the last chance they will have to accomplish the funding of the debt for which they have striven for ten years, and they will use all their influence in its behalf. But the bill also has many bitter enemies in the west and on the Pacific coast. Mr. Powers of Vermont, chairman of the committee, will be its principal champion on the floor, while Mr. Sulzer of New York and Mr. Maguire of California will lead the opposition. Both sides are now figuring on a majority, and the fate of the bill is in grave doubt. The debate is expected to be of a very lively nature, and there may be some sensational incidents.

SENATE FORECASTS.

Beyond the fact that the bill providing for free homestead of former Indian reservations on the calendar is the unfinished business, the senate has no program for this week.

There is liable to be a sharp clash of interests in the effort to secure consideration and a possibility that this clash may develop an interesting situation. The friends of the Pacific railroad funding bill will make an effort to get that measure up for consideration, unless they conclude that in doing so they may impair its chances of passage.

Until the past day or two it appeared certain the Cuban resolutions would be sprung immediately after the beginning of business on Tuesday. It is now possible, even probable, that both questions will go over, at least for a few days. If the movement to have the committee on foreign relations again consider the question as to when it shall be taken up prevails, the question cannot be raised until after the committee meeting on Wednesday, and the advocates of delay are becoming quite sanguine that if they succeed in preventing consideration until Wednesday they will secure a still further postponement.

Senator Gear, chairman of the Pacific railroads committee, is doubtful of the advisability of pressing for consideration his funding bill until after the action of the house on the same measure, and may wait upon that body. If he does not delay on this account, he will make an effort to get the bill up on Tuesday, or immediately after the homestead bill shall be disposed of.

If either the Pacific bill or the Cuban resolution secures consideration, there will be a sharp contest and much animated debate.

The homestead bill will be opposed by Senator Platt and others, while Senator Pettigrew will take the lead in its advocacy.

INDIANS AND FREE HOMESTEADS.

Senator Platt Will Present a Minority Report on Tuesday.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 3.—Senator Platt will on Tuesday present the minority report of the senate committee on Indian affairs in opposition to the "free homestead" bill which heads the senate calendar. The report opposes the bill on the general grounds of the vast expense its adoption would entail upon the government. Commencing with the year 1889, he says the government has purchased 33,252,540 acres of land from the Indians, agreeing to pay $25,261,937 for it, besides $3,000,000 set apart as a trust fund for the benefit of the Indians of the great Sioux reservation.

"If," says the report, "all the land already opened to settlement upon Indian reservations heretofore ceded shall be taken up, the sum to be paid therefor by the settlers will be $35,353,006.86. This bill proposes to release the settlers from the payment of this sum."

The report calls attention to the fact that it was provided in the acts bearing upon those settlements with the different tribes of Indians that settlers should pay sufficient for the lands to reimburse the government for money paid the Indians.

Several million acres of land are embraced. The bill as it passed the house applied only to lands in Oklahoma, but by the amendments made by the senate committee the provisions of the bill are extended to all ceded lands, the amount being more than three times that contemplated in the bill as it passed the house.

All lands on Indian reservations thus opened for settlement have been paid for by the government before the opening of the same except in the case of the Cherokee outlet, where payment was to be made in installments and the sum of $4,980,000 still remains unpaid, and in the case of the Great Sioux, Chippewa and Colville reservations, where the Indians are to be paid as the government shall receive the money from settlers upon disposal of the lands. Another amendment proposed to the bill in effect requires that the government shall, upon releasing the settlers from payment of their obligations, pay the Indians for these lands the sum per acre which by law is now to be paid by the settlers.

"If," says the report, "this amendment should be adopted and the bill pass, the government would be called upon to pay in the future, including the amount not yet due on the Cherokee outlet purchase, a sum approximating $15,000,000."

The report calls attention to the fact that negotiations are pending for the acquisition of other Indian lands which are being conducted upon the policy that the government shall be reimbursed for its outlays.

