## THE OMAHA DAILY BEE: SATURDAY, MARCH 13, 1897.

Recollections of the Terrible Tragedy on the Little Big Horn.

CUSTER AND HIS COMMAND

GEN. 'MILES' DEFENSE OF GEN. CUSTER

Captain Gibson's Share in the Battle Told by Himself\_What the Survivors Owe to Captain Benteen.

The massacre of General Custer and five companies of the Seventh cavalry by Indians at the battle of the Little Big Horn, twenty years ago, has become a topic for public discussion, especially among military men, from the fact that General Nelson A. Miles, in his recently published recollections of army life, vigorously defends the brave but ill-starred Custer from the charge of imprudence and reckless disregard of military strategy in his preparations for the battle. General Miles claims that Custer failed

to defeat the Indians because he was not adequately supported by the seven companies of cavalry that were to act in concert with him and which were under the command of

Major Reno and Captain Benteen. No one is more interested in any discus

sion of the Custer massacre than Deputy Commissioner Francis M. Gibson of the Street Cleaning department of this city, says the New York Evening Post. Many who have met him in his official capacity are aware that he is a retired army officer. but few of them know that the polite, quiet-mannered, smooth-voiced deputy commis-sioner was with the vanguard of the troops under Reng and Benteen, when they had to fight with the desperation of despair to save themselves from the fate of Custer and his men after those unfortunates had in "wiped out" by an overwhelming force of Indiana

Captain Gibson seldom speaks of that stirring episode in his military career, but in justice to the reputation of his old comrade arms, Captain Benteen, he has written in arms, Captain Bentee, he has an out for the Evening Post the following nar-rative of the events that led up to and fol-lowed the Custer massacre, and he has told his story in a way that is impressive by its quaint simplicity:

CAPTAIN GIBSON'S STORY.

The Seventh cavalry, under the command of its lieuter ant colonel, General George A. Custer, left its winter quarters on May 17, 1876, for the Yellowstone country, from which section, in conjunction with other com-mands-the Second cavairy and Seventh in-fantry-it was to operate against large bands of hostile Indians, then on the warpath. The Seventh cavalry was divided into three bat talions for this service. The first was com manded by General Custer himself; the sec-ond by Colonel Reno, one of the majors, and third by Colonel Benteen, the senior captain of the regiment.

These three officers possessed very differ ent characteristics. Custer's gallantry and dash have gone down to history. He was also a man of extreme nervous energy; his also a man of extende hereous charge, here was untiring activity was boundless, and so also was his intensity of purpose. He was uiterly fearless, always sanguine of success, had an abiding faith in the ability of his regiment to succeed when others would fail, but and reposed absolute confidence in his and reposed absolute conductor in an chosen friends. His daring exploits attest his bravery, and his fighting qualities should stamp him an able officer. He was a thor-ough cavalryman from top to toe. Colonel Reno was regarded as an able offi-

cer, but he lacked the dash, the energy, the determination and the ambition of Custer

Benteen is a man of many noble charac teristics. He is as brave as was Julius Caccar, and as cool under fire as the proverbial cucumber. In a tight place his coo ness is reasouring and his judgment can al-ways be depended upon, and all the sur-vivors of the battle of the Little Big Horn are very glad he was there to exercise his superior judgment. Colonel Benteen is a man of stolid determination, and when he takes up a position, either on the field of batthe or in the midst of peaceful pursuits, it is next to impossible to move him. He is next to impossible to move him. He is generous to a fault, and most charitable, and

and the officers' call was sounded. All the officers assembled at the head of the column in response to this call. General Custer said that we had been discovered by the Indiane and from that point baitalion organ-izations would cease and the column would proceed from there in the order that troop commanders reported them ready for action. It so happened that "H" troop, which I had commanded ever since Colonel Benteen had been placed in command of a battalion, was near the head of the column that morning, and after General Custer's remarks I hastened to the troop and directed the men to tighten up their horses girths. This done, I reported to Benteen-he being my captain, and being ordered to resume command of his troop-that "H" troop was ready for action. He, in turn, made the same report

to General Custer, and, being the first cap-tain to report ready, we were given the head of the column on resuming to the colonel. I hastily pointed out the danger of his going, but he again expressed his willingness to go. So he carried my message to Colonel Benteen that I must have head of the column on resuming the march. We had hardly marched in this order two miles when we again halted and General Custer informed Colonel Benteen that he had reconsidered his order breaking men and ammunition at once. McDermoti miraculously got there and back without a scratch. He said the colonel would be here immediately with reinforcements. He did not up the battalions, and that Benteen could take his again, which consisted of three troops, and added that Colonel Reno would arrive at once and McDermott asked me he should go back. I replied, "No," that if Colonel Benteen said he would come he ceralso have his old battalions, while he, him-self, would resume personal command of tainly would. Sure enough he soon arrived with about ten or twelve men. Considering the smallness of the command and the losses the original five troops he had started with. This accounts for eleven troops, the twelfth, Troop "B," being designated the escort to the pack train. The pack train was an im-portant adjunct to the command, as it constinumber THE CHARGE AND THE RETREAT. transportation for our supplies ted the

and extra ammunition A RECONNAISSANCE.

