THE OMAHA DAILY BEE: WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 11, 1899.

DOINGS IN ANTILLES Quaint Features of Life in Cuba and Porto Rico. COST AND CONDUCT OF FUNERALS Where Beggars Ride on Horsebuck-

New Word for Butter-Buying Ice as a Curlosity-Coffins for Rent.

Coffins are rented by the day in Cube and Porto Rico. When a member of a family dies one of the relatives or a friend goes to a "Casa de Funebras," or public undertaker, and enters into negotiations for a coffin. He does not buy it, but stipulates for the temporary use. The age and height of the late lamented are given, particulars arranged for certain trimmings, and as many mutes as the

family purse will permit are engaged. The price charged ranges from \$5 to \$20, according to the size of the coffin, the decorations and the number of mourning mutes. Burials must take place within twenty-four hours of death under penalty of a heavy fine. Horses are seldom used, save by the wealthy. When the time set for the funeral arrives. a short service, which the immediate family does not attend, is held, then the coffin is lifted upon the shoulders of four mutes, who are generally clad in white trousers, long black coats, ancient silk bats and high collars. Huge bouquets of artificial flowers are did not exist prior to the war, as the Spanworn in the buttonhole, but in many cases ish military officers and the citizens wore the coffin bearers are barefooted.

At a word given by the master of core monies, also furnished by the undertaker, the occupation of the city by the Americans,



FRESH ROLLS FOR BREAKFAST, PONCE, PORTO RICO.

the procession starts for the cemetery, which | however, that several of the street Arabsmay be three or four miles distant. The as shrewd in their as their Yankee prospectacle furnished by four grotesque negroes totype-tegan to discover that the newcomer swaying and lurching through the uneven liked to have their shoes polished. streets under the burden of a broad, shal-low, black draped coffin, and the thin line

chattering gally over some mot of the day, s remarkable. Haste seems to be the main object. At times the procession moves at a troi, never at less speed than a rapid walk. Spectators uncover as the coffin passes, and some make

alleged curios and pawned articles, and the ! certain members of the lower middle class, shining of shoes. the clerks and bookkeepers, it is considered An American cannot walk three blocks in the correct thing to cultivate a certain nail the ancient capital without being accosted of the left hand. In fact, it is visible proof by some native who has a wonderful curio that the wearer does not perform manual for sale. They approach you with a mys- labor. They argue ingeniously that a man terious air and after a few commonplace cannot shovel or work with his hands if he remarks about the weather and the mortality has a finger nall two or three inches long.

of the city hint that you may be able in The "artist" has his regular customers, and return for a ridiculously small sum to obtain he calls daily and polishes and rubs and possession of the most remarkable article labors until the pet nail is in proper condiover discovered in the province. If you are i tion. It is not unusual to find him at work new and inexperienced you confess your in- in his customer's store while the latter atterest. You are conducted down some nar- tends to affairs of trade. It is safe to venrow, unpaved street to an adobe "shack" ture that the custom will not invade this and invited to enter. Your Yankee con- country. It is useful, however, as an additempt of the native forbids fear and you are tional peculiarity for the edification of Yansoon looking at the wonderful curio. It may kee visitors. be a bit of an American shell, a splinter of

Vizcaya's collection of human remains, but

you can rest assured that in nine times out

Sampson's Ear for Sale.

can general," the man replied solemnly.

of ten it is a fake and a snare.

ear it was.

"Who?"

sell it for \$25."

wood from the Merrimac's foretop mast, a GOSSIP ABOUT NOTED PEOPLE. stone from Morro castle or a bone from the

Matthew F. M. Sutton, a Baltimore youth who was in the Santiago campaign, who fell

Shortly after my arrival in Santiago I was shown a dried, wrinkled object, which the University of New York, which means the curio sharp insisted was a human ear. that his tuition, board and books will be It certainly resembled that appendage in a paid for by her during the time of his studies way and I hastened to ask whose particular at the university. Miss Gould found out that Sutton wanted to study law while he "It once was part of an illustrious Ameri- was her patient.