Referring to the origin of the bill, Senator Platt says in his report: "The excitement which preceded the opening of lands in Oklahoma will be still remembered, as will the mad rush scarcely controlled by government authorities to secure these lands upon the well understood condition of payment for the same in addition to compliance with the provision of the homestead laws. In every appeal made to congress for the opening of the lands of these reservations the argument that the government ought not to be put to the large expense of payments for the relinquishment of their title was answered by those who advocated and insisted upon the passage of bills for that purpose by saying that it was understood the government should be reimbursed by the settlers."

Continuing, he argues: "It is probably not too much to say that not one of the agreements made with the Indians ceding their lands would have been ratified, and not an act opening them for settlement would have been passed if it had not been thoroughly understood and agreed that the settlers upon these lands should reimburse the government for the amount expended by it to obtain them. The obligation of the settler to pay the government the price stipulated is as definite, well understood and binding as the obligations of any government debtor. While we do not question the policy of our homestead laws, we insist that in relation to these lands, purchased and opened on the demand of the settlers, it was right that another policy should be adopted. The attractive idea of free homes for the people was all very well while the government had lands acquired for political and territorial reasons which it could donate to them. The purchase of 160 acres and the donation of the same to a citizen is entirely another thing and can be justified in the opinion of the undersigned upon no consideration of public policy or governmental duty. As well might the government be called upon to buy lands from individual owners or syndicates and donate them as free homes to settlers as to be called upon to buy lands from the Indians for such purposes."

STATEMENT OF THE PUBLIC DEBT.

Decrease of $2,839,577 for Month of December.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 3.—The monthly treasury statement of the public debt issued today shows the debt on December 31, less cash in the treasury, to have been $992,929,552, a decrease for the month of $2,839,577. This decrease is accounted for by an increase of $2,963,281 in the amount of cash in the treasury. The increase in the cash was the result of the recent sale of first mortgage Pacific railroad bonds belonging to the Central Pacific sinking fund. The debt is recapitulated as follows: Interest bearing debt, $847,364,490; debt on which interest has ceased since maturity, $1,383,070; debt bearing no interest, $372,502,201; total, $1,221,249,961. This amount, however, does not include $580,809,573 in certificates and treasury notes outstanding, offset by an equal amount of cash in the treasury.

The cash in the treasury is classified as follows: Gold, $175,203,982; silver, $509,615,584; paper, $151,357,340; bonds deposited in national banks, depositories, etc., $17,286,644; total, $853,463,551. Against which there are outstanding demand liabilities amounting to $625,143,172, which leaves a balance of $228,320,379 cash in the treasury.

SUPREME COURT HEARS IT TODAY.

Motion for the Reargument of the Eleventh Street Viaduct Case.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 3.—(Special Telegram.)—Charles J. Greene and W. J. Connell are in the city for the purpose of appearing in the supreme court tomorrow to argue the motion for a rehearing in the Eleventh street viaduct case on appeal from the state supreme court. The motion is for the purpose of placing the case upon the docket for future reargument. It is Mr. Connell's contention that principles involved in the Eleventh street viaduct, wherein it was held that the Burlington railroad would have to bear its proportion of the expense of repairing the viaduct, are so well known in law that he believes the case will be dismissed and the judgment of the court below affirmed. Mr. Greene, on the other hand, says he has some new features which he hopes to present to the court, and relies upon them to secure a new argument upon the main proposition.

Additional Naval Inspectors.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 3.—Secretary Herbert has practically decided to increase the present naval corps of inspectors of steel used in the construction of naval vessels of the United States by the appointment of a number of expert civilians. At a conference held by the secretary with Assistant Secretary McAdoo, Naval Constructor Hichborn and a number of bureau chiefs the subject was fully discussed and it was the opinion of all present that the situation demanded this action. It is thought that the civil service committee will be called upon to furnish at once about twelve or fifteen men who, by rigid examinations, have proved themselves experts in this line, and when secured they probably will be distributed among the works now furnishing the steel and cast iron used in the construction of our naval vessels. The experts will be sent to Bethlehem and others to the Carnegie, the Phoenix, the Valley, the Thorlow and the Midvale works.

