NEWS FROM THE FARTHER WEST

BOGUS VOTES SAVED A LIFE

How a Lynching Bee Was Spoiled at the Head of Iowa Gulch.

CONTEST BETWEEN "CAT" AND ROPE

The Former Won Out and Was Laid On the Victim's Back—Chastising a Mining Camp Thief.

The old prospector had something on his mind. That was evident from the manner in which he tugged at his ragged, grizzled mustache, as well as from the contraction of his shaggy eyebrows. I had known Charlie McBride in the early days of Leadville—nearly twenty years ago, says a writer in Facts, and he was an old prospector then, as well as a mighty Nimrod. Vague rumor had it that Charlie had been a little careless as to the ownership of horses and cattle down in the Indian Territory, but I never referred to the subject and he never volunteered any information on it. I was satisfied with the knowledge that he was the most scrupulously honest and conscientious man in his dealings with me that I had (or have) ever known. He was punctilious on these points almost to the extent of being finicky. He once lost a half day's work (of the value of $2 to him) to return two bits that he had been overpaid. His friendship reminded one of the devotion of a Newfoundland dog. It neither recognized danger, or discomfort, or hardship. He once traveled seven miles on snowshoes in the teeth of a blizzard to warn me of the treachery of a professed friend. He almost succumbed to the cold and was disabled for weeks. We worked, suffered and prospered together in Leadville and then became separated.

I had lost all trace of Charlie for many years until I met him on Bennett avenue in Cripple Creek several months ago. He had just come in from a prospecting trip down toward Salida. It required several days to bring the recital of our respective adventures down to the present. Then, of course, we both became reminiscent and fairly reveled in recollections of the "good old days" when we laughed at blows that would knock us out in these days. When we separated, I extracted a promise from Charlie that he would visit me in the Springs, and the other day he fulfilled his promise. We had had a good dinner, with something wet to wash it down, had lit our pipes and drawn our chairs to the open fire, and were settling ourselves to a long talk, when I observed the contraction of the old prospector's beetling brows and instantly knew there was something unpleasant on his mind. I guessed that it referred to something in Cripple Creek and decided to put out a feeler.

THE CRIPPLE CREEK CROWD.

"Well, Charlie," I began, "how do you like Cripple Creek?" The frown deepened a bit, and he took a long pull at his pipe before answering. "There is no doubt," he finally said, "that the camp is what they call it—the greatest gold camp on earth—but it's not what I've been accustomed to in the way of mining camps. There's lots of old miners and good ones there, but they're not in a majority, by a long shot. It sometimes seems to me that I've wandered into a Kansas farming town, and look around half expecting to see people cutting hay or ploughing for a new crop. The gold's there, all right, but it seems to me that lots of the fellows who are looking for it could prospect a heap better with a plow than with a pick. Why, if one-half the push, energy and money was employed in developing Cripple Creek that was put into the Leadville district in the early days, the output of gold for the last year would have been $25,000,000, instead of half that amount. What they need there is more capital and more mining men—not fancy experts with corduroys and leather leggings, but real mining men. If we had the old western 'push' instead of hayseeds developing Cripple Creek, you wouldn't hear the yell that's sweeping over the country—and a dozen other countries—of 'Ho, for the Klondike!' It would be 'Ho, for Cripple Creek!'

"But, I was not thinking so much of the development of the camp as I was of its moral tone. I had heard for the past five or six years that it was the most moral and orderly camp in the history of mining. And, perhaps, from the parson's standpoint, it is. But they have a different standard of morals in Cripple Creek from that of any camp I ever struck. Miners, as I used to know them, would gamble and drink till the cows came home. I knew a few who would cheat at cards, but I never knew one who would steal—till I went to Cripple Creek." At this point Charlie banged the table with his clenched fist, and I knew he had reached the burden on his mind. "In Cripple Creek," he went on, after a pause, "I have been robbed of everything from a plug of tobacco to an overcoat. It was petty robbery, of course, but that makes it the more agravating. If they stole my house (as they did in Leadville) I would laugh and let it go. But to have my pocket picked in a mining camp makes me wild. Remember, I don't say the miners did it, for I know they didn't. As I said before, the genuine miners in Cripple are all right, but I don't understand a mining camp where pickpockets would be allowed to live for one minute.

SPINNING A STORY.

"And that brings me to the story I intended to spin when I started out. It was a short time before I met you that I had a camp at the head of Iowa Gulch, up near Bald Mountain. There were no shippers in the gulch above the Long & Derry mine in those days, but the prospects were good and there were probably 300 men working between the Arkansaw valley and old Baldy. In those days every miner left his cabin door open when he went to work and it was well understood that every traveler was welcome to enter, cook himself a meal, or take a sleep in one of the bunks. Hospitality among miners and prospectors at that time was an institution that was taken for granted, and it was an institution that I never knew to be abused until the incident that I am going to tell you. One of the boys who had been in town brought out a newspaper which contained an account of the operations of a cabin thief in California Gulch, which was just over Printer Boy Hill from our gulch. The story was read aloud and fully discussed in our little camp that night. Some of the boys—especially the old-timers—thought it was a fake, but most of us concluded that the thief was a tenderfoot 'tin horn' gambler who had violated the laws of hospitality in search of a stake. At all events it was unanimously decided that the old rule of 'latchstring out' still went.