Immediately upon resuming battalion or ganization Colonel Benteen was directed t berth after it. take his out of column and proceed with it across the hills to the left, which turned out Subsequently Colonel Benteen convinced Major Reno that ours was the position to be small mountains, and reach the valdefend, so we got more troops up there and of the Little Big Horn as soon as possome spades and picks, and soon threw up very respectable earthworks. This strengthsible. If Indians were found trying to cape up the valley we were to intercept them and drive them toward the village. It was a ned our position immensely, and, after fighting us until dark, the Indians with all their formidable undertaking, getting over these so-called bills, especially as our horses were leg-weary and the men very tired and much in need of rest and elongings withdrew and left us in possession food

had pretty hard fighting, had lost heavily, and their runners had discovered General Terry's command approaching in the dis-About half way over Colonel Benteen or dered me to select half a dozen men on the best horses, get ahead of the battalion, and tance proceed as rapidly as possible to the valley, and report to him without delay what I found there; at the same time he handed

me his field glasses. His object in sending me was to save unnecessary fatigue to both norses and men in case nothing was there. I got to the valley and found it as quiet as the grave itself. Up the valley I could see long distance, but in the direction of the in the valley and the broken character of

the country. I hurried back to Benteen, and told him there was no use going any further in that direction. Therefore, in compliance Colonel Reno is now dead, but I do not think I do any violence to his memory by stating most emphatically that had it not with General Custer's orders, in case no Inbeen for Benteen s perfect coolness and sur dians were seen in the valley, we were to return by the shortest route to the trail of passing judgment we all would have ender ur careers there.

nded.

the main command, and follow it up. After we had gotten back on the trail we had not proceeded more than a mile or two These are some of the events that oc urred from the day we left the mouth of he Rosebud, on June 22, 1876, until the before we met an orderly with a written message to Colonel Benteen, which read as close of the battle o' the Little Big Horn, on June 26, 1876, as I, after twenty years, re-member them. There may be some inacfollows: "Benteen, hurry on; bring packs." This was signed "W. W. Cook," who was the adjutant of the regiment, and under his uracles, but, if so, I am not conscious o hem. F. M. GIBSON, Capt. U. S. A. Captain Gibson was appointed second lieuname he had again written, as if to empha-size it, "Bring packs." As I said before, the importance of a pack-train, when you have no other means of transportation, cannot be overestimated. Benteen asked this orderly if the pack-train had passed, and he, stupidly, did not know. Colonel Benteen enant in the Seventh cavalry in October 1867, was made first lieutenant on July 11, 1871, and captain on February 5, 1880. He etired from the service or 891, on account of physical disability. stupidly, did not know. Colonel Benteen hereupon concluded that as his battalion You cannot deny facts, and it is a fact that Salvation Oil is the greatest pain cure. 25c. eemed to be needed at the front, and as a roop of cavalry was sufficient to conduct he pack-train to the battlefield, he would surry to join the balance of the command which was, or soon would be, holly engaged. We had not gone far when we found the Saturday's Big Special Sale. PECIAL SALE OF MEN'S FURNISHINGS. cavalry trail separated. After a little hesi-tation Colonel Benteen chose to follow the right-hand trail, which led up to the top of 100 dozen men's fancy laundered shirts ollars attached, detached and colored bosoms a high hill. When we got there we saw the whole Indian village spread out before us, down in the valley, and skirting the banks of the Little Big Horn. worth \$1.00, \$1.50 and \$2.00 each, Saturday' price, 50c. 100 dozen men's fancy silk and satin band bows, worth 25c and 50c, your choice, 15c

THE INDIAN VILLAGE.

We then thought possibly we had taken the wrong trail, and that we should have taken the left-hand one, leading to the 50c to \$1.00; your choice 25c a pair. SPECIAL SALE OF KID GLOVES. 500 dozen ladies' kid gloves in all the new iver. Colonel Benteen had the glasses, and hades and all sizes, worth \$1.00 to \$1.50, on I remarked that all those persons down there could not be Indians, and he replied that sale at 69c a pair. 1 lot of boys' fancy laundered shirts 39c he could see nothing else. Well, we thought if they were all Indiana, there were enough of them to eat us up and cry for more. The ridge we were on led off to the right, and,

each

100 dozen children's fast black scamless cotton hose, all sizes, 10c per pair, worth 20c, SPECIAL SALE NOTIONS.

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within twenty-five feet of the right of my line. I had held this hill in obedience to Colonel Benteen's orders until my troop was so reduced in numbers as to make my CAMPAIGNING WWITH GRANT evacuation of it almost necessary. My mer who were still able to fight fully realized their peril, and remained there only because The Critics of the Great Captain's Policy of they, too, knew if that position was sur-rendered it would be a sorry day for us. I was in sore need of both men and ammuni-Hammering the Enemy.

tion, but to send a man to the command was almost sure death. We were not in commu-nication with the rest of the command, and PAPER BULLETS WERE NOT EFFECTIVE Finally our situation became desperate; something had to be done at once if we hoped to live many minutes longer. Just as 1 had decided to send a messenger to Colonel Ben-Recollections of the Battle of Cold Harbor - Drumming a Corre-

spondent Ont of Camp-Anecdotes. teen Private McDermott spoke to me and asked if I would like him to carry a message

> General Horace Porter's "Campaigning with Grant," now running in the Century, deals with the battle of Cold Harbor in the March issue. General Porter says: There were critics who were severe

'hammering" and Sherman called "pounding;" but they were found principally among the stay-at-homes, and especially the men who sympathized with the enemy. A soldier said one night, when reading by a camp had sustained, twelve was quite a large

loyal newspaper at home for a public meet-Benteen took in the situation at once and said we must charge them. This we did and ing to protest against the continued bloodshed in this campaign: "Who's shedding resulted not only disastrously to them, but this blood, anyhow? They better wait till surprised them, so that they gave us a wide

> 'Enough!'" The soldiers were as anxious as their commander to fight the war to a finish, and be allowed to return to their families and their business.

