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ESTABLISHED JUNE 19, 1871. O

LITERATURE OF THE WEST

Western Writers Achieve Success with New and Excellent Works.

HAMLIN GARLAND IS THEIR LEADER

Books Just Out by Octave Thanet, Kate Cleary, Prof. Lumis and Ella Peattie—A Book on Celebrated Law Cases—An English Novel.

Hamlin Garland recalls that the tin peddler has gone out of the west and that the creamery man has taken his place to a large extent, and upon this fact he has framed a delightful character sketch of true western life. The story, "The Creamery Man of Molasses Gap" is published in the annual book number of The Outlook, and in this same number, which contains an article on "The Making of Books," by Theodore De Vinne, and one on "Bookbinding as a Fine Art," by Ernest D. North, there is a thoughtful essay on "Modern Literary Tendencies," in which necessarily the writings of Garland and other western authors are considered. Mr. Garland is of the school of realism, but he calls it veritism, and on this subject The Outlook says:

"Mr. Garland often uses the word veritism to describe the art method in which he deeply believes and which he conscientiously pursues. It is a good word so long as it is not used polemically, and many of Mr. Garland's short stories admirably illustrate its meaning. In these stories Mr. Garland shows a fixed resolution to get human, rather than purely literary interest into his portraitures; to make the story significant in the highest degree of human condition and character; wherever he has done this, with a wise selection of theme, he has revealed insight and skill of a genuine order and has given us first hand work. No one has made us feel so deeply the crushing toil of life on great farms or the solitude of life in isolated homes in the northwestern winter as he; no one has expressed more adequately or sympathetically the fertility, the beauty, the spaciousness of the prairie. Such work shows the artistic quality of the man no less than his sincerity."

Albert Shaw, himself a western man, notes the fact in his American Monthly Review of Reviews that Mr. Garland's "Rose of Dutcher's Cooley" has been one of the "extremely successful books of the present year in London, where genuine American qualities have quite agreeably differentiated it from the common run of English novels." Mr. Garland has been devoting his time the past two years to the preparation of a study of the career and character of General Grant, but he has found time to bring out another volume of stories, the "Wayside Courtships." Mr. Shaw adds that "the literary activity of the west has been amazingly stimulated by the discovery, under the leadership of men like Mr. Garland, that the best possible place to find literary material is at home."

Charles F. Lummis is one of the comparatively new western writers and he has attained fame quickly by branching out into an entirely new field. His magazine work has been largely descriptive of the west and southwest, and his splendid preparation for such work through companionship with the western men, familiarity with the Indians and thorough study of every phase of western life has given him high standing in the field of letters. He is also at home in fiction, into which he weaves the folk tales and legends of the Indians and the ancient residents of Mexico and South America. In "The Enchanted Burro" he has collected a number of his stories of New Mexico and South America. The story that gives title to the book is a strange one—a story of Indian superstition and an unsuccessful attempt to profit by knowledge of this superstition. The enchanted burro becomes a ghost to haunt the lives of the residents of the little New Mexican village and it remained for one strong limbed and courageous young man to expose the deception that was driving the people wild. Several of the stories in this collection are laid in Peru and Bolivia. All are rich in information about the southern Indians and their legends. One chapter of the book, that on "The Yellow Slave," is an essay on gold and in it the author has presented a great deal of historical information in regard to the use of the precious metal and where it was found in the olden times. Way & Williams, Chicago. $1.50

Octave Thanet has gathered up some of her fugitive bits of fiction which have been put between cloth covers so they will not be lost to her many friends. Under the title of "A Book of True Lovers" seven entirely dissimilar stories have been published. Octave Thanet is a true western product, but none of these stories have the distinctly western flavor. The first one, the one that best illustrates the author's style, "The Strike at Glasscock's," is a southern story. The "strike" was in one of those primitive mills to be found scattered through the south, where the miller sometimes saws wood and then grinds corn or if the occasion requires he gins cotton, and all with limited facilities and few helpers. In this particular case the "help" consisted solely of the miller's wife, and the "strike" was when she insisted on having the house painted and he wouldn't do it. It all came about because, in a moment of thoughtlessness, as he felt, he had agreed to take a newspaper for the benefit of his wife. In the paper she read about strikes and labor troubles and so she "struck" to get her wish in regard to the painting of the house. He retaliated with a "lockout" as ludicrous as the "strike," and the passing stranger arbitrated the matter to the satisfaction of all. The stories in the book have appeared in the magazines. Way & Williams, Chicago. $1.25.

A simple border love story is told by Kate M. Cleary in her "Like a Gallant Lady," which is introduced by a reference to Nebraska as

— a land of toil and pain,
Of a land where drouth devoureth
  Making labor void and vain;
Where ambitions cease to glow,
Where high hopes are buried low,
  And the mad mirage of other
Lands, the sweetest thing we know.

But dispiriting and untruthful as this introduction is, the story is full of a kind of life that appeals strongly to western readers. It is a tale of the life of a ranchman and his associates in a little village far out on the border, and of a faithful woman who was drawn thither by strong love. The village may not be unlike some that have existed in Nebraska in pioneer days, and, for that matter, in all states when far out on the borders of civilization. There is the rough border element in the town and the whole-souled hospitality prevalent, the freedom in social intercourse and the crude methods of amusement common to such places, while the characters are exaggerated and the situations overdrawn. The story is fairly well told, even if it does give some impressions of the west wholly unwarranted. Way & Williams, Chicago, $1.25.