"An American general?" I gasped. "The Briars," near Millwood, Clarke Cooke, the southern novelist, has quite fal-"General Sampson, senor. It very cheap.

The evolution of the bootblack in Santiago de Cuba is rather interesting. The genus er's correspondence with famous men and chatterbox in the block. all his literary remains. A traveler, who white canvas shoes, which were attended to visited the place some little time ago, resby the house servants. It was not long after cued valuable autograph letters from "Jeb" sign of the malformation ever remains, and Stuart, William G. Simms and Paul H. performs the operation when the child is not Hayne.

> In replying to a toast at a recent dinner I had no copy. How can I make an afterdinner speech before dinner? Said he: 'Well, we have Mr. Depew's in cold type.' " Mr. Depew spoke shortly after. "The reporter," he said, "called on me and said as to Choate. 'I have them all.' but also added. 'Have you any poetry in yours?' Said I, 'Well,' said he, 'Choate has.' And after reading it I came to the conclusion that he must have written it himself."

Prof. Henry C. Mercer of the Franklin institute of Philadelphia says that while traveling some time ago in the County Galway, Ireland, he came across an old cathedral on which was a tablet with an inscription in the original Celtic. Translated it meant: "On this spot James Lynch Mount-Stephen hanged his own son." The history of the tablet, as told by Prof. Mercer, is that Mount-Stephen's son while on a voyage from Spain quareled with a fellow passenger and killed him. Mount-Stephen was the county judge and in the trial, at which he presided, his son was found guilty and sentenced to be hanged. The young man was so popular in Galway that no one could be found to execute the sentence and the father was compelled to uphold the majesty of the law himself.

Ex-Governor Fletcher of Missouri, who is visiting in Washington, says: "Of the men who took a prominent part in republican politics in Missouri in the stirring days that preceded the civil war but few are left. Frank Blair, Gratz Brown, Sam Glover and nearly all the rest of my old colleagues have passed beyond the river. I presided over the first republican meeting A good-natured soldier constructed a box, ever called in Missouri, which was also the

with the appropriate footrest and contents, first of that kind ever held in a slave state. of native friends and mourners following in the started one of the boys in business. He In 1864 I was elected governor and was in-the rear, all puffing away at cigarettes or did not hold the monopoly more than one augurated January 5, 1865. President Linday. Within forty-eight hours the vicinity of | coin's emancipation proclamation did not

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HELP FOR HALTING TONGUES Great Strides Made in Removing Impedi-

ments to Speech.

A Set of Simple Rules for Home Practice, Whereby Every Kind of Speech Defect May Be Mittgated.

Stuttering and stammering, drawling, lisping or any defects of speech are among conditions that science has lately taken under her wing with the most remarkable results.

of typhoid fever at Montauk Point and was nursed back by Miss Helen Gould, has been presented by her with a law scholarship in the human race were regarded as more Those who had had no better luck than to be born into this weary world with cleft palates bore the affliction as best they might, for only in the last decade, since the younger generations show so marked an increase in speech impediments, has science been stirred up to her motherly duty. She

is doing it now, and so beautifully and county, Va., the old home of John Esten thoroughly, that in case a baby is born with a cleft palate, a hair lip and a stammering len into ruin and the rain has poured in tongue altogether, proper care in infancy through the broken panes of the study win- corrects all these infirmities, and there need dows and destroyed quantities of the writ- be no straighter talker or a more inveterate

The surgeon who closes the opening in the roof of the mouth does it so deftly that no more than six weeks old. On reaching ma-

turity such a nice bit of human carpentry is impossible, and the only resource then is a Joseph H. Chote said: "A reporter asked faise palate that is fitted by a dentist. Unme last week for this speech. I told him til recently this device was a doubtful sort of aid, as it improved speech very slightly. There are few knotty points science cannot ravel out when she really tries, and to an American woman is due the credit of evolving a clever system for training an undisciplined tongue to do its duty. Miss Warren has developed a little specialty in teaching children with unbalanced tongues to acquire normal speech. The exercises she utilizes are neither difficult to under-

stand nor apply, and they have to do merely with the workings of the tongue.

