The Democrat.

BRONSON & CARR, Publishers.

MANCHESTER, - - IOWA.

An Ohio farmer is credited with robbing a bunko man. What did he get?

Apparently one good form of life insurance in this country is not to live in Kentucky.

Rather a pleasant fall leading to a hard winter than an icy winter leading to a hard fall.

Carnegie says poverty is a young man's best capital. At first sight it certainly looks like poor reasoning.

An Illinois veteran had a bullet in his brain twelve years. He was never spoken of as an empty-headed man.

"Those who expect to succeed in war," says London Truth, "must pay the butcher's bill." What a ghastly truth.

New-Yorkers eat about three tons of chocolate a week from the slot machine alone. That's better than chewing gum.

A local serenader was struck by the fair one's wash-boiler and later arrested. Courtship is not the unalloyed delight it used to be.

Even if trust promoters were ostracized it would do no good. They'd get together. They always get together what they can't get alone.

"Eye for eye, tooth for tooth, hand for hand, foot for foot," says the Bible, and in the case of a man who cruelly whips a crippled boy it would not be too much to add "Lash for lash."

They arrested a man in New York the other day for tickling his wife until she had hysterics. After this what excuse will any New York man have for trying to be pleasant around the house?

Mrs. Carrie Chapman Catt says she believes a woman will be elected President of the United States before the end of the twentieth century. Now is the time for our girls to get on the right side by being born in log houses.

A Brisbane, Australia, paper of recent date contains the following advertisement: "Wanted—A man to look after one horse and a few cows and pigs. One who can impart the rudiments of French, singing, and the piano to children preferred." It is strange that there should be a place in the civilized world where people must go to the trouble of advertising for such a man as that family wants.

The papers in the East are laughing at some eccentric genius who is concentrating his energies on an effort to write a novel without "a woman in it." The difficulty to be surmounted looks to be considerable, for it is hard to conceive of any part of the game of life with which women are not more or less intimately connected at this present period of progress. When the story is written the chances are long that it will not be worth reading.

The cheerful, even facetious, citizens of Cleveland who have formed an appendicitis club are strictly up to date. We presume it is the intention of the club members to wear conspicuously a surgeon's certificate that they have already undergone an operation for the fashionable disease in order to prevent mistakes in future emergencies. But the precedent thus established may prove to be embarrassing to the noble army of Esculapians who are always ready to relieve our miseries for a sordid equivalent. If it becomes the fad for afflicted ones to thus make common cause we may soon have a startling succession of grip clubs and even toothache clubs, not to mention the Patriotic Order of Rheumatics.

An Eastern journal, devoted to hygiene and physical culture, highly recommends peanuts as a school luncheon for boys and girls. It sets forth their great value as food, being both wholesome and nutritious, and also good for the blood, when properly masticated. In addition to these properties, unlike other nuts, they may be eaten at the end of a hearty meal without overtaxing digestion. The attachment between the child and the plebeian peanut has long been notorious, and now that a health journal has recommended it for the school lunch there will undoubtedly be a speedy clamor in every household for its liberal provision, and the schoolhouses of the land will be pervaded with its decided odor. Just at this time, however, comes the depressing news that the peanut crop is short, and prices are rapidly advancing. It is not unlikely when the news of its healthfulness gets abroad that a peanut trust will be formed and the unassuming ground nut will soon be such an object of luxury that its use may be confined to the attendants of the fashionable and wealthy private schools.

The cynical non-church attendant finds in the new and approved method of taking stock of souls a kind of invoicing of celestial goods, and believes that, just as a recently published religious appeal took the novel form of an insurance policy, with a promise of "low rates" and "heavenly premiums," so all churches have come to adopt the ways of the mercantile world. These scoffers declare that salvation must be bought by the pound, and that you cannot get first-class godliness without paying first-class prices. But to count the members of one's flock, to desire to know the actual elements of a constituency, is certainly natural and desirable, and no one will be disposed to question the fact that a church with expenses and a salaried minister must be conducted on business principles. It is perhaps the floating congregation, the religious tramps, that give the commercial air to a church. For these so often assume the attitude of the shopper, of one who is "sampling" or "just looking," and who, though pleased and inspired, never chooses to become a constant patron. These no doubt gain much, and churches as a rule are generous and charitable to such nomads. To actually sift these from the permanent elements would be a step towards the comprehension of the true attitude of society towards the church, and might lead to a better understanding on both sides.

