HE ASKS FOR $12,000

F. W. Becker of Mulvane Sues National Surety Co.

SAYS HE WAS BLACKLISTED

For Loss of Package for Which He Was Not Responsible.

Yesterday E. E. Harvey of the law firm of Huttman & Harvey, Wichita, brought suit against the National Surety company of New York for $12,000 for F. H. Becker, who claims he was blacklisted by the company for the loss of a $500 package. Becker is a railroad man and an operator and alleges that while he was at work for the Aransas Pass Railway company at Karnes City, Texas, the package worth $500, belonging to the Wells-Fargo Express company, for which he was agent, was lost, and that he was in no wise responsible for the loss. The National Surety company furnishes bonds for employes of the Sante Fe railroad and for the Wells-Fargo Express company. He says that as a rule the railroad company will not accept bonds of any other company. For the loss of the package at Karnes City, Texas, Becker alleges in his petition, which is on file in the district court of Sumner county, "that said surety company wrongfully and maliciously coerced this plaintiff by threats to have this plaintiff discharged and by other intimidation to sign a written statement containing substantially the following facts:

"'That the package of money above referred to was lost by reason of this plaintiff's negligence and had not been for this plaintiff's negligence said money would not have been lost.' But the plaintiff avers that had it not been for the threats and intimidation of said surety company this plaintiff would never have signed said statement.

"Plaintiff further states that said statement was untrue and said National Surety company then knew it to be untrue, but, nevertheless, said National Surety company has maliciously and wrongfully used and published such statement in securing and published said statement in securing the discharge of this plaintiff in the several instances as above set out, and to prevent plaintiff obtaining a bond or employment anywhere.

"Plaintiff further states at the same time he was forced as above stated to sign the statement above alluded to this plaintiff was compelled to give said National Surety company, for the same reasons, an order to the said San Antonio and Aransas Pass railway company to pay the said National Surety company $25 a month out of the salary of this plaintiff until the sum of $500 was paid; that said National Surety company has also wrongfully and maliciously used said order and published the same in order to, and in procuring the discharge of this plaintiff, as complained of in this petition, and preventing his getting bond or employment elsewhere, but plaintiff avers that this plaintiff would never have signed the said statement or the said order had it not been for the fear of being discharged, caused by the said threats and intimidation of said National Surety company.

"That this plaintiff is a railroad man and a telegraph operator; that he has spent the best part of his life in that business and educated himself to make that his business during his whole life; that he is unfitted for any other business and when unable to procure work at railroading or as telegraph operator, he is necessarily losing money; and the time, money and labor spent in educating himself for his business as telegraph operator and railroading, as this plaintiff cannot give bond in this or any other or surety company because of defendant's wrongful and malicious acts herein set out; that by reason of his not being able to obtain and give bond in this or any other bond or surety company this plaintiff has been forced and compelled to give up his business as railroad man and telegraph operator, and that he will thus of necessity lose the remuneration to be derived from his business, earned at so much labor and expense to this plaintiff.

"Plaintiff further alleges that by reason of the said malicious and wanton and wrongful conduct on the part of the said National Surety company, as herein stated, the labor and expense of procuring his education and befitting himself for this business has been wasted and made a dead loss to this plaintiff.

"Plaintiff further alleges that by reason of the malicious and wrongful publication of the statement and order herein described, and by reason of the above wrongful and malicious interference of above-named defendant, and by reason of all premises herein above set out, and by reason of all said wrongful acts of said defendant, this plaintiff has been discharged from his employment and is unable to obtain employment as above set out, to the damage of this plaintiff in the sum of $12,000."

Best of All

To cleanse the system in a gentle and truly beneficial manner, when the Spring-time comes, use the true and perfect remedy, Syrup of Figs. Buy the genuine. Manufactured by the California Fig Syrup Co. only, and for sale by all druggists, at 50 cents per bottle.

HOW TIRES ARE SET

Putting Steel Bands on Locomotive Wheels

"There are a great many people who do not know how the steel tires are put on to the wheels of a locomotive and after they are put on, what holds them on," said a Wichita railroad man to the Eagle yesterday. "Some think that the wheel and tire are all one solid piece, while others have an idea that the tires are put on the wheels and then bolted on, so as to hold them in place. These are every day suppositions and both are wrong.

