CURRENT NEWS OF INTEREST FROM IOWA.

COUNCIL BLUFFS.

MINOR MENTION.

Cooper, Fire Ins., 6 Pearl, tel. 372.

Scooner Grocery Co., 323 Bway. Tel. 314.

Schmidt's bas relief photos are the latest.

Miss Edith Bonham is spending New Year's day in Malvern.

Shirts, collars and cuffs last much longer when sent to the Bluff City laundry.

Nearly all the Council Bluffs churches will observe the week of prayer, beginning with special services this evening.

L. C. and S. W. Besley, who went to Wheaton, Ill., to attend the funeral of their father, are expected home this morning.

For sale or trade, equity in a 24-acre fruit farm three miles from Council Bluffs. Wm. Wilde, 913 3d Ave., Council Bluffs, Iowa.

We want you to feel that your package is very welcome at our place, and every effort will be made to please you at the Eagle Laundry, 724 Bway.

For sale at a bargain, a small but well-established and remunerative mercantile business. Inquire of D. W. Otis, 133 Pearl street, Council Bluffs, Ia.

The regular annual business meeting and reception of the Women's Christian association will be held in the Royal Arcanum parlors Monday afternoon from 2 to 6 o'clock.

The funeral of John Harding was held yesterday afternoon at 2 o'clock from All Saints' church in Crescent. The deceased was a brother of George Harding, the barber, of this city.

The regular convocation of Star chapter, No. 47, Royal Arch Masons, will be held tomorrow evening. Some important business will come before the meeting and a full attendance of the members is desired.

The police were notified last night of a burglary committed at the home of a citizen of Red Oak named Lafferty and the loss of a gold watch and some other property. It is believed the burglar left the town on a train for Council Bluffs.

Solomon Meyer, the guest of the Creston house who was taken to the Woman's Christian Association hospital a week ago after being seized at the hotel by a violent attack of epilepsy, was reported to be in a dying condition last night. He is an Odd Fellow, and upon the application of Julius Unger, L. Harris, one of the members of the order, has been appointed his guardian. The relatives of the man are unknown.

A building on Upper Broadway has been rendered somewhat conspicuous by the signs that cover it. Over the doorway are a couple of signs which indicate that soap is made and saws are filed within. On either side of the doorway are displayed the regulation Board of Health cards announcing the presence of diphtheria and membranous croup. Immediately over the doorway on the inside is a framed crocheted card bearing the legend "God Bless Our Home."

A new lodge of the Fraternal Union of America was instituted in Garner township Wednesday night by Deputy Supreme President Sam Weller at Granger's hall. The lodge started with twenty-five charter members and the following officers: Fraternal master, C. L. Prouty; justice, Frank M. Arnold; secretary, H. L. Bartlett; treasurer, Mrs. E. J. Prouty; stewards, John F. Garner, Mrs. Jennette Bartlett; protector, Walter S. Clay; guide, Marcus Bartlett; inside guard, Harry Hadlock; truth, Miss Emma A. Medlar; mercy, Maude Bartlett; sentinel, E. R. Anderson.

C. B. Viavi Co., female remedy; consultation free. Office hours, 9 to 12 and 2 to 5. Health book furnished. 326-327-328 Merriam block.

N. Y. Plumbing company. Tel. 250.

Miss Cook's studio, Grand hotel annex.

Domestic soap wrappers call for spoons.

Council Bluffs Churches.

Broadway Methodist Episcopal Church, Corner First Street and Broadway, Rev. J. H. Senseney, Pastor—Preaching at 10:30 a. m. by Rev. G. P. Fry, pastor of Fifth Avenue Methodist Episcopal church. The service will be followed by the sacrament of the Lord's supper. Sabbath school at noon; Junior league at 4 p. m.; Epworth league at 6:30 p. m. Evening sermon at 7:30 by the pastor. The week of prayer will be observed; services at 7:30 each evening during the week.

Congregational Church, Corner Sixth Street and Seventh Avenue John W. Wilson, Pastor—Services at 10:30 a. m. and 7:30 p. m. Morning theme, "Entire Consecration." The sermon will be followed by the reception of new members and the sacrament of the Lord's supper. Evening theme, "The True Children of God." Special week of prayer service every night during the week except Saturday.

Christian Tabernacle, Corner Scott and Mynster Streets, S. M. Perkins, Pastor—Services at 10:45 a. m. and 7:30 p. m. by Rev. M. H. Kendall of Storm Lake. Morning subject, "What is the Church?" Special service for business men in the evening. Good music.

Fifth Avenue Methodist Episcopal Church, Corner Fifth Avenue and Eighteenth Street, Rev. G. P. Fry, Pastor—Rev. J. H. Senseney will preach at 10:30 and administer the sacrament of the Lord's supper. At 4 p. m. the pastor will conduct a special service for railroad men and their families. The subject of the evening sermon is "Alarm Bells." Sunday school at noon. Epworth league at 7:30. The week of prayer will be observed by special service on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday evenings.