"The next morning about 9 o'clock I was pushing a load of waste out on the dump when I heard a couple of pistol shots down the gulch. If they had been rifle shots I would have paid no attention to them, for there was lots of game in the gulch and hardly a day went past without some of us bagging fresh meat. But pistol shots were used as signals by the boys—either of welcome or of warning. My dump was up on the side of Long & Derry Hill and I had a clear view of the gulch all the way to the Arkansaw valley. Inside of a minute the shots were answered by a dozen others and I could see men running down from both Long & Derry and Printer Boy Hills. They seemed to be pursuing someone and I instantly thought of the story of the cabin thief we had read about the night before. I ran to my cabin at the foot of the hill and the bedding in all of the bunks was turned topsy-turvy. Then I knew the cabin thief was out doing business. You know the habit of miners in concealing their valuables between the mattresses. I saw that my silver watch and pocketbook were gone and without looking farther I ran back to the tunnel and called the boys. We fired off our revolvers to let them know down the gulch that we had heard and understood their signal, and started down the gulch on an Indian trot.

THE LYNCHING PARTY.

"We have gone about a mile, when we met a crowd of men marching towards us. There were about fifty miners and in the middle of the bunch was a young fellow with his hands tied behind him. He was the cabin thief and he belonged to the genus I had described the night before—a tenderfoot tin-horn gambler. He was only about 20 years old. His face was like that of a corpse and he was trembling so violently he could hardly walk and the boys had to help him or he would have fallen. He was not so much of a tenderfoot but that he knew that his crime was punishable by death, according to the miners' laws, that were still in force in the gulches and were tacitly recognized by the courts and the authorities. The boys were bringing him to my camp for a lynch trial—or an execution without one—and as the procession moved along, the cabins were examined to find out the extent of his depredations. He had only broken into three cabins when he was discovered. He had stolen two watches and three pocketbooks, but only one watch was found on him. The others he had thrown away when he was pursued and they were subsequently recovered.

"By the time we reached my camp there were about 100 miners in the crowd. They were very quiet and as they marched along it was very suggestive of a funeral procession. Nearly all of the boys had guns strapped on them, for in those days everyone went armed. The crowd stopped in front of my cabin and the prisoner was told to sit down, since his legs were too weak to hold him up. 'You won't need 'em long, anyway,' said an old '49'er grimly, as he gave the boy a push that sent him sprawling on his back. Turning to me the old Argonaut said: 'Charlie, get us a rope, we've lost too much time over this coyote already. I saw the general sentiment was in favor of hanging the boy without any trial whatever; in fact, no one seemed to think of any other disposition of the case. Although I had seen several men lynched, I had never taken any active part in the proceedings, and I shrunk from being a party to this boy's death. I had a theory that lynching was justified only in case of murder. So I instantly decided to try and save the boy's life, though I knew that I would not add to my popularity in doing so. Nearly half of the miners present were young fellows, and I saw by their faces that they shrank from taking human life, but they were afraid to assert themselves in the presence of the Argonauts.

THE CAT OR THE ROPE.

"I told the crowd that I had a few words to say before they proceeded with the execution, and I asked whether the boy admitted his crimes. As I expected, my words were met with a howl of protest and profanity. The leader declared that he never knew that I was a d—d parson and that if he had known that I was going to skulk he would never have done me the honor of bringing the fellow to my cabin for execution. But I saw I had the sympathy of the young fellows and I didn't propose to give up without a struggle. I asked the prisoner if he was guilty or not, and, to my confusion, he whimpered that he was. The old-timers shouted, and laughed and yelled, 'Now bring out your rope, or we'll fill him full of lead.' Then I made the only speech of my life. I argued that back east, where the boy came from, thieving was as common among people of his class as eating and drinking, and he had probably been brought up to regard it more as a virtue than a crime. The boy nodded assent to me while the tears rolled down his white face. The crowd tried to yell me down, but I held my ground, and during a lull the boy shouted to me: 'I have a good mother at home; for God's sake let me go back to her and I swear I'll lead an honest life.' The moment he uttered the word 'mother' that settled it for me. I would have saved his life or died fighting for it. I knew as long as he could speak that sacred name, he was not totally depraved and was worth saving. I saw that it had its effect on the boys, also.