Grant could have effectually stopped the carnage at any time by withholding from battle. He could have avoided all blood-shed by remaining north of the Rapidan, in-

of the field. This they did for two reasons; they had trenching, and not moving against his enemy; but he was not placed in command of the armies for that purpose. It had been demonstrated by more than three years of campaigning that peace could be secured only by whipping and destroying the enemy. tance. About 8 o'clock on the morning of the 27th Terry's command was in sight, and from it we heard of the fate of Custer and No one was more desirous of peace; no one his men. They, it turned out, had perished in less than half an hour after they became engaged, and the dead bodies of our comwas possessed of a heart more sensitive to every form of human suffering than the commander; but he realized that paper bul-lets are not effective in warfare; he knew rades were lying about two miles from us. Thus the battle of the Little Big Horn better than to attempt to hew rocks with a razor; and he felt that in campaigning the

It carried many of our comrades, whom hardest blows bring the quickest relief. He was aware that in Wellington's armies the we loved with almost a brother's affection, to the "happy hunting ground," and may heir souls be at rest. annual loss from disease was 113 out of 1,000; in our Mexican war, 152; and in the Crimea, 600; and that in the campaigns thus far it our own war more men had died from sick-ness while lying in camp than from shot and shell in battle. He could not select his ground for fighting in this continuous siege

of fortified lines; for, though he and his chief officers applied all their experience and skill in endeavors to maneuver the enemy out of strong positions before attacking him. his foe was often too able and wily to fall into the traps set for him, and had to be struck in positions which were far from Grant's choosing. When Lee stopped fightng the cause of succession was lost. If Grant had stopped fighting the cause of the union would have been lost. He was assigned one of the most appalling tasks ever intrusted December 3 to a commander. He did his duty fearlessly to the bitter end, and triumphed. In thirteen months after Lincoln handed him his commission of Heutenant general, and

intrusted to him the command of the armies, the war was virtually ended. \* \* \* SUFFERING AT THE FRONT.

Referring to the battle of Cold Harbor, General Porter says. The general-in-chief realized that he was

in a swampy and sickly portion of the country. The malaria was highly productive of disease, and the Chickahominy fever was dreaded by the troops who had a recollection of its ravages when they campaigned in that section, of the country two years the 14th instant.

before. The operations had been so active that precautions against sickness had necessarily been much neglected, and the general was anxious, while giving the men some rest, to improve the sanitary condition. By dint of extraordinary exertions the campa were well policed, and large quantities of resh vegetables were brought forward and distributed. Cattle were received in much better condition than those which had made long marches and had furnished beef which Sunday morning at 8:15 o'clock, and parties

Greater as far from be

Army of the Potomae, including Sheridan's cavalry and Burnside's command, had been: Killed, 7,621; wounded, 38,339; captured or missing, 8,965; total, 54,926. The services of all the men included in these figures were not, however, permanently lost to the army. A number of them were prisoners who were afterward exchanged, and many had been only slightly wounded, and were scon ready for duty again. Some were doubless counted more than once, as a soldier who was wounded in a battle twice, and afterward killed may have been counted three times in

making up the list of casualties, whereas the army had really lost but one man. The losses of the enemy have never been ascertained. No precise information on the subject has been discovered, and not even a general statement can be made of his casualties. In a few of the battles of this campaign ties. In a few of the battles of this campaign his losses were greater than the losses suf-fered by the union troops; in the greater part of the battles they were less. Our re-inforcements had amounted to just about the came number as the losses. It was estimated from the best sources of information that Lee had also received reinforcements equal to his losses as that the averture were to his losses, so that the armles were now of about the same size, as when the cam-paign began.

All the reinforcements organized in the north and reported as on their way to the front did not reach us. There was a good deal of truth in the remark reported to have deal of truth in the remark reported to have been made by Mr. Lincoln: "We get a large body of reinforcements together, and start them to the front; but after deducting the sick, the deserters, the stragglers and the discharged, the numbers seriously diminiah by the time they reach their destination. It's like trying to showel fless across a barpyard: like trying to shovel fleas across a barnyard you don't get 'em all there."

TWO OF GRANT'S ANECDOTES. General Porter gives the following anec lotes that were related by Grant at the head quarters mess;

"I was with General Taylor's command in Mexico when he not only failed to receive reinforcements, but found that nearly all his egulars were to be sent away from him to join General Scott. Taylor was apt to be a little absent-minded when absorbed in any perplexing problem, and the morning he re-ceived the discouraging news he sat down to breakfast in a brown study, poured out a cup of coffee, and instead of putting in the sugar, he reached out and got hold of the mustard pot and stirred half a dozen spoonfuls of its contents into the coffee. He did not realize what he had done till he took a nouthful, and then he broke out in a tower ing rage. "We learned something at Shiloh about

the way in which the reports of losses are sometimes exaggerated in battle. At the close of the first day's fight Sherman met e olonel of one of his regiments with only about 100 of his soldiers in ranks, and sai o him, 'Why, where are your men?' The colonel cast his eyes sadly along the line, wiped a tear from his cheek, and replied in a whimpering voice: 'We went in 800 strong and that's all that's left of us.' 'You don't ell me!' exclaimed Sherman, beginning to to deeply affected by the fearful result of the carnage. 'Yes,' said the colonel: 'the rebs appeared to have a special spite against us. herman passed along some hours afterwards, when the commissary was issuing rations, and found that the colonel's men were returning on the run from under the bank of the river, where they had taken shelter from the firing; and in a few minutes nearly all of the lost 700 had rejoined, and were boiling coffee and eating a hearty meal with an appetite that showed they were still very much alive."