Comptroller's Monthly Statement.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 3.—The monthly statement issued by the comptroller of the currency shows the amount of national bank-notes outstanding at the end of the year to be $235,576,381, an increase for the month of $264,278 and for the twelve months of $21,948,569. The circulation outstanding based on United States bonds was $215,850,307, a decrease for the month of $759,377, an increase for the twelve months of $25,234,147. The amount of circulation secured by lawful money was $19,726,074, an increase for the month of $1,023,655 and a decrease for the year of $3,285,587. The amount of United States registered bonds on deposit to secure circulation notes was $240,236,150 and the secure public deposits $15,928,000.

Monthly Coinage Statement.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 3.—The monthly coinage statement issued by the bureau of the mint shows the total coinage at mints of the United States during December, 1896, to have been $7,017,419, of which $4,363,165 was gold, $2,551,968 silver and $102,286 minor coins. Of the silver coined $1,700,000 was in standard dollars.

Report Discredited.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 3.—At the Japanese legation the report from Brazil that the Brazilian government has sold the cruiser Almirante Barroz to Japan is discredited.

DANGERS OF CONFIDENCES.

Don't Completely Open Your Heart to Sympathetic Friends.

Everything that is delightful is dangerous, and the woman friend, on account of the very sympathy and understanding which makes her such a comfort, may become a source of peril to the unwary, who are apt to confide too much, says the New York Commercial Advertiser. A cynic once said that the only way to treat friends was to remember that some day they might become enemies. To do this would be to do away with all friendship, all trust, all that makes love sweet and beautiful; but, at the same time, there is a world of sound advice in Burns' admonition to "aye keep something to yourself you scarcely tell to any." If the details of your private affairs, your griefs and trials, and joys, and hopes, are not to become public property you must keep your own counsel, or else trust some one far having more discretion than you have yourself.

There are many women capable of the most exalted friendship; great of heart, broad of sympathy, wise in counsel. Having found one of these grapple her to your heart with hooks of steel, but remember that the truest friendship is all the finer for its reserve. The heart that turns out every thought and emotion for our inspection is like a shallow box, of which we soon tire, because we know all its contents. We like to feel that in the soul of those nearest and dearest to us there are still depths which the plummet of our love has never sounded, and secret chambers, the opening of whose doors may some day flood our friendship with perfume and light.

Deaths of a Day.

NAPLES, Jan. 3.—The cardinal archbishop of Naples is dead. He was born in 1834, and was created a cardinal at the consistory of March 21, 1884.

WHEELING, W. Va., Jan. 3.—Phillip Duncan Elkins, father of United States Senator Stephen B. Elkins, died this afternoon at the senator's residence at Elkins, this state, aged 87 years. The deceased was a colonel in the confederate army and a democrat. He was born in Fauquier county, Virginia, July 4, 1809. He was married in Ohio in 1840 to Sarah Pickett Wethers. He leaves two sons, Senator Elkins of West Virginia and Samuel Hobbs Elkins of Columbia, Mo.

BEAVER FALLS, Pa., Jan. 3.—Today news was received here that Hon. J. J. Davidson of Beaver, the well known republican congressman-elect for this, the Twenty-fifth district, had died last night at Phoenix, Ariz., where he had gone in the hope of improving his health. The remains will be brought to Beaver for interment.

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 3.—Theodore George Wormley, M. D., Ph. D., LL. D., the distinguished chemist, died today at his home in this city, aged 70 years. His death was due to gastritis. He was born in Cumberland county, Pennsylvania. He graduated in 1849 from the Philadelphia College of Medicine. In 1850 he went to Columbus, O., and two years later he was appointed professor of chemistry and the natural sciences in Capital university, Columbus, which position he held until 1863. While in Columbus, in 1854, he was made professor of chemistry and toxology in Starling Medical college. This he held until 1867, when he was elected to the same professorship in the University of Pennsylvania, which he occupied until his death. For eight years Prof. Wormley was a state gas commissioner of Ohio, and was state chemist of the Ohio Geological survey from 1869 to 1874. He leaves a widow and two daughters.