"I allowed the effect to soak in before I continued with my speech, and then I threw my whole soul into it. They told me afterward that I was actually eloquent. I pleaded for the boy's life harder than I could have for my own. I urged that he be severely punished, but not killed. I suggested that he be tied up by the thumbs, given thirty lashes on the bare back and then ordered to leave the district on pain of death if caught therein within twenty-four hours. I could see that the plan was favored by the younger element, but the barnacles still insisted on hanging. Then I made a motion that the prisoner's fate be decided by ballot and put the motion. I declared that it was carried, although I have always had my doubts on that point. I tore up a sheet of paper and handed each man a slip with instructions to write 'rope' or 'cat' on it to signify hanging or lashing. I had retained three slips in my hand and wrote the word 'cat' on each—and that's the only time I ever stuffed a ballot box. I passed my hat around for the ballots and chucked my three in last. Then three of us counted them. Fifty ballots were marked 'rope' and fifty-one 'cat.' My crooked votes had saved the boy's neck.

APPLYING THE CAT.

"The cat, which was made by a big German named Hugo Helkeifer, was the most terrible instrument of torture I ever saw. He took a heavy two-inch leather strap and doubled it. Then he punctured about a dozen holes through it and threaded each hole with a leather thong, knotted on each end. Then the strap was bound to a short hickory stick, and the cat was completed. The boy, who had watched the preparation with starting eyes, was yanked to his feet, unbound, and stripped to his undershirt, which was pulled over his head. Stout strips of leather were bound to his thumbs and he was hustled to a tree in front of Hugo's cabin, on which was a horizontal limb about six inches higher than his head. The strips of leather were thrown over the limb and the prisoner was hauled up until his toes just touched the ground. We formed a circle around him and the executioner, a long-limbed son of Kentucky, stepped forward, cat in hand. At a signal from me, everyone counted 'one.' The cat struck the bare flesh with a sickening thud and the knotted thongs made twelve little holes in the flesh from which flowed a tiny stream of blood. Not a sound came from the boy until the sixth blow, and then he let out a shriek that was hair-lifting and was heard two miles away. But that was the only sound he made. When we cut him down after the thirtieth stroke he was unconscious. He revived after a while and limped down the gulch. At midnight he was found unconscious near the cabin of the old '49er, who had demanded his life. He carried him into his cabin, dressed his lacerated back and helped him to within sight of the lights of Leadville. Then he gave him a flask of whisky and left him. 'Peg-legged' Watson was city marshal of Leadville at that time, and when I turned over the boy's revolver, that was confiscated, to Watson the next day, he cursed me for not hanging the thief. But he did not know all the circumstances. While I was talking with Watson the boy passed on the other side of Harrison avenue with a roll of blankets over his shoulder and that's the last I ever saw or heard of him. I think one lesson of this kind in Cripple Creek will have a salutary effect."

Bought Up by Northern Pacific.

WALLA WALLA, Wash., Feb. 21.—Rumors of the sale of the Washington & Columbia railroad to the Northern Pacific are afloat. The board of directors of the Washington & Columbia River railroad have been in session here since Wednesday and President W. D. Tyler and Secretary A. E. Burford tendered their resignations, which were accepted. It has been common talk for some time among railroad men and others in a position to know that the Northern Pacific had been negotiating with C. B. Wright of Philadelphia, the principal stockholder of the Washington & Columbia River railroad, for the purchase of the road, and now it is asserted that the deal has been consummated. President Tyler would neither deny nor verify the rumor.

Rocky Ford Melon Crop.

PUEBLO, Colo., Feb. 21.—(Special.)—Pueblo county's melon growers are considering two offers which have been made to them for the output of next season, one being from Kansas City and the other from St. Louis. Amos Alexander of Kansas City offered to take the entire crop at 80 cents a crate, he to furnish the crates and the ice for the cars. The other proposition was from Nathan Wetzel of St. Louis. He offers 97½ cents per crate, delivered on the cars, the association to furnish the crates and pay for the icing of the cars. Neither proposition has been accepted as the association desired to further consider the matter. A meeting will be held this week at Rocky Ford for the purpose of forming all of the associations in the Arkansas valley into one large body.

CALF WITH HEAD OF A SEAL.

Remarkable Freak Reported from Warm Springs, Mont.

One of the most unaccountable and highly interesting freaks that has ever been seen in this city was brought to Anaconda, Mont., says the Standard of that place. It is a monstrosity in the calf line, but it lays the two-headed and six-legged calves in the shade. The freak is a calf with the head of a seal and without legs. Mention was made a few months ago in the Standard of such a calf having been born down near Warm Springs. The animal was dead, of course. The freak was secured by a man in Anaconda who takes an interest in such things, and he sent it away to a taxidermist, who mounted it and sent it back. It arrived yesterday.

The freak is about two and one-half feet in length. The rear part of its body is that of a normal calf, being covered with a coat of white and red spotted hair. The tail is also perfect. Where the neck of a young calf usually begins the red and white hair on this freak begins to give way to a hair of brown color. From the shoulders the neck and head of the seal begins. The neck is long and has the graceful contour of the water animals. The head is that of a normal young seal pup. Even the tusks of the seal are seen in embryo. The tusks are covered by a coat of reddish skin, but they are perfectly visible for all that.