> Dr. Bull's Cough Syrup has always been kept up to the standard. It is the same was forty years ago, the best sold.

# The "Parson Davies" special train for the

Corbett-Fitzsimmons fight will leave Chicago at 5:30 p. m. Saturday and run via Omaha over the Chicago, Rock Island & Pa-CLEVELAND'S NEW HOME. cific railway, connecting with the Denver Decorations and Treasures in the

& Rio Grande and Southern Pacific rail-roads. Parties desiring to join this special Princeton House. The Cleveland home in Princeton, N. J. at Omaha can do so at 7:35 a. m. Sunday, has been in the hands of painters, paperhangers, plasterers and plumbers for weeks. All Ready for Carson City. Much has been done on the interior, says the All those contemplating the trip to Carson New York Herald, and considerable remains to see the great championship fight between Fitzsimmons and Corbett should call on me to be done, although the house has been occupied by Mrs. Cleveland and the children without further delay. I will be accessible at The Bee office from 8 to 11:30 every mornfor several days. The mansion has been redecorated and the walls rehung from cellar to garret. Light and cheering, and in the afternoon parties can call at Bandle's cigar store, where full details will ful tints prevail. The woodwork has not been changed. It is all in the colonial be given them. The special train leaves next

ogany

Top Coats \$5.00

We want to impress on everybody that we are selling Spring Overcoats cheap-wonderfully cheap. For five dollars we are selling such a coat as you might expect to cost you ten at least. It is a dark grey substantial cassimere-good enough and respectable euough to wear in any company and durable enough to keep looking decent for several years to come. All wool, of course. For eight dollars we are selling a handsome, sterling, upto-date coat made from imported cloth. For eleven fifty and twelve dollars we are selling snappy Box Coats, with full satin sleeve linings and half satin backs-and for fifteen dollars we are selling the famous West of England Covert Cloth Coats than which there are no better coats made. You can go into a great many clothing stores in Omaha and elsewhere and buy coats for double our prices without "getting stuck" very bad. You might easily pay fifteen dollars for our eight dollar coat if you got in the wrong store-but you ought not to after reading this

Bee, March 12, 1897.

A

About a dozen coats left over from last fall-\$4 each.



SPECIAL MARCH SALE OF FURNITURE The following are some of our great reductions in our Special March Sale, Reduced Reduced from To ...\$ 75.00 \$ 38.00 1 Mahogany Sideboard..... 1 Mahogany Inlaid Table... 1 Mahogany Parlor Table... 0ak Parlor Table... 0ak Sideboard 0ak Sideboard 0ak Tea Table... White Maple Tea Table... White Maple Tea Table... Inlaid Satin Wood Table... Inlaid Satin Wood Table... Birch Ladles' Desk. 0ak Ladles' Desk. 0ak Ladles' Desk. Nernis Martin Desk. Inlaid Mahogany Rocker... Mahogany Faclor Cabinet... To \$ 38.00 Mahogany Divan \$ .00 Mahogany Taboret \$ .00 Seplece Mahogany Parlor Suit.... \$ .00 Inlaid Mahogany Parlor Suit... \$ .00 Inlaid Mahogany Divan. \$ .00 Birch Divan \$ .00 Birch Divan \$ .00 Morris Chair \$ .00 Seplece Parlor Set. \$ .00 Seplece Parlor Set. \$ .00 Seplece Birch Set. \$ .00 Seplece Birch Set. \$ .00 Seplece Forda 25.00 ... 12.00 ... 4.00 ... 200.00 8,00 63,00 21,00 24,00 14,00 24,00 14,00 22,00 22,00 15,00 15,00 15,00 16,00 16,00 52,00 50,00 90.00 60.00 23.00 15.00 55.00 28.00 125.00 100.00 12.00 12.00 85.00 50.00 165.00 25.00 8.00 55.00 20.00 
 100.00
 3-plece Hirch Set.

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their condemnation of what Grant called

fire an account of a call issued by a dis-

we fellows down here at the front hollo,

highest plane. I speak thus of Benteen knowing whereof I speak, as my relations with him were most intimate, having been his first lieutenant for a number of years He is now a brigadler general by brevet this honor having been conferred upon him his distinguished services at the battle of the Little Big Horn.

or on the verv

THE PLAN OF CAMPAIGN. The three regiments I have mentione were brought together on the Yellowstone at the mouth of the Rosebud, and Genera Terry, the department commander, was there supreme command. While the exact loca tion of Sitting Bull's camp was a matter of conjecture, the neighborhood of his where abouts was pretty well known. From th mouth of the Rosebud, Colonel Reno's bat talion was sent on a reconnoissance, and about twenty miles from our camp he found a very large and fresh Indian trail leading toward the Little Big Horn river. After submitting his report to this effect. General Terry held a council of war with General Glbbon, colonel of the Seventh infantry, General Custer of the Seventh cavalry, and General Brisben of the Second cavalry, at which the plan of campaign was discussed and decided. It was arranged that the Seventh cavalry was to proceed up the Rose bud river until it struck the trail discov ered by Reno and follow it up. The other commands, which General Terry and staff accompanied, proceeded to the Big Horr river, followed it up to the mouth of the Little Big Horn, thence up the latter. with he whole force. the purpose of co-operating with the Seventh

In conformity with the plan adopted, th Seventh cavalry broke camp at the mouth of the Rosebud on the afternoon of June 22. and marched up that stream for seven o eight miles, and made camp for the night Here General Custer disclosed a part of the plan agreed upon at the council of war. On the 23d we marched about twenty-five miles. On the morning of the 24th, after marching six or seven miles, we came upon the re mains of a very recently deserted Indian village, and also struck a very large trail, leading toward the Little Big Horn W lost no time in taking up this trail and following it rapidly. After making a good day's march we went into camp, but broke camp in a couple of hours, and resumed the trail until nightfall. We them bivouacked for another couple of hours to give the men and horses a little rest and something to eat.

