

GOSSIP OF THE CAPITOL

One of the younger and better dressed men of the house left the capitol Monday morning and attempted to mount a Fourteenth street car at the H street entrance. But somehow he missed the step and fell to the ground. He clambered on again, however, and stood on the platform brushing off his light brown overcoat and explaining to a friend how it happened.

As he whisked off the sleeve of his coat, his hand loosened a ring from his little finger. The band dropped to the platform and rolled off into the snow. The young man stopped the car again, groped about until he found the ring, picked it up, and was about to mount the platform once more. Just then the car started and threw him again full-length upon the pavement. His hat shot under the wheels and his coat split from collar to tail.

"Damnation," he hurled out as he struck the ground with a bump.

And now he threatens to introduce a bill for the restoration of the good old horse car system of rapid locomotion.

When Gov. Thayer was inaugurated for the second time in 1887, Gov. Larabee and family and all of his staff came over to the ceremony. It was a brilliant affair at which were present the staff of both governors in glittering uniform, the members of the legislature and many distinguished visitors. The reception in the evening was the most noted of all receptions. In the line receiving were both governors and families, all the state and staff officers in full military dress. Col. Cody, better known as "Buffalo Bill," was one of Gov. Thayer's staff. He was elaborately attired, wearing many decorations and medals, and with his wife and daughter held a levee of his own at one end of the hall. They attracted an immense amount of attention, overshadowing everyone else present. While most of the throng wanted to see Governor Larabee not a single one would miss shaking hands with Buffalo Bill. It was estimated that he alone kissed four times as many babies as both the governors and all the rest of the staff together.

John Fitz Roberts of South Omaha is one of the contesting members from Douglas who was recently seated. He is a comparatively young man who for a number of years ran a successful stock farm in Cass county and has recently built up a large commission business at his present home. He is a hard worker, takes a sound view on most of questions which have arisen in the house, and has made more friends in the few weeks he has been in the legislature than many who have been present since the first of the year.

Roberts loves a joke either on his friends or himself. The Saturday afternoon on which the contesting members from Douglas were seated, Roberts met an old friend, a university student who evidently did not know that the genial John had just "broken in" to the house.

"Hello, John, been up to see the fun?"

"Yes," was the reply. "Great, wasn't it. But it was a big shame to oust those fellows. It was all a political move—no justice in the whole thing. The pops had the power and proposed to use it. I don't envy the new members their chairs. But it was very interesting wasn't it?"

"Well, rather—to me," replied Roberts, "since I am one of those contesting members from Douglas."

The university student squared matters by taking Roberts to the play that night.

If a man has a touch of politics he can never get over it. It will stay with him in some way. A taste of the legislature brings a former member up to every session, no matter if it has been twelve or fifteen years since he was in or if he has moved to the other end of the state. Times are not too hard or business too pressing for the old legislator to come up to the capitol, renew acquaintances, and talk over the old days. They came up this year as usual, but they do not stay long. The old faces are gone. New and unknown men are occupying the seats they held in the eighties. Over in the senate they see Frank Ransom, but he is the only representative of their own times. They wander through the corridors a half-hour or so and then go back home with lonesome hearts, for the old days of brilliant men and brilliant battles, of lasting enmity and lasting friendship, of political strength and intellectual ability are gone. And the place is as in a shadow.

THE OLD MEMBER.

We have purchased (because it is just the thing we have needed) the Columbian Cyclopaedia Library, consisting of the Columbian encyclopedia, which is also an unabridged dictionary thirty-two volumes of convenient size neatly bound, four volumes of the annual cyclopedic review, four volumes of current history for 1896, one Columbian atlas and the neat convenient revolving oak case with glass doors. From the evidence obtained we find that some part of this work is placed in the best private and public library in this country an d abroad, for the reason that they cover a field relative to the past, present and future progress and achievements of the human race not attempted by others. The plan is original, and the work throughout is carefully and ably written.

Current history contains 220 pages, is issued two months after the close of each quarter, this length of time being taken to reduce all information received to be an absolutely reliable and authentic basis. If these are kept on file, this magazine will prove a permanent and invaluable record of all important movements in political, social religious, literary, educational scientific and industrial affairs.