In "Pippins and Cheese" Ella W. Peattie turns from the field of distinctively western literature to present a number of stories told around the dinner table. The first of the stories is founded on an incident in the life of Charles Henri Sanson, the executioner of Paris, as related in his memoirs. A grand lady of France traveling through the country stops at a village hotel only to find every room taken, but one who is evidently a gentleman comes to her relief and gives up his room. An informal acquaintance is formed and a dinner follows at which wit and compliments abound. The lady afterward discovers that her friend was none other than Monsieur de Paris, the famous executioner, and the complications that follow the discovery are interesting in the extreme. The story is told in graceful language and with attention to details of historical accuracy. Other stories of the collection show various phases of life among the higher classes in Europe and the fact of the author's western life would never be disclosed by the text. Way & Williams, Chicago, $1.25.

"Stuart and Bamboo is a stirring story of English life at Yarmouth, although somewhat chaotic and devoid of purpose. A beautiful young widow goes to Yarmouth, having lost her husband and two children. She is friendless and alone in the world, but she sets out resolutely to earn her living at Yarmouth. She was utterly destitute on arrival at the town, but she manages to make acquaintances on the way and there and ultimately she is the object of attention from several sources. Finally the richest man in Yarmouth is refused by her in favor of a philanthropic young man who has appealed more strongly to her sympathetic nature. The plot affords opportunity for making the acquaintance of many in English middle class life in a typical English town, and the literary work is excellent. Mrs. S. P. McLean Greene, the well known author of "Cape Cod Folks," is the writer. Harper & Bro., New York, $1.25.

Henry L. Clinton has been connected with the New York bar many years and has been concerned in many notable trials. Some time ago he published a volume on "Extraordinary Cases," in which he told of a number of these cases, and the success of that volume led to the preparation of a volume on "Celebrated Cases" just issued. The case first described in this new volume is that of the trial of Mrs. Cunningham for the murder of Dr. Burdell, in 1857. The case had many sensational features, not the least of which was an effort on the part of the defendant to palm off another's child as her own immediately after her acquittal on the charge of murder. Other notable cases of the century in which Mr. Clinton took part as counsel and which are described in this book were the trial of William M. Tweed for official misconduct, the trial of Richard Croker for the murder of John McKenna and the trial of A. Oakey Hall for neglect of official duty. Some of the arguments presented in these cases were unique and others crude, or would seem so to modern lawyers. But they were really all celebrated cases in their times and lawyers and others will be glad of an opportunity to get the records and graphic accounts from one who participated in them. The portraits in the book are those of the author and Messrs. John R. Brady, A. W. Bradford, Henry E. Davies, Charles A. Peabody, Charles P. Daly, William M. Tweed, Noah Davis and Charles O'Conor. Harper & Bro., New York, $2.50.

A volume dedicated to the editors of the American press and to the members of congress "who have been systematically and willfully imposed upon by a clique of spurious and unscrupulous citizens, aided by incompetent and malicious correspondents," ought to prove interesting reading, for a job of wholesale imposition would surely be done only in some great cause affecting everyone. This is the book, which, under the title of "Facts and Fakes About Cuba," comes from the pen of the New York Herald correspondent in Cuba, George B. Rea, who attained some reputation last year through a report that he had been lost in Cuba. Mr. Rea says further that he has acquired the right to approach the subject from the standpoints revealed in the book, "by having exposed his life on many occasions to ascertain the truth, and the only object in exposing the utter falsity of the many stories cited is a desire to see fair play, and to call attention to a campaign that has made our press and highest legislative body appear ridiculous in the eyes of the civilized world." Thus introduced and with the addition of a frontispiece representing General Maximo Gomez in the act of threatening to shoot Correspondent Rea if he dared to tell the truth, a vast amount of the information in regard to actual conditions in Cuba which has appeared in the daily press in the last two years is reproduced. George Munro's Sons, New York.

New books received:

Auld Lang Syne, and other songs, by Robert Burns. Frederick A. Stokes & Co., New York. 75 cents.

John L. Stoddard's Lectures, vol. II. Belford Middlebrook & Co., New York.

The Sinner, by "Rita." Rand, McNally & Co., Chicago.

Guarding the Border, by Everett T. Tomlinson. Lee & Shepard, Boston. $1.50.

A Harmony of Samuel, Kings and Chronicles, by William D. Crockett. Eaton & Mains, New York. $2.

Evangeline, by W. H. Longfellow. Illustrated holiday edition. Houghton, Mifflin & Co., Boston.

The First Christmas Tree, by Henry Van Dyke. Charles Scribner's Sons, New York. $1.50.

A Capital Courtship, by Alexander Black. Charles Scribner's Sons, New York. $1.

Marchesi and Music, by Mathilde Marchesi. Harper & Bro., New York. $2.50.

Blown Away, by Richard Mansfield. L. C. Page & Co., Boston.

Sheilah McLeod, by Guy Boothby. Frederick A. Stokes & Co., New York.

The Investment of Influence, by Newell D. Hillis. Fleming H. Revell Co., New York. $1.25.

Thro' Lattice Windows, by W. J. Dawson. Doubleday & McClure Co., New York.

Forty-six Years in the Army, by General John M. Schofield. The Century Co., New York. $3.

Down Our Way, by Mary J. Judah. Way & Williams, Chicago. $1.25.

Gossip of the Authors.