One peculiar feature of this altogether peculiar monstrosity is that it is entirely devoid of legs. Where the legs of an ordinary calf begin there are, on this freak, stumps, the bottoms of which are perfectly smooth and flat. These stumps are covered with the white and red hair. The freak as mounted has its head raised into the air, in the manner of seals when in the water, and the rear portion lies flat. It is altogether a very curious sight.

The freak ought to prove an interesting study to anatomists and persons who are learned in such matters. The knowledge of the circumstances by which such a phenomenon could be brought forth would be of more than general interest. The theory generally accepted by men who have seen it is that the cow from which the calf came, a short time prior to its birth, caught sight of a seal, and the sight had such an effect upon her mind that it was communicated to her offspring. This theory is in a way substantiated by the fact that a short time prior to the finding of the freak, a circus passed through Deer Lodge valley which numbered among its menagerie properties a herd of seals. It is probable that the mother of the calf, while gazing at the passing train, saw one of the seals raise its head.

INDIAN CITIZENS A MENACE.

North Dakota White People Fear Too Many of the Red Voters.

DEVIL'S LAKE, N. D., Feb. 21.—(Special.)—An effort is now being made to procure the removal of the Indians from the Fort Totten reservation to a new reservation either in this state or Montana. The reservation contains approximately 250,000 acres of land and its Indian population is about 1,500. It is claimed that the Indians are not unfavorable to the scheme and that they would prefer to be located in a grazing country, where they would have a better chance to raise stock than they have here.

These Indians are supposed to be well advanced in the paths of civilization and not to need the protecting care of the great father. With this understanding their rations were withdrawn a few years ago and their land was given to them in severity. They were expected to become tillers of the soil and bonanza wheat farmers like their white brethren across the lake, but the experiment has not exactly panned out after that fashion. In fact, it is said that they have accomplished very little for themselves in the line of farming and that a delegation of chiefs will soon leave for Washington to ask for assistance to keep their people from starving.

There is another side to the proposed removal of these Indians. Under the law, since they were allotted land in severalty, they have become full-fledged citizens and as such entitled to vote and hold office. They hold the balance of political power in Benson county, the greater portion of the reservation being located within the boundaries of that county. An attempt was made to secure a ruling which would prevent them from exercising the privilege of citizenship, but the courts decided in favor of the Indians. Being citizens, they come into possession of other inalienable rights, such, for instance, as the privilege of being supported by the county when unable to support themselves. The white taxpayers of Benson county anticipate that sooner or later the county will be swamped financially by the demands which the Indians will make upon the county's poor fund. Naturally they are strongly in favor of the abandonment of the reservation.

Removing the Indians would not interfere with the industrial school. In fact, it would be better for the school, as no little trouble is experienced from time to time on account of insubordinate pupils who run away and go home whenever the notion enters their heads. With the old folks located at a distance from the school this trouble would not be experienced.

Those who are working to secure the removal of the Indians and the opening of the reservation realize that it is no small undertaking and that it will require time and hard work to accomplish their purpose, but the importance of the project makes them hopeful.

REVENUE FROM MONTANA CATTLE.

Report of the Live Stock Commission on Brands and Stock Inspection.

HELENA, Mont., Feb. 21.—(Special.)—The annual reports of the Board of Stock Commissioners and the recorder of marks and brands of the state of Montana for 1897 have just been published. The board has tendered its twelfth annual report to the governor, which embodies a synopsis of the work of the board during the year, with the report as an appendix, showing the brands recorded for last year. The operations of the force of inspectors have been successful, showing that during the year eighty-one arrests for violation of the stock laws were effected, and of this number forty-two cases resulted in conviction and ten are pending. The capture of the Belle Fourche bank robbers was also effected through the inspectors.

During the past year a total of 1,459 head of stock were killed on the railroads of the state, as reported by the inspectors.

During the season of 1897 the inspectors' reports show a total of 192,162 head of cattle marketed from Montana, and, estimating home consumption at the usual figure of 60,000 head, the total output for the year was 252,162. The average price was somewhat above that of previous years, and, the board believes, $37 is an accurate estimate. It will therefore be observed that the total revenue from the cattle industry was nearly $9,500,000.

In reference to strays the report says: "The inspectors at all the inspection points recovered 19,104 head of stray cattle from Montana shipments, of a value of $750,000. Of this number 6,125 were paid for to owners through the Montana Stock Growers' association, the total net proceeds of the same aggregating $225,372.49. This sum has been disbursed to the respective owners residing in every state in the union—to people who are nonresidents, but who own cattle interests in Montana."

The board says this as to bounties: "The bounty law appears to be working effectively, and range reports indicate that there is a very considerable decrease in the number of wolves over what it was prior to the enactment of this law. Owing to the efforts that have been made to defraud the state under this law, the officers should be extremely vigilant, in order to prevent the issuance of bounty certificates on animals killed outside the state borders."

The sanitary condition of the state is reported to be more favorable. About 900 brands and marks were recorded during the year.

Carnival in an Arizona City.