In an address before the Irish Literary Society on "John Philpot Curran," Lord Russell of Killowen, the Chief Justice, declared the value of oratory to a lawyer is overrated. He asserted that it is an important vehicle for argument and for the enunciation and enforcement of great principles. "But," he said, "there is a tendency to run to seed in this regard, and to look upon fluency of speech as if it were oratory." Gifts of speech could never attain to their real momentum and power until founded upon a substratum of carefully acquired knowledge and upon solid argument. The opinion of the Lord Chief Justice is that of most men who have considered the subject. The art of oratorical flights is, in the opinion of the Chicago Tribune, less practiced, not so much because men are less able to make such speeches, but because they have lost their value. They are of slight use before juries and of no use with judges. There is a popular disposition to distrust the man who makes too great a display of his gifts of speech when he makes an address. The public, being more enlightened, has come to weigh arguments more carefully. When the orator is able to appeal to the passion of the moment he is sometimes influential, but there his power ends. This is why the leaders of the bar to-day are not great orators, but rather men with the carefully acquired knowledge which they are able to present logically to the Judge or jury they would convince.

The American author can no longer complain of neglect, according to the statistics furnished by the Bookman, which publishes a monthly list of the books most generally in demand as shown by the reports of news dealers. These reports prove that in November, 1895, the five most popular books were all by foreign authors. A year later two Americans had found their way into the list. The same condition prevailed in 1897, showing that the American authors were able to hold their own. In 1898 the leading sales embraced three works by American authors, Kipling's "Day's Work" and Weyman's "Castle Inn" alone representing the English authors. The final triumph came in 1899, when the five books with the greatest sale were all of American authorship. These are "Richard Carvel," "Janice Meredith," "David Harum," "When Knighthood Was in Flower" and "Via Crucis." It is especially noteworthy that of these five books three are on American subjects, in which the keenest interest is now being taken. One of the healthiest signs of the times is that each book which is included in the list is wholesome, clean and untainted with that French realism which was so much in demand a few years ago. Books of that character no longer find an enormous sale in the United States. The public sentiment demands something of a different character. Whether the time has come for a distinctive American literature is problematical, but no one can deny that with the close of the century we are laying a substantial foundation for it.

Under the advice of the best and most courageous of the friends of the Indian, an act for the allotment of their tribal lands in severality to the Indians, under certain conditions, was passed by Congress in 1884. Since that time many of the tribes have apportioned their lands to their individual members, and have given up the tribal life. As the Indians to whom lands were so allotted were forbidden to sell or otherwise alienate their land under twenty years, and as steps were taken to start them as farmers, it was supposed that the measure would do more to civilize and make them self-supporting, under existing conditions, than anything else has done. Fifteen years have gone by since the first allotment of lands, and the public men who were the authors and most earnest advocates of the severalty law have lately expressed deep discouragement with the result. Although the Indians cannot yet sell, they can and do lease their allotted lands to white men. There are reservations in the West where practically all the farms are rented to white men, while their owners and their families retire to unassigned parts of the reservation and live in the old wild way. Meantime the vices of the white men are communicated to them more readily than ever before, and they are without the tribal government and the restraint of strong men of their own race which often went with it. As a whole, the condition of the Indians is undoubtedly improving, but there are some cases in which, under the allotment system, they have actually retrograded. The fact is now apparent that it is difficult to make a self-supporting farmer of the Indian in one generation. The Indian still needs safeguards against corruption, and above all he needs practical and simple instruction, at his home, in the few industrial occupations which he may be able to follow.

Non-Ruminant Animals Lose Hair.

A curious plant, known to botanists as the Leucaena glauca Benth., is the wild tamarind or jumbai plant of the riverside and waste places of tropical America, and very strange are its effects upon the non-ruminant animals that feed upon its young shoots, leaves, pods and seeds. It causes horses to lose the hair from their manes and tails, has a similar effect upon mules and donkeys, and reduces pigs to complete nakedness. Horses are said to recover when fed exclusively on corn and grass, but the new hair is of different color and texture from the old, so that the animal is never quite the same as it was. One animal, after feeding on the plant, lost its hoofs and had to be kept in slings until they grew and hardened again. Ruminant animals are not thus affected, and the growth of the plant is actually encouraged in the Bahamas as a fodder plant for cattle, sheep and goats. The difference in its action upon ruminants and non-ruminants is probably due to the changes effected upon it in the chewing of the cud.

A Queer Lockup.

The photograph of this most curious prison was taken at a small village called Septentrion, in Mexico. There was a gold mining camp there, and the miners who got drunk and disorderly were confined in the rock, in which a large room had been blasted. It contains about sixty men on Saturday nights.

No first-class housekeeper has less than a dozen ways of using up bread crusts.

Many a tenderfoot has been fleeced in the woolly West.

The News of Iowa

At Fort Dodge three men with a team and wagon went to a lime and brick factory, which is not in operation, and loading all the iron machinery that could be handled drove to a foundry and sold it for old iron. M. M. Tabor and Robert Elder were arrested charged with the crime. Elder was bound over and Tabor secured a continuance. The robbery was the boldest that ever occurred there. The machinery taken was valued at $100.

Found Guilty on Serious Charge.

The jury in the Charles Essex case at Chariton returned a verdict of guilty. Essex was charged with an attempt to wreck Burlington fast mail No. 8 on the night of Nov. 23. The case attracted widespread interest and the court was filled at every session. Essex has always borne a good reputation. When it was announced the prisoner broke down completely and wept for several hours.