Anthony Hope, in a recent interview, expressed a personal preference for his novel The God in the Car.

The reliable Columbia pad calendar, which has been making its appearance regularly every year for twelve years, is again on hand ready for 1898.

The Bookman announces that arrangements have been made for the dramatization of "The Bonnie Brier Bush," and other of Dr. Watson's books.

Dr. R. Ellsworth Call, formerly an Iowa educator, but now of Louisville, has an interesting sketch in the National Magazine, on the Mammoth Cave.

Senator Lodge of Massachusetts has prepared what promises to be a valuable contribution of American literature in the "Story of the Revolution" which is to appear in Schibner's next year.

Hamlin Garland will tell in McClure's Magazine next year the story of the Custer massacre as it came to him from the lips of Two Moons, an old Indian chief who participated in the battle.

The occasional bulletin of the Iowa Masonic library calls attention to the fact that three great poems, "There is no Death," "Twenty Years Ago," "The Little Brown Church in the Vale," were written by Iowa authors.

Ferdinand Brunetiere, the eminent French critic, who lectured in America last summer, declares that "the universitarian tendencies in America are on the way to constitute an aristocracy of intelligence in that great democracy."

Dr. Clifton H. Levy's story of "How the Bible Came Down to Us" in the American Monthly Review of Reviews, with illustrations, gives the lay reader a better idea of the history of the bible as a book than anything that has been before published.

Three articles in the Gentleman Farmer for December will be read with interest in the west. They are on "Irrigation in Colorado" by Lute Wilcox;" "The Sioux Indians in South Dakota," by Harry N. Price, and "South Dakota Farms," by George H. Heafford.

Another Charge Against Faux.

J. F. Faux, arrested on the charge of stealing a diamond stud from W. E. Foster, rooming in the McCaffrey block, is charged with another crime before Judge Gordon, that of defrauding an inn keeper. M. J. Franck, proprietor of the Midland hotel, is the complainant. Franck alleges that about the 1st of October Faux registered at his hotel and received meals and accommodations amounting to $12. This fell due on a Saturday night. The next morning Faux had departed to places unknown with his baggage. Seeing the name of his former boarder in The Bee in connection with a diamond robbery, Franck hastened to lodge the proper complaint against Faux. The trial was set for next Thursday.

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MAHA, WEDNESDAY M

RUSH ON BOLLN'S ACCOUNTS

Schedules Show Blunders and Failure to Separate Funds.

EX-CITY TREASURER ON THE STAND

Gives the Result of His Investigation of His Successor's Books in Behalf of the Defendant Bondsmen.

The trial of the case of the city against the bondsmen of Henry Bolln, ex-city treasurer, started in yesterday with John Rush, Bolln's predecessor, on the witness stand on cross-examination, the city attorney taking up the examination at the point where it was dropped Monday night at the adjournment of court.

On going on the stand the witness presented his schedules, showing a total of $197,889.81 undistributed funds on hand in the city treasury at the time of the expiration of Bolln's first term of office. Asked if it was proper to give Bolln credit for the amount shown by the schedule, witness thought the credit proper under certain conditions, as the credit was the method of reaching a certain end, the end sought being the distribution of funds on hand at the time of Bolln turning the office over to his successor. The witness said that he knew of no effort being made to distribute the grand total of funds referred to in his schedule. Witness could not tell how much of the money shown by his schedule belonged to the city and how much belonged to the Board of Education, as no separation of funds had been made. Such separation would take months of time and would necessitate going over the books and warrants item by item. According to his schedule, witness concluded that Bolln had paid warrants and obligations out of the cash drawer and that payments on both city and Board of Education obligations had been so paid.

DEFENSE OBJECTS STRENUOUSLY.

City Attorney Connell asked the witness if he considered proper to pay Board of Education obligations out of the city cash drawer?

Attorney Mahoney, for the bondsmen, objected to the question, contending that this evidence was not proper on cross-examination.

The city attorney retorted by saying that the defense had started with Mr. Rush in the hopes of constructing a rope of sand, and that now as the rope had parted they were opposed to allowing him to testify as to the real conditions as they were found to exist.

The court held that the question would be material at another stage of the trial and then the cross-examination drifted off into another phase of the case.

In reply to a question by Mr. Connell, the witness said that he had not made a separate schedule of city warrants paid out of the cash drawer. He had no personal knowledge of how many such warrants, if any, had been so paid. There was no way of ascertaining the aggregate without going through the books of the warrants and the warrants themselves. To make an accurate computation of the amount would require the time of two experts for from three to six months and perhaps longer.

Taking up the schedule the witness was asked if it was not true that his footings included items that belonged to the second term of Bolln's administration. Mr. Rush said that such was a fact, but that he did not put them there. The figures, he said, were made by Expert Accountant Doolittle for the bondsmen. When witness checked the schedule he found the error.

BOLLN WAS CARELESS.

Mr. Rush testified that in going through the books of the treasurer's office he found that Bolln had been quite careless in depositing Board of Education funds in the city depositories and city funds in Board of Education depositories, but could not say to what extent this practice had been carried on.

The witness found that the money held in abeyance related to liquor license money paid in for licenses that had not been granted. That money did not belong to the city and consequently was not chargeable to any fund, nor should it properly be credited to any fund until after the granting of the liquor license which it covered, after which it was money belonging to the Board of Education.