TUCSON, Ariz., Feb. 21.—(Special.)—Preparations are being made, under auspices of the Board of Trade, for a carnival to be held here within the next two months. At the meeting when the matter was decided letters were read from General Otis, commanding the Department of the Colorado, and from Colonel E. V. Summer, commanding at Fort Grant, offering the attendance of five troops of cavalry and of two military bands to grace the occasion. Details were referred to a committee of five, empowered to act.

Reservation Soon to Be Opened.

POCATELLO, Idaho, Feb. 21.—(Special.)—Commissioner Hoyt has received a letter from Commissioner Barge, who is at Washington, announcing that the treaty for the purchase of 418,000 acres of the Fort Hall reservation, adjacent to Pocatello, has received the approval of the secretary of the interior and of the commissioner of Indian affairs and is now in the hands of the senate committee on Indian affairs, and that a bill for its ratification will be reported promptly.

Land for Soldiers' Home.

CHEYENNE, Wyo., Feb. 21—(Special Telegram.)—Governor Richards was notified by telegraph today that the senate had passed Senator Warren's bill donating 50,000 acres of public land to the Wyoming soldiers' and sailors' home. The income from this land added to its present income will make the home self-supporting.

Washington News Notes.

The city of Everett owns a sawmill, but the people have voted to sell it and take pay in lumber.

Work on the ocean beach placers has been suspended for the winter, but it is the intention of the owners to resume in April.

The state reform school in Chehalis will go into the hop business. The State Board of Control has ordered the planting of twenty acres.

Bruce & Hansen are making, in Hoquiam, two masts for the schooner Volunteer. These are each 112 feet long, and said to be the longest ever made on Gray's harbor.

Postmaster J. J. Brown of South Bend has telegraphed his resignation to the Postal department. As soon as his successor is appointed, he will leave for the northern gold fields.

"Indian Joe," grandson of Princess Angeline, daughter of Chief Seattle, was found alone in his shack, in Seattle, suffering from rheumatism. There was no bed, food, fire or fuel in the cabin.

About 250 bales of hops are still in growers' hands in Lewis county. Few, if any, new yards have been planted. A few small yards will be plowed up, but the yield this year will be about the same as was that of last year.

In the Colville mining district samples of ore were brought out of the Little Gem mine to be tested that would assay from $20,000 to twice as much per ton. The ore was encountered in the bottom of the shaft and the seam is about ten inches wide.

The Johnson ten-stamp mill is being removed over the mountains from Peshastin to a group of gold properties on Boulder Creek, in Swank district. A large amount of development has been done on these properties, and there is ore enough for the new mill.

At the penitentiary in Walla Walla there are 250 men working in the jute mill nine hours a day, making 7,000 bags daily. In a few weeks they will be required to work ten hours, and the output will be increased to 8,000 bags daily. There are now 250,000 sacks on hand.

The Columbia County commissioners have bought 300 ounces of strychnine, to be used in poisoning squirrels. The strychnine will be apportioned to the various road supervisors, by the county auditor, as directed by the commissioners, and distributed free by the supervisors to farmers who are in greatest need of it. The 300 ounces cost the county about $270.

Oregon News Notes.

Mrs. George T. Hall, while driving with her husband from McKenzie bridge to Eugene last week, was thrown from the buggy during a runaway and one bone in her right arm, at the wrist, was broken.

A public meeting was held at Newton and all rejoiced over the good news that the Oregon congressional delegation had secured the approval of the project of completing the improvement of Yaquina harbor, at a cost of $1,000,000.

Twenty-five miles from Cottage Grove, at the foot of Bohemian mountain, a new town, Minersville, has suddenly sprung into existence and promises to become an important point. It is located on Sharp's creek and is on the direct road to the Bohemia mine.

Last season was an unusually good one for the dairymen in Coos county. Patrons of the creameries never before have done so well. The Coquille creamery patrons received 32½ cents per pound for their December butter fat. The coming season has every prospect of being a good one. The Coquille creamery expects a larger milk supply than ever.

C. A. Bunting of Lake county has forty head of cattle afflicted with some disease resembling pinkeye among horses and he is at a loss to account for its spreading among his stock. At first he noticed that two or three head were afflicted and then it gradually spread until about forty of his herd now have the disease. The eyes of the animal swell and then it becomes blind.

C. R. Pratt, who lives near Lostine, in Wallowa county, gathered from his hens during January about 400 dozen eggs and will in a few days start with a load of 600 or 800 dozen eggs to Baker City, where he never has any trouble to find a market. His expenses, he says, are about $10 a month for the 400 hens, which, taken from the receipts usually derived from the number of eggs gathered during the same time, leaves a neat profit that many men who have gone to Klondike would be glad to get.

South Dakota News Notes.

An enlistment office was opened last week in Aberdeen for those who want to fight the Spaniards.

The Mennonites will build a new church at Freeman, and $1,000 has already been subscribed.

The registration at the State university at Vermillion has passed 350 for the present school year.

A large number of Canadian calves and young cattle are being brought into South Dakota to be fed.