Clinton's Great Ice Harvest.

Clinton has broken all previous records this year in the matter of amount of ice harvested. The quality is also good, the ice being from twelve to sixteen inches in thickness and perfectly clear. All of the ice houses are full and indications are that prices will be low there next summer. In the amount of ice harvested the Northwestern Railway Company takes the lead, having put up 7,500 tons.

Pedagogue's Good Fortune.

Miss Kate Sullivan, who has had charge of the Waverly high school for the past eight years, has resigned her position because of her appointment as executrix of the large estate of her deceased uncle, Michael Sullivan, late of British Columbia. It is reported that Miss Sullivan inherits $30,000 from her uncle's estate and she has started for British Columbia to take charge of affairs there.

Bonds Were in Demand.

At a special meeting of the Board of Supervisors at Mason City the $75,000 3½ per cent court house bonds were disposed of to the three Mason City banks. Several representatives of outside bond houses were present, but the highest bid from any of them called for a $700 commission for handling them, a Chicago firm making this offer.

Gets Maximum Sentence.

At Des Moines Tom Hargis, convicted of assault with intent to commit murder, has been sentenced to ten years in the penitentiary. His sentence is the heaviest that can be imposed under the statue. He was convicted of shooting Ed Pillow through the lungs in a row in a restaurant about six weeks ago.

Sustained Fatal Injuries.

August Dahlgren, an employe of the Illinois Central road, was run over by a freight car in the yards at Fort Dodge and will probably die. He was lying on his back screwing a bolt above, when the switch engine bumped into the car, causing the wheel to run up against his body, mangling him fearfully.

Rural Delivery at Springville.

An order has been issued for the establishment of rural delivery service at Springville March 15. The length of route is to be twenty miles and the area covered twenty-one miles and population served 775. Lemuel E. Smith has been appointed carrier.

Baby Burned to Death.

At Ladora an 18-months-old child of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Bales was burned to death. The children were left alone for a few minutes, and upon the return of Mrs. Bales the baby's clothing was ablaze. The little one in some manner had tipped over the kerosene can, saturating its clothing with oil.

Stabbing Affray at Fort Dodge.

A stabbing affray occurred in the Mitchell restaurant at Fort Dodge. A dispute between Howard Hess, a discharged employe, and James Thompson, the present employe, resulted in a fight. Thompson was badly stabbed by Hess.

Brief State Happenings.

Sigourney wants more school houses.

A skimming station is projected at Manila.

Asa Knapp of Dubuque is dead, aged 83 years.

Chariton will build a new school building this year.

Fairfield supports its public library by a two-mill tax.

Council Bluffs will do considerable paving this year.

A mail pouch was stolen from the depot at Arion and rifled.

Cushing is raising money to be used in the erection of a new town hall.

John Burnett of Colfax was nearly choked to death on a piece of meat.

The Milwaukee will erect steel bridges over Deep creek near Preston at once.

Burlington has been sued by Loren Herrill for $2,000 damages for injuries.

John Franklin of Adel was drugged and robbed by parties with whom he was driving.

Rev. Salter of Burlington has preached to the same congregation for fifty-five years.

B. F. Bailey of Waterloo was severely burned by the explosion of the tank in a peanut roaster.

B. B. Bliss, a capitalist of Iowa Falls, has let the contract for fifty miles of railroad at Everett, Wash.

The infant of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Adkins of Fairfield was found dead in bed. It had evidently strangled during the night.

The skeleton of a mastodon has been unearthed at Rome by the railroad graders.

A Young Men's Anti-Cigarette and Purity League has been organized at Chariton.

W. E. Tomlinson, superintendent of the Marshall County poor farm, was thrown from a wagon and sustained a broken collar bone.

R. M. Haines, Jr., of Grinnell, has been tendered and has accepted the position of private secretary to Hon. John F. Lacey, member of Congress from the Sixth district.

Dr. D. Powell Johnson, for fifty years a practicing physician of Muscatine, is dead, after an illness of two weeks.

The canning factory at Garrison has so far purchased seven cars of cans and six cars of box lumber for its next season's pack.

William Gleason, a foreman of the bridge gang on the Northwestern, had a stick of dynamite explode in his face at Mason City. His eyes are both out and his face is terribly lacerated.

Sister Mary Bernard, one of the founders of the Order of Sisters of Charity, died in Dubuque at the mother house, Mount Carmel. She had been in the order over fifty years and was 90 years old.

Money is being raised at Greenfield to defray the expenses of finding the supposed body of Mabel Schofield.

Ella Edlington of Muscatine has sued the B., C. R. & N. Railroad for $10,000 damages for injuries sustained while playing around a turntable.

Lulu, 3-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. O. W. Anderson of Marshalltown, fell into a pail of boiling water and died from the effects of the scalding.

The Rev. William Campbell Gunn, for twenty years chaplain of the Fort Madison penitentiary, with the exception of six years served in the same capacity at Anamosa, Iowa, is dead. He was 66 years old.