Mr. Connell asked if it was not a fact that on the last day of Bolln's first term there was the sum of $38,000 in the city cash drawer, held by the city treasurer to pay for licenses that had not been granted and for which amount Bolln had been given credit?

Mr. Mahoney objected to the question, contending that it was conceded that a treasurer had no right to take money that was held in trust and convert it to any fund, either city or board of education. However if the city had advanced money to the Board of Education and at the end of the year it was found that the board had an excess of receipts, the city would have a right to take out its money from this excess, which, in other words, would constitute the assets on hand.

The objection wa ssustained and Mr. Rush was excused.

CHANGES IN BOLLN'S BOOKS.

At this afternoon's session of court, Samuel Spratlen, balance clerk at the National Bank of Commerce, was called by the state on cross-examination. The witness was asked if the sum of $10,000 had not been transferred from Bolln's general account as city treasurer to his special account, and replied that during the last month of Bolln's first term the money had been transferred at Bolln's request. Witness was handed Bolln's bank passbook and asked to state if the book contained the entries relative to Bolln's account for December, 1893, and January and February, 1894. He said the book showed the deposits. He was then asked if it was not true that another bank passbook had been issued to Bolln, covering the same months, in which erasures and changes had been made. The witness did not remember. He was then asked if it was not true that the figures put into the old book had been transferred into the book in evidence. The witness again said that he did not remember.

At this point Mr. Connell presented the old passbook referred to and asked Spratlen if it was a book of the bank. The witness thought it was, though he was not certain. Later on, however, he said it was a book that he had used in checking up Bolln's account as city treasurer. On the page of the book showing the December account there are three changes in the figures as well as a change in the footings. One item shows that it was originally entered as $59,000 and was scratched and made to appear as $49,000. The footings were also changed to correspond with the change in the page of the book. There was also an entry of $21,000, a pencil mark having been run through it.

Asked who made the changes in the book witness said that they were made by him.

Two erasures had been made below the footings, but what words or figures had been erased witness could not say.

Witness said that the erasures and changes had been made at the request of Henry Bolln, who told witness that the original entries were errors and that Board of Education money had been charged in the book.

WHY IT WAS MADE.

Mr. Spratlen said that the item of $10,000 was transferred from one pass book to the other on December 28, 1893. He did not know of any other item for the same amount that was so transferred. Explaining why the transfer of the item of $10,000 was made, witness said that he understood that Bolln had lost his first pass book issued by the bank and that the entries were made to take the place of those in the original book.

On redirect examination the witness in answer to questions by Mr. Mahoney said that an item of $21,000 went into the city's account with the city treasurer. The transfer to the special fund was made on January

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12, 1894, and was made without any check being used, it being simply a carrying forward of a balance.

E. J. Wuthrick was the next witness called. He was on the stand during the greater portion of the remainder of the afternoon, testifying to the bank check books of the treasurer's office, showing what disposition had been made of board funds that had been checked out and in payment of certain claims for salaries, improvements and other expenditures about the school houses.

Jerome C. Coulter, deputy treasurer under Bolln, was called by the defense and spent some time going through the tax receipt stubs and tax receipts for the purpose of pointing out errors wherein Bolln had not been given credit. An item was shown where Bolln had charged himself with $21.08 too much.

Notes from the Courts.

In the criminal court yesterday a jury returned a verdict, finding Stella Green guilty of the crime of larceny from the person. It was proven that while entertaining a guest the woman stole $56.50 from his pocket.

The will of the late Anders G. Dahlstrom has been filed with the clerk of the probate court. By the terms of the document the property, scheduled at $16,000, is bequeathed to the widow, to be held by her so long as she remains single. If she marries then and in that event the estate is to be divided equally between her and the children of Andrew G. Dahlstrom, now living.

In the divorce case of Nicholas Yager against Louise M. Yager, the court has issued an order, requiring the plaintiff to pay into court the sum of $300 for the use of the defendant in prosecuting her suit. The court has also ordered that until the determination of the suit the plaintiff shall pay over to the defendant the sum of $100 per month as alimony.

County Judge Baxter yesterday called the December docket of his court. There were 100 cases which were set for trial. The large increase in the number of cases is due to the fact that cases that were brought in the municipal court are being commenced in the county court, the supreme court having held that the municipal court had no standing and that the commencement of cases therein was illegal and void.

COMMENT OF THE ENGLISH PRESS.

Little in the Message Which It Can Approve.

LONDON, Dec. 7.—The Daily Telegraph, commenting editorially on President McKinley's message, says:

"It used to be America's proud boast that it had no foreign policy. Judging from President McKinley's message the new world is no more free from political negotiations than the old. In a document of portentous length, mostly intended for Spanish consumption, President McKinley has devised a specious pretext for gaining time. It contains passages that will certainly wound Spain's national susceptibilities. The whole tone, though meant to be conciliatory, savors too much of the magistrate availing himself of the first offender's act to be acceptable at Madrid. Spain may not be so thick skinned as we are to these delicate messages of America's diplomacy.

"Meanwhile there are serious dangers of revolution in Spain, and the indiscreet adjectives President McKinley applies to Weyler's policy will not lessen the latter's popularity. Much depends on the attitude of congress. If, as our correspondent thinks, the jingoes acquiesce in the decision of the executive and give the Spaniards a chance, all may yet be well, but the recent experience does not make us over sanguine."