"The process of putting the steel tires on the locomotive wheels, and the taking of them off is interesting, and should be seen to be fully appreciated. There are very few people outside of the railroad that know that the tires of a locomotive are held in place on their wheels merely by the contracting force which the steel tire exerts on the wheel by reason of being smaller in its inside diameter than the outside diameter of the wheel. It is this grip which holds the tire in place and very seldom does one come off by accident.

"The steel tire is made a trifle smaller in its inside diameter than the outside diameter of the wheel to which it is to be fitted. The next question is to put this small sized tire on to the wheel. This can be accomplished satisfactorily in only one way, and that is by heating the tire so as to make it expand and thus become larger than the wheel. This is done and when the tire is sufficiently hot it will slip on to the wheel very easily.

"There are various ways of heating the steel tires preparatory to putting them on to the wheels, but one of the best and most modern is in use in the shops of the Rock Island railroad. Here the tire is encircled by a pipe, perforated and into which gasoline is forced by compressed air. After this pipe becomes hot, which takes only a few minutes, the flames from the gasoline are forced out of the perforations and spend their energy in heating the tire.

"The wheels on which the tires are to be placed are already fastened on their axle, and in their usual position are securely blocked up sufficiently from the ground to admit of the free working all around them. The tires having become properly heated so that they are expanded sufficiently to go easily on to the wheels, are carefully slipped on. This done, a man who is an expert at the business adjusts the tires so that they are exactly true on the wheels, and they are now ready to set.

"After being adjusted, a stream of cold water is allowed to run over the tires to cool them off and hasten their contracting force. As the tires become cold they become smaller, and when cold, by reason of their being smaller than the wheels, they grip the wheels with a power which is simply enormous.

"When the tires wear out, or if for any reason the tires should be taken off the wheels, the same process is gone through with, only somewhat reversed. The wheels are blocked up from the ground, and are heated by the gasoline burning perforated circular pipes. When the tires are sufficiently hot as to expand them so that they become loose on the wheels, two men on either side of the wheels with heavy sledge hammers, knock the tire off and allow it to fall to the ground, where, after it is cool, it is taken away to the scrap pile."

SANTAL CAPSULES MIDY

Relieves Kidney & Bladder troubles at once. Cures in 48 Hours all URINARY DISCHARGES

Each Capsule bears the name MIDY. Beware of useless counterfeits.

GOOD NIGHT!

Sweet, Soothing Slumber Man's Greatest Blessing.

Nothing Kills So Quickly as Loss of Sleep. Rest Needed for Repairs. How to Obtain it Without Fail.

When you don't sleep well, look out for yourself.

Nothing breaks down a person so quickly as loss of sleep, that boon of mankind which gives the exhausted system rest for repairs.

No time for repairs means destruction of the machinery. It is so with the human body.

You are nervous, have a load on your chest, are troubled with unaccountable anxiety and forebodings of evil, and roll and toss all night.

Towards morning you have fitful naps from sheer exhaustion, awake in a cold sweat, unrefreshed, pallid, trembling, with a bad taste in your mouth and a feeling of great weakness.

It's your stomach, your liver, your bowels.

Keep your digestive organs all on the move properly and your sleep will be restful and refreshing and all repairs will be attended to.

The way to do it is to use a mild, positive, harmless, vegetable laxative and liver stimulant—Cascarets Candy Cathartic. They make the liver lively, prevent sour stomach, purify the blood, regulate the bowels perfectly, make all things right as they should be.

Go buy and try Cascarets today. It's what they do, not what we say they'll do, that will please you. All druggists, 10c, 25c, or 50c, or mailed for price. Send for booklet and free sample. Address, Sterling Remedy Co., Chicago; Montreal, Can.; or New York.

CCC

This is the CASCARET tablet. Every tablet of the only genuine Cascarets bears the magic letters "C C C." Look at the tablet before you buy, and beware of frauds, imitations and substitutes.

ACCIDENT ON SIDEWALK

Mrs. Bain Falls and Breaks Her Hip.