At Chamberlain it is predicted the ice in the Missouri river will break up and go out before the first of next month.

A committee of South Dakota dairymen has gone to Topeka to secure for Sioux Falls the next annual meeting of the National Dairymen's convention.

The loss of ex-Treasurer Taylor in the fire in Chicago which burned out his bicycle business was about $8,000, covered by $5,000 insurance. He has opened another office.

Congressman Freeman Knowles is again in charge of his paper, the Daily Independent, of Deadwood, the lease of I. R. Crow having expired. Mr. Knowles' son will be in charge for the present.

The executive committee of the State Bankers' association will go into court and test the legality of the action of the state board of equalization in raising the assessment of bank stock throughout the state.

Opening of Mardi Gras Festivities.

NEW ORLEANS, Feb. 21.—The New Orleans carnival was opened today by Rex and his retinue. The river was covered with a beautifully decorated flotilla when the yacht appeared with the King of Mirth. The three war ships in port, Austrian, French and American, were attractively dressed. The government revenue cutters participated. The procession included the military, the king's retinue, lords of the realm and citizens. Proteus appeared tonight, followed by a grand society ball. Tomorrow Rex appears during the day and Comus at night, and both give balls.

Don't annoy others by your coughing, and risk your life by neglecting a cold. One Minute Cough Cure cures coughs, colds, croup, grippe and all throat and lung troubles.

STUDENTS ENTER THE FIELD

Thousands of Them Offer to Go Out as Missionaries.

CONVENTION OF THE WORKERS TO BE HELD

It Will Take Place at Cleveland This Week and Promises to Be an Unusually Interesting Body.

CLEVELAND, Feb. 21.—"The world for Christ" is the war cry emblazoned upon the banner of one of the most unique and what is claimed to be one of the most powerful and efficient Christian enterprises—the International Student Volunteer Movement for Foreign Missions—which will hold its convention in this city from February 23 to 27. It will probably be one of the largest missionary gatherings of the century. Some of the best known men engaged in missionary work, both in the field and at home, and the greatest number of missionary boards and organizations ever brought together at one time, will be here. Practically every nation of civilization as well as of heathendom will send delegates. Students, men and women, and professors, will come from the five great continents of the world and from the islands of the sea.

Cleveland will have the latch string out to receive these representatives of the educational world. Five thousand young men and women of education and refinement, many of them the possessors of more than one college or university degree, and hundreds of them pledged to go into the mission field—such is the character of the student volunteer movement, and of such material will the coming convention be composed.

Important and far-reaching results are dependent upon this gathering. A great revival and awakening of missionary interest in all civilized countries is expected to follow in its wake.

At a recent meeting in New York, to which the mission boards were invited to send representatives, and which was to be an official conference of these bodies, twenty-seven were represented. This was regarded at the time as a satisfactory showing. The character of the student volunteer movement, which is interdenominational and not officially connected with any denomination, will be apparent from the statement of one of the officials that "over sixty of the denominational bodies are sure to send their leading representatives to the meeting in Cleveland.

DELEGATES FROM THE WORLD.

The countries which will be officially represented are Great Britain, India, Burmah, Laos, Malaysia, China, Corea, Japan, Persia, Syria, Turkey, Macedonia, Africa (north, central, south and west), Mexico, Colombia, Brazil, Chili and the United States. There will also be representatives from southern Europe and some of the Pacific islands.

The student volunteer movement has been in existence only twelve years, yet it has accomplished, as claimed by its friends, what other enterprises for the outlet of missionary zeal have failed in doing. The denominational missionary boards have been hampered and handicapped in their work by the fact that it was difficult for them to secure an adequate number of men and women, properly educated and equipped, who would go as missionaries to foreign lands. The student volunteer movement in its function as an enlisting and training agency for volunteers among college and university students has, it is said, changed the condition of affairs. Men and women are no longer lacking, but the means wherewith to send them. 5,000 students, largely of the colleges and universities of North America, being now ready to go. In the last few years a great change is said to have taken place among the students in their attitude toward religious matters, and it is stated that the colleges are becoming the centers of religious influence and missionary zeal.

This convention will bring together representatives from denominational colleges like Amherst, Williams, Beloit, Ohio Wesleyan; state institutions like Cornell, the Universities of Michigan, Vermont, Ohio, Wisconsin, Texas, California; independent universities like Harvard, Yale, Princeton, Virginia, Stanford, Toronto; theological seminaries of all the evangelical denominations like Drew, the Chicago, McCormick, Princeton, Andover and many others. And there will be present women from Wellesley, Smith, Vassar, Radcliffe and a number of other women's colleges.

More than sixty of the missionary boards will send official delegates, and among them will be Rt. Rev. Bishop T. U. Dudley, secretary of the Protestant Episcopal board; Rev. Dr. A. B. Leonard, secretary of the Methodist Episcopal board; Rev. H. C. Mabie, D. D., secretary of the Baptist board; Rev. Dr. R. P. McKay, secretary of the Canadian Presbyterian board; Rev. Walter R. Lambuth, D. D., of the Board of the Methodist church (South); Rev. Charles H. Daniels, D. D., of the American board.