The Daily Chronicle describes the message as "weak and colorless compared with the vigorous handling of public questions to which Mr. Cleveland accustomed us." It says the explanation of this is simple. "Mr. Cleveland was in front of congress, Mr. McKinley is behind it. The president's comments on the currency issue are positively childlike in their simplicity. It is safe to prophesy that this treatment of the Cuban question will be received with a storm. The annexation of Cuba would be a deplorable mistake, but the reasons for refraining from that course are not the milk and water ones Mr. McKinley advances."

The Morning Post, after paying a tribute to the president's fine sense of duty in the domestic trouble, in sending the message at the appointed hour, says: "The message elaborates a scheme of legislative effort less short-sighted and less calculated to set class against class than the misguided policy of the last session. On the Cuban question the president is vague and diffuse, but studiously correct. Cuban matters, however, are unimportant as compared with the grave issues of domestic affairs. The big battle of the session will be fought on the ground of home politics and finances." The editorial specially praises President McKinley's treatment of the currency question.

The Times says: "Its tone of patronizing tolerance will make the message not wholly agreeable to Spain. Probably the president calculates if he can satisfy the jingoes for a time with elegant denunciations, etc., he will find it easier to introduce a moderate policy. In his currency problems it seems the president clings to the notion that something may be done for silver. So long as he follows that will-o'-the-wisp he can hardly be expected to attempt any thorough-going reform of the currency."

The Standard says: "The best that can be said of the message is that it is absolutely unexciting. As a distinguished politician the president labored under great difficulties, and it is no reproach to his skill that he has failed to surmount them. If Mr. McKinley represents anything so far, it is the new tariff, which is confessedly a palpable failure. The whole currency plan hangs on the condition of an exchequer surplus, but when will that happy day arrive? Foreign affairs are treated temperately. With regard to Cuba the president has taken care to keep within the limits of international comity and good feeling. With reference to his declaration that should America be compelled to intervene, it will be only because the necessity for such action will be so clear as to command the support of the civilized world, the Standard exclaims. "The Spanish ministry can sleep in peace."

The Daily News says the message is characterized by a desire to displease nobody. Referring to Secretary Gage's currency plan the editorial asserts that Mr. Cleveland's similar plan never found favor with congress. As to the Cuban question, the Daily News says: "The message rings true and promises a fair trial of Spain's new plans, more than which the president could not be expected to do."

The St. James Gazette this afternoon, commenting upon President McKinley's message, says: "It has disappointed everybody in the attempt to give universal satisfaction. President McKinley is in an unpleasant position, having to sit on the fence. As a whole, it looks like an early confession of a great failure."

The Pall Mall Gazette takes a favorable view of the presidential message and criticises the comment of the Times, remarking that it is as impossible "to deal with the Cuban question without offending Spain as it would be to deal with Armenia without offending the sultan."

The Globe is of the opinion that it "would have taxed the abilities even of a great statesman" to deal with the question satisfactorily, adding, "although all the arguments against the annexation of Cuba are equally applicable to Hawaii, the United States is determined to have the latter, though America, a fourth-rate naval power as it is, can only hold Hawaii on sufferance. In the event of war she would be bundled out, neck and crop, by any first-rate power which finds it necessary to occupy the island."

Postage on Sunday Bee.

For the information of the public it is stated that 2 cents postage is required on The Sunday Bee in order to secure transmission through the mails. Assistant Postmaster Woodard informs The Bee that about 250 copies of the Sunday issue are held at the Omaha postoffice because only 1 cent postage has been paid. The full postage must be placed on the papers or they will be destroyed. Any person who recalls having mailed a copy of The Sunday Bee with but 1 cent postage paid thereon may have an opportunity to pay the other cent by calling at the postoffice.

TWELVE TO TAKE CHARGE

General Committee to Look After the Exposition Strangers.

COMMERCIAL CLUB PLAN FOR NEXT YEAR

Committee Which Will Be Charged with Receiving and Directing the Visitors Who Come to Attend the Fifty-Four Conventions.

Transmississippi Exposition affairs took up by far the biggest part of the time of the meeting of the executive committee of the Commercial club yesterday. The principal matter was a preliminary arrangement and plan for the care and entertainment of the delegates to the many conventions which have been secured.

The matter had been placed in the hands of a special committee and Chairman Lininger made a verbal report. The committee recommends that a general convention committee of three members from the Commercial club, three from the woman's exposition board, three from the exposition directory and three from the Knights of Ak-Sar-Ben be appointed to have the matter in charge. This committee will constitute a bureau of information and board to provide entertainments, lodging and other conveniences to the delegates.

The plan met with the approval of the executive committee and was adopted. The president of the club, the chairman of the committee and Secretary Utt were selected as the Commercial club members of the committee. The plan will be presented to the other three bodies to be represented, and if approved they will be asked to appoint their respective committeemen.

The committee once more heartily endorsed the plan of having a Transmississippi Educational congress or convention in the city during the Exposition. A letter that is to be sent out at once to all the prominent educators in the west by the committee in charge was approved.

The meeting decided to reach out and induce commercial clubs all over the country to send delegates to the city during next year. In the first place reciprocal relations will be entered into with these bodies, which are some 100 in number, by which members may visit and enjoy each other's quarters and privileges. This will be later followed by a general invitation to the clubs and the members to attend the exposition. Finally, honorary membership cards extending the privileges of the local club will be sent to every member of every club in the country.

FIFTY-FOUR CONVENTIONS.

Secretary Utt reported that the National Live Stock association was the fifty-fourth convention that had been secured for next year.