St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Sixth Street, Near Fifth Avenue, Rev. L. P. McDonald Rector—Holy communion, 8 a. m. Sunday school, 10 a. m. Morning service and special parish meeting 11 a. m. Solo by Mrs. Loomis. Evening service and sermon, also with parish meeting, 7:30. Sunday school at All Saints' chapel, Eighteenth street and Third avenue, 3 p. m.

St. John's English Lutheran Church, Southeast Corner Willow Avenue and Seventh Streets, Rev. G. W. Snyder, Pastor—Preaching by the pastor at 10:30 a. m. and 7:30 p. m. Morning subject, "A Year." Evening subject, "Rest." Sunday school at noon.

Central Christian Church, Odd Fellows' Temple, Rev. A. R. Caudle Pastor—Rally and roll at 10:30 a. m. At 3 p. m. a special sermon to Odd Fellows and Daughters of Rebekah. Young People's Society of Christian Endeavor at 6:30 p. m. Regular preaching at 7:30.

Spiritualist meetings, Union Hall, 146 Broadway—Miss Ethel Weatherford, the 10-year-old medium, will give tests while blindfolded and Mrs. Carrie Fuller Weatherford will lecture and give tests at 2:30 and 7:30 p. m.

Christian Science, Room 403 Sapp Building—Bible lesson at 10:45 a. m., subject, "Communion with the Risen Lord." Readings from the Bible and Science and Health. Experience meeting Friday evening at 7:45.

Domestic soap wrappers call for spoons.

Shakespearean Recital.

John J. Frainey gave his new Shakespearean recital at the Christian tabernacle last night to a good sized audience. Mr. Frainey has committed to memory nearly all of the plays of the great dramatist and is able to give a varied program of selections from all of the great dramas. He has been a Shakespearean student all his life, and has become an interesting analytic critic of the great bard. He prefaced his recital last evening with an introductory that required half an hour to deliver. The recitations were made up from selections from the "Merchant of Venice" containing the court scene, the scene in Portia's chamber and on the Rialto, the prison colloquy from "Richard II," several of the most popular selections from "Richard III," three scenes from "Hamlet" and selections from "Macbeth," "Julius Caesar" and "Othello."

Domestic soap wrappers call for spoons.

Horse Agent Starts for Europe.

FAIRFIELD, Ia., Jan. 1.—(Special.)—Bert Stubbs of Denver, who was recently appointed by Secretary Wilson to visit the European countries in the interest of the American horse trade, spent a few days visiting at his old home here and on Friday started for Washington to receive final instructions and start for Europe. He expects to be gone the most of the present year.

CONDITION OF THE INSANE

Pottawattamie County Commissioners Make Their Report.

RECOMMENDATIONS MADE BY THE BOARD

Special Attention is Given to Dealing with the Incurable Cases Now in the Local Hospitals—List of Unfortunates.

The Board of Commissioners for the Insane has completed its work and has issued the report upon which the members of the commission and County Clerk Reed have been engaged for several weeks. It is the first report of the kind ever issued, and it is believed it will prove of great value as well as convenience. The report contains the names of the patients, the addresses of their friends and relatives and all that is known about the unfortunates, making a concise and complete history of each case. The report refers largely to the incurable cases, which have become county charges and are now located in St. Bernard's hospital or being cared for outside of the hospital at the expense of the county. The report is made up after a complete personal examination of each patient and shows that there are twenty-eight male and thirty-two female, mostly incurables, in the hospital. Two of these, Henry Wehland and A. D. Quick, are not regular county charges. While the report was in progress of preparation and since the visit to the institution three of the patients have been discharged.

The commissioners make a suggestion to the county supervisors, to whom the report is directed. They say: "Your commissioners respectfully ask that they be permitted to draw expenses for the removal of insane persons in their jurisdiction to their homes outside of the state, and thus relieve the county and state of the expense of their keeping. Frequently such cases arise as that of Herman Mayfield, who was sent to Clarinda in July and discharged as cured in December, and returned to this city. During his confinement in the hospital his mother removed to Louisville, Ky., and desired him sent there. No funds were available to send him, and it was feared that if left here he would again become insane and a charge on this county, and your commissioners, wishing to relieve the taxpayers from any possible chance of his being again a charge on them, directed their secretary, F. L. Reed, to purchase a ticket from here to Louisville at the expense of $19.25, which was done. Similar cases arise during the intermissions of the board, and your commissioners suggest that it is in the interest of economy for your honorable body to instruct the county auditor to honor such requisitions as your commissioners may in the future make to meet such cases.

"Your commissioners further report that in all of the cases coming before them for investigation, careful inquiry is made as to the property, residence, etc., and wherever any property is found the appointment of a guardian is suggested, and if not made by those interested is made by the board.

"No report is made as to the number of inmates confined in Clarinda, as that is a matter coming to your knowledge at each meeting of your board. We further report that in our judgment the patients confined in St. Bernard's hospital are kindly treated and properly cared for."