MANY PROMINENT SPEAKERS.

The speakers and participants in the various sessions of the convention will number about 130, many of them being men and women of international fame. Among them will be Rev. Dr. F. B. Meyer of London, England; General James A. Beaver, ex-governor of Pennsylvania, judge of the superior court of Pennsylvania, and who was a general in the civil war; Rt. Rev. W. A. Leonard, Bishop of Ohio; Rt. Rev. Bishop T. U. Dudley of Kentucky; Rt. Rev. Bishop M. E. Baldwin of Canada; Rt. Rev. Bishop William X. Ninde of the Methodist Episcopal church; Rev. Dr. Francis E. Clark, president of the United Society of Christian Endeavor; President Charles Cuthbert Hall, D. D., of Union Theological seminary; Robert E. Speer, secretary of the Presbyterian board; John R. Mott, general secretary of the World's Student Christian federation; D. M. Thornton of Cambridge university, England, and secretary of the British Students' movement, and Rev. S. V. Zwomer, E. R. G. S., of Arabia.

The main meetings of the convention will be held in the new armory of the Cleveland Grays, and division meetings in eight churches in the heart of the city.

In speaking of the movement, one of the officials said:

"The students of 1,000 colleges of the United States, Canada, Great Britain and other lands have within the last few years united themselves together to plan a religious campaign throughout the entire world. Thousands of the most prominent scholars and athletes in the universities have pledged their lives to foreign missions, either as teachers, preachers or physicians, and they are ready at any time to cross the ocean under the direction of the various denominational mission boards as missionaries. Because the movement is interdenominational and intercollegiate it attracts the church leaders of all lands. President McCosh of Princeton university said of it, "Has any such offering of living young men and women been presented in our age, in our country, in any age or in any country since the day of pentecost?" Among the objects of the convention are to increase the interest in missionary work, to afford an opportunity for conference among the leaders of missionary work, and to plan an advance campaign for missions on the American continent. The objects of the student volunteer movement are to enroll educated men and women to give their lives to missionary service, to arouse the churches of America to the necessity of giving more financial support to the foreign mission boards, to increase the knowledge of missions by the establishment of missionary libraries in every church and city in the United States; in short, the object of the movement may be briefly stated in its watchword, 'The Evangelization of the World in This Generation.'"

Mrs. Whitney is Painfully Injured.

AIKEN, S. C., Feb. 21.—While following the deer hounds today, Mrs. William C. Whitney, wife of ex-Secretary of the Navy Whitney, was knocked from her horse and quite seriously hurt. When picked up she was unconscious and had a long, ugly gash just above the eyes. She was carried to her residence in this city, where a physician attended to her injuries. He pronounced her wounds very painful and said that she would be confined to her room for some time.

Big Strike on American Creek.

DAWSON CITY, N. W. T., Jan. 15.—(Via San Francisco, Feb. 21.)—News has reached here of a rich strike on American creek, 130 miles down the Yukon river. Tonight seventy-five men left Dawson for the new diggings, which are on American soil, twenty-five miles across the boundary line.

SOUTH OMAHA NEWS.

An enthusiastic meeting of business men was held at the Hoctor-Johnston office last night for the purpose of organizing a commercial club. After a lengthy discussion it was decided to perfect a temporary organization, the officers elected to serve for one month until the membership lists assumed greater proportions and the club was on a firm footing, when a regular election will be held. The officers chosen were: Thomas Hoctor, president; John M. Tanner, secretary; B. E. Wilcox, treasurer. The following committee of ten was appointed to circulate membership rolls: Messrs. Cheek, Mayfield, Carroll, Flynn, Tanner, Broadwell, Martin, O'Neil, Harrell, Gibson. Messrs. Harry Christie, Thomas J. O'Neil and George H. Brewer were named as a committee to prepare rules and regulations, while George Dare, Morgan Heafey and F. J. Persons will look up a suitable location for club rooms. It was agreed to make the monthly dues $1 and no membership fee will be charged.

Before adjournment the following persons who were present signed the membership roll: S. Arnstein, F. J. Persons, George H. Brewer, W. B. Cheek, John Flynn, E. O. Mayfield, J. L. Martin, Otto Maurer, L. C. Gibson, Joseph F. Murphy, August Schiermeyer, A. S. White, F. A. Broadwell, Thomas Hoctor, Walter J. Slate, E. S. Harrell, H. M. Christie, J. M. Tanner, J. C. Carrell, B. E. Wilcox, Thomas Bayliss, T. J. O'Neil, D. D. Sullivan, James J. Fitzgerald, A. E. Blank, George L. Dare, J. A. Beck, J. E. Glick, Jacob Levy, James H. Van Dusen, Morgan Heafey.

The next meeting to hear reports of committees will be held on Tuesday evening, March 1.

Cudahy's Extension.