Mrs. Bain, mother of Ralph Bain, fell on the icy sidewalk near the Crawford Grand opera house yesterday and broke her hip. She is said to be about 60 years old, and the fracture will probably be a very severe one, from which she may not fully recover. The walks all over the city are in such a bad condition from the late storm that it is almost unsafe for people to walk upon them, especially elderly persons. Mrs. Bain was hurriedly taken to the Wichita hospital, where she will receive every care.

SPAIN'S GREATEST NEED.

Mr. R. P. Olivia, of Barcelona, Spain, spends his winters at Aiken, S. C. Weak nerves had caused severe pains in the back of his head. On using Electric Bitters, America's greatest Blood and Nerve Remedy, all pain soon left him. He says this grand medicine is what his country needs. All America knows that it cures liver and kidney trouble, purifies the blood, tones up the stomach, strengthens the nerves, puts vim, vigor and new life into every muscle, nerve and organ of the body. If weak, tired or ailing you need it. Every bottle guaranteed, only 50 cents. Sold by G. Gehring, druggist.

LADIES LIBRARY CLUB

Discussions at the Semi-Monthly Meetings.

The Ladies' Library club of Fairmount held its fortnightly meeting with Mrs. Van Buskirk. The subject for discussion was "Domestic Science," led by Mrs. G. F. Lewis, who read an interesting paper that was timely illustrated by a lunch of delicacies, presented by the generous hostess. Previous to this an open Hawthorne evening was enjoyed by ladies and gentlemen at Holyoke cottage.

THAT THROBBING HEADACHE

Would quickly leave you if you used Dr. King's New Life Pills. Thousands of sufferers have proved their matchless merit for sick and nervous headaches. They make pure blood and strong nerves, and build up your health. Easy to take. Try them. Only 25 cents. Money back if not cured. Sold by G. Gehring.

WICHITA MEN ORGANIZE

Valley Pine Lumber Company of Greenville, Arkansas.

Ben McLean and W. B. Throckmorton have organized the Valley Pine Lumber company with headquarters at Greenville, Ark., and have put in a big planing mill there. The capacity of the mill is 100,000 feet a day, which lumber men can see is no slouchy concern. They are buying all the lumber inland in sight, and will make a big thing. Lumber land is going to be hard to get one of these days.

OVERTURNER'S DEATH

Officials of Mexican Republic Will Investigate Suit

FOR $25,000 DAMAGES

Has Created Considerable Discussion Among Officers.

Much discussion has arisen in Mexican official circles over the death of Edward Turner, the Wichita Missouri Pacific engineer who died in prison at Orizaba, where he was sent for being in a wreck, and the suit of Mrs. Turner, his widow, for $25,000 damages.

The attorney general of Mexico, in concert with the departments of foreign relations and justice, has appointed Lic. Alberto Lombardo to proceed to Jalapa and Vera Cruz from Mexico City to investigate the circumstances attendant upon the death of Engineer Turner, to find out whether his death was due to negligence or lack of proper care on the part of the prison or hospital authorities and whether any unnecessary delay ocurred in the investigation of the charge for criminal carelessness in causing a railriad collision.

Official circles in Washington City have become interested, and Senator Baker will take a hand in seeing that the investigation is just and thorough. A dispatch from Washington says:

"Senator Baker has just been advised by the State department of the death in prison at Vera Cruz, Mexico, on January 28, of Edward Turner, an American citizen, who formerly resided at El Dorado, Kan. While in Kansas Mr. Turner was an engineer in the employ of the Missouri Pacific railway and left the state for the purpose of accepting a more remunerative position on the Mexican Central Railway. Shortly after assuming the duties of his new position a collision occurred near the station of Eucinal, Mexico, between the engine of which Mr. Turner had charge and the engine in charge of Engineer McVey. The accident resulted in the very serious injury of one Florencio Valez, who afterward died from the effects of the injuries received. Mr. Turner was also quite seriously hurt, and was sent to the hospital for treatment. After his discharge from the hospital he was arrested and held for homicide, as provided by the Mexican law, although in no wise at fault. Engineer McVey succeeded in eluding the authorities. Mr. Turner was imprisoned in Vera Cruz, and since his incarceration Senator Baker has made strenuous efforts, through the State department, to bring about his speedy trial and release from the prison at Vera Cruz, as Mr. Turner complained bitterly of the unsanitary and otherwise filthy condition of the penitentiary, but after investigation the State department found itself powerless to act in the premises, as his confinement did not in any way overstep the Mexican law governing such matters. His trial was postponed from time to time, until finally, on the 28th of January, he died. The immediate cause of his death was doubtless due to long imprisonment and his unhealthful environment.