Iowa County derives a revenue of about $12,500 from saloons.

F. E. Perry has been commissioned postmaster at Bidwell.

U. S. Pope of Lewis committed suicide by shooting himself.

Work will soon be commenced on a water system at Hudson.

A free rural mail delivery route is being established at Keystone.

Two hundred licenses to wed were issued last year in Tama County.

The Iowa Central will erect a roundhouse at Algona in the spring.

The attempt to locate a normal school at Knoxville has been defeated.

The postoffice at German Valley has been discontinued; mail to Titonka.

Fire of unknown origin at Trenton destroyed a restaurant and two shops.

The Sons of Veterans at Des Moines have formed a new social organization.

Burlington has petitioned Congress to enlarge the Federal building in that city.

Andrew McLeod has been appointed postmaster at Moingona, vice Boone, resigned.

Several barbers at Council Bluffs have been arrested for keeping open shops on Sunday.

The next biennial meeting of the Iowa State Court of Honor will be held in Des Moines in 1902.

Rev. J. H. White of Osceola has accepted the call from the Christian Church at Shenandoah.

The circulation of the Odebolt library last year was 5,748, although it contains only 1,068 volumes.

A postoffice has been established at Webb, and William C. Gannaway appointed postmaster.

Mr. and Mrs. N. I. Brown of Albion have just celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of their wedding.

A quantity of liquor was seized at the depot at Searsboro a few days ago, condemned and destroyed.

Mrs. Slaughter-Case of Grinnell has died of peritonitis, brought about by falling on an icy sidewalk.

The death rate in Muscatine is alarming, and has never been so great before unless during some plague.

William Andrews of Clinton, a night switchman, was run down and killed by a switch engine in the yards there.

The Board of Education at Lime Springs has been asked to call an election to vote on a new school building.

The preliminaries for the formation of an independent school district at Crystal Lake are meeting with some opposition.

Clarence A. Schulte of Knoxville has been appointed a teacher in the Fort Berthold Indian school at North Dakota.

Over $2,000 has been raised at Davenport for the entertainment of the State encampment of the G. A. R. in that city.

The suburban railway company of Council Bluffs, between that city and Omaha, has filed a mortgage for $600,000.

Mary Franklin of Council Bluffs, after a married life of thirty years, asks a divorce, alleging habitual drunkenness and threats.

It is proposed in Marshalltown to levy a 1 mill tax for the purpose of establishing and maintaining a system of parks in that city.

The 2-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Schuldt of Moville was fatally burned while playing with a pine stock in a stove.

The W. B. Ballew Lumber Company's yard at Albia was consumed by a supposed incendiary fire. Loss $10,000, insurance $5,200.

Articles of incorporation have been filed with the Secretary of State by the Fort Dodge Beet Sugar Company, with a capital of $40,000.

The teamsters hauling coal at the Des Moines mines have made a demand on the operators for an advance in wages of 10 cents per ton.

James H. Woolm, an old soldier who lived near Richland, was found dead in a field near his home there. Heart failure was the cause.

The city library trustees at Des Moines have tendered room rent free to the Loyal Legion, Grand Army posts and Woman's Relief Corps.

The little daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. M. Higley of Ocheyedan was severely burned about the hands and head through playing with matches.

Albert B. Hughes, while en route from Burlington to Fremont, Neb., committed suicide at Council Bluffs by shooting himself. He was temporarily deranged.

According to statistics received by the State dairy commissioner there were 79,922 pounds of oleomargarine shipped into Iowa during the year ending June 30, 1899.

Two spans of the new railroad bridge over the Mississippi river at Dubuque have been completed and the piling is now in for the third. Work is being prosecuted with all possible expedition.

Two years ago C. T. Dike, at Clear Lake, rescued Miss Bonnie Elder of Mason City from drowning, and the other night she became his wife. Mr. Dike is resident engineer for the Northwestern.

Waterloo is to be made headquarters for Dr. John Alexander Dowie's disciples of Zion for Iowa. An immense tabernacle is to be built with seating capacity in its main audience room for 2,500 people.

Mrs. Lizzie Bailey brought suit against the city of Centerville, claiming damages for injuries received in falling on a defective sidewalk. The jury awarded her the sum of $900.

Last Christmas William Huff of West Union, aged 65 years, disappeared from home after a trivial quarrel with his son-in-law and had not since been heard from. The other night his body was found in a cave a few miles east of the city. The indications were that death had come peacefully and from natural causes and a post mortem examination revealed no evidences of violence.

Icy walks in Grinnell have caused five or six women of that city to fall within the past few weeks, resulting in a broken arm in each instance.

Rev. Johnson, pastor of the Christian Church at Union City, has made arrangements for the building of a new house of worship at Kent. This little town is experiencing a remarkable boom.

Four well-defined cases of smallpox, discovered by the city health physician, have occasioned great excitement and alarm at Fort Dodge. Two persons have been sick with the disease for two weeks and many outsiders were exposed. A child from one family has been attending school regularly.