A PROPHETIC REMARK.

Just as we went into bivourc I passe-very near Colonel Keogh, who told me h me he was going to have some beans cooked, and asked me to come and take some with him. saying at the same time that it might be our last meal together. I told him I doubted if we would be there long enough to cook beans, but if we were, I would come. It was in-deed poor Keogh's last meal, he being killed in battle next day. We left this bivouac after about two bours' rest and pushed on in the direction of the Indian village. Soon after daylight we discovered small bunches of Indians some distance from our flanks. It was not long after this that we halted



locking in that direction and about 200 yards away, we saw two Indians mounted and apat cut prices. parently in doubt what to do. We had som 25c tooth brushes, 9c; 25c hair pins, 9c indian scouts with us, and concluded thes ic checker board, 9c; 200 yards spool cotton were two of them, and after making friendly 10 spools for 15c, only 10 to a customer. demonstrations to them they proved to be our Indian contingent. On reaching them We have over 5,000 baskets, worth 25c to they greeted us with great joy, and, pointing off this hill to the very broken and difficult 22.50, we will close out Saturday at 1c each, 3c, 5c, 10c, etc. country below, said, "Soldiers." Following with our eyes the direction indicated by There are lunch baskets, market baskets ancy work baskets, knife and fork baskets them we saw cavalrymen using every en flower baskets, etc. Come early and get a leavor and urging their tired steeds to their bargain. utmost to get up the hill rapidly. They were on the retreat, and proved to b officers and men who had not been killed of Reno's battalion. When they joined us, our first inquiry was of Custer. Reno said his battalion had to take the left-hand trail as Custer had detached him to cross the river For beautiful sweet peas and other flower eeds go to Neb. Seed Co., 520 N. 16th, and open the engagement and to pus through to the other end of the village, an HE LEARNED A NEW TRICK. that he, Custer, would support him. He said the last he saw of Custer was on the crest lan with Hayseed in His Hair Fools "You can't clerk in a big hotel without of the hill we were then on, but that hi roops must have been behind the slope, as eing something of a detective and keeping e did not see them.

our eyes open all the time," declared a Custer, he said, after seeing him engaged videly known landlord to the rural caller waved his hat, which Reno took for a toker with a cheap suit that didn't fit and a slouch of approval. There were too many Indians for Reno to hold his own, and after losing a hat that looked as if it might have seen number of officers and mes he was forced to retreat to the high ground, where his bat-talion and Benteen's joined. Benteen sur-gested that we move in the direction of the service in a hen's neet, according to the Detroit Free Press. "Don't want to be put up too high, hey? I'll just give you a nice warm room on the third floor. Ask the clerk general's trail, and follow it with a view of for the key when you want to go to bed Ho's at supper now. As I was saying, you have to be a good judge of human nature and up to all the tricks of the crooks in order to be a first-class clerk. I was in the cjoining his command, adding strength to

A FIGHT FOR LIFE.

Reno acquiesced in this, and accordingly business fifteen years before I became a prowe proceeded in that direction. The coun try over which we had to travel was much to our disadvantage, and we found it imposed ble, without suffering a terrible loss, to proceed further in that direction. Benteen again communicated with Reno, and it was decided to return to the place we joined Reno after his repulse, and was considered the best point to make a defense. After we reached there the pack train arrived and the several troops, seven in all, were placed in position to fight for their lives. Troop H, which I commanded, as it happened, was posted along the crest of a hill that over-looked the rest of the command, which was located about 300 yards away, across a broad slope which was somewhat protected, but very little, from the constant and heavy cross fire of our wily foe. In this slope our horses, pack mules, supplies and extra ammunition found such poor shelter as it afforded. Many ten.

found such poor shelter as it afforded. Many of our animals were killed, and, as the weather was hot, they decomposed rapidly, which by no means added to our comfort. When troop H was posted on this bare hill I was ordered by Colonel Benteen to hold that position at all hazards, as it was the key to the situation, and if it was lost the "jig" would be up for us all. At this time we knew nothing of the whereabouts or fate of General Custor's battalion. We did know, however, that we were surrounded by on overwhelming number of savages and the prospect did not look at all encouraging. The number of Indians engaged in this battle has been estimated at from 3,500 to 5,600 in Great Britain Demented. Prof. J. Holt Schooling, fellow of the Royal itatistical Society of Great Britain, has just completed a very interesting investigation by which he has been enabled to show some curious facts relative to the insanity of the British people. He tells how many persons has been estimated at from 3,500 to 5,000 and we went into the fight with less than go mad and why they do so. He declares that one person in every 306 of the popula-600 men in all, and, as Custer had nearly half of this number in his battalion, all of tion of Eritain is a maniac and that that ratio promises to increase. The results of Prof. Schooling's mathewhom had been killed, consequently we, about matical calculation, boiled down into suc-cinct facts, show that in every 10,000 of the 330 men strong, wer-tire force of Indians. were battling with the en-Against such odds resistance seemed al-English and Welsh population, 31.4 people are lunatics. In every 10,000 of the Scotch population, 33.6 people are lunatics. In every most hopelers. It must have been in th neighborhood of noon when we took up thi

position, and until after nightfall the fight raged furiously, with a constant crash of carbines and musketry on both sides. Reno had lost considerably while in the bottom, but our casualties increased greatly during the afternoon and evening 0,000 of the Irish population 40.3 people aro lunatics. Entering into the causes as to why men go mad. Prof. Schooling strikes a mighty blow for the cause of temperance when he makes the statement, solely inspired by his investi-gations and the accurate results thereof the afternoon and evening. THE SECOND DAY'S FIGHT.