While in Kansas Mr. Turner was a very popular and respected railroad engineer, and since the deplorable accident, which resulted in his arrest and subsequent imprisonment, many prominent citizens of the state have exerted themselves in his behalf through Senator Baker and the State department, and, although his case was given every attention by the American ambassador to Mexico and the consul at Vera Cruz, no satisfactory result was attained.

MUSIC AND DRAMA.

"THE LITTLE MINISTER."

The story of "The Little Minister," which is to be seen here, begins in Caddam Woods. There the little minister meets Babbie, the gypsy girl, she induces him to blow a horn and thus arouse the town. When the redcoats come, she, by his silent permission, introduces herself as the minister's wife. In the second act he meets her at Nannie's cottage and there the tea drinking and disclosures of the minister's heart and mind to Babbie. In the second scene, the minister, instead of going to prayer meeting follows the gypsy, who has learned the congregation's prejudice and fled. In the third act the scene is at Lord Rintoul's castle. The minister has followed the gypsy there, but finds Lady Babbie. They declare their love but the father and his choice for his daughter intervene. However, in Scotland, when a man acknowledges a woman to be his wife before witnesses it is a legal marriage. Babbie insists that the minister be kept to his acknowledgment of the night in "Caddam Wood," in the last act he does, and to the surprise of all, claims Lady Babbie as his own. This charming comedy will be presented at the Crawford theatre Monday, March 5, by Charles Frohman's company. The cast and production, it is promised, will be complete I nall details and a splendid performance is looked for. Sale of seats opens at Howe's jewelry store this morning.

"A HOT OLD TIME"

If you don't laugh you should not go to the Crawford theatre Tuesday next, March 6, for the Rays' laughing success, "A Hot Old Time" will be the attraction and it is a known fact that "It makes those laugh who never laughed before." The company this season is one of the most pretentious ever seen in farce comedy. The performance is replete with bright, catchy, musical specialties, introduced by artists of acknowledged ability. There has not been one detail omitted to make this the premier of farce comedies.

One of the special features for this season's tour is the engagement of America's greatest novelty danseuse, Miss Annie St. Tel, who has made all Europe talk. She was featured with Miss Anna Held during the last tour of "The Parlor Match" and was the principal dancer in E. E. Price's production, "Little Christopher" during the entire New York run at the Garden theatre. The other members of the company include: John W. Jess, the prince of eccentric Irish comedians; William McRobie, a clever young juvenile; W. Wallace Black, an actor with an unusually good singing voice; John C. Leach, one of the most amusing of character comedians; Charles J. Newton and Joe Darling, in characters well suited to their respective abilities; Ada Henry, the leading woman of the company; Ada Melrose and Pearl Revere, in character and singing specialties; Hyberta Pryme and Beatrice Rice, singing comediennes, and John and Bertha Gleeson in their artistic dances and cake-walks. The music is under the direction of Mr. Frank Hodges. Sale of seats for this engagement opens Saturday at Howe's jewelry store.

A hero of the dashing, duel-fighting, women-loving class, but one who is companionable and attractive is Gil de Berault, one of Louis XIII's cavaliers and around whose splendid figure Stanley Weyman has written the fascinating love story, "Under the Red Robe," which will be seen at the Crawford theatre soon. Gil de Berault is a very handsome fellow, a man of the perfect romantic type, tall, fine-looking, graceful, brave. He is the most famous duelist in all France, and when he falls beneath Richelieu's displeasure for having killed his man in a duel, he is given the choice of death or the capture of Richelieu's enemies. The price of his life is to be the handing over of this enemy to the Cardinal. He captures the enemy but there is a lovely sister in the case and Gil de Berault, who for a moment falters between love and duty, halts with his prisoner near the gates of Paris, and there gives the brother over to his sister, going back to Paris alone to meet Richelieu and the headsman. He is a type that requires a handsome manly actor for his embodiment, such an actor as Paul Cazeneuve, who has long been associated with parts of this quality and who has always been a favorite actor with the fair sex. Mr. Cazeneuve, who is the leading man of Julius Cahn's "Under the Red Robe" company, has played the role of Gil de Berault many times.