The magazine will be indispensable to all people who have encyclopedias, as it will be needed to keep these works up to date. To those who do not own encyclopedias it will be doubly valuable as their source of information is more limited. About March of each year the four volumes of current history are bound into one volume, known as the Annual Cyclopedic Review. There are now four of these bound volumes covering years 1892-3-4 and 5. The work has for endorsers and subscribers in this city and state such people as Mr. Gere, editor-in-chief of the Lincoln State Journal, Hon. Joe Bartley, state treasurer, Hon. W. J. Bryan, Mr. Miller, editor of the Northwestern Journal of Education, Hon. H. R. Corbett, state superintendent of public instruction, Dr. R. E. Giffen.

Every reading person has felt the need of brief summaries of current topics and events. The daily, weekly and monthly periodicals and papers may furnish data sufficient, but the labor of collecting and digesting it is frequently out of proportion to the result obtained. A most satisfactory summary may be found in the quarterly journal has been of invaluable service to the library covering a field that no other attempts.

Subscription price, \$1.50 a year in advance; bound volumes, cloth, \$2.50; half morocco, \$2.50; library sheep, \$2.50; embossed sheep, \$3.50; three-fourths person, \$4. Complete library from \$36. to \$108; cases from \$6. to \$44.

The complete library is sold on monthly payments to suit purchaser. City subscriptions will be received at the Courier office for a limited time only, or at Mr. H. W. Brown's book store, direct all other correspondence to C. S. Borum, general agent Lincoln Neb.

NOTICE.

In the district court of Lancaster county, Nebraska.

Wilmer B. Comstock, administrator of the estate of Nancy Jennie May deceased, plaintiff,

vs.

Henry C. Show, Rosa M. Brockway, Mary C. Phelps, Harriett L. Wilson, Menirva Bartlett, Andrew J. Thayer, Martha A. Lewis and Harriett L. Bullard, defendants.

The above named defendants and all others having an interest in the matters involved in the above entitled action will take notice that on the 16th day of February, 1897, the plaintiff filed a petition and began an action in the above named court the object of said action being to secure an order and decree from this court directing the plaintiff to make deeds conveying to Henry C. Show lot twenty-two (22) in block one (1), and to Rosa M. Brockway lot nineteen (19) in block two (2) all in Central Park subdivision in the city of Lincoln, in Lancaster county, Nebraska, to comply with the terms and conditions of two written contracts made by Nancy Jennie May in her lifetime agreeing to convey said above lots to the said above named persons the consideration named in said contracts having been fully paid. The hearing of the above entitled action is hereby set for the 29th day of March, 1897, at 10 o'clock a. m. at which time any and all persons objecting to the order and decree asked in this action shall appear and show the cause and reason for their objection.

Signed this 16th day of February, 1897. ALBERT J. CORNISH, Judge.

3-27

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STORIES IN PASSING.

The situation was about as follows: Jim and Will each had \$30. I had no ready money, merely a few outstanding bills and a pull with the railroad company which I thought was good for three passes. So we decided to take the trip.

I wrote to my friend. He replied that he thought he could accommodate us and that the transportation would probably be along the last of the week.

That was Monday. We felt so certain that we casually mentioned our intention to a newspaper man. The next morning the whole town knew that James Weddell, Will Towler and Martin Stiles would leave the coming week for an extended pleasure trip through the mountain region of Colorado.

This was a great indiscretion on our part. That little item cost us no end of annoyance. Every waking hour of the next few days our friends burdened us with something like the following:

- "Going to Colorado?"
"Yes, I think so."
"Soon?"
"Oh, the first of next week."
"Where do you expect to go?"
"Dont know exactly—Clear Creek canon, Colorado Springs, Manitou, and perhaps as far as Leadville."
"Think you'll get up to Cripple Creek?"
"Probably."
"Well, you know my cousin out there. Now, if it ain't too much bother, I've got a bundle I want to send out to him. I've been intending to send it by express, but thought somebody'd be going out soon."

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