The next n orning, before dawn, at Colonel Benicen's suggestion we had reveille sounded. This was done to put on a bold front and impress our enemy with the fact that we were ready to resume the contest. We knew there was no alternative but to re-sume it, so we tried to 'make a virtue of necessity.'' that drink, liquor, sends mad nearly one-third of all the persons who become insane in Great Br tain from the eight leading causes if insanity in that territory. He places these eight principal causes of nsanity and the percentage of each as re

gards every hundred of lunatics as follows Drink, 33.5; domestic troubles, 15.1; menta The last notes of the reveille had not died inxiety, 13.4; old age, 13.2; adverse circum-stances, 13; accidents, 6.5; religious exciteaway before volleys from the Indian mus-kets, from all directions, crashed through ment, 4; love affairs, 3.2.

the morbing air, as if in answer to our chal-lenge. The fight all that day, was incea-sant, victous, and at very close quarters. We were losing men rapidly in killed and wounded. The indians naw this, and grew "Brown's Bronchial Troches" are wilely nown as an admirable remedy for known as an admirable remedy for Sronchitis, Hoarseness, Coughs and Threat bolder, from time to time, until they got croubles. Sold only in boxes.

the state should be in Omaha attention was demanded in the cooking Saturday, the 13th. the food and the procuring of better water Dead animals and offal were buried, and SANDY GRISWOLD.

A ROLL UNDER THE CARPET.

more stringent sanitary regulations were enforced throughout the entire command. Discovery of a Fortune Left by Boston Recluse.

What was most distressing at this time was the condition of affairs at the extreme front. No one who did not witness the Under the carpet in the room where Isaac front. No one who did hot withess the sights on those portions of the line where the opposing troops were in exceptionally close contact can form an idea of the sufferings ex-perienced. Staff officers used to work their way on foot daily to the advanced points, so H. Lewis, the Nephonset hermit who died a month ago in Boston, lived, there were found a few days ago bonds, deeds of property, cash, and various kinds of securities.

as to be able to report with accuracy these harrowing scenes. Some of the sights were not unlike those of the "bloody angle" st the total value of which is said to be \$50,000 The life of Lewis was that of a recluse not unlike those of the "bloody angle" at Spotsylvania. Between the lines where the heavy assaults had been made there was in some places a distance of thir'y or forty yards completely covered by the dead and wounded of both sides. The boliss of the dead were festering in the sun, while the wounded were dying a torturing death from starvation, thirst and loss of blood. In some places the stench became sickcaing. Every attempt to make a change in the ploket line brought on heavy firing, as both says the Boston Globe. No one was allowed to enter his home, and it was sel dom that he bowed or spoke to those whom he met on the street. Mr. Lewis died during the big snow storm about a month ago. He was alone when he died. His neighbors even didn't know he was ill. He had been dead several days when his body was dis-

covered. The police searched the house previous to picket line brought on heavy firing, as both sides had become nervous from long watch-ulness, and the slightest movement on either the burial for money enough to pay the ex-penses. All that was found was \$18, which was sewed in the lining of the old man's vest. The first evidence of wealth was disfront led to the belief that it was the begin-ning of an assault. In the night there was often heavy artillery firing, sometimes accomcovered when, after his death, a deed for a big tract of land at Mount Bowdoin station panied by musketry, with a view to deterring the other side from attacking, or occasioned was discovered in the house. The land is worth in the neighborhood of \$30,000. It was known also that he owned the house by false rumors of an attempt to assault. The nen on the advanced lines had to lie in which he had lived for nearly a quarter of o the ground in narrow trenches, with little water for drinking purposes, except that ob-tained from surface drainage. They were subjected to the broiling heat by day and a century. This is worth probably \$5,000. W. H. H. Moore, Lewis' son-in-law, presi-dent of a big insurance company in New the chilling winds and logs at night, and had to eat the rations that could be got to them York, with Lewis' son, who holds a re sponsible position in a railroad company at Chicago, came to Boston after the death of the old man. Both were convinced that the old man had property hidden somewhere. under the greatest imaginable discomfort. DRUMMED OUT OF CAMP.