CITY IN BRIEF.

Mr. Geo. Millburn left last evening on a short business trip to El Reno.

S. B. Amidon, county attorney, went to Newton yesterday on legal business.

Charles Priestly, ticket agent at the stock yards, returned yesterday from a visit in Kansas City.

The man Drake, who has been quarantined on North Main street, is not E. L. Drake, the barber, who works with Mr. Short. The barber is all right.

Miss Nellie Barnard, a leading milliner of Wellington, passed through the city today, en route to St. Louis. While there she will purchase a large stock of latest spring styles of millinery.

Miss Mabel Millison's elocution class, assisted by Prof. Marshall and the college chorus, will give a recital at Fairmount Friday evening, March 2, in the chapel. It is for the benefit of the Sorosis room.

Mrs. Fred Bentley and her mother, Mrs. Cody, and the children left Thursday night, Mrs. Bentley and the children to go to their new home in Chicago and Mrs. Cody to Kansas City on a visit. Mr. Bentley remains here for a few days to finish some of his legal business.

Chief Clerk Reed of the railway postal service made his monthly report of case examinations. He says that the average is better than usual, 20,971 cards being handled and 99.47 per cent of them thrown correctly. Thornton M. Rittenor, a Wichita boy, made a grade of 100 per cent on Kansas.

COMING LOCAL EVENTS.

Pennsylvania association meets tomorrow, March 3, at the usual time and place.

Gramophone greeting, as a vocal and instrumental concert, will be given at West Side Presbyterian church, Friday evening, March 2.

The board of directors of the Deaconess home will hold their monthly meeting at the home of Mrs. Kirkwood at 2:30 p. m. Friday.

Associated Fanciers will meet this (Friday) evening. All members requested to be present. Business of importance to transact. Otto Weiss, president.

Mount Olivet commandery, No. 12, K. T., will hold a stated conclave this (Friday) evening. There will be some special business. A good attendance is desired.

Pirates of Penzance—A rehearsal for the ladies will be held at the Elk's lodge room at 7:30 tonight. At the rehearsal Saturday both ladies and gentlemen are requested to be present.

Attention, K. P. A. drill team! All members of the K. P. A. drill team are requested to appear at the lodge room Friday night, March 2, 1900, at 8 o'clock sharp. Important business. Leonard Ayers, drill master.

Resolutions of Condolence.

"Whereas, The relentless hand of death has taken from us our esteemed and beloved brother, A. L. Cooper;

"Therefore, Be it resolved, by Queen City Lodge, No. 20, degree of honor, A. O. U. W., that in the death of Brother Cooper, this lodge has lost a faithful and respected member, the community an honored and upright citizen, his wife a loving and considerate husband, his children a faithful, affectionate and loving father;

"Resolved, That while submitting humbly to the will of Him who controls all things well, we realize the frailty of the silver cord by which we are bound, reminding us to increase our friendship and to obey the command, 'Bear ye one another's burdens.'

"Resolved, That we extend our sympathy to the grief-stricken wife and children of our late brother.

"Resolved, That these resolutions be spread upon the records of this lodge and a copy be sent the bereaved wife and children of the brother.

"J. W. WINGARD,
"J. R. DUTTON,
"R. W. WILLIAMS,
"Committee."

Wichita, Kan., Feb. 19, 1900.

CASTORIA.

Bears the Signature of Chas. H. Fletcher. The Kind You Have Always Bought

"SAPHO" DESCRIBED IN COURT

Reporter Inglis Tells of Olga's Naughty Carryings-on.