A report was made upon the effort that has been made by the club to secure the extension of the Burlington from Billings to Falls City, Mont. The plan has been pushed for several weeks at the request of the Falls City people. Secretary Utt reported that the Burlington officials had agreed to make the extension as soon as they could, but were unable to do so. The line would open up an immense territory for Omaha merchants. It would place the Montana coal fields nearer the city and also open up a big live stock trade with Montana.

At the request of the people of Wichita, Kan., the club will join in a request to President McKinley to attend the annual session of the Transmississippi Commercial congress, to be held in that city next month.

Chancellor MacLean informs the club that he has experimented with canaigre, a plant that promises to revolutionize the tanning industry and which it is believed could be raised in this state, with indifferent results at the state farm. The experiments, however, will be continued.

The following new members were elected: Robert S. Wilcox, J. M. Richards, Harry S. Weller, Frank F. Porter, E. G. Pearse, W. J. Fischer, R. F. Hodgin, John H. McDowell and W. Stull.

BUSY SCENE AT THE GROUNDS.

Exposition Site a Hive of Industry on Warm Days.

Swarms of workmen are again clinging to the walls and roofs of the big buildings on the exposition grounds and are endeavoring to make up for the delay produced by the storm of the latter part of last week. The good and warmer weather has permitted appreciable progress to be made upon all the structures.

The Nebraska building has reached its topmost point. The highest dome on the structure has been almost completed and yesterday morning the flagstaff upon it was raised in the air. The building is now almost completely roofed over. The squad of workmen on the Bluff tract, upon which Nebraska's building is located, has resumed operations on the water works system and is continuing to set out the trees with which the area will be adorned.

In a short time another of the buildings will have put on its coat of white. Yesterday morning Contractors Smith and Eastman set their workmen at the task of putting staff upon the Machinery and Electricity building. The warm weather has also permitted Contractor Bonet to almost complete the white coat on the Administration arch. The workmen are putting on the finishing touches.

Hard luck is still standing in the way of the building of the Fine Arts Palace. Work on this structure has been delayed by the non-arrival of lumber. Yesterday, however, five carloads of lumber came in and it was expected that the structure could be started. When the material was examined, however, it was found to consist of roof lumber. The delay is disappointing, but the contractor made the best out of the situation by setting his workmen to work getting the roof timbers in proper form.

The Government building has comenced to rise into existence. The piling has been put in and yesterday the first of the big timbers to support the outside walls were erected. Appreciable progress is also evident on the Auditorium. The first floor of the building is in such condition that work on the second story framework is being begun.

The roof on the Mining building is about finished and the carpenters have commenced work on the tower at the northwest corner. Staffs for this superstructure have been put in place. The work of trussing on the Agricultural building has also been completed. The Liberal Arts building is also advancing in good sape.

Will Reproduce Kilauea.

It is not at all improbable that the volcano Kilauea, which formed a most conspicuous and attractive feature of the World's Fair Midway plaisance, will be reproduced along grander lines at the Transmississippi and International Exposition. Correspondence with this end in view is now in progress.

Lorin Thurston, formerly minister of the United States to the Hawaiian Islands, and W. F. Sesser of St. Joseph, Mich., are the men who are interested in the movement to establish the volcano at the exposition. The high standing both enjoy leads to the belief that their promises to put on a show that will be worth going miles to see will be faithfully carried out. Those who attended the World's Fair remember quite well the vivid portrayal of a Hawaiian volcano given there and the mere announcement that that exhibition would be bettered here would undoubtedly draw great crowds. If the pending contracts for this exhibition are successfully concluded the representation of a volcano of the Pacific islands Mr. McKinley wants to annex will be ensconced in a circular building on the Midway of the exposition, 120 feet in diameter and fifty feet in height.

Nebraska Commissioners.

Peter Youngers of Geneva, Neb., superintendent of horticulture, and L. C. Chapi

BEE.

SINGLE COPY FIVE CENTS.

of Lincoln, Neb., superintendent of floral display of the Nebraska State commission of the exposition, were in the city yesterday perfecting plans for the work of their respective departments. From the creditable work shown by these Nebraskans on a small scale at the recent state fairs here it is believed that their parts in the exposition will be well looked after.

Panamericans Interested.

Secretary John A. Wakefield of the Transmississippi Exposition has a communication from W. Carroll Ely, director general of the Panamerican Exposition, which is scheduled for Buffalo, N. Y., in 1899. Director General Ely asked for complete information regarding the Transmississippi Exposition to use in the preliminary work for the Buffalo exposition.

JOHN DOE PROTECTS HIS IDENTITY.

Mysterious Prisoner Arraigned in the Criminal Court.

John Doe is on trial in the criminal court, charged with obtaining property by false promises that he is alleged to have made. John Doe is not the name of the prisoner, but he is thus known for the simple reason that he has always refused to disclose his right name and his identity.

In the information it is charged that on July 22 last the prisoner visited the Union Stock yards in South Omaha and represented that he was Oscar Flood, a prosperous stockman, residing at Oakland, this state. After some dickering he bought a bunch of cattle of Hill & Lewis for $1,425, agreeing to pay in six months. Soon after the completion of the sale it dawned upon Hill & Lewis that they had been swindled, and officers were put on the trail of the man who bought the cattle, and later on he was arrested, taken before a justice of the peace who held him to appear before the district court. The cattle were found out in the state and were brought back to South Omaha. From the date of his arrest the man has refused to give any information concerning himself, maintaining that he is John Doe and that there is nothing more to say.