The report shows that of the females received as incurables twelve came from Mercy hospital, Davenport, and sixteen from Mount Pleasant and Clarinda, making a total of twenty-eight. Of this number seven have died, one has recovered and twenty yet remain at St. Bernard's hospital. The total number of acute female cases sent by the board to St. Bernard's hospital was thirty-five. Of this number seven have died, fifteen have recovered and eleven yet remain. Of the male patients twelve were received as incurables from Mercy hospital, seventeen came from Clarinda, a total of twenty-nine. Of this number twelve have died, two have recovered and fifteen remain at the hospital. The total number of acute male cases sent to St. Bernard's hospital was fifty, of which number ten have died, thirty have recovered and ten remain.

Three "incurables" from the state hospitals have been sent home as "recovered." Forty-five acute cases sent to St. Bernard's hospital have recovered and nineteen such cases have resulted in death, making the recoveries in acute cases a little more than 54 per cent. Five cases still in the hospital are yet regarded as curable.

Following are the names of the patients now confined in St. Bernard's: John Carroll, Ed Gannon, John Kraniger, William J. Matthews, John W. Moss, Lee St. John Campbell, Levi Graybill, Tommy Fox, Walter Neilson, Ole Oleson, Joseph Barnes, Lawrence Kaveney, Thomas Crow, John Casey, John J. McCoid, William Goodwin, Riley Bradshaw, Thomas McAdams, Thomas Lynch, Abe Quick, Edward Herman, Henry Keller, Patrick Reiley, Henry Wehland, Carl Kuhlmeier, Georgina Chapman, Ida S. Lipfert, Mrs. Elizabeth Bowman, Mrs. Bridget McLaughlin, Lizzie Shaffer, Ellen Hays, Meldonette Sides, Lottie Fadden, Martha Wilson, Carrie S. Madson, Ellen Boyle, Annie Scott (colored), Miranda Maxfield, Catherine Uhrbana, Lottie May Sankey, Bridget Kelly, Gertie Skakson, Mrs. Rebecca Barton, Mrs. B. Peterson, Maggie Grady, Mary Rodgers, Mary Rasmussen, Annie Cronnan, Ida Blaney, Sarah J. McIntyre, Lena May Bossey, Jessie Brown, Kitty Collins, Sophie Rasmussen, Mary Casey, Mrs. Susan Granshaw and Lucinda Tague.

The commissioners say that in the selection of cases sent to St. Bernard's the wishes of the friends are consulted. All alcoholic cases are sent there, as they generally recover soon. All cases of general paresis, which are always incurable, are sent there at once. All cases of mental imbecility which promise nothing in the way of recovery and where the patients are too ill to be sent to Glenwood, are sent there, as are also all cases where the patients are too feeble to stand the exhaustion of the trip to Clarinda and remain there until such time as they can be safely removed. By this method the board not only observes the wishes of the friends, but looks to the welfare of the patients and to saving expense of transportation to Clarinda. The medical member of the board, Dr. Thomas, has the medical care of the patients at St. Bernard's and exercises a watchful care over them without any expense to the county.

DINNER AT THE LE LONG SCHOOL

Feast is Followed by a Literary Entertainment.

Those who paid a visit to the DeLong Industrial school yesterday while the New Year's dinner was in progress were treated to as pretty a sight as one would care to see. The larger rear room had been transformed into a veritable forest of pine trees, in the midst of which many long tables offered their bountious store to hosts of happy children. The trees were daintily decorated in accordance with a beautiful scheme of ornamentation designed by the willing women workers who have associated themselves with the Rev. Henry DeLong and wife in their splendid work of practical charity.

The entertainment proper commenced in the large front room of the Elseman building. Rev. J. W. Wilson, pastor of the Congregational church, delivered an address especially for the children, in which he displayed his powers as an entertainer and instructor. Miss Daisy Dates, who was one of the members of the school when it was organized seven years ago, rendered a beautiful recitation. The Sunday school lesson, a regular feature of the school, was read and briefly commented on by Mrs. Black. Rev. DeLong does not believe in long programs, as he says they are tiresome, and at this juncture he announced the feast that would be served in the rear room. Many exclamations of delight burst from the children as they beheld for the first time the miniature paradise that had been prepared. The teachers and other workers of the school were there to administer to their juvenile wants. A brief prayer was said, and then the work of demolition began. It was a pleasure to see the little ones enjoy themselves.

At 4 o'clock the tables were again cleared and all the boys present were invited to partake of the repast.

During the afternoon a portion of the school, headed by Mr. DeLong, took a short walk around by Bayliss park and back to the school.

Messrs. Black and John Haile, jr., spent nearly the whole day in assisting in packing candy and in arranging some of the heavier decorations. The total number of children present was about 500.

SOCIETY RECORD OF THE WEEK.

Custom of Receiving on New Year's Day Still Prevails.