New York, March 1.—The "Sappho" hearing was today resumed by Magistrate Mott in his private room in the Center street court. William Inglis, a reporter, described the second scene in the first act. He identified as correct the photographs shown him in the scene, one being that of Fannie being carried upstairs by Jean. Mr. Inglis said that as Sappho was being carried upstairs she was uttering inarticulate sounds, which seemed to denote intense satisfaction. He told about the ball room scene and the contest between Toto, a minor character, and Sappho for the possession of Jean's favor. Mr. Inglis spoke of Fanny Le Grand's gown as "a very clinging costume." "She has to take very tiny steps as she wears it," he continued, "and it clings to her very tightly and reveals her anatomy very plainly." Court adjourned until tomorrow.

Account of the opening of Crescent hotel, Eureka Springs, Arkansas, March 1, the Frisco line will make rate of $6 for the round trip. Tickets on sale March 1, 2 and 3, good for return March 5.

Secure your tickets at City Office, corner of Main street and Douglas avenue.

B. F. DUNN,
District Passenger Agent.

Rest assured that if your misdeeds find you out they will call again.—N. Y. Weekly.

TORE DOWN PAPER

Minstrel Men Provide an Extra Number.

IN FRONT OF MANHATTAN

Little War Ensues and Later Coals of Fire are Used.

Two minstrels provided a vaudeville show for a large crowd at the Manhattan hotel yesterday noon. An advance agent for the West minstrels started to bill the town heavily before the performance of the Barlow Minstrel company occurred last night, and trouble would have resulted had not Policeman Stewart been near and threatened to take both combatants to the city building if they did not sign a protocol of peace.

Barlow's minstrels arrived in town early yesterday morning. Immediately after the mid-day parade of that company S. A. Ricaby, of the West Minstrel company, started out to bill the town, and tacked up a number of cloth banners on the awning of the Manhattan hotel. A few minutes afterward Harry Ward, proprietor of the Barlow Minstrel company, happened along and saw the banners.

Wrath arose in his breast at once. With righteous indignation he tore the signs down and trampled them in the mud. Mr. Ricaby happened to come back just at that time, and when he saw his advertising sheets being soiled with Wichita mud he grew about three inches in height and announced that he could lick the man who had torn them down.

Ward was standing near and invited Mr. Ricaby to open the attack. Instead, Mr. Ricaby summoned his helper and had other signs tacked up, and notified Mr. Ward that he wanted to see him tear them down. Offier Stewart strolled up just at that time and prevented a collision between the two angry representatives of the "boards."

A wordy war ensued in which no one was injured but which threatened to result in active operations quickly had not the representative of law and peace been near and threatened to settle the matter by allowing Police Judge Mitchell to judge the right and the wrong of the affair.

Mr. Ward declares that professional courtesy would not allow an opposing company to bill against one playing in town at the time. Mr. Ricaby asserts his right to bill a town any time he pleases, and there the matter stands. Mr. Ward heaped coals of fire on his antagonist's head last night by announcing from the stage the coming of the West minstrels and proclaiming them the greatest minstrel company on the road at the present time, which they undoubtedly are. Mr. Ward said last night that he deplored the happening, especially as he and Mr. West are good friends.

PROBLEMS OF THE PLEIADES

Scientific Curiosities and Mysteries That Pertain to Them.

New York, Mar. 1.—Famed in legend; sung by early minstrels of Persia and Hindustan;

"Like a smarm of fire-flies,
tangled in a silver braid;"

yonder distant misty little cloud of Pleiades has always won and held the imagination of men. But it was not only for the inspiration of poets, for quickening fancy into song, that the seven daughters of Atlas were fixed upon the firmament. The problems presented by this group of stars to the unobtrusive scientific investigator are among the most interesting known to astronomy. Their solution is still very incomplete; but we have already learned what may be counted justly among the richest spoils brought back by science from the stored treasure-house of Nature's secrets.

The true student of astronomy is animated by no mere vulgar curiosity to pry into hidden things. If he seeks the concealed springs that move the complex visible mechanism of the heavens, he does so because his imagination is roused by the grandeur of what he sees; and deep down within him stirs the true love of the artist for his art. For it is indeed a fine art, that science of astronomy.

It can have been no mere chance that has massed the Pleiades from among their fellow stars. Men of ordinary sight see but a half-dozen distinct objects in the cluster; those of acuter vision can count fourteen; but it is not until we apply the space-penetrating power of the telescope that we realize the extraordinary scale upon which the system of the Pleiades is constructed. With the Paris instrument Wolf in 1876 catalogued 625 stars in the group; and the searching photographic survey of Henry in 1887 revealed no less than 2,326 distinct stars within and near the filmy gauze of nebulous matter always so conspicuous a feature of the Pleiades.