T. H. Oxley, teacher in district No. 10, Washington township, has been expelled on the charge of excessively whipping the young son of Charles Travis. The adjudication of the case required a great deal of time, as there were several trials, the county superintendent upholding the decision of the local board.

Mrs. Frank Markel, wife of a Chicago and Northwestern Railroad man of Clinton, committed suicide by jumping into the cistern at the family home. Some three years ago a daughter committed suicide by jumping from the railroad bridge into the Mississippi river, and it is feared that this has worked on her mind until she became deranged

CARRIED OFF THE BRIDE.

Strange Misadventure that Befell a Chinese Damsel.

The way of Oriental brides would scarcely suit their Occidental sisters. In China a bride usually rides in a richly embroidered red sedan chair, decorated with flowers, and hired for the occasion.

Not long ago in Canton city a man hired a chair to carry his bride to his homestead in the suburbs. The distance was great and the hour late. When the four chair coolies and the lantern bearers arrived at their destination the chair containing the bride was deposited outside the doorway to await the auspicious hour selected for opening the door to admit the bride and the coolies adjourned to an opium den; and, as they had traveled a long way and were tired, they soon fell asleep. How long they dozed they knew not, but on awakening they returned and found the bridal chair outside the doorway. They came to the not unnatural conclusion that the bride had already entered the household and that the chair was left there for them to take back to the city. Since they had all received their pay in advance they did not stop to make further inquiries, but hurried home with the chair, put it in a loft, and, rolling themselves up in their beds, slept the sleep of the just. In the meantime the bridegroom heard the bridal party arrive, but had to await the stroke of the auspicious hour before welcoming the bride. At last the candles were lit, incense sticks were lighted, the new rice and viands for entertaining the bride were served, the parents-in-law put on their best suits and so did the bridegroom and, with much pomp and ceremony, the door was thrown wide open; but as far as the lanterns' light would reach, lo! there was not a trace of the bridal chair or bride, nor a single soul to be seen. Great was their consternation, and it became greater still as they concluded that bandits must have kidnaped the bride and would hold her for ransom. The district officer was aroused, the case was reported to the village justice of the peace and search parties were sent out in every direction. The bridegroom, though distracted, had sense enough to rush to the city and make inquiries of the chair bearers. The coolies were dumfounded and explained what they had done. Together they climbed to the loft, opened the door of the chair and found the demure-looking bride, long imprisoned and half starved, but still appearing to her best advantage in her beautiful bridal gown. The bride appeared to have known that she was being carried backward and forward, but could not protest, because it is the custom for brides not to open their lips till the marriage ceremony is performed. Hence all the trouble.

DISCOVERY OF THE BRIDE.

ALL WERE SELF-CONVICTED.

Georgia Lawyers Handed Over Their Guns with Singular Unanimity.

Georgia has a stringent law forbidding its citizens to carry pistols on pain of forfeiting the weapons and paying a fine of $50 or being imprisoned for thirty days. Shortly after the passage of this enactment Judge Lester was holding court in a little town, when suddenly he suspended the trial of a case by ordering the sheriff to lock the doors of the courthouse.

"Gentlemen," said the Judge when the doors were closed, "I have just seen a pistol on a man in this room and I cannot reconcile it to my sense of duty to let such a violation of this law pass unnoticed. I ought perhaps to go before the grand jury and indict him, but if that man will walk up to this stand and lay his pistol and a fine of $1 down here I will let him off this time."

The Judge paused, and a lawyer sitting just before him got up, slipped his hand into a hip pocket, drew out a neat ivory-handled six-shooter and laid it with a dollar down upon the stand.

"This is all right," said the Judge, "but you are not the man I saw with the pistol."

Upon this another lawyer arose and laid down a Colt's revolver and a dollar bill before the Judge, who repeated his former observation. The process went on until nineteen pistols of all kinds and sizes and shapes lay upon the stand, together with nineteen dollars by their side. The Judge laughed as he complimented the nineteen delinquents upon being men of business, but added that the man whom he had seen with the pistol had not come up and, glancing at the far side of the court, he continued:

"I will give him one minute to accept my proposition, and if he fails I will hand him over to the sheriff."

Immediately two men from the back of the court rose and began to move toward the Judge's stand. Once they stopped to look at each other, and then, coming slowly forward, laid down their pistols and their dollars. As they turned their backs the Judge said:

"This man with the black whiskers is the one that I originally saw."—New York Press.

Reading Manuscripts.