Few social events of any public prominence occurred during the week beyond the regular dances, but there were any number of private entertainments and one of the largest and most pleasant of the semi-public events was the party given by the Council Bluffs Regatta association on Monday evening. The fine floor and apartments of Royal Arcanum hall were made use of. The hall was handsomely decorated for the event. It was the party of the season given by the association, and the memory of the many delightful events that occurred last summer at the boat club at Manawa made the invited guests anticipate a delightful evening. They were not disappointed. The hall was filled with dancers. Excellent music and other appointments of the perfect character that have always marked the entertainments of the boat club made the occasion one of the most enjoyable of the season.

The Council Bluffs High school foot ball team that earned a great reputation by going through the season without encountering anything that had even the symptoms of a defeat won new laurels on Tuesday evening when the second annual dance was given. The hop was a crowning success. The program was a lengthy one, containing twenty dances. The hall was handsomely decorated with the colors of the team and the attendance was sufficient to fill it.

The noncommissioned officers of company L, Dodge Light guards, played host in an agreeable manner on Friday night when they entertained the officers at a watchnight oyster party. All of the officers and members of the guards were present with many of their friends and a real military time was enjoyed. Speeches, songs and toasts were the order until midnight approached when the entire company loaded their guns and fired three crashing volleys in welcoming the advent of the New Year. When the sound of the tremendous volleys had died away the oyster supper was served.

All of the social pleasures of the week culminated in the New Years' receptions that took place yesterday and last evening. Hundreds of people kept open house and received their friends in formal and informal style. Many of the leaders of society joined and received their friends. One of the most brilliant of these gatherings was at the Fifth avenue residence of Dr. and Mrs. Donald Macrae. The reception continued from 8 until 11 o'clock last evening. The fine home was brilliantly lighted and beautifully decorated. The women who received there were: Mesdames Donald Macrae, jr., W. F. Sapp, Charles Heas, the Misses Schoentgen, Pinney, Montgomery, Dodge, Ellen Dodge, Barnard, Wilson of Sioux City, Ellen Aylesworth, Genevieve Baldwin, Wickham, Brown and Ryan of Omaha.

A similar gathering occurred at the residence of Charles T. Stewart on South Sixth street, where they received callers from 9 until 11 last evening. The women who received and graciously entertained their friends were: Mesdames Charles T. Stewart, E. W. Hart, F. P. Wright, Misses Montgomery, Wilson of Sioux City, Oliver and Keeling; Mesdames J. J. Hess, Stillman and Miss Price of Chicago.

At the Bennett residence on Willow avenue a number of young women kept open house from 9 until 11 o'clock last evening. They were Miss Bennett, Miss Sadie Farnsworth, Miss Frances Bowman, Miss Lyne of Kansas City, and Miss Jenks of Chicago. The house was brilliantly lighted and decorated and there was a stream of callers until the lights were turned out.

At the home of Miss Ethyl Thomas a number of her young friends joined her in receiving during the afternoon from 3 to 6. Among them were Miss Jessie Wallace and Miss Alberta Troutman.

One of the brightest places during the afternoon was the home of Miss Genevieve Wickham, who was assisted in receiving by the members of the Council Bluffs Cooking club, an organization of bright young women who devote a large portion of their idle time in learning how to cook. They had a throng of visitors and welcomed them in a house that was resplendent with handsome decorations and overflowing with good things to eat.

Rev. J. W. Wilson and Mrs. Wilson received at the Congregational parsonage from 3 o'clock in the afternoon until 10 in the evening. There were many callers, who found this home to be one of the few places where the punch bowl was not conspicuously in evidence.

Minor Happenings of the Week.

Palm Grove, No. 1, Woodman circle, has arranged for a series of socials at the homes of the members during the remainder of the winter. A masquerade ball has been arranged to take place at Woodman hall on the evening of January 4.

Miss Fletemeyer, who has been visiting relatives here, has returned to her home in Lafayette, Ind.

Mrs. W. W. Sherman, Mrs. George Van Orman and Mrs. Robert Mullis have returned from a visit in Sioux City.

Miss Laura Meyers and Miss Louise Herman went to Little Sioux to attend the New Year's dance there.

Mr. and Mrs. H. L. Cummings have returned from Kansas City, where they spent Christmas.

Miss Muff Meagher of Mankato, Minn., is visiting in the city, the guest of Miss Clara Troutman.

Miss Homans has returned to her home in New York, after an extended visit with Miss Montgomery.

Mrs. W. A. Highsmith has gone to participate in a family reunion at the home of her parents in Columbus Junction, this being the first for sixteen years.

Mrs. Taylor Woolsey is in Sioux City, where she went last Wednesday to attend the wedding of Miss Zella Niles, daughter of Mr. H. P. Niles, formerly of this city. Mrs. Woolsey will be absent about ten days.

Charles T. Stewart is on a brief business trip to Kansas City.

Mrs. Durgan is entertaining her friend, Mrs. Manley of St. Joseph.

Mr. and Mrs. John Clausen, sr., have returned from a visit in Carson.

