Daily Globe.

VOL. VII. ST. PAUL, MINN., FRIDAY MORNING, MARCH 28, 1884. NO. 88.

HEAVY WHEAT TRADE.

A Field Day in Chicago With 1,500,000 Bushels Taken for Export.

"Old Hatch" and Armour Appear as Leaders of the Bull Forces and Bring Recruits.

Futures Sold On Call to the Amount of 2,700,000 Bushels, but with Little Change in Prices.

Wall Street Operators Badly Disappointed at Gould's Not Coming on the Street to Operate Against the Decline.

CHICAGO.

[Special Telegram to the Globe.]

CHICAGO, March 27.—A feature of to day's market was large buying by B. P. Hutchinson, who, fearing that if the decline went further, it would spread to other branches of business, put brokers in the market and took heavy blocks. The knowledge that he was buying had the desired effect and prices at once commenced to react upward. The bears fearing that the "old man" might give them one of his old time turns quickly stopped selling. It was also discovered that Armour's brokers were buying and had taken 1,000,000 bushels cash for export. This gave the little bulls courage while the bears, seeing such operators as Armour and Hutchinson in command of the bulls began to think it time to call a halt and secure their profits on shorts which were growing smaller on every upward turn in prices, and there was a scramble to buy.

Edward J. Martyn, manager of Armour's shipping department, says the cars are going to the elevators as fast as they can be loaded, and that they bought the wheat because they considered it cheap. Large blocks were also taken for export by other parties, and there never was a time before when 1,500,000 bushels were taken for export to Europe within a week.

The bears started another raid on wheat this morning, but were brought up with a round turn. When the bell tapped at 3:30 there was a grand rush for the wheat pit. Everybody wanted to see and very few buy, and the excitement through the first half-hour bordered on a panic. There was no regular opening the first sales being within a range of ½c at 86½@87c for May. At the same moment in different parts of the crowd there were large sale of long stuff on which the margins had become exhausted, as the brokers were uncertain as to what the market would do and fearing a still further decline. They sold out their holdings at the best price and at the moment, in order to protect themselves. The decline the past four days has increased the orders from outside to buy, as present prices are regarded very cheap. Speculative capitalists argue that it cannot go much lower; and the chances are that there will be a good reaction that will afford them an opportunity to unload at a profit. Trading to-day was accordingly large, but not in as heavy lots as during Tuesday and Wednesday. The great bulk of the business, however, was on local account, and although heavy lines of shorts were covered and more longs wiped out, the chief aim of traders was to even up and see exactly where they stood. The decline has been so sudden and severe that some of them have become badly mixed and it will require a day or two to straighten things out. The air was full of rumors of failures, but the only one of any magnitude that was announced was Shepard & Peacock, which had little or no effect on the market.

There was more export demand and reports of heavy engagements of cars for prompt shipment east, and, after the flurry of the first half hour had subsided, operators began to see that they were more scared than hurt. The shorts began to cover freely, with strong buying for an upturn, and prices rapidly advanced 2@2⅛, touching 88⅝c. The sharp reaction brought out more sellers, which resulted in a decline to 87⅜c, and for some the price fluctuated between 87⅝@88¼c. The buying of Roche, Singer, Holden, Stevens, Hamill & Brine and Lester and others sent values up again to 88⅝c, as the crowd had become tired of selling, were afraid that they had already sold themselves into a hole, and were anxious to get out before prices advanced any further and thus wipe out their profits on former trades; and the market closed on 'change at 88⅜c with a strong feeling.

There was considerable trading in the way of buying May and selling June at 1½@2c premium. July also attracted considerable attention at ½@2c over June.

Later, on the call, trading was large, aggregating 2,700,000 bushels, 1,600,000 bushels being for May at 88½@89c. Singer was the heaviest buyer, taking about 1,000,000 bushels, Charles Van Kirk selling him 300,000 bushels June at 90¾c. The other buyers were Eldredge, Kirkwood, Stewart and Fraley.

Upon the curb trading was active, and ¼c advance was secured, but not maintained, the last sales being at 89@89½c.

Corn was less active, and to a certain extent, followed wheat, opening weak at the inside figures, and closing at about the highest prices, the first sales being on a basis of 53¾@54c May, although the only support was in the moderate receipts—only 178 cars being inspected, 53 of which were contract, while the adverse influences were numerous, including lower quotations from New York and Liverpool, splendid weather, reports that spring plowing had already commenced in the southwest. Shippers also continue to discard No. 2 as prices here are above any other market in the country. The bulls seemed determined to hold the market and though there was little demand, except to cover shorts, values advanced to 54⅞ and closed on changed at 54⅝ bid. The principal buyers were Boynton, Comstock, Poole, Kent & Co., and Robert Warren, and among the sellers were Millmine, Bodman & Co., Geo. Parker, Fraley and J. W. Burns, who claim the honors of being the heaviest corn trader of the day. His sales, however, were said to be of long corn bought at 55c.

On the call a stronger feeling developed, May selling up to 55¼c, with free purchasing by Kirkwood, Baldwin, Hobbs, Rumsey Bros., Bryant. Cudahy & Stevens, and Seymour, Hunt & Co. There was fair selling by Lester, Poole, Kent & Co. and Murray & Nelson, but transactions were in small lots compared with other days. On the curb Fraley was a free seller and the market weakened to 55c.

There was a good demand for the lower grades for shipment both east and south, some orders being received for rejected and new mixed from North Carolina.

Oats, as usual, followed other grain. The receipts included 140 cars. The volume of trading in futures was liberal. Prices advanced ⅜@½c, and closed strong. Rye opened weak at yesterday's close, with sales on a basis of 61¾c May, advanced and closed at 62c.

Pork was rather quiet, opening weak at $17.50; sold up on moderate buying by shorts and scalpers, and closed at $17.72½@17.75 on 'change and on the curb at $17.90. Lard shared with pork, opening weak, and 7½@10c per 100 lbs. lower at $9.25@9.27½. May sold at $9.20, advanced and closed at $9.35@9.37½, but the trade was chiefly local. Short ribs attracted little attention. The offerings and demand were both moderate. Prices opened weak at $9.22½@9.25, and closed at $9.35@9.37½.

Receits of cattle 5,000, against 3,876 last Thursday. Exporters bought cautiously and were particular in their selections, wanting reductions from former prices which holders of good stock were slow to grant, and bulk of sales were at old rates. Common grades and butchers' stock slow and easy at $3.00@4.50 for cows, $3.50@4.50 for corn feed and $3.50@4.50 for distillery bulls; stockers $4.00@4.75 and feeders $5.00⅞@5.25; light steers $5.00@5.80. Receipts of hogs 9,000; market again dull and prices 5c lower on all grades. Shippers and packers are doing nothing to speak of. Skips and common light $5.50@6; packers and shippers $6.10@7.05; choice light $5.75@6.60. Receipts of sheeep, 3,000. Buyers operated with more freedom, the market was firm and a few sales of choice were made at better prices. Sales at $5.12½@5.60 for good to choice averaging 93 to 116 pounds, and $4@4.50 for common.

A. M. Wright & Co's circular letter says: "The available supplies of wheat and corn