A Large Collection to Select From-Finest and Cheapest in the City.

Oriental Rugs and Carpets

A gentleman who knows a great deal about rugs, said: "Your rugs are almost priceless. I had had no idea there were so many here. I never saw them as fine." The public is invited to judge for themselves. Compare quality and price before buying elsewhere. See my Gharavan Carpet, 9-8x16 feet; Kermanshah, 9-6x12-11, and many other valuable ones.

E. TAMINOSIAN.

BARGAINS ALL THIS WEEK

Two Nights To Florida

Jacksonville with its sunshine and flowers is only two nights' ride from Omaha, and the trip is not an expensive one.

This season the trains to Florida are faster and the service better than ever. Drop in the Burlington office and talk itover.

P. S.—The Burlington also runs personally conducted excursions to California three times a week—4:25 p. m. Thursdays and Saturdays, and 10:30 p. m. Saturdays.



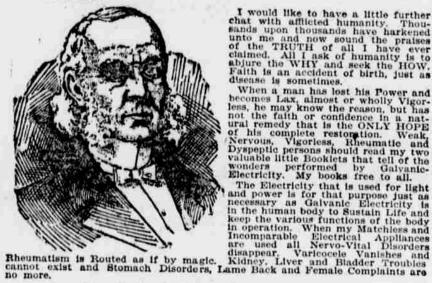
TICKET OFFICE, 1502 Farnam St. Tel. 250.

BURLINGTON STATION.

10th and Mason Sts. Tel. 128

EVILS COME FROM ERROR

Reason is a Law to Itself and Knowledge is the Only Power that Can Overthrow Error-A Candid Statement from an Irrefutable Source.



I would like to have a little further chat with afflicted humanity. Thousands upon thousands have harkened unto me and now sound the praises of the TRUTH of all I have ever claimed. All I ask of humanity is to abjure the WHY and seek the HOW. Faith is an accident of birth, just as disease is sometimes.

When a man has lost his Power and

When a man has lost his Power and becomes Lax, almost or wholly Vigorless, he may know the reason, but has not the faith or confidence in a natural remedy that is the ONLY HOPE of his complete restoration. Weak, Nervous, Vigorless, Rheumatic and Dyspeptic persons should read my two valuable little Booklets that tell of the wonders performed by Galvanic-Electricity. My books free to all.

The Electricity that is used for light

Don't Drug Yourself to Death.

The Interchangeable Battery Cells of My Belt are exclusively patented and My Electrical Attachment for Vigorless Men is the Most Wonderful Invention that has ever been vouchsafed to afflicted man, and is FREE to male patients. Beware of and shun the Spurious, Fake imitations—these imitations are the penalty I pay for the worth and merit of my Appliances, so do not be duped. But if you

Have Been Humbugged

and have one of these "counterfeits" that either gives no current whatever or else burns and blisters, bring or send it to me as part payment for a perfect one that cannot burn or blister, but is soothing and comforting while distributing its powerful current of the Life Fluid.

A Weak Man cannot hide his Weakness and he Loses Courage, becomes Morose and Sordid. Why not JOIN THE ARMY OF THE STRONG? Why not call today—why hesitate? You are making no experiment. If you can't call, write.

DR. BENNETT ELECTRIC BELT CO Corner Dodge and 16th St., Omaha, Nebr. Opposite Hayden's. Always Open.

Earned A Watch American Style Watch in Gold Laid Case.

class reliable timepiece.

These watches are brand new, without a scratch or tarnish on them, just as workmen's hands, clied, adjusted and timed ready for instant wear. The movement style, expansion balance, quick train, and you can rely upon it that when you own atches you will always have the correct time in your possession. Just the watch for it those who need a very close timec. This is the watch you can secure WITHOUT ONE CENT OF EXPENSE

purpose to give away these watches simply to advertise our busi-No catch words in this advertisement. WE MEAN JUST WHAT WE Fou require no capital while working for us. B.—We will semt your watch, all charges propaid, when you send money for the jewelry.

\$1,000 REWARD

reby effered to any person who can prove that we have not given PREE untiful Gold Laid Watch for selling 13 pieces of our handsome jewelry cents each. Address Department C. W. S. SIMPSON, 19 Warren St., New York.





Three Excursions Weekly Scenic Line



OMAHA Wednesday Friday and Saturday

Daily First-class Sleeper Through to San Francisco Colorado, passing the Grandest Scenery of the Rockies and Sierra Nevada by Daylight. Direct Connections to Los Angeles.

City Ticket Office, 1323 Farnam St., Omaha.

RISE AND FALL OF A GRAFT

Stery of Diamond Diggings Worked to a Finish in Nebraska.