They inclined to the theory that he had the property in a safe deposit vault. General Meade had been untiring in his

efforts during this eventful week. He was General Grant's senior by seven years, was A careful search failed to disclose it. Every safe deposit vault in the city was older than any of the corps commanders, and was naturally of an excitable temperaapplied to, but none of them had any of Lewis' property. The savings banks also visited, but, search as they might, ment, and with the continual annovances to which he was subjected he not infrequently men could not get any trace of the hidden wealth. Then they concluded that perhaps became quite irritable. He was greatly disurbed at this time by some newspaper the property was concealed about the house ports stating that on the second night of the of the hermit. A party of men was employed to dig up battle of the Wilderness he had advised a retreat across the Rapidan; and in talking

the cellar of the house. This was done very carefully, and every square inch of the ground was overhauled to a considerable this matter over with General Grant, his indignation became so great that his wrath knew no bounds. He said that the rumor depth. The search disclosed nothing. Still the relatives of the dead miser were not had been circulated throughout the press, and would be believed by many of the people, and perhaps by the authorities in Washington. Mr. Dana, the assistant secretary of

war, who was still with the army, was pres-ent at the interview, and he and General Grant tried to console Meade by assurances that the story would not be credited, and all in United States bonds and interestbearing documents worth, at a conservative estimate, \$59,000. The exact amount will that they would give a broad contradiction to it. Mr. Dana at once sent a dispatch to not be disclosed. A good deal of secrecy is maintaired by the authorities at the the secretary of war, alluding to the rumor, and saying: "This is entirely untrue. He has not shown any weakness of the sort

request of the relatives. No trace of a will has been found. A thorough search has been made for it, and since moving from Culpeper, nor once in-timated a doubt as to the successful issue it is believed that the man died without making one. He was 84 years old, and in his

The secretary replied the next day younger days he had been a merchant in New York. Some financial difficulties over-took him, and he was confined to an asylum for a couple of years. When he obtained 10), saying: "Please say to General Meade that the lying report alluded to in your telegram was not even for a moment believed by the president or myscif. We have the most perfect confidence in him. He could not wish a more exalted estimation of his for a couple of years. When he obtained his release from that institution he turned his back on his home and family.

ability, his firmness, and every quality

ability, his himness, and every quality of a commanding general than is entertained for him." The newspaper correspondent who had been the author of this slander was selzed and placed on a horse, with large placards hung upon his breast and back bearing the inscription, "Libeler of the Press," and drummed out of camp. There had never been a moment when Mande had had never been a moment when Meade had not been in favor of bold and vigorous adances, and he would have been the last man to counsel a retreat. .

of the campaign."

LOSSES IN THE WAR.

LOSSES IN THE WAR. While at the mess table taking our last meal before starting upon the march to the James on the ovening of the 12th, the conver-sation turned upon the losses which had oc-curred and the reinforcements which had been received up to that time. The figures then known did not differ much from thosy contained in the accurate official reports after-ward compiled. From the opening of the campaign, May 4, to the movement across the James, June 12, the total casualties in the

shion and of good happy simplicity of detail. The old-fashioned high ceilings are relieved by heavy and es pecially effective mouldings, which were put in when the house was built. The wood-

work of the entire house is painted colonial The house is built with a wide hall down

the middle of it, with rooms on either side. The hall has a panelled wainscoting five feet high. Above this the tinting of the walls, an unusual shade of Nile green, remains, The stairs have a walnut rail, supported by white rods. The landing half way up is in a colonial style, too admirably proportioned

ever to grow tiresome, and on it is to stand a real grandfather's clock.

To the right of the hall is the reception To the right of the hall is the reception room. The room has a southeast exposure and is made still sunnier in effect by the walls, which are of a soft, warm tone of golden yellow, with panels of paper in a olonial design, surrounded by the plain yel low tint.

The mantel is of word, very simple, and painted white. All of the mantels in the house, with two exceptions, are of wood. The two exceptions are of marble, one white and one dark. They are old fashioned, but so thoroughly in harmony with the house scheme that Mrs. Cleveland ordered them not

o be disturbed. Every room in the house has its fireplace. and they are fireplaces meant for use, too, for while the house is heated by a furnace

the cellings are so high and the rooms so large that open fires will be welcome. Mrs. Cleveland, moreover, is fond of the sight of blazing, open fire. The dining room is back of the reception om. The walls are papered in imitation of pestry, in rich but dull tones of brown, apestry. blue and green. They are dark, but by no means somber, and form an admirable back-ground for the white and exquisitely ap-

pointed table, which should be the focal point of a dising room on a feast day. The great library, which will be the sit-ting room of the family, is opposite the draw-ing room on the west side of the hall. Low book shelves, painted white, extend about three sides of the room. The windows are hung with curtains of Pompelian red silk, a color which is repeated, or rather suggested, in the paper of the walls, on which an olive green and a pale yellow combine with the red. Pompelian red is a favorite color with Mrs. Cleveland. Of a decided and strong

personality, she prefers strong and simple colors. She has no liking for lifeless, neutral tints, the negations of color, in either dress or furnishings. The bedrooms of the house are on the sec-

They have been been and the state of the box over the box and the state of the box over the box and the state of the box containing the wallables was found. The wealth was nearly a tiled floor and a porcelain tub opens off it.

This bedroom has a gecuine old four poster bed, canopy and all, in mahogany. Another bedroom looks like a fairy bower, brinful of June. Pink reses clamber over the walk and lose themselves under the pinks and

and lose intenserves into the price and white green of the friezes. A green and white bathroom belongs equally to this dainty room, and to another chamber on whose walls yellow roses with green leaves riot.