FRANK BURWELL IS ACQUITTED.

Jury in Judge Baker's Court Decides Him Innocent of Crime.

Frank Burwell, charged with the murder of Kasson Boyce at Cut-Off island, on August 22, last, is a free man, the jury having returned a verdict of not guilty.

In arriving at their conclusion, the jurors found that the killing occurred while a general fight was in progress and that the participants were all under the influence of liquor. After the return of the verdict, Judge Baker cautioned Burwell and told him that in the future it would be well for him to abstain from drink. Burwell promised to refrain from drinking and would try to become an honored citizen.

SHRINERS OFF FOR THE ISLAND.

Tangier Temple Starts on a Notable Pilgrimage.

About 130 members of Tangier Temple of the Omaha Shriners, headed by the Twenty-second Infantry band, left yesterday on a special train for Grand Island. The Shriners were in charge of Illustrious Potentate H. H. Hardy and Nobles H. C. Akin and Judge Gustave Anderson. They will pick up several parties of the order at Fremont, Columbus and other points, and all will then be present at the initiation at Grand Island of twenty-five new members to the Mystic Shrine. The festivities will conclude in the evening with a banquet which will be given under the auspices of the Grand Island section of Tangier Temple.

PASSENGERS WERE IN A PANIC.

Collision at Sea Which Does Not Result Seriously.

NEW YORK, Dec. 7.—The steamer Mobile, Captain Leland which arrived today from London had a collision with an unknown steamer on the banks of Newfoundland at 2 o'clock Sunday morning during a thick fog. There is no doubt that the other steamer was the Allan line ship Corean, which put into Halifax yesterday, bound from New Orleans to Glasgow, with its bow damaged above the water line and reported having been in collision with an unknown steamer in about the same locality and time. The Mobile has five plates damaged on its port bow, but fortunately above the water line. The greatest excitement prevailed on board the steamer immediately after the collision. Many of the saloon passengers ran wildly about the ship thinking it was about to sink. Several of the cattlemen were thrown from their bunks by the force of the collision, but as far as can be learned no one was injured. The passengers were promptly reassured of the vessel's safety and quiet was restored. The other steamer backed away after the collision and was heard repeatedly blowing its whistle during the prevailing fog. The Mobile had on board fifty-nine saloon passengers and nineteen returning cattlemen, besides a cargo of merchandise.

Seward Street Epworth League.

By vote of the members of the Epworth league of the Seward Street Methodist church last evening, the time of holding future meetings was changed to Sunday evenings at 6:30 to 7:20 o'clock, this change to continue during the cold weather. Officers for the first six months of 1898 were elected as follows: President, Mary Von Lackum; vice presidents, Myrtle Noyes, Laura McNair, T. F. Sturgess, Sadie Hummel; secretary, Charles L. Fritscher; treasurer, F. E. Bliss.

Gloves Were Pledged for Drink.

Sam Goldsmith, a barkeeper in Louis Goldsmith's saloon at Ninth and Capitol avenue, was arraigned in police court for stealing a pair of gloves from a carpet cleaner named G. D. Merryman. It was shown that the gloves were pledged for a couple of drinks. The prisoner was discharged. Merryman was confined in the county jail at one time pending an inquiry into his sanity. He is still thought to be slightly deranged.

Christmas and the Poor.

Ensign Carter, in charge of the Omaha Salvation Army, is arranging to give a Christmas dinner to the poor at the army barracks. In this work he hopes to enlist the aid of the charitably inclined people of the city. He does not want to interfere with the work of organizeed charity, but rather to supplement it. He solicits donations and will arrange for the delivery of any offerings of which he is notified.

Dickson After His Tools.

A search warrant was secured by J. J. Dickson, a restaurant keeper near Sixteenth and Cass streets, for the premises of Harry Beckwith, at 1622 North Sixteenth street. Dickson alleges that a man who formerly worked for him stole tools valued at $20 from the restaurant and afterward sold them to Beckwith for $2.50. Dickson visited Beckwith's store and chanced to recognize his property.

Gold Seekers Get Damages.

SEATTLE, Dec. 7.—In the federal court today Judge Hanford awarded Caston Jacobi and Charles Buff, two passengers who started to Alaska last September on the steamer Eugene, $880 damages each against the owners of the steamer for their failure to land them at Dawson.

Used Money to Secure Election.

BOSTON, Dec. 7.—John G. Gartland, jr., state representative-elect from the Ninth district, and treasurer of a local theater, was arrested today as a self-confessed embezzler of $1,212. He says he used the money for electioneering purposes.

Supreme Court Judge Commits Suicide

HELENA, Mont., Dec. 7.—Associate Justice Horace Buck of the supreme court committed suicide shortly after midnight by shooting himself.

TO CURE COLD IN ONE DAY

Take Laxative Bromo Quinine Tablets. All druggists refund the money if it fails to cure. 25c. The genuine has L. B. Q. on each tablet.

SMARTEST COON ON RECORD

Denizen of Riverview Park Who Easily Leads His Brethren.

OMAHA POSSESSES A WONDERFUL ANIMAL

Robs Hen Roosts and Deceives His Keepers for Days Before He is Detected in His Career of Crime.