Mrs. Annie Crane of Cameron, Mo., is visiting her sister, Mrs. H. Peterson, 821 Avenue A.

Mrs. W. L. Park of Des Moines is visiting her mother Mrs. Bolen, during the holidays.

Miss Louise Brown of Duluth is the guest of Captain and Mrs. O. M. Brown.

Miss Mabel Stevens of Galesburg is spending the holidays with Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Stevens.

Mrs. J. A. Reed gave a kensington Wednesday afternoon for her sister, Mrs. William Evans.

F. X. McTigue, formerly of this city, but now of Sioux City, visited Council Bluffs friends Saturday.

Miss Sue Reynolds, who has been the guest of her sister, Mrs. F. E. English of 1116 Fifth avenue, has returned to her home in Dunlap.

Mrs. W. W. Blair and daughter are spending a few days in Boone. Conductor Blair has removed to Boone and his family will soon remove there.

Mr. Ralph Mueller of St. Louis is spending the holidays with his parents at their home on Willow avenue.

Mrs. C. G. Saunders and children have gone to Delta, Ia., on a two weeks' visit with relatives.

Miss Robinson of Sioux City, who has been visiting Miss Alice Hazard, has returned to her home.

Dr. and Mrs. Charles F. Montgomery of Missouri Valley were guests Saturday of Dr. and Mrs. P. J. Montgomery.

Miss A. Tompsett and Miss L. Mack of Omaha were visiting Miss E. Drage yesterday. Miss Drage is spending the holidays with her sister, Mrs. A. C. Kellar, Thirty-third street and Avenue B.

Mrs. C. T. Denny and daughter of Ogden, Utah, are visiting Mrs. Denny's parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Green, of South First street.

Mrs. L. N. Morgan of Harlan, Ia., who has been the guest of Mr. and Mrs. M. B. Ayers at 810 Avenue B, has returned to her home.

Miss Nellie Moore entertained on Monday night Miss Andreesen and Miss Webster of Omaha, both of whom attended the dance given by the Rowing association.

Dr. Charles McDowell, Miss Martin of Omaha and Miss Benecke of St. Joseph, spent Monday night the guests of Mr. and Mrs. F. P. Wright, also taking in the Rowing association's dance.

Arthur Keeline is home from Worcester college to spend the holiday season with his parents in this city.

The Smith family of Omaha has arranged to give a musical entertainment the evening of January 10 under the auspices of the Monday Musical club, at the home of Mrs. Don Macrae, on Fifth avenue.

Mrs. J. McMillen and daughter Mary will spend the coming week with relatives in Perry, Ia.

Mr. and Mrs. E. F. Watts of North First street pleasantly entertained a watch meeting New Year's eve. During the evening light refreshments were served. Progressive high five and other games served to while the time away until the ushering in of the New Year. Among those present were: Mrs. S. P. Harris, Mr. and Mrs. P. G. Mikesell, Mr. and Mrs. R. H. Harris, Miss Fox of Omaha and Miss McCullough of South Omaha.

On Monday evening Mrs. O. M. Brown entertained the members of the Reorganized Married Woman's High Five club. The club has long been one of the popular social organizations of the city.

Mrs. W. R. Asher of Tecumseh, Okl., is enjoying a visit with her sisters, the Misses Ryan.

Mr. and Mrs. J. I. Lutz and Mrs. W. Shepard have returned from Burlington, where they went with the remains of Mrs. Lutz' mother, Mrs. Kirchoff.

Miss Hattie Ferrier is spending the holidays with friends in Atlantic.

Mrs. J. C. Drake has gone to Maquoketa, Ia., where her father and mother both lie at the point of death.

W. L. Harris is in Ottumwa, where he is enjoying a holiday visit.

Otis Sanford of Worthington, Minn., accompanied by his wife and son, is visiting his sister, Mrs. G. H. Jones.

Mr. and Mrs. Adolph Waters of Dunlap are visiting friends in the city for a few days.

Miss Edith Ayers is spending the holidays at Avoca with Prof. and Mrs. J. Peasley.

Domestic soap wrappers call for spoons.

Hoffmayer's fancy patent flour makes the best and most bread. Ask your grocer for it.

In the Police Court.

Judge McGee held a brief session of the police court yesterday chiefly for the purpose of permitting any of the offenders whom the police had gathered during the previous twenty-four hours to escape the necessity of remaining all day in jail on the first day of the year if their arrests proved to be unjustifiable. John Doe, the unknown stranger who asked police assistance in sobering up, was found to be in a condition that required the imposition of a $10 fine. He announced his intention of remaining in jail until the required time had been served. Celley Hough, who was picked up on the preceding night, was permitted to remain in jail until Monday, the charge of intoxication lodged against him being of such a nature as to warrant his belief that he could prove his innocence if the hearing was postponed until Monday.

Domestic soap wrappers call for spoons.

COUNTY FAIRS ARE PROSPEROUS.