The means at our disposal for the study of stellar distances are but feeble. Only in the case of a very small number of stars have we been able to obtain even so much as an approximate estimate of distance. The most powerful observational machinery, though directed by the tried skill of experience, has not sufficed to sound the profounder depths of space. The Pleiad stars are among those for which no measurement of distance has yet been made, so that we do not know whether they are all equally far away from us. We see them projected on the dark background of the celestial vault; but we cannot tell form actual measurement whether they are all situated at the same point in space. It may be that some are immeasurably nearer to us than is the great mass of their companions; possibly we look through the cluster at others far behind it, clinging, as it were, to the very fringe of the visible universe.

Farther on we shall find evidence that something like this is really the case. But under no circumstances is it reasonable to suppose that the whole body of stars can be strung out at all sorts of distances near a straight line pointing in the direction of the visible cluster. Such a distribution may perhaps remain among the possibilities, so long as we cannot measure directly the actual distances of the individual stars. But science never accepts a mere possibility against which we can marshal strong circumstantial evidence. We may conclude on general principles that the gathering of these many objects into a single close assemblage denotes community of origin and interests.

The Pleiades then really belong to one another. What is the nature of their mutual tie? What is their mystery, and can we solve it? The most obvious theory is, of course, suggested by what we know to be true within our own solar system. We owe to Newton the beautiful connection of gravitation, that unique law by means of which astronomers have been enabled to reduce to perfect order the seeming tangle of planetary evolutions. The law really amounts, in effect, to this: All objects suspended within the vacancy of space attract or pull one another. How they can do this without a visible connecting link between them is a mystery which may always remain unsolved. But mystery as it is, we must accept it as an ascertained fact. It is this pull of gravitation that holds together the sun and planets, forcing them all to follow out their due and proper paths, and so to continue throughout an unbroken cycle until the great survivor, Time, shall be no more.

Why should not this same gravitational attraction to be at work among the Pleiades? If it is, We must suppose that they too, like ourselves, have bounds and orbits set and interwoven, revolutions and gyrations far more complex than the solar system knows. The visual discovery of such motion of rotation among the Pleiades may be called one of the pressing problems of astronomy today. We feel sure that the time is ripe, and that the discovery is actually being made at the present moment, for a generation of men is not too great a period to call a moment, when we have to deal with cosmic time.

It is indeed the lack of observations extending through sufficient centuries that stays our hand from grasping the coveted result. The Pleiades are so far from us that we cannot be sure of changes among them. Magnitudes are always relative. It matters not how large the actual movements may be if they are extremely small in comparison with our distance, they must shrink to nothingness in our eyes. Trembling on the verge of invisibility, elusive, they are in that border land where science as yet but feels her way, though certain that the way is there.

The foundations of exact modern knowledge of the group were laid by Bessel about 1840. With the modesty characteristic of the great, he says quite simply that he has made a number of measures, of the Pleiades, thinking that the time may come when astronomers will be able to find some evidence of motion. In this unassuming way he prefaces what is still the classic model of precision and thoroughness in work of this kind. Bessel cleared the ground for a study of the interstellar motion within the close star-clusters; and it is probable that only by such study may we hope to demonstrate the universality of the law of gravitation in cosmic space.

Bessel's acuteness in forecasting the direction of coming research was amply verified by the work of Elkin in 1885 at Yale College. Provided with a modern instrument, but similar to Bessel's, Elkin was able to repeat his observations with a slight increase of precision. Motions in the interval of forty-five years, sufficiently great to hint at coming possibilities, were shown conclusively to exist. Six stars at all events have been fairly excluded from the group, on account of their peculiar motions shown by Elkin's research. It is possible that they are merely seen in the background through the interstices of the cluster itself, or they may be suspended between us and the Pleiades, in either case having no real connection with the group. Finally, these observations make it reasonably certain that many of the remaining mass of stars really constitute a unit aggregation in space. Astronomers of a coming generation will again repeat the Bessel-in work. At present we have been able to use his method only for the separation from the true Pleiades of chance stars that happen to lie in the same direction. Let us hope that man shall exist long enough to see the clustered stars themselves begin and carry out such gyrations as gravity imposes.