It would be a revelation to the young writers who complain that every word of their stories is not read, to see how fast an experienced and conscientious editor can, at times, go through a big pile of essays, stories or poems. The title is often enough, and he would say, "We don't want an article on that subject." The next article begins with a page or two of commonplace introduction, and that is thrown aside in half a minute's inspection, without turning more than the next page. The next is written in the first person, and peppered with "I's." "We don't want that egotistical stuff." The first verse of this poem has false meter and is tossed aside. The next begins in schoolgirl style, with "dove" and "love;" it is not read through. Of the next the editor reads ten lines. It is simply a dull description of a stream in a forest—not wanted. The next poem begins in a fresh way, seems to be constructed according to the rules, is pretty good. It is put one side to see if other better poems will crowd it out. The next is a story. The first page is promising, but the second shows a coarse strain, and the reading stops there. Another story follows. The beginning is not promising, but a glance at the middle and end shows a marked improvement, and it is laid aside for a more critical examination. In half an hour twenty articles are passed upon, and with sufficient good judgment, for a minute to a manuscript is often more than it needs.

A Rhinoceros at Large.

A rhinoceros that can dance is not, like a dancing bear, a familiar sight. Naturally such a rhinoceros created a sensation when, while being unloaded from a railroad car at Philadelphia, it escaped into the street.

The beast was sent to the Zoological Garden and arrived in good health and spirits. Twenty employes of the express company stood about to prevent its getting away, but when the animal started they all fled down Seventeenth street.

The rhinoceros went to Market street, the men after it, thence to Sixteenth and back to Filbert. In the short journey it passed probably a hundred people, and put them all to flight. An Italian, grinding out a merry tune on his organ, got a shock that he will not soon forget.

The beast has been with a circus and can dance and do a cake walk. At Sixteenth and Filbert streets it heard the sound of the music, and began to dance.

The Italian did not know what brought the crowd, but he kept on turning his crank until suddenly there was a roar of laughter, and he turned to find the beast standing still, solemnly looking at him. With a terrific yell, he dropped the crank and ran. The animal was caught and put back into the cage with little difficulty.

Everybody Plays the Guitar.

In Portugal men play upon the guitar as naturally as Yankees whistle. The peasants are universally given to the instrument, chiefly as an accompaniment to the voice. In towns and villages the artisans are often expert guitar players and walk in groups to and from their work, enlivening the journey with music and song. The carpenter who comes to your house to execute a small job brings his guitar with his tools and the blacksmith is a far better performer on the guitar than the anvil.

When Portuguese day laborer or workman has finished his long day's toil he does not hie him to a wine shop to squander the few cents he has earned; he does not even lean against a post and smoke, nor whittle a stick while swapping yarns with his fellows. If he did not bring his guitar with him he goes straight home and gets it, rests and comforts himself with the music while supper is being prepared. Afterward he spends the evening singing doggerel songs to a strumping accompaniment, tilted back in a chair against his own house wall or on the doorstep of a neighbor.

Virginia's Natural Bridge.

The famous natural bridge of Virginia is situated in Rockbridge County and spans the mountain chasm in which flows the little stream called Cedar creek, the bed of which is more than two hundred feet below the surface of the plain. The middle of the arch is forty-five feet in perpendicular thickness, which increases to sixty feet at its juncture with the vast abutments. It is sixty feet wide, and its span is almost ninety feet. Across the top is a public road. For many years the name of Washington, cut in the rock forming one of the abutments when the Father of his Country was a lad, stood high above all others; but in 1818 a student of Washington College, Virginia, Piper by name, climbed from the foot to the top of the rock, and placed his name above that of Washington.

A Story of Bismarck.

Bismarck was for some time an official reporter for one of the courts of justice. Upon one occasion, when questioning a witness, the latter made an impudent retort, whereupon the embryo Chancellor exclaimed, angrily: "If you are not more respectful, I shall kick you out of the room!" "Young man," said the Judge, interrupting the proceedings, "I would have you understand that this is a dignified court of justice, and that if there is any kicking to be done the court will do it!" "Ah, you see," said Bismarck to the witness, "if you are not more respectful to me, the court will kick you out of the room. So be careful, very careful, sir!"

Testing the Cleanness of Air.

Prof. Dewar has recently devised a new method of testing the contamination of air. A short time ago he exhibited before the Royal Institution two samples of liquid air in glass tubes—one was made from air which had been washed to purify it from dust, soot, carbonic acid and other impurities. This, when condensed, was a pale blue liquid. The other sample was made by condensing the air of the lecture-room in which the audience was assembled, and was an opaque, blackish fluid, resembling soup in appearance.

"Polly Con."

An old lady lately asked President Hadley of Yale—he tells the story himself—what he was teaching. To his reply, "Economics," she said, thoughtfully:

"Oh, you teach the students to be economical. That is good. When I was a young lady they never learned to be economical until they got married."

The True Condition.

Briggs—Do you believe that the world is divided into two classes—those who borrow and those who lend?

Griggs—No, sir! My experience is that two other classes are much more prevalent—those who want to borrow and those who won't lend.—Pittsburg Dispatch.

SQUELCHED A MUTINY

ANECDOTE OF "BOBS" THE BRITISH COMMANDER.

Harsh Measures Were Necessary Just at That Time, and He Ordered an English Soldier Shot for Insubordination—It Took Place in India.