Those in Iowa Were Better Patronized Last Year Than Ever Before.

DES MOINES, Jan. 1.—(Special.)—Secretary Fowler of the Iowa State Agricultural society has received reports from 104 of the 107 agricultural societies in the state in regard to their business during the year 1897 and these reports show them to be in a more prosperous condition than they were at the same time a year ago. The receipts from the different fairs for 1897 are over $50,000 ahead of those of last year. While the aggregate indebtedness of the associations has increased something like $10,000 the balance on hand has been swelled more than proportionately. At the close of last year there was a balance in the combined treasuries amounting to $6,345.25, while they emerge this year from their annual celebrations with a balance of $22,670.16. Even with an increase in the indebtedness of the associations the entire amount will not average more than 25 per cent of the value of the property of the individual associations, which average all the way from $3,000 to $10,000 each. Over sixty of the associations have sent in the required affidavits and received the $200 bonus from the state. The other forty will probably make a showing before the legislature and eventually receive the same sum.

Con Men at Work.

ATLANTIC, Ia., Jan. 1.—(Special Telegram.)—Confidence men tried to work Rindle Bros. and Charles Applegate, grain merchants, on the wheat racket. The first did not bite, as the sample wheat shown was too clean. At the second place the amount claimed on hand was more than double any one farmer in the country has and suspicion was aroused. One called on Phil Southwick and claimed to have sold him hogs last year and had better porkers this year. The deal was closed and the date of delivery set. Fifty dollars was advanced. The con men then beat their livery bill, hiring a livery and driver to take them to Maine and sending the team home, promising to return last night and settle.

News of Iowa Churches.

Rev. John Schutz, Baptist, of Corning has been called to Knoxville.

Catholic fairs were held at Rockwell and Dougherty, and both were successful.

The Congregationalists of Eldora have called Rev. Frank G. Wilcox of Manson.

The Methodists of Harlan have been conducting a revival meeting for seven weeks with marked success.

The Ladies' Aid society of the Congregational church at Ames raised $250 during the year by market days and cleared $120 on a bazar.

The Protestant people of Castle Grove have incorporated a church to be known as the Union Christian Church association. The organization is non-sectarian.

Rev. Father Flannery of St. Anthony's Catholic church, Davenport, has just celebrated his silver jubilee, having been ordained twenty-five years ago.

Editor Wonder of Onawa is superintendent of a Sunday school at Onawa and editor of a democratic paper, which causes his brother democratic editors to wonder what kind of a man he is.

The German Catholic society at Danbury has purchased the Lutheran church, paying $1,500 therefor. The building will be extensively improved. A priest will be permanently located at Danbury, and a school started for instruction in German and English.

The Unitarian church in Salt Lake has called Rev. and Mrs. R. A. Maynard to the pulpit to succeed Rev. A. L. Hudson, who goes to Buffalo. Mrs. Maynard is also a preacher and will alternate with her husband. She is a native of Iowa and graduated from Cornell college.

The Seventh Day Adventists of Davenport are to have a new church. They have leased ground for five years and are erecting thereon a portable church supplied by the Church Extension society of the denomination. The building was constructed in Chicago and put up in Davenport without the use of a nail. The tabernacle will be dedicated January 15.

Iowa Press Comment.

Burlington Hawkeye: The twenty-seventh general assembly will have the experience of the proofreader; the only sure way to revise the revise.

Cedar Rapids Gazette: Indian Agent Rebok, at Toledo, should be made a D. D. without delay. If he can induce the Muskwakis to use the bath house that he wishes the government to build he will have yanked the greasy loafers farther along the road to paradise than all the missionaries who have preceded him have done.

Red Oak Express: This is the first genuine republican Christmas and New Year we have had for a long time, and it seems a whole lot better than the Grover Cleveland kind.

Sioux City Times: Some of the wise men who are called upon to talk to the teachers of the state seem much to prefer to bluster to the discredit of the government of the United States to dealing with the government of the public schools of Iowa.

Keokuk Gate City: The state institutions of Iowa will not suffer by care in making appropriations for them and by following strict business methods in their management. There is no disposition apparent in any quarter to cripple their usefulness, but there is a strong public sentiment in favor of economy and the exercise of good judgment in making expenditures.

Iowa City Republican: We are informed from the county auditor's office that taxes are being paid up better than for several years. The tax sale held lately bears evidence to this fact, since it was one of the smallest in recent years. This fact is, in conjunction with the unusual number of mortgages paid off this season, shows rather conclusively that the people of Johnson county are prospering under the present national administration.

News of Iowa Newspapers.

The Enterprise is the name of a new republican weekly just started in Storm Lake.

Lee T. Waterman of Danville, Ill., has become advertising manager of the Des Moines News.

There are prospects that the Pierson Enterprise will be resuscitated by O. M. Thatcher.

H. W. Robinson of Colfax is to start a newspaper at Osceola to be called the Clarke County Clipper.

F. O. Dean will start a new paper at Doon, the Doon Press having fallen into the hands of the mortgage holder.

The first number of the Wapello Tribune was issued yesterday. It is owned by a local company of republicans.