If you go out early in the morning you may catch rheumatism. Salvation Oil cures it.

UNITED ON LOCAL MATTERS

Douglas County's Legislators Harmonious on Important Questions.

REPUBLICAN MEMBERS NOT AGGRESSIVE

Exposition and Charter Bills to Be Vigorously Pushed, and Measures for City Government Reform Supported.

According to the statements made by the Douglas county members of the legislature, they will not scatter their fire when it comes down to working for matters of local interest. Interviewed upon matters and measures that they would push, they one and all expressed the opinion that the Transmississippi Exposition and the city charter bills would receive their attention. They expressed the opinion that while these two bills were of local interest, they would at the same time interest the state at large, and that on the whole they could not be considered purely in the light of local measures.

Individual expressions upon legislative matters have been furnished The Bee as follows:

Senator J. H. Evans said: "In the coming session of the legislature I shall give especial attention to the work of securing a liberal appropriation for the Transmississippi Exposition. In fact, I believe I was chosen to this position on that issue. I shall work unceasingly to obtain this end, and think that we shall secure substantial aid from the state.

"I am in favor of a new city charter, but I am not in favor of all the provisions for a new instrument that have been suggested. Just what features I object to I should prefer not to enumerate at this time. There will be a meeting of all the Douglas county senators and representatives at Lincoln during the next few days to consider the matter of a new city charter for Omaha. At that time the various propositions which have been made with a view to making a better city charter will be thoroughly investigated. It would be inopportune to discuss the matter before that meeting."

REPUBLICANS NOT AGGRESSIVE.

"Do I think there will be any anti-railroad legislation? No, I think not. I am informed that there is a strong conservative class among the democrats, who will strenuously object to any vicious legislation, and I believe they, with the republicans, will hold the balance of power. I candidly believe that nothing but wise and cautious measures will get very far in this session of the legislature. At a meeting of some of the republican members, held a short time ago, it was decided that we should not attempt to force any legislation. The power lies in the hands of the people's independent party, and it was thought best to allow their representatives to take the initiative in all matters. We shall endeavor to work harmoniously with them in all legislation which may be beneficial to the state. The republicans will do nothing to antagonize the independents, but will rather try to co-operate with them on measures intended for the good of Nebraska.

"There has been some talk about adopting a law regarding the foreclosure of mortgages, similar to the one now in effect in Iowa. I have looked into the matter to a certain extent, and, so far as I can see, such a law would be of the greatest benefit to Nebraska. There, if a man holds a mortgage of $1,000 on a piece of property, he can on the foreclosure sale bid it up to $1,000. In this state the property would probably be bought in for $500. The mortgagor may redeem it within a year. The mortgagee runs no danger of a deficit in the adjustment, and there is no likelihood of the matter being held up in the courts for four or five years. I think such a law would greatly strengthen Nebraska credit, and, so far as I can see, it would work no hardship to the debtor class. I believe such a measure will be introduced into the coming session, and I am heartily in favor of its passage."

Senator Frank T. Ransom was seen Saturday afternoon by a Bee reporter and asked what measures he favored. He was very busy closing up legal matters preparatory to his departure for Lincoln, and with matters pertaining to his canvass for the presidency of the senate, and stated that he had no time to tell what measures he was going to champion. He couldn't tell anyway until he got to Lincoln, and saw the lay of the ground.

Senator E. E. Howell said that it would be hard for him to tell just what bills he would champion until he arrived in Lincoln. He said: "I am greatly in favor of the new city charter, and I have been working pretty hard on it recently. Of course, I shall give this a great deal of my attention. I have no pet measures, and I don't know what bills I shall favor."