ACTS ABOUT THE CROP OF SHINERS

Favored Few Contrasted with the Losses-Statistics from the Four Distributing Centers.

In the written story of western development only three states brighten the breezy chapters with the light of diamonds. California and Wyoming have had diamond diggings, salted for the occasion, and Montana worked off an extensive field for native gems on London speculators. When the next volume of the story comes to be written Nebraska should receive a diamond chapter rivaling the record of its sister states. In each instance the wealth of precious stones held up to the gaze of the multitude dazzled imaginations and successfully lured the nimble dollars from countless pockets before the lights went out forever. Like its predecessors, the fabled diamond diggings of Nebraska have been worked to a finish, and four-fifths of those who staked their money on the game possess ornate certificates as souvenirs of blind faith. Some have induced discreet friends to kick them away back to a rear seat. Others are feeing lawyers to watch the post mortem. In no instance, however, does the promoter appear as a loser in the

Some fifteen months ago, when the diggings were in their infancy, The Bee directed attention to the game and pointed out the inevitable result. Promoters and victims alike opened their hot air pipes and indulged in a prolonged roar of denial, without changing the result in the slightest degree. Out of a dozen or more tontine diamond companies then in existence few are working in their old haunts today. Three died a natural death, three are in the hands of receivers, two have moved out of the state, four have shifted headquarters and the remainder retain a semblance of life by the aid of hot air tonics.

An Old Game.

The history of the diamond tontine scheme is a repetition of the numerical oond graft which plucked the central west for several million dollars in the early 90s. Practically similar methods were pursued in both instances and lapses were relied upon to fulfill contracts. Failure to meet payment at the specified time worked a forfeiture of the amount paid on a given contract, so that the misfortune or neglect of some members were the sole reliance of the promoters to perform their part of the contract. In other words the scheme was to profit the few at the expense of the many. In support of this theory, life insurance tables were quoted extensively, and the claim was made that what life insurance had done could be readtly duplicated in the diamond tontine scheme. But an ounce of experience proved more effective than a ton of theory or columns of juggled insurance tables. Experience with numerical bonds, as with the diamond scheme, demonstrated that lapses were precious few. The huge profits promised was a bait too tempting to be easily dropped and nine-tenths of the members hung on like grim death, each one hoping that the others might let go and radiate his shirt bosom with an incandescent glow.

Four Distributing Points. The principal distributing points for diamonds in this state were Omaha, Lincoln, Hastings and Grand Island. Hastings appears to have been the most prolific field, having had six tontine companies in less than two years. The first was the Beneficial Tontine company. It did considerable business for a time, then moved to Omaha and collapsed. The Tontine Investment company ran for ten months and was sold to Omaha parties. Four others followed, all organized by Hastings business men. Two of these are alive, one is in a receiver's hands and the fourth moved to Omaha. Three of the six transferred their headquarters to Omaha, following the custom of the tribe, thus checking local inquisitiveness and removing the surplus beyond the range of local disturbance. It is estimated

> Lincoln has had three companies-the Tontine Mercantile, the Columbian and the Tontine Investment company. The first named transferred its headquarters to Salt Lake City, and hundreds of contract holders are waiting for the promised diamonds. The second moved to York. The third shut up shop just as its contracts were about to mature and is now undergoing liquidation. These companies issued about 2,100 contracts and matured 400, but how many were paid off is unknown. Their combined receipts were between \$20,000 and \$30,000, of which not more than 20 per cent was paid back to the contract holders.

the six Hastings companies issued 2,000 con-

tracts, of which 500 are said to have been

Grand Island's Brilliant. Grand Island's Security Tontine company saued 500 contracts, of which 101 were maured and paid. The balance is in the hands of a receiver. The inside history of this company as revealed in the court proceedings on the application for a receiver presents two significant features In January of this year, after building up an elegant business during 1900, the postal authorities pronounced its contracts a lottery and forbid the company the use of the matls. This was a solar plexus blow from which it did not recover. The local field was not large enough to work profitably, and nearby verdure was a necessary of life. A lawyer was dispatched to Washington to secure a modification of the mail order. He returned with a modification of the company's contract instead, the use of which would enable the company to use the mails The contract approved by the postoffice entirely by providing that when the contract holder had the required amount (\$200) to his credit his contract should be redeemed. Efforts to substitute the new conthe ground floor. The names of the organ- of the known contracts leaves 4,000 conless than their patrons'? The Omaha Crop.

tracts in this vicinity and if they paid off luster of a truism with the passing years.