"Gen. Lord Roberts of Kandahar, Kipling's 'Bobs Bahadur,' was the last English general to order the execution of a private soldier for insubordination," said a visitor to Washington, who has seen service under her Majesty's flag.

"It was away back in the '70s; but the incident is still very clear in the memory of old soldiers, and has been handed down with every possible exaggeration for the delectation of the 'recruitie,' who listens to the barrack-room tales told for the express purpose of striking terror and horror to his unhardened heart.

"The story is revivified now. It contributes something to illustrate the man who is beloved and feared by rank and file, and notwithstanding his determined and exacting discipline, is conceded to be England's ranking soldier among good soldiers.

"The Indian contingent has always been a ticklish department to handle. Roberts did more than any one man to bring them to a realization of what discipline really means. To-day, thanks to him, there is less grumbling, less uneasiness, and less chance of revolt than ever there has been since first the native wore the uniform, and even now extreme measures are necessary.

"But Roberts, once upon a time about the year 1878, found himself threatened with a serious situation. The native troops were uneasy. The English soldiers, too, in the case of several regiments that had been kept overtime on Indian service, were kicking loud and strong. The mouthing of the men of the English regiments was a bad example to the natives. It disorganized everything, and the punishments were made severe upon offenders who gave opportunity. But insubordination was rife. It needed but a little spark to kindle the whole command into a blaze, in which many lives must have been sacrificed and the prestige of the commanding officer lost.

"One day a drunken private was insolent to a corporal of one of the regiments. The 'non-com.' ordered the man to the guard house. A lance-corporal of the room called out a file of men. One of these refused to act as escort. He had slept in the next bed to the prisoner for years, he protested. They were army 'bed chums.' He, too, was made a prisoner, and the charge of insubordination and refusal to obey orders entered against him. It was a high crime. A general court martial was ordered, the man was sentenced to be shot, and the sentence was approved by Gen. Roberts.

"Before the assembled regiments at Calcutta he was taken out and died ignominiously with his face to the wall.

"It was a terrible and effective lesson. The spirit of insubordination was dead, but the department issued an order, religiously observed since then, to the effect that where others are available, a 'bed chum' cannot be ordered to act as escort."

COUNTESS VON BRUENING.

American Woman Who Is Admired by the Old World Aristocracy.

An American woman, Countess Adolf von Bruening, is well known in the social circles in which European nobility moves because of her marriage to her husband, the Count, but to the American people her name is familiar chiefly because of the touching devotion of her divorced husband, Gordon MacKay, of Boston and Washington. The Countess' life has been most romantic. She was the daughter of Mr. MacKay's housekeeper and had grown from childhood to mature beauty under his eyes. Although twice her age, Mr. MacKay paid her devoted attention, and she finally became his bride. Everything that wealth could provide was lavished upon the young wife and for a time theirs was a happy home. But a season

COUNTESS ADOLF VON BRUENING.

of court life evidently gave Mrs. MacKay new ideas, for she made a pronounced sensation by her beauty and was loth to return to her native land.

Mr. MacKay's life was always busy and it came about that while he worked the fascinating daughter of his former housekeeper sumptuously entertained Washington society. Finally Mrs. MacKay began suit for divorce and, in 1890, was granted a decree with $25,000 yearly as alimony, the possession of two beautiful homes and also the custody of their two sons. Mr. MacKay made no defense and by many was considered too magnanimous because of his quiet acceptance of the decree.

Six years later Count von Bruening, then a secretary of the German embassy at Washington, came into Mrs. MacKay's life. After two years they became engaged. The marriage took place in Washington the latter part of last April, the Count and Countess sailing at once to Constantinople, where the former was stationed as a member of the German embassy. The Count and Countess are now living in Berlin, where the beauty and charm of the accomplished American are greatly admired.

As a wedding gift to the Countess, Mr. MacKay presented her a check for $1,000,000. He still devotes himself to business and has amassed an enormous fortune.

Great Salt Lake Drying Up.

According to the Irrigation Age, the waters of the Great Salt Lake in Utah have receded a mile within the past year, and some persons think that within the coming century this wonderful body of water may be completely dried up. The cause of the lowering of the water is ascribed to the rapid extension of irrigation ditches, which draw their supply from the streams emptying into the lake. There is now a "salt desert" not far from the lake, which was once covered with water. The salt deposit on the floor of the lake itself is believed to be of great thickness.

IOWA LEGISLATURE.

Neither branch of the Legislature held a session on Thursday. A large number of the members went in a body to Iowa City to attend the third convocation of the State University.