SALARY FOR DISTRICT COURT CLERK.

Representative Charles Curtis of South Omaha, in speaking of proposed laws, said: "I am in favor of making the clerk of the district court a salaried office, and will introduce a bill in the legislature to that end, providing no one else does. I think the fees derived should go into the public treasury instead of to the clerk. A good salary, say $3,500 or $4,000, should be paid the clerk. The bill providing for this change will not affect the present incumbent of the office, but will go into effect at the expiration of Albyn Frank's term. I favor a revision of the Omaha city charter, and am particularly opposed to the provision in one of the amendments to the charter which does away with the salaries of the members of the Fire and Police commission. I am of the opinion that such officials should be paid a salary in order that they can afford to devote a portion of their time to the city's business. I also favor the raising of the South Omaha fire levy from 3, to 5 or 6 mills, as I am convinced that 3 mills are not enough to maintain an efficient fire department in that city.

"I favor the equalization of railroad taxation and want to see the railroads taxed more for the privilege of running through a city than across a prairie. By this change in the laws the revenues of cities would be materially increased without increasing the burden of the people."

FOR OLEOMARGARINE.

Representative Levi Cox said: "I would like to see the law governing the loaning of money on real estate changed so that the owner would not be liable for a deficiency judgment. I am in favor of the repeal of the oleomargarine law, and while I may not introduce a bill to that end, I will support any such measure. Owing to the fact that the party I represent is in the minority, I do not think that bills originating with myself or with my republican colleagues will meet with a hearty support from the majority. However, if a bill repealing the oleomargarine law was presented I would give it my hearty support. I will protest against any interference with the commission business at the stock yards, or any attempt to reduce the price of commissions now charged. I am of the opinion that the office of clerk of the district court should be made a salaried one, the salary to be something like $5,000 a year. In this way I think litigants would not be overcharged fees, etc. As to the revision of the Omaha charter, I am not familiar enough with the needs of the city to know just what is necessary, but intend consulting with better posted men before forming any opinion."

Frank Burman has no particular hobby to ventilate in the legislative body, because he does not believe that he, being a republican, would have much of a chance to ride it. He is favorable, however, to some charter reforms which he intends to advocate strenuously. In particular he is opposed to the existence of the Board of Public Works in the city government, and will oppose any scheme to continue it. He will advocate also a change in the plan of taxation assessment, not only in the city, but throughout the entire state. He has outlined no scheme, but will work for any plan which promises more equalization in assessments. He intends also to work for a big appropriation for the Transmississippi Exposition.

Social Happenings at Grafton.

GRAFTON, Neb., Jan. 2.—(Special.)—Miss Denese and Miss Grace Miles, accompanied their brother, Frank, to his home at Edholm, Monday, returning yesterday.

Miss Cunningham's chorus class gave an entertainment last evening in the Congregational church. The receipts, which were large, were given to the Ladies' Aid society.

Charles Besserman and George Hainey attended the Bryan banquet in Lincoln Monday night.

W. M. Sheppard and son, Alfred, returned yesterday from the State Teachers' association meeting in Lincoln.

W. H. Bartz of the Ravenna schools is here on business for a few days.

Edward Fitzgerald, a student at Creighton college, Omaha, leaves for that city tomorrow, after spending the holidays with his parents.

James Hennessey returned home yesterday after a week's visit to Kansas City and other points.

Mrs. McCune and daughter of Fairfield have been visiting at Mrs. Captain Real's.

VERGES UPON A BLIZZARD

(Continued from Page One.)

portion of the state, and it is not unlikely that casualties occurred in some of the numerous lumber camps in that section. All the towns between Little Rock and Texarkana suffered more or less damage, and reports from the country give several instances of damage to farm houses and cattle sheds. The rain over the southern part of the state was the heaviest in years, and all the branches and creeks were overflowed.