On the third floor is the largest room i the house. It is the nursery, and is papered in the joillest nursery paper that eyes of even such fortunate bables as the little Cleveland girls ever held. All the favorite heroes and heroines from nursery rlymes and fairy tales hold carnival on the

walls. The rooms for the nurses are on the third floor, near the nursery. The four poster bed in the blue and white bedroom is by no means the only piece of old mahogany in the house. In fact, all the furniture is antique. Mrs. Cleveland is a furniture is antique. Mrs. Cleveland is a good judge of mahogany, and has been col-lecting for years. She has "picked up" delecting for years. She has "picked up" de-sirable pieces in Massachusetts during her Gray Gables summers, and has made many

purchases in the antique shops of New York Philadelphia and Washington. Some of her furniture has been bought by her direction, at the auction sales by means of which old white house furniture is disof which old white house infinite is the posed of, so that she will have with her several souvening of her occupancy of the executive mansion. Friends all over the country have acted as her agents in buying interesting pieces of old mahogany for her. till she has one of the finest private collec-tions of colonial furniture in the country. She has beds and bureaus, with rounding fronts, corner supboards with latticed fronts,

## (\*)

claw-footed tables, spindle legged chairs and other pieces innumerable.

Of rugs, too, Mrs. Cleveland has a valua-ble and artistic collection. Only a few of the Princeton rooms will be carpeted. Pol-ished floors covered lavishly with rugs will best accord with the walls and furniture.

PILOT FOR AN EMERGENCY.

Tells Examiners What He Would Do in a Tight Fix.

There was a party aboard the boat and the members were telling stories about civil service reform, relates the New York Sun Everybody had told of some preposterous questions excepting the old salt at the wheel, fie had puffed his clay pipe in silence and listened. There was a moment or two of quist after the last story, and the old salt "Never he-erd o' civil service

spoke up. "Never he-erd o' civil ser regardin' th' pilotin' business, didja?" demanded. "Never did," said two or three of the

party. "Well, we got it," said the old salt; "got it bad, too. You fellers been talkin' about fool questions, what d'in think o' this here one that was asked me when I war up t' pass? They says t' me, they says: 'Now, assume there war a fog thicker'n any fog there ever was,' they says; 'n' supposin' you war in command 'n' you suddint he-srd

a whistle dead ahead, they says, 'n' then,' they says, 'you heard a whistle on your port bow 'n' then you heard a whistle on your stabbord bow 'n' then you heard a whistle on your port quarter 'n' then you he-erd a whistle on your stabbord quarter 'n' then you he-erd a whistle dead astern, they says, ''n' you couldn't see nothin', what wouldja do?' they says."

The old salt puffed at his pipe and gave the wheel a couple of twists. Everybody was silent. The old salt puffed a full minute before he said a word. Then he asked: "D'ye know what I said to 'em?" He took two more puffs and made some remarks about the wind and the possibility of reach-

ing the city in two hours. Finally he asked again: "D'ye know what I said to 'em?" "What did you say?" asked one man. "I says to 'em." said the old sait; "I says

to em, 'I'd go below,' I says, ''n' cuss,' I says, ''cause I don't think I could do nothin' better under them circumstances,' I says 'n' d'ye know they marked me 100 fur that answer t' that there fool question. That's what they done. They says that's the only thing a sensible man could do under the

circumstances, they says."

Galek! Leave Omaha-5:05 p. m.-EXACTLY. Arrives Chicago-8:20 a. m.-NO LATER. THE BURLINGTON'S "VESTIBULED FLYER." Swift, eafe, luxurious.

Tickets at 1502 Farnam St.

## Cheap Excursion South

VIA THE WABASH. On Tuesday, March 16th round trip tickets to Hot Springs, Ark., and all points south will be sold at one fare, with \$2 added. For tickets and full information call at Wabash office, 1415 Farnam st. (Paxton Hotel Elk.) or write. G. N. CLAYTON, Agt.

Forethought. Washington Star: This butter seems strong," said the young husband, at their first breakfast at home. "Yes," she answered: "I talked to the market man about that, and he said it was conomy in the end never to buy weak but-ter. He said that even though this might cost a little more, people could get along with less of it, and it would just longer."

### "The Overland Limited."

To Utah in 2915 hours, California in 6016 bours via the UNION PACIFIC. This is the fastest and finest train in the west. Fickets can be obtained at city ticket office 1302 Farnam street.

DIED.

MAURITIA-Sister Mary, aged 33 years, Funeral Monday morning, March 15, at 10 a. m. from hospital chapel to Holy Sepuicher.

of the CHICAGO, MILWAUKEE & ST. PAUL RY.

The Neb. Seed Co., 520 N. 16th, sells aseds of higher grade than eastern houses. HOMESEEKERS' EXCURSIONS

At Half Rates.

At main factors, Via the Missouri Pacific Railway & Iron Mountain route to points in the west and southwest. Tickets on sale Tuesday, Febru-ary 16th, March 16th, April 6th and 20th, and May 4th and 18th. For descriptive and li-instrated pamphlets of the different states, time and map folders. Address H. C. Town-

send. General Passenger Agent, St. Louis. Six-Thirty F. M. Train.

Best service. ELECTRIC LIGHTS, Dining car. City office: 1504 Farnam

prietor, and was never taken in once. I can tell a slick customer as far as I can see him, and some of his kind are always around." "That's what I've allus heerd. Atween you an' me here's \$200 in this envelope. I'm

oing to pay a fellow most of it, but I guess better leave it inter your safe till mornin'. Just count it, lan'lord.' 'That's correct; just \$200." An hour later while the landlord wa

ounting his stack of cash the "farmer' ame up, breathlessly. "My man's here now came up, breathlessly. "My man's here now, an' he's got ter ketch a train. Jist han' me \$175 an' take it outen the enverlope."

This was promptly done. Next morning when the cash showed the above shortage

one Person in Every 306 Inhabitants

looking for his rural friend who had changed cavelopes while the receipt was being writ-INSANITY OF ENGLISH PEOPLE.

# the landlord grimly charged it to himself filled his hip pockets with guns and went