The only feature of importance in Friday's legislative sessions was the confirmation of Judge G. S. Robinson of Sioux City as a member of the State board of control. The Senate passed the bill giving cities of the first class having a population of over 25,000 the privilege of levying a three-mill tax for park purposes, and an additional one-mill for the four years subsequent to the year 1900. The Senate passed the bill by Wallace repealing that section of the code which requires hedge fences to be trimmed to five feet every two years, and leaves the question discretionary with county trustees. The House bill by Myers legalizing the resolutions and proceedings of the Council and Mayor of the incorporated town of Milford, Dickinson County, Iowa, was also passed by the upper body. The hunter's license bill was taken up and discussed, but for lack of time was not acted upon. The House passed the bill by Lyman to allow savings banks to make loans on farm lands to two-thirds instead of half the actual value of the land. The only other bill to pass the House was the one by Kirkwood to transfer Harrison County from the Fourth to the Fifteenth judicial district and to provide an additional judge for the latter. The House killed the Elker bill after first voting down a substitute to increase the amount of personal earnings to be exempted $8 to $10. Only five votes were cast in favor of the bill.

Little was accomplished by the Senate at its Saturday session. The resolution giving the Secretary of State authority to sell the session laws was passed. After spending the greater part of the morning in a laborious attempt to get together a quorum, the House introduced three new bills, indulged in some refreshing levity and at the expiration of twenty minutes stood adjourned. There were only five members present and from these the chairmen of committees could not get together the required number for committee meetings.

Short State Items.

Burglars are getting in their work at Muscatine.

The building prospects are bright this year for Holstein.

Considerable building will be done this year at Woodbine.

Dysart is to have a national bank with a capital of $50,000.

A new $25,000 school house has just been completed at Rockford.

A new $6,000 school house has been voted for at New Virginia.

The Board of Supervisors at Iowa City have accepted the new jail.

A stock company is being organized at Dysart to operate the creamery.

J. W. Gilger, an old resident of Colo, dropped dead in the postoffice there.

The lumber yard project at Persia is now meeting with much encouragement.

A mad bull which got loose made things lively at a stock sale at Manila recently.

A farmer in the vicinity of Fontanelle lost several head of cattle by black leg.

The dates for the Cass County fair have been fixed for the second week in September.

The First National Bank of Dubuque has let the contract for a new bank building.

Three hundred cedar trees have been purchased to beautify the cemetery at Chariton.

Henry Price, a pioneer of Brooklyn, dropped dead at his home there from heart disease.

Fire at Des Moines damaged the dry goods stock of E. O. Wolf to the extent of $2,000.

Mrs. E. S. Cortright of New Hartford slipped and fell, breaking an arm near the elbow.

The Iowa, Minnesota and Northern Railroad has filed a mortgage in Toledo for $3,900,000.

August Walline, a well-to-do farmer living near Rowan, was gored to death by a vicious bull.

The saloon men at Marshalltown have secured a sufficient number of signatures to their petition.

Harry Barber of Iowa Falls has disappeared from his home and no trace of him can be found.

The expenditures in Keokuk in ten months have exceeded the appropriations for the entire fiscal year.

Jesse Thompson was sentenced at Council Bluffs to three years in the penitentiary for burglary.

A theater company has filed articles of incorporation at Burlington with a capital stock of $65,000.

Rural mail delivery routes will be established March 15 at St. Anthony and at Salem.

Dubuque wants to have her marshal and engineer appointed instead of elected by the people.

As a result of the revival meetings at Bedford over three hundred people have united with the various churches.

Joseph, the 16-year-old son of W. C. Pollock of Denison, was kicked on the head by a horse and for a time it was thought the injury would prove fatal.

G. H. Thorley of Atlantic has recovered a quantity of the cutlery recently stolen from him. It was discovered in a pawn shop in Des Moines.

Harold Cullen of Dubuque has sued that city for $5,000 damages for injuries sustained by falling over an obstruction on a street there.

An effort is being made at Creston to raise sufficient funds to purchase the old fair grounds so that town may have an agricultural fair.

Young's ice house at Clinton was destroyed by fire and the firemen all suffered from the intense cold, one man having both feet frostbitten.

Persia is to have a lumber yard established in her midst.

Searsboro officers seized a quantity of liquor at the depot a few days ago and destroyed it.

Bert Billings, formerly of What Cheer, is dead of injuries sustained in a street car accident at Leavenworth, Kan.

Chas. Platner of Prairie City had a narrow escape from death by a runaway team. He was dragged several blocks.

Adrian Hanson of Milford had an arm shot away by the accidental discharge of a shotgun which he had in his buggy.

A college student was ordered to throw up his hands at Le Grande, but betook himself to flight and escaped.

John Woods, residing near Newburg, was badly injured by a fall from his wagon which was standing at an elevator.

The engineer and fireman on a work train on the Davenport, Rock Island and Northern felt a bridge giving under them on Duck creek and jumped into the raging waters. They were uninjured.

Fort Dodge people interested in the raising of sugar beets are urging the passage of the bill providing for the nontaxation of lands and properties used for their culture and the manufacture of sugar.

The Brighton State Bank has increased its capital stock from $25,000 to $50,000.

The Hawkeye Cycling Club has decided to build an elliptical dirt track at Burlington.

N. Neikirk, residing near Glidden, was killed by a vicious horse and a collar bone and two ribs broken.

Ruby Taylor of Cl