With nearly all defects, save stammering, the trouble lies right behind the teeth. The tongue in speech is thrust too far forward or held too far back, its muscles are weak at one end or the other; in short, this useful little instrument needs only to be perfectly balanced and strengthened, and it can successfully get through more work in a day than any other part of the body. Now, these are some of the simple conditions and cures that a half century ago were as undreamed of as underground trol-leys, and yet serve wonderfully to mitigate the nerve wracking life of our times.

Into the school room of the teacher for speech defects come all sorts and conditions of men and women who wish to have the kinks taken out of their tongue and some

of them are helped with the celerity an occulist displays in plucking a troublesome cinder from your eye. To the high spirited lergyman, who is nervous over his habit of drawling out the prayers, is given one little exercise for bringing his reading tempo up to the required brisk time; to the actor who lisps another series of tongue gymnastics, is ordered as a curative, and she can show a stutterer how to get the best of his trou-

A half century ago a class in speech defects would not have warranted the expendi-ture of time and trouble in its teaching. In the first place, because about half as many persons were born with such impediments; also because those who were afflicted, either had more faith in the surgeon's knife or their own skill in covering up the trouble. The surgeons used to slash

Myths Demolished.

try Demosthenes' cure.

both of which languages were familiar to back of the river below Fort Lee. him, could he form a word. He had re- house disappeared years ago, but the shaded lapsed into the condition of a mute when he driveway leading from the private wharf was put under wise and tender training. up to the house still remains with its With the utmost patience he was cartied louble row of trees arching above it. far back of that point where the averag: One of the most remarkable of the limb

normal child begins to acquire speech. It ormations near the top of the tree forme was necessary to teach him how to breathe, she letter "R." clearly marked out by half how to exercise his tongue and maintain its | a dozen oddly crooked branches and below MODERN WONDERS WROUGHT BY SURGEONS proper position, and then, by the most care- it a perfect "H" has been formed in the ful drilling in articulation, piece by piece, same way,

sound by sound and letter by letter, lan-guage was given back to him. In the space This combination of letters smacks of royalty and seems strangely out of place in of a year his power of easy speech was ab- a tree which has sheltered Washington and solutely restored, so perfectly indeed that his men. A little lower down there is a he did not hesitate to pronounce the most perfect "X" and near it a well defined capdifficult words and resume his schooling. ital "N." Exactly the same system is followed in The lower branches are decorated with

the treatment of adults, and so profoundly an "E," a triffe mischapen, an "L" and a "Z." A curious curved fork at the end has this science of articulation been studied that those who are not within reach of a of a short, straight limb makes a monster capable teacher can help their case by "U," and there are in all three "Y's" on the adopting a few of the principles on which tree and a creditable capital "P." In addition to these are a couple of other

the course of training is founded. The stammerer can herself learn to ex-pand and develop a feeble pair of lungs by bodily exercise, and increase his vocal power by trying to shout against the roar of the word. surf, machinery or any noise. Add to this

regular exercises in respiration, such as singers adopt, and control of the breath, so Dr. Bull's Cough Syrup always cures cold. A neglected cold may terminate in consump-tion. Cure your celd in time. important to stammerers, is gained. Following this up by exercises in articulation

Carbon Manufacturers Combine. CLEVELAND, O., Jan. 10.-W. H. Law-rence, president of the National Carbon com-pany of this city, confirms the report that his concern has been absorbed by the carbon combine now being organized. He also con-firms the report from Chicago regarding the other communics which will become menuand very important steps have been taken toward a cure. The practice can be made helpful and valuable by using such simple devices for keeping the teeth apart as placing a pencil or paperknife between them, and then forming the letters that require a

firms the report from Chicago regarding the other companies which will become mem-bers of the new organization. He as-serted that it is not the intention of the new company to raise prices, but to lower them through cheaper methods of doing busi-ness which would be instituted as the re-suit of the consolidation. He refused to accept the presidency of the new company or to become a member of it unless it was distinctly understood that prices should not be raised. The headquarters of the company will be in this city. free passage between the upper and lower jaw. Learning to keep the head steady and in a natural position when speaking, teaching the lower jaw its flexible duty, taking time and making earnest efforts at selfcontrol, are all means toward advancement that a stammerer can make alone, and thus lay a good groundwork for a teacher of this beneficent modern science to work a cure will be in this city. upon.