The railroads in many places are under water, but trains are now running nearly on time. The "cannon ball," which was held at Benton last night, had a narrow escape from being wrecked, and but for the heroism of a country lad a terrible disaster might have occurred. The train was late and was running at a hight rate of speed when nearing Benton. Five minutes before it would have reached the spot the storm struck a farm house near the track and demolished it. Trees were blown across the track. A boy, realizing the danger, secured a lantern and flagged the train just in time. The passengers made up a purse and presented it to him.

The rainfall at Little Rock continued until early this morning, the precipitation being more than four inches. The streets were flooded and in many portions of the city the water stood to the depth of a foot in buildings. The water from Second and Third streets west of State came down that street to Markham like a mill race and the streets were filled with debris all the way from State east to Arch street. The water in the branch at Spring and Seventh streets overflowed and flooded the neighboring residences and assumed threatening proportions at Center and Fifth streets. Merchants along Fifth and Center streets had to move their wares to elevated places.

The brick sidewalk over the branch in front of Gilmore's store on Fifth street caved in and the butcher shop of E. D. Clever and the grocery store of W. R. Taylor were inundated by the water. In the street the water was a foot and a half deep and it crossed Fifth street, flooded Isenberg's dry goods store and other business places. South and east of the Union depot the water accumulated and formed a small lake and at one point a culvert was unable to accommodate the great volume, and caused the water to play havoc with the roadbed of the railroad. Victory street was all under water from Markham south and people living in that direction were compelled to travel around by cross streets. Ninth and Main streets was a sea of water for hours last night, reaching the depth of a foot. Water street was a roaring river from Chester east to Gaines, carrying everything before it. In the vicinity of the Pacific hotel, near the Union depot, water made alarming achievements and flooded part of the lower floor of the hotel. The temperature took a sudden tumble at noon and indications are for snow.

CHICAGO CAUGHT BY THE STORM.

Drainnge Canal Full and Chicago River Current Reversed.

CHICAGO, Jan. 3.—The continuous rain of today, following without intermission the downpour of the two previous days, caused a deluge rarely experienced in Chicago and Cook county. In the midst of the city, where the drainage facilities were in better shape, not much inconvenience was felt, but in the other districts the streets looked more like ponds than thoroughfares and many basements were flooded.

Outside of the city many roads were in an impassable condition and the fields were covered with water. The Des Plaines river, the Illinois and Michigan canal and the drainage canal were torrents. In a number of localities the former burst over its banks and flooded the surrounding country. South Englewood was almost submerged today, but no very serious damage was done. In the stock yards region the same condition existed.

The pumping works at Bridgeport were forced to shut down, the drainage canal being so full of water that it was found impossible to force it back. As a result the current of the river was turned toward Lake Michigan and all the impurities of the stream were emptied in the direction of the source of Chicago's water supply.

The condition of affairs at Summit was alarming. The water of the Des Plaines river tonight rose to within two feet of the top of the dam and it was feared that the river would overflow into Ogden's ditch and both streams would pour toward Chicago. At midnight it looked as if the water might break the barks at any moment.

At Lemont things looked equally serious. At a late hour tonight it was feared that the Illinois and Michigan canal would leave its banks and sweep away the lumber yards located there. The portion of the country north of Lemont known as "The Flats" was flooded for miles. The rain turned to snow about midnight, the weather suddenly turning cold.

DAMAGE BY FLOOD AND STORM.

South and West Are Buried Under a Mantle of White.

CHICAGO, Jan. 3.—From all parts of the west reports of damages of flood and storms during the last twenty-four hours are coming.

In Illinois heavy rain has fallen, streams are flooded, making the roads impassable and damaging winter wheat. Joliet is threatened with one of the worst floods in its history. Hickory and Spring creeks are out of their banks and the Des Plaines river and the lower level of the canal have raised sixteen inches today. Families are moving out of their houses and the lowlands are flooded.