The new glycerine still for the manufacture of chemically pure glycerine was received by the Cudahy Packing company yesterday and will be placed in position in the new glycerine factory this week. Heretofore the Cudahys have turned out only crude glycerine, such as is used by the manufacturers of high explosives, but when this new machine is in operation pure glycerine is large quantities will be made.

It was the intention of Superintendent Cameron to move into the new sausage factory yesterday, but owing to one avoidable delay in placing some of the new machinery the transfer from the old to the new factory will not be made for a few days.

The delivery of 250,000 brick to be used in setting new boilers commenced yesterday. Each wagon load contains 1,000 brick and a number of teams and men will be engaged for several days in delivering this large order. A number of other improvements planned by the Cudahys will have to be postponed for a short time on account of the scarcity of brick. It was stated yesterday that the local supply of brick was exhausted and work on the big stables will not be commenced until the needed building material can be arranged for.

Work at Armour's.

Over at the Armour plant the work of construction keeps moving along nicely and very few days have been lost this year on account of the weather. Interior work on the five buildings now under roof is being pushed and new material is arriving every day. Sixteen large tanks have been placed in the tank house and permanent fixtures are being located in this row of buildings. The beef house walls are up to the top of the fourth story and the carpenters are now working on the fifth story. At the power house the walls are completed to the top of the first story and carpenters are working on the interior piers and timbers. About 350 men are now employed by Armour and Company in the construction of the plant and nearly as many more by Rocheford & Gould, the contractors. Superintendent Simpson stated yesterday afternoon that one crop of ice had been harvested at the company's new houses near Ashland, about 40,000 tons having been put up, in case there is another freeze the second crop will be cut.

Painting of St. Bridget.

Rev. Father Gleason of St. Bridget's church has purchased a painting of St. Bridget which has been placed in the church just back of the altar. The painting represents St. Bridget at the entrance to a cove, kneeling at a rude altar. To the right is an old oak tree, while lilies, representing purity, and a red rose, the emblem of divine love, are also represented.

Milk Dealers' Union Weakens.

The Milk Dealers' union has given up the idea of putting on an additional wagon to cover the routes of non-union dealers and sell more milk for $1 than the non-unionists could afford to do. It is stated that the union was considerably put out by the publication of its plans and that may be one reason for abandoning the plan agreed upon.

Bennett May Decline.

Councilman William Bennett is still being urged to accept the republican nomination for city treasurer, but he had not announced his decision in the matter. Mr. Bennett is inclined to think that the duties of the office might interfere too much with his private business and for this reason he may decline to be a candidate.

Building and Loan Directors.

Harry L. Carpenter, James L. Paxton and W. B. Wallwork were elected directors of the Packers' Building and Loan association yesterday afternoon to fill vacancies. A meeting of the directors will be held Wednesday to elect officers for the year.

Magic City Gossip.

Carl Morton of Nebraska City was a visitor here yesterday.

The old scheme of dividing the First ward is again being agitated.

H. M. Letts of Columbus Junction, Ia., visited friends here yesterday.

Mayor Ensor is confined to his home on account of an attack of the grip.

Olin M. Mayfield, formerly of this city, has started a newspaper at Avoca.

S. Burke of North Platte had three cars of cattle on this market yesterday.

Tonight the Royal Arcanum will give a ball at the new Exchange dining hall.

W. I. Walker of Pilger spent yesterday in the city attending to business matters.

O. B. Walker of Norfolk Neb. has returned home after a visit with W. H. Vaughn.

Harry Kuth, assistant office manager at Swift's, is away on a two weeks' vacation.

Captain Dunlap of the Armour force has returned from a business trip to Ashland.

The Altar society of St. Agnes' church held its annual social at the church last night.

The Good Templars will meet tonight in the hall over the South Omaha National bank.

Wednesday there will be a meeting of the Nebraska Stock Shipper's association in Omaha.

L. J. Combs, a merchant of Bedford, Ia., was a visitor at the stock yards yesterday afternoon.

Ex-Councilman Franek, who is dangerously ill, was reported a little better yesterday afternoon.

Mrs. M. R. Brainard has purchased the Rafferty property at 1307 North Twenty-fourth street.

Frank King of the stock yards company will occupy Scott King's house at Papillion after March 1.

The city offices will be open for a couple of hours in the forenoon today, but the banks will be closed all day.

Rev. Irving Johnson lectures tonight at St. Martin's Episcopal church on "The Development of the Roman Church."

The women of the First Presbyterian church will give a Martha Washington tea and sale at the church this evening.

Prof. Warman will lecture this evening at the First M. E. church on the subject "A Critical Analysis of Poe's 'Raven.'"

W. B. Cheek, general live stock agent of the Burlington, is having his offices in the Exchange building thoroughly renovated.

Sam White of Holdredge, Neb., is wanted by the police for having swindled C. W. Miller out of $10 on the Masonic racket.

Superintendent Dimmock of the local electric light company received an application for a position from a young man living in Bristol, England, yesterday. The applicant has just graduated from an electrical engine