A LEARNED TREE.

New Jersey Oak that Can Spell Nine Letters of the Alphabet.

There is a curious oak tree over on the New Jersey bank of the Hudson river whose gnarled, mishappen branches clearly form nine letters of the alphabet. It is known throughout its neighborhood as the alphabet

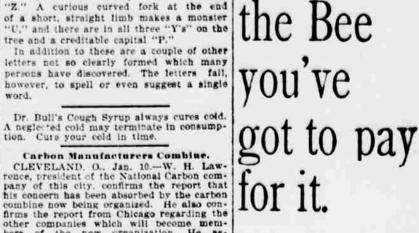
throughout its neighborhood as the alphabet tree. It stands a few feet back from the water's edge nearly opposite One Hundred and Fit-ty-fifth street. In the summer its rugged, irregular branches are covered with thick irregular branches are covered with thick rregular branches are covered with thick at a joint session. oliage which completely hides the letters

raced by the branches, but when the leaves Transport Held at Quarantine. lisappear its curious orthography is outlined SAVANNAH, Ga., Jan. 10.-The United States transport Roumanian, from Havana, learly against the sky.

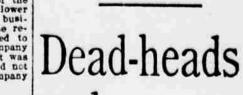
The alphabet tree stands upon historic has arrived at quarantine, but it has been held there on account of a suspicious case of illness. Dr. William Duncan, acting health officer, has gone down to quarantine to in-vestigate. This is the ship which was ordered to carry the Third Georgia to ground. At the time of the revolution this spot was several times visited by Washinton and was once the camp of the colonial army.

Washington lived in an old mansion just Neuvitas.





you



Horrible agony is caused by piles, burns and skin diseases. These are immediately relieved and quickly cured by De Witt's Witch-Hazel Salve. Bewars of worthless Investigate Bribery Charges. HELENA, Mont., Jan. 10.—The senate and house have appointed a committee of three from each body to investigate the charges of bribery in the interest of candidates for the

are not

carried on the Bee's



n of the ci as the cemetery is neared, and when the grave is reached there are seldom more than three or four beside the paid mourners. The grave is deep, and at the bottom is a thin layer of quicklime. The body, robed in tawdry finery, is taken from the coffin and literally dumped in. More fime is used, then the mutes return to their employer with the coffin.

Every Cuban and Porto Rican cemetery is surrounded by immensely thick walls containing rows of niches. These niches are sold to the wealthy for five years, the price regning from \$40 to \$200, according to the situation. When a body is placed inside a niche the opening is bricked up and plastered. Then the services of a cemetery "artist" are secured and a suitable inscription painted upon the white plastered end. At the conclusion of five years the niche must be paid for again or the remains will be removed to the common burying corner.

Beggars Ride on Horseback.

Visitors to our new possessions will find a multitude of other queer trades. In fact, almost every trade or profession is conducted differently from the methods pursued in the

United States. Beggars ride on horseback and block your way upon a crossing to importune you for a peseta. One day recently. while riding in Santiago de Cuba, I noticed a wee native boy following me upon a corry looking burro. As I passed the Plaza te Armas another boy similarly mounted fell in behind. Near the cathedral still another joined the procession. As I spurred up I heard a clattering in the rear and noticed that my escort was plying whips in an effort to keep up. Reining in near the administration building I asked them what was impossible to show anger. they wished.

"To hold your horse, senor," they replied in chorus.