Water is sweeping through the lumber yards and the Rock Island track is submerged in the vicinity of Lacon. Wheat has been damaged badly by the twenty-four hours' rain and the roads are impassable. The Sangamon river is rising, threatening destruction to thousands of bushels of cribbed corn. It has rained for sixty hours and is still raining, but growing colder.

In northern Michigan the rain is also severe. Near Menominee it has rained forty-eight hours. Logging has been suspended. Ice gorges at Fisher and other points on the Menominee river threaten serious consequences to Menominee and Marinette.

In Minnesota a blizzard raged all day with alternating rain and sleet.

South Dakota suffered a severe snow storm, which prevailed all day yesterday. The snow drifted and a railroad blockade is feared.

CARING FOR MANGLED PEOPLE.

List of Victims in a Louisiana Disaster.

SHREVESPORT, La., Jan. 3.—There is little to add to the Mooringsport disaster, reported last night. The relief train of the Kansas City, Shreveport & Gulf road arrived this morning with the following named wounded, who were conveyed to the hospital:

Mrs. Susan Head, body bruised; gash in abdomen and skull fractured; Mrs. R. G. Morgan, three scalp wounds and body bruised; Mrs. Morgan's child, skull broken; Emma L. Morgan, skull fractured; Alice Goodman, skull fractured and broken arm; Paralee Goodman, body bruised; Claude Goodman, arm fractured; Mrs. Jessie Goodman, scalp wound and bruised body; Jordan Robertson, colored, shoulder and arm broken.

Two of the four Goodman children killed were found 100 yards from their home with their clothing stripped from their bodies, which were bruised and mangled.

Of the number at the hospital, Mr. Morgan's child and Mrs. Head have little chance of recovery. The wounded are receiving all the attention and care that can be given. The residence of J. S. Noel and the Methodist church have been converted into temporary hospitals. The path of the storm was narrow and short, but terrible and destructive. A number of horses, cattle and hogs were killed. The body of a man, who was blown from a bridge, has been recovered, but is not identified. A man whose name is not given, is missing. It is believed he was killed. A number of women visited the hospital today and provided garments for the injured.

BLIZZARD IN THE SOUTHWEST.

Missouri, Kansas and the Territories Struck by the Storm.

KANSAS CITY, Jan. 3.—The first blizzard of the season prevails in western Missouri, throughout Kansas and in the territories, the trains at many points in Kansas being delayed by snow drifts. A fall of about forty degrees has been experienced at most points, with the thermometer still falling. A heavy wind has blown for the past twenty-four hours, drifting the snow and causing trouble to railroads and danger to stock. In the Indian territory heavy rains have filled the gullies and swollen the small streams and railway companies fear washouts.

Rain Followed by Cold Wave.

ST. LOUIS, Jan. 3.—Heavy rain, which has been falling in this vicinity for the past two days, continued until this evening, when a cold wave set in and the temperature dropped from 30 to 40 degrees in a short time. The heavy rains have caused the rivers on both sides of the Mississippi to rise above the danger mark.

At Richland, Mo., the Gasconade river is all over the low bottoms and is rising at the rate of fourteen inches an hour. Hundreds of acres of wheat and corn in the shock have already been washed away. The river is full of floating rails, sawlogs and railway ties, which represent a loss of many thousands of dollars.

In the vicinity of Virginia, Ill., the heaviest rainfall in years prevailed within the past sixty hours. The Sangamon river is rising, threatening destructions to thousands of bushels of cribbed corn. It is still raining and growing colder.

Fears of a Flood.

KANSAS CITY, Jan. 3.—A special to the Times from Jefferson City, Mo., says: Fears of a serious flood along the Osage, owing to the present heavy rainfall, have been augmented during the past twenty-four hours. Tonight a rise of several feet is reported from Bagnell and Osceola. Tie contractors and timbermen are very anxious, for they have thousands of dollars worth of ties along the banks of the Osage liable to be swept away. A big washout on the Missouri Pacific main line occurred last night and the result is that no trains have reached here from the east since this morning. The break is a bad one and some time will be required to repair it.