Lafe Young, editor of the Des Moines Capital, went to Vicksburg, Miss., with a party of Iowa people interested in the proposed national park there.

John C. Paredise, who was business manager of the Keokuk Gate City, but has recently been with the Constitution-Democrat, has returned to the former paper, and N. C. Roberts of Fort Madison succeeds him. Mr. Evans, business manager of the Gate City, will start a new republican evening paper, backed by local capitalists.

UNSOLVED MYSTERY

(Continued from First Page.)

magnificent diamond scarfpin. He is a contractor for the British army and navy, packs meat in Chicago, has a tea and coffee business in New York, manufactures ginger ale and mineral waters in Ireland, makes confections in London and grows coffee and tea in Ceylon. A syndicate offered him $40,000,000 for his business in 1895.

LEO SUPPORTS GERMANY'S ACTION

Pope Extends His Congratulations to the Emperor.

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BERLIN, Jan. 1.—Bishop Anzer of South Shan Tung, China, dined with the emperor and empress at the new palace on Tuesday. On the following day the bishop, to whose shrewd advice and detailed information regarding the whole province of Shan Tung, in which Kiao Chau is situated, the German government owes much, gave an interesting account of the occurrences of the previous evening, and of the audience he was accorded by the emperor in November, and also told of his audience with the pope a fortnight ago. The bishop, who has been thirty-four years in China, and who is about to return, said:

"There is no doubt Germany means to keep Kiao Chau and its contiguous territory; and if the right measures are taken, it will prove a most valuable possession, even more valuable than Hong Kong, because its mineral wealth, coal and iron, although needing a large amount of capital to develop it, is almost inexhaustible."

Relative to his audience with the pope, Bishop Anzer said that his holiness "highly approved the energy shown by Germany in the gigantic task of opening China and preparing it for the blessings of Christianity and civilization. The pope also expressed the opinion that speedy penalty would be meted out to China for the last mission murders, which would 'strike wholesome terror into the breast of its heathen government.'"

The pope charged Bishop Anzer to convey his cordial greetings and wishes to the emperor, expressing the hope that the further measures to be taken by Germany in China would be crowned with success, as Germany's mission was arousing the sympathetic interest of all Christendom.

His holiness touched upon the question of a German protectorate over the Catholic missions in China, hitherto considered to be in the hands of France, and the pope further intimated that instructions had recently been sent to the bishops and higher clergy of Germany to shape their conduct in regard to the Chinese expedition and the enlargement of the German navy, in consonance with the views of the Vatican on these matters.

FAURE THINKS PEACE NOW REIGNS.

Felicitates the Powers on Caring for the White-Winged Dove.

PARIS, Jan. 1.—President Faure, at the New Year's reception of the ambassadors, replying to their congratulations, said: "Faithful to the principle which has constantly guided the government of the republic, France will not be wanting in the task it has set itself in the work of civilization and peace. The results obtained in 1897 were not such as to discourage our efforts and hopes. Thanks to the firm spirit of union which has constantly prevailed in the council of the powers the supreme interest attaching to the maintenance of peace has emerged intact from difficult trials."

Irving's New Play.

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LONDON, Jan. 1.—(New York World Cablegram—Special Telegram.)—Laurence Irvings five-act drama, "Peter the Great," was produced tonight at the Lyceum, with Sir Henry Irving in the title role. Exceptional interest attached to the occasion and it was attended by a most distinguished artistic and literary society audience. The drama illustrates the striking contrast of character between Peter and his dreamy, soft-hearted son, and Peter's futile attempts to mould Alexis into a man of action and imbue him with his overmastering ambition.

This interesting character study is cleverly developed, but the first half of the play is entirely lacking in action, the two acts being virtually repetitions of each other. The dialogue, too, showed a tendency to drift into commonplace and in the earlier parts needs severe condensation. The three later acts, in which Alexis is captured at Naples and brought back to Russia charged with conspiracy are executed, are more effectively constructed, and the final scene between Peter and Alexis, in which the feelings of the father and ambitious czar are brought into pathetic conflict, was marked by the superb effort by Irving, which brought down the curtain amid a storm of applause. The final scene is highly dramatic, for as Alexis dies by poison Peter is informed that his infant son by Empress Catherine on whom all his hopes for posterity were founded is also dead.

Miss Terry, as Empress Catherine, gave a delightful reminiscence of her memorable Madam Sans Gene, but she has very little to do in the drama. While the audience was unstinted in its applause of Sir Henry Irving's presentation of the half mad savage, the opinion is generally expressed that the pruning knife must be ruthlessly employed if the play is to be successful. It was staged with surpassing taste and at enormous cost.

Assessment to Aid Engineers.