While the animal collection which has been recently installed in Riverview park may not come into direct competition with Hagenback for a couple of years, yet it boasts of the smartest coon that has yet been discovered. The most remarkable evidence of the sagacity of this particular coon is found in a story for the truth of which Councilman Stuht and Park Commissioner Cornish are ready to furnish an official bond. The animal is a comparatively recent acquisition to the menagerie. It was billed as a common, ordinary, every-day coon, but since then it has established a claim to a degree of intelligence of which the coon family has not been suspected. When Mr. Coon was installed as a permanent member of the Riverview park family there was a lack of adequate accommodations. As a temporary expedient he was hitched to one end of a stout chain while the other was ornamented with a steel ring which was slipped over the top of a stout stake. As the stake was nearly ten feet high and firmly imbedded in the ground it was believed that this was a sufficient precaution to insure his detention.

As it turned out Mr. Coon had not the slightest intention of deserting. He knew a snap when he found it and was perfectly contented to loaf in a sunny spot and eat everything which the keeper and scores of admiring school children threw his way. But, beginning immediately thereafter, there were continual complaints from neighboring residents that someone was taking liberties with their hen roosts. Every night some one missed a nice fat pullet and in spite of every effort to discover the invader he remained unsuspected. All this time the coon remained attached to his stake and kept up an appearance of general good conduct which was beyond reproach. The first suspicion attached to his coonship a few days ago when the keeper discovered a few stray chicken feathers sticking in his fur. But this was dismissed as a rank injustice to the coon, as his ring was still attached to the stake and the depopulated hen roosts were blocks beyond the reach of the chain. But the next day the feathers were again in evidence and it began to be apparent that there was some incomprehensible connection between the coon and the numerous trespasses. The keeper spent a couple of days in trying to figure out how a coon that was chained to a stake in Riverview park could acquire pullets that were roosting comfortably half a dozen blocks away. He had to give it up, but decided to lose a night's sleep and watch Mr. Coon. The latter individual slumbered quietly until long after midnight, and the watcher thought he had had his vigil for nothing. But towards 2 o'clock the animal stretched himself and quietly began to shin up the pole. When he got to the top he managed to wriggle the ring off the stake and was free. Ten minutes afterwards there was a clearly audible cackling and confusion in the direction of the nearest hen yard, and in half an hour Mr. Coon returned, licking his chops and scattering feathers galore as he hustled back to his old stand. Then he shinned up the pole again, dropped the ring over and slid back to his place. The keeper avers that the animal actually winked at him when he came around to feed him the next morning, but anyhow the stake has been discarded and the coon is now a disgusted inmate of a wire cage.

SURPRISE IN WAIT FOR A KICKER.

Down Town Property Owner Will Wonder What Struck Him.

The Board of Review is still working away on the municipal tax assessment and the task is fairly well advanced. So far nearly all of the complaints have been satisfactorily adjusted and the members believe that when the assessment is completed and thoroughly understood by the property owners it will be more generally satisfactory than any of the assessments under the old system.

While the revision of the work of the assessors is in the main a very tedious and uninteresting process, a rather humorous situation is occasionally developed, which serves to vary the monotony. Yesterday the owner of a prominent down town corner dropped into the outer office and registered a tremendous kick on the valuation which had been placed on his property, which he declared was ridiculously high. The funny feature of the transaction was the fact that at the exact minute when the property owner was making his protest the board was busily engaged in the next room increasing the valuation which had been returned by the assessor and against which the owner protested. What will occur when the property owner is confronted with this new addition to his troubles may be conjectured.

Sanitation of the Lothrop School.

The Advisory Board is not likely to take any action in regard to the complaint of residents in the vicinity of Lothrop school in regard to the alleged unsanitary condition of the dry closet system in use in that building. Commissioner Spalding has made a thorough investigation of the matter, and finds that there is no foundation for the complaint. He says he does not approve of the dry closet system and that as a member of the Board of Education he opposed its introduction at the Lothrop school. But he contends that the system at that school is giving as good results as is possible from an arrangement of that kind. He finds no trace of any odor from the closets, and will report that there is no reason why the board should take any action.

In regard to the assertion in the same complaint that the condition of the closets is responsible for sickness among the pupils the records of the Board of Education show that this is not a fact. The school has recorded the most regular attendance of any in the city with one exception and the attendance through the last year has been the highest that has been registered in the schools. Not a single teacher in the Lothrop school has been detailed from her duties by sickness during the year and not a single substitute has been needed on that account. The committee on public property and buildings of the Board of Education will probably recommend the induction of a new system, but with these facts on record the proposition will be vigorously opposed.

Building Up Southern Schools.

The impetus of the addition of a new packing plant to South Omaha industries is apparent in a considerable increase in the school population in the southern part of the city. Since work began in the Armour plant there has been a marked increase in the enrollment and more particularly in the Vinton and Castellar schools. The rooms at Vinton have become so crowded that it has been found necessary to provide an additional room and this was opened this morning.

What May O'Shea Do.

The police have on their hands an old man who passes under the name of John J. O'Shea. They are in a quandary as to what may be done with him. Saturday night O'Shea was arrested for vagrancy and Monday morning was sentenced by Judge Gordon to five days at hard labor. O'Shea lost an arm in a harvesting machine about five years ago. In addition to this he suffered a stroke of paralysis in the other arm, and is otherwise unfitted for work. He accordingly refuses to do any labor, although he insists upon eating three square meals per day at the city's expense. The police are at a loss to invent anything at which O'Shea may be forced to work, and thereby carry out the intent of the police judge's sentence.