They would have followed me ten miles for the sake of earning a 5-cent piece. One of the officers on General Guy V. is as much a defight to the native youngster Henry's staff in San Juan, Porto Rico, as the Italian microbe-bearing ice cream is Henry's staff in San Juan, Porto Rico, to the American boy. The "fresco," as it is called, is vended from gaily decorated carts. and sent for his family. A brother officer, ordered home, sold him his furniture, and the moving was placed in the hands of a a street by sounding sonorous blasts upon a native hanger-on about the palace. The following morning the staff officer went to his in all climes, he usually frequents the vinew abode to receive the furniture. It cinity of the schools. arrived as he reached the house. Coming down the narrow street he saw a strange procession consisting of twelve or more men. The first six were carrying a plano perched upon their heads, and each of the others "toted" a chair or a washstand. A moment later another procession came in sight. There were two heavy iron beds, each borne by three men, an immense dresser, under which tottered two natives, and finally several boys bearing sundry culinary articles and a few odds and ends.

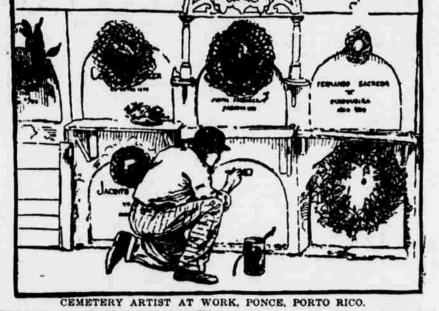
"Heavens and earth, man," exclaimed the officer, aghast, "you have engaged a battalion. For goodness sake, what's the bill?" "Doce reales, senor." was the calm reply.

"One dollar, 20 cents in American money." Bakers' Bread.

tiquilla," is a recent addition to the vocabu-The Americans living in Cubs, at least lary, it having been derived from "manteca," that part embraced in the province of the word for hard.

Santiago de Cuba, claim that only one The selling of ice is another innovation thing worth eating is cooked there. It is It is only within the last few years that ice the bread. Cuban bakers excel in making has been known to the natives, and even rolls. There is little variety, but what they now it is confounded with snow in the minds bake is first chop. Bakers work at night, of most. In Santiago de Cuba it is indisand long before the sun appears the bread criminately called "nieve" and "hiele," the vender is crying his wares in the street. former being snow and the latter ice. It is He does not travel in a four-wheeled bawked about in the streets from small wagon, emblazoned with the name of his covered carts, and is sold by the pound and employer, but carries the rolls, each neatly half-pound at exorbitant prices. The natives wrapped in a leaf or husk, in baskets sus- from the interior never fail to buy a plece as pended from the sides of a burro. The vender's melodious cry: "Pan fresc-a-a!" on seeing it mert in their hands is laugh-is the alarm clock that wakens half the city. able. All ice used in the southern islands is

vender's melodious cry: "Pan fresc-a-a!" is the alarm clock that wakens half the city. There are two new and rather peculiar manufactured. trades in Santiago de Cuba at present, trades which are the direct outcome of the Ameri-can occupation. They are the selling of



the clubs and the Cafe Venus swarmed with include Missouri, but a state constitutional half-clad youngsters eager to earn an Amer- | convention determined on the abolition of ican dime. They picked up English in a re- slavery to be effectual whenever the govmarkably short space of time, and they even | ernor should issue a proclamation of freewent the Yankee bootblack one better by | dom. This I issued on the very same day varying their request according to the color the convention acted. Before this, however, of the prospective customer's shoes. If the I had freed my own slaves." color was tan, they would invariably say, "Meester! Care for the brown?" A refusal It is not generally known that a reward was met with a choice collection of profane was once offered for Senator Morrill's life. words learned from the aimy teamsters, but

He told the story himself at a meeting of uttered in such whimsical English that it the Vermont Historical society about four years ago. "In the early days of the late Hokey-Pokey of a New Kind. war," he said, "my ploture was put forth