These will doubtless be of a kind not even suggested by the lesser complexities of our solar system. For the most wonderful thing of all about the Pleiades seems to point to an intricacy of structure whose details are destined to shake the confidence of the profoundest mathematician. There is an extraordinary nebulous condensation that seems to pervade the entire space occupied by the stellar constituents of the group. The stars are swimming in a veritble sea of luminous cloud. There are filmy tenuous places, and again condensing whirls of material doubtless still in the gaseous or plastic stage. Most noticeable of all are certain almost straight lines of nebula that connect series of stars. In one case, shown upon a photograph made by Henry at Paris, six stars are strung out upon such a hazy line. We might give play to fancy, and see in this the result of some vast eruption of gaseous matter that has already begun to solidify here and there in to stellar nuclei. But sound science gives not too great freedom to mere speculative theories. Her duty has been found in quiet research, her greatest rewards have ever flowed from speculation tempered by pure reason.

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CHICAGO, January 18, 1900.

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SISTER MARY BASILLA.

Sister Mary Basilla is Superior of the Convent of the Annunciation, corner Washington and Hermitage Streets, Chicago.

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A GREAT REMEDY

NEWARK, N. J., January 25, 1900.

"For nearly five years I suffered from kidney and liver troubles and had given up hope that I would ever be cured. I was told by the doctor that I had Bright's disease, and he thought I was incurable. My legs swelled up so with dropsy that I thought I was done for. A friend told me to use Warner's Safe Cure and I did. I used in all about six bottles. It is a great remedy and made me a new man."

PATRICK KELLY,
Patrolman of the First Precinct, City of Newark.

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FOR CURBING THE COMBINES

Industrial Committee Submits Its Preliminary Report.

Washington, March 1.—The industrial commission today submitted to congress a preliminary report on trusts and industrial combinations, together with testimony, review of evidence, charts showing effects of prices, etc. The commission makes the following recommendations based on such information as it now has:

"Promoters and organizers of corporations or industrial combinations which look to the public to purchase or deal in their stocks or securities should be required to furnish full details in regard to their business necessary for safe and intelligent invest ment. Any prospectus which fails to give this information or which gives false information should be held legally responsible. The nature of the business, together with the powers of the various officers, should be expressed in the certificates of incorporation, which should be open to inspection. The directors or trustees should be required to report to the members of such corporations its financial condition in reasonable detail; to give members access to records of directors' meetings or otherwise and to furnish them before annual meetings with lists of members, with their addresses and their several holdings and to provide, in whatever other ways may be named in the certificate of incorporation, means whereby the members may prevent the misuse of their property by directors or trustees. It is recommended that the larger corporations should be required to publish annually a properly audited report, showing in reasonable detail their assets and liabilities, with profit or loss; such report and audit to be under oath and to be subject to government inspection.

"With regard to the Interstate Commerce Commission, it is recommended that it be given authority not only to prescribe the methods of keeping accounts of railroads and to demand reports in such detail as it may require, but also to inspect and audit such accounts; that the decisions of the commission be made operative at a day fixed in the decisions and to remain so unless reversed by the United States courts on appeal; that the commission be authorized to prescribe classifications of freight articles and to make rules and regulations for freight transportation throughout the United States and that penalties for violations of the interstate commerce act should be appropriate fines against the carrier and not imprisonment of officials."

Commissioner Lorimer states that he concurs in all the recommendations but withholds his judgment on transportation corporations until testimony now being compiled by the commission is submitted to congress with recommendations. Commissioner Clarke concurs in all recommendations except that he believes rates fixed by the Interstate Commerce Commission should not go into effect in case of appeal until affirmed by court and that trial on appeal should be expedited.

Hoeun, France, March 1.—The United States auxiliary cruiser Prairie, which sailed from Hampton Roads February 8, loaded with United States exhibits for the Paris exposition, arrived here today.

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Ladies' Hunting Case	7 Jewels	10k	10.71	14k	11.55
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