The Fire, Smoke and Water Sale at Hospe's Is Raging Harder Than Ever

The recent loss at THIS IMMENSE ART AND MUSIC ESTABLISHMENT was quickly adjusted by the insurance underwriters, as only a small portion was destroyed, another small lot wet by water, a further lot slightly damaged by smoke. Notwithstanding this the allowance was on the ENTIRE STOCK and this represents all the

Pianos, Organs, Stools, Scarfs, Pictures, Frames, Musical Instruments, Sheet Music and Music Books

Therefore we have made the cut from one-third to one-half on most goods and a decided reduction on the balance.

IMMENSE PIANO BARGAINS

Think of the opportunity of getting a Knabe, Kimball, Hallet & Davis, Kranich & Bach, Schumann, Clark, Hospe, Whitney, Hinze, Cable and the many other well known and celebrated makes of pianos at prices which are so low that it paralyzes competition. Think of the best pianos the world produces at prices like this: \$45, \$75, \$98, \$105, \$128, \$147, \$158, \$168, \$195, \$210, \$228, \$240, \$268, \$283 and up, on terms of \$5 to \$25 down and \$3 to \$15 per month. Organs from \$6, \$18, \$22, \$33, \$39 and up, \$2 to \$4 payments.

Music

Rolls

slightly wet by water.

all thoroughly clean and

bright, at half and two-

thirds prices from 50c

Harmonicas, 5c, 10c,

15c and 25c; former price

Musical Instruments

11100100	
Some slightly damaged by smo or wear—as every instrument	
\$15.00 Washburn Mandolins,	\$7.50
\$18.00 Washburn Mandolins,	\$9.00
\$12.00 Burton Mandelins,	\$6.00
\$10.00 Burton Mandolins,	\$5.00
\$30.00 Mayflower Mandolins,	\$15.00
\$5.00 Mandolins,	\$4,00
\$5.00 Mandolins,	
\$15.00 Burton Guitars,	
\$12.00 Benary Guitars,	
Violins, Banjos, Accordeons,	from \$3.00 up to

\$2.00 cloth bound vocal and instrumental books for \$1.00. Standard song albums, \$40.00, at half price, some one-third off, some 25 half price. per cent off. 25 per cent off on op-\$100.00 Regina Music Boxes, .\$75.00 era scores. Lots of up-to-date \$10.00 Regina Music Boxes, music, only 10c. \$300 Regina Music Boxes, Popular songs, 15c.

\$150.00

A special discount on all trimmings, such as Music Stands, Drum Sticks, Drum Belts, etc. Cloth Music Bags for instruments and Wooden Violin Cases at half price.

ART DEPARTMENT ...

Framed Paintings, Water Colors and Engravings

In this stock the damage was light-mostly smokewhich was easily removed, (except where paintings were entirely destroyed.) The insurance adjusters made the allowance big enough so that we will sell all framed pictures at one-half price.

Sheet Pictures, Water Colors, Etchings, Engravings, Facsimiles, Water Color Carbons, Photographs, Platinotypes

at one-fourth to one-half off the price. Frames for pictures at one-half to two-thirds of our best prices. Great display of pictures at 5c, 10c, 25c and up.

Water Color Boxes, One-Fourth Off

Brushes, Oil Tube Paints, Artists' Materials at special prices to clean up all stock which was on hand during



The

THE UNION PACIFIC

What is the use of wasting your time enroute and your money on extra meals when it COSTS NO MORE to travel in the finest trains on the best ballasted road in the west, the Great Trans-Continental Line, "The Overland Route!"

The Popular Personally Conducted Excursions are via this line. Leave Omaha every Wednesday and Friday at 4:25 p. m. can join excursion at any point enroute. Pullman Ordinary Cars leave

Omaha at 11:20 p. m. every Tuesday for Los Angeles, Pullman Ordinary (Tourist) Cars leave Omaha DAILY at 4:25 p. m. for San Francisco and

For full information address, City Ticket Office, 1324 Farnam. Telephone 316.

the usual proportion of one in five, 200 diamonds or the cash equivalent were distributed. Besides the local companies, one of the Lincoln concerns planted a large number of contracts in this city, many of which have been paid up by the holders, but the diamonds are not forthcoming. The company quietly shifted headquarters from Lincoln to Salt Lake City, leaving the victims a fresh bunch of glowing promises. The promoters hoped to work Salt Lake City handsomely and pay off the contracts left behind. Letters recently addressed by the hopeful contract holders to the company at the Mormon metropolis failed to elicit an answer and gnawing suspicion is reoting hope off the perch.

Sizing Up the Graft.