The "hokey-pokey" of Cuba and Porto by a rebel Virginia newspaper, with an ad-Rico is a liquid. It consists of a sweetened, vertisement offering a reward for me, dead or alive, of \$25. That was usually offered unfermented liquor, made from a plant, and for the recovery of runaway slaves. They described me as 'a person who would be expected to have been the author of "Yankee Doodle" rather than of the inand the huckster announces his presence in fernal tariff of 1861.' The picture was, of course, pleasing to the old masters of the cow's horn. After the manner of such men south, being after the manner of Hogarth, and I have not learned that it has been made immortal by preservation in any of

in fact, the Spanish word for butter, "man-

It is a sad commentary on human nature their historical societies. It will be for when the purity of the milk of commerce is | posterity to say, if posterity should ever only accepted when the cow delivers it in trouble itself to say anything, whether or person. That is the peculiar condition of not Vermonters made a mistake in not suraffairs in our new possessions. The good rendering me for the \$25 Virginia reward." housewife of Cuba and Porto Rico insists A Double Crop of Apples. on seeing the cow milked at her door. Hence On a Long Island farm is an apple tree it is no unusual spectacle to find the narrow

which bore two crops of fruit the past year, and the farmers are taking unusual interest street obstructed by a collection of bovine animals, one of which is being industriously in this peculiarity of nature. Just as much robbed of its milk by a native dairyman. In interest bas been shown in Hostetter's Stomach Bitters, which has the peculiarity this operation a calf plays no unimportant part, it having been found my experience part, it having been found my experience that the mother cow will surrender her store more easily when the calf is given the first dies fail to benefit. In chronic cases it chance. There are not many dairy farms in rarely fails, and it cures whenever a cure is the islands, and butter is almost unknown. posssible.

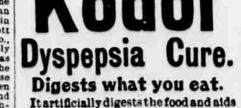
> Jennings One of the Old James Gang. KANSAS CITY, Jan. 10.-A special to the Star from Springfield, Mo., says: The man Star from Springfield, Mo., says: The man Jennings, under arrest for complicity in the robbery of the Kansas City, Fort Scott & Memphis passenger train at Macomb. Mo., last Tuesday night, has been positively identified by a Kansas City detective as Ryan, who was a prominent member of the famed outlaw gang led by Frank and Jesse James when it operated years ago. When "Jennings" was searched \$2,500 was found sewed up in his clothes. Elmer Byrum, son-in-law of Lew Neigh, another of the rob-bers, today directed the authorities to an old barn, where the robbers had secreted \$500 in money. It was recovered. in money. It was recovered.

used to restrain the babit of suddenly shutting his teeth together. Dr. Bell laughs at the pebble as a cure, just as he advises no one to adopt the plan of another great orator, namely, Phillips Brooks, who, to conceal an infirmity in speech, fell into the way of speaking at a rate of more than 200 words minute. Just as other defects in the use of the tongue were less common fifty years ago. stammering was not so prevailing an afliction. In this nervous age stammering appears in a peculiarly severe form. It cerenerates in some cases into St. Vitus' dance, is too often hereditary, will follow up illnesses, fasten upon an adult after whooping cough, and in one instance it attacked a clever business man after a period of nervous prostration. This is almost as mysterious and in some cases as painful and incurable a trouble as ever, but if a child is put under the proper training with a competent teacher the convulsions that distort its efforts at speech an be soothed and straightened into absolute control of the tongue. For years well meaning persons filled the stammerer first with hope and then despair by attempting to rid him of his troubles by a series of foolish tricks. Opening and shutting one hand rapidly when trying to speak, swinging the arms, solemnly wagging the head a couple of times before each word or striking the side violently with the elbow, all comical devices advocated as aids to subdue those painful convulsive contortions of the mouth. In later years a perfectly reasonable and beneficial system of instruction has been developed to reach this ever growing class of sufferers. Women, and it is easy to understand why, prove to be the best instructors for stammerers. They have the natural in-

stinct of the sex for influencing and guiding children, while with the adult stammerer they understand how to use the tact and encouragement necessary to overcome the sensitiveness and despondency so typical of those on whom this disease has been long fastened.

A Case in Point.

A case in point was that of a little boy ? years old who was brought to an expert instructress to be actually taught to speak. A nervous child by nature, his trouble had increased until he lost all power of making any distinct speech sounds. His tongue absolutely refused to obey the demands of his brain, and of neither English nor German Kodo



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