LONDON, Jan. 1.—Delegates representing 1,250,000 trades unionists held a meeting here today and passed resolutions congratulating the engineers upon their "splendid stand in defense of trades unionism" and asking all trades unionists, of whom there are 2,000,000 in Great Britain, to make a weekly levy of a minimum of 3d to support the engineers, whose fight it was said "is the fight of labor against capital all the world over."

WAIL OF THE POOR TRADESMEN.

Rises Up Long and Loud from the English Capital.

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LONDON, Jan. 1.—The year closed springlike, with bright sun, and the papers note many instances in which flowers are blooming in gardens of the south of England. The wail of the London storekeepers at the holiday business is long and loud. The complaints, which are universal, are attributed to the baneful influence of the jubilee festivities. The numerous country house parties also thinned the number of West End purchasers.

The queen's New Year gifts to the poor of Windsor were distributed today at the Riding school at the castle. There were nearly 1,000 recipients and about 4,000 pounds of beef and 100 tons of coal were dispensed.

The prince and princess of Wales and Princess Victoria of Wales start on Monday to pay a week's visit to the duke and duchess of Devonshire at Chatsworth. The prince and princess will occupy the royal apartments in the west wing and the mansion and fountains and cascades will be illuminated nightly. There will be theatricals, in which Lady Randolph Churchill will take part, balls and other entertainments.

The marriage of Lady Anne Coventry, second daughter of the earl of Coventry, to Prince Dhuleep Singh will take place on January 4.

The United States ambassador, Colonel John Hay, and Mrs. Hay are visiting the earl of Crowe, who was thrown from his horse while hunting with the Cheshire hounds on Monday last, sustaining a fracture of the collar bone and injuries about the head.

The Daily Chronicle says the late duchess of Teck left debts to the amount of £30,000 ($150,000), mostly household expenses. The expenditures at the White lodge, which was the residences of the Tecks, exceeded, it appears, the duchess' allowance £5,000 ($25,000), by £2,000 ($10,000), yearly. Whether the effects of the duchess will be sold to meet the deficit depends upon whether the government will apply to Parliament for funds to meet the emergency.

Judging from the new De Bretts peerage, the Britishers' boasted contempt for foreign titles is only affectation, as fourteen members of the royal household hold foreign titles, while those of lesser rank are thicker than blackberries. In this connection, it is interesting to note that the jubilee was a record year for the bestowal of honors, which totaled to 577. The charitable bequests of the year also topped the record, totaling £2,000,000 ($10,000,000). Without the Wallace collection bequeathed to the nation seven testators aggregated £1,000,000 ($5,000,000) in charity.

A great number of new companies were floated during the last month, making the total capital offered, in 1897, £158,500,000 ($792,500,000), the largest amounts since 1889. The foreign government loans aggregated, roughly, £10,000,000 ($50,000,000); Indian and colonial, £14,000,000 ($70,000,000), breweries and distilleries, £17,500,000 ($87,500,000); entertainment, £3,000,000 ($10,000,000); cycling, £8,000,000 ($40,000,000); hotels, £3,000,000 ($15,000,000); Klondike, £1,750,000 ($8,000,000); American railroads, £4,000,000 ($20,000,000); mines, £13,250,000 ($66,250,000), and industrial and miscellaneous, £52,500,000 ($263,050,000).

A Chancery Lane lawyer contributes an annual letter to the press in regard to the windfalls of the year among the missing heirs and legatees, many of whom are believed to be in America. Among others fortunes are awaiting W. G. Clement, who went to California in 1868; James Moffatt, who entered the United States navy in 1865; the descendants of John White, the first attorney general of upper Canada; C. E. Sayles, who went to America in 1879, and Joseph Pickup of Wisconsin.

The will of the late Alfred Nobel, the Swedish chemist and expert in high explosives, who died at San Remo, Italy, on December 9, 1896, has been proved. The personality is valued at £434,092 ($2,170,465). Among the legatees is Alfred Hammond of Waterford, Tex., who receives £2,000 ($10,000). About half the estate goes to relatives, and the remainder is invested, the interest, annually, to be divided into five prizes of about £2,000 ($10,000) each. Prizes one, two and three are to be awarded to the persons making the most important discoveries in physics, chemistry, physiology or medicine. Prize four is to be given to the person making the best literary contribution upon the subject of physiology or medicine, and prize five is to be awarded to any person who has achieved the most or done the best things looking to the promotion of the cause of peace throughout the world. These prizes, which are all open to any person anywhere in the world, will be awarded by the various Swedish academies, except the prize for the propagation of peace, which is left in the hands of a committee, which is to be elected by the Norwegian Parliament.

The conclusion of the French racing season finds M. Menier of chocolate fame at the top of the list of winners, with £36,000 ($180,000). The next is the Vicomte de Harcourt, £17,790 ($85,000), then comes Baron Schickler with £15,200 ($76,000). Among the owners of French steeplechasers, Mlle. Mersy, the actress, leads with £14,000 ($70,000).

Sir Thomas and Lady Hasketh (formerly Miss Florence Sharon of San Francisco), have taken Barrdet