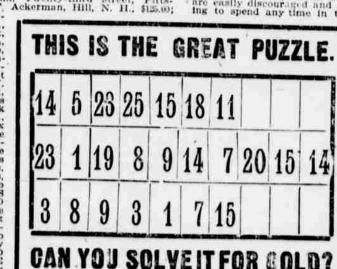
mond promoters at the four distributing authorities wiped out the element of chance centers of the state cannot be made with any degree of accuracy because the affairs of several companies which shifted headquarters are not accessible. A partial list shows 5,500 contracts issued and 1,200 paid tract for the old proved abortive. Holders off. As a general thing the tontine conof the old form of contract thought they tracts called for seventy-six weekly payhad too good a thing and declined the ex- ments of \$1.25 each and an advance paychange. Of these 110 have been paid up ment of \$5, a total of \$100. Each conand the remainder of the 500 contracts tract holder paid off received a two-carat issued have varying sums to their credit. diamond or the equivalent in cash, \$160. About \$16,000 was paid out on the 101 con- The fortunate 1,200 paid in \$120,000 and retracts redeemed. Only one diamond changed ceived in cash or diamonds a total of \$192,hands and that brilliant was secured by a | 000, a net profit of \$72,000. To make up this railroad man in Omaha. The others were vast sum the holders of 4,300 contracts satisfied with cash. Who these fortunate were skinned. The total number of concllows are is something of a mystery. tracts issued in this state was much higher Very few are local residents, and the im- than the 5,500 estimate. Only partial payression prevails that Grand Island people ments were made on a great number. Takshould have been given a better show on ing the excess, the lapses, and adding 1,500 izers of the company do not appear on the tracts, on which, it is fair to assume, the books as contract holders. Was their faith full amount of \$100 has been paid. That means a total of \$400,000 poured into the coffers of the tontine companies. Subtract-Three tontine companies were organized ing from that sum the estimate of \$192,000 in Omaha. Three of the Hastings com- paid on canceled contracts leaves a balance panies moved to this city. At least one of \$208,000 to compensate the promoters and outside company maintains a branch here. boosters for their exhausting labors in shed-Of the seven companies which worked this ding precious stones over the land. Each field at verious times at least three are de- | contract paid off actually cost \$333, accordfunct, another is tied up in court on an ing to this showing, and every tontine diaapplication for a receivership and the remond in sight represents the contributions maining three are dragging out a feeble of four victims of the game. The famous existence, more or less under cover. It is remark of the late Phineas T. Barnum, "A estimated they unloaded at least 1,000 con- sucker is born every minute," attains the

GOLD DOLLARS

CAN YOU SOLVE THIS PUZZLE?

Each one of the three lines of figures IN THE CENTER OF THIS ADVERTISEMENT spells the name of a great city in the United States. This is a brand new puzzle and can be solved with a little study as follows: There are twenty-six letters in the alphabet and we have used tigures in spelling the cities instead of letters. Letter A is number 1. B. number 2. C. numberd, etc., throughout the entire alphabet and we have used tigures in spelling the cities instead of letters. Letter A is number 1. B. number 2. C. numberd, etc., throughout the entire alphabet and we have used tigures in spelling the cities instead of letters. Letter A is number 1. B. number 2. C. numberd, etc., throughout the entire alphabet and the number of the very best New York and New York May 1. C. Numberd 1. C. N

A summary of the operations of the dia-



about their bad luck. There are always plenty of good opportunities for clever, brainy people who are always alort and ready to grasp a real good thing who are always alort and ready to grasp a real good thing who are always alort and ready to grasp a real good thing who are always alort and ready to grasp a real good them who are always alort and ready to grasp a real good them who are always alort and ready to grasp a real good them to greatest offers. The special contest we consider one of the greatest offers. The special contest we consider one of the greatest offers. The special contest we consider one of the greatest offers. The grasp and the three cities send your answer at once. Blooks, RE. WARD will be paid to anyone who can prove that in the mainy Free Cash Contests we have conducted in the past year of the great and graphed and graphed and graphed and graphed and graphed and graphed condition. To pay out these big gold cash put our financial condition. To pay out these big gold cash put our financial condition. To pay out these big gold cash put our financial condition. To pay out these big gold cash put our financial condition. To pay out these big gold cash put our financial condition. To pay out these big gold cash put our financial condition. To pay out these big gold cash put our financial condition. To pay out these big gold cash put our financial condition. To pay out the gold cash put our financial condition. To pay out these big gold cash put our financial condition. To pay out the gold cash put our financial condition on the gold cash put our financial condition. To pay out the gold cash put our financial condition on the gold cash put our financial condition. To pay out the gold cash put our financial condition on the gold cash put our financial condition. To pay out the gold cash put our financial condition on the gold cash put our financial condition on the gold cash put our financial condition. The gold cash put our financial condition of gold cash put our financial condition our financ

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