Big Drifts in Texas.

ST. LOUIS, Jan. 3.—A special to the Republic from Wichita Falls, Tex., says: The southbound passenger train due here yesterday noon has not yet reached this point, owing to a heavy storm in the panhandle. Wires are down north of Clarendon and no intelligence can be had from the lost train. A snowplow was started north from Clarendon this morning which has not yet reached Claude, thirty miles distant. Snow drifts of fifteen feet are reported in that section. The northbound passenger leaving here yesterday evening turned back at Clarendon on account of inability to make further progress.

DUFFY ALIVE BUT UNCONSCIOUS.

Justice, O'Rourke and Roche Arraigned in Court.

NEW YORK, Jan. 4.—James Duffy of Boston, the featherweight pugilist, who became unconscious in the arena of the Broadway Athletic club Saturday night at the finish of a bout with George Justice of this city, is lying at the point of death in St. Vincent's hospital. He is still unconscious.

Duffy was still alive but unconscious at 1:30 this (Monday) morning.

George Justice, who was Duffy's opponent in the bout in the Broadway Athletic club; Tom O'Rourke, the manager of the club, and Dick Roche, who refereed the contest, were arraigned in the Jefferson Market court today. The men had been arrested after the contest Saturday night. Emanuel Friend appeared as counsel for the three men. He denied that Duffy's condition was the result of any violence on the part of his opponent. Lawyer Friend's argument was that Duffy's condition was the result of excitement and chagrin at losing the contest.

Acting Captain Groom did not take that view of the case. Although Detective Brown, one of Groom's staff, said he witnessed the contest and said he did not see a blow hard enough to injure a person, the captain made affidavit that the prisoners were contributory to Duffy's injuries. He presented an affidavit from Duffy's physicians saying Duffy might die.

Justice, O'Rourke and Roche were held in bail of $2,000 each by Magistrate Flammer. The bail was furnished by Martin Engel.

Hart Wins the Walking Match.

ST. LOUIS, Jan. 3.—F. Hart, the Chicago colored athlete, won the six-day heel and toe walking match that ended at midnight. He only led Hoagland by seven laps. Stephens, the local man, who finished third; Oddy, the Englishman, and Cowboy Smith of Denver failed to make the required 300 miles and will not come in on the division of the gate receipts.

The final score is:

	Miles.	Laps.		Miles.	Laps.
Hart	303	7	Oddy	278	..
Hoagland	303	..	Smith	210	..
Stephens	292	..			

Julian Will Sign Articles.

NEW YORK, Jan. 4.—The World says: Martin Julian, manager of Fitzsimmons, has notified Dan Stuart, the Texas promoter of prize fights, that he will be at Taylor's hotel in Jersey City at 2:30 p. m. today (Monday) to sign the articles of agreement that promise to bring Fitzsimmons and Corbett together in a ring next St. Patrick's day.

French Elections.

PARIS, Jan. 3.—Elections were held today to replace one-third of the senators whose terms are expiring. The senators will serve three years. The radical and socialist candidates and numerous extremists hoped to secure enough seats to change the character of the senate and prevent a recurrence of the constitutional struggle which occurred last April between the senate and the Bourgeoise cabinet. The platform called for the election of senators by universal suffrage. Their hopes were, however, blighted by the results of today's elections, all of the socialists having been defeated. The full returns show that sixty-four republicans have been elected, twenty-one radicals and twelve reactionaries.

Senator Wolcott Off for Europe.

NEW YORK, Jan. 3.—Senator Wolcott of Colorado sailed on the Campania for Europe, to endeavor to bring about arrangements for an international conference, looking to the promotion of bimetallism. The senator, it is said, will confer in London with representatives of the bimetallic societies of Great Britain, Germany, France, Russia and Austria. He will also have interviews with European statesmen.

The Comment.

Washington Star: "I was telling Miss Cayenne about an accident with which I recently met," remarked Willie Washington, with a melancholy look in his eye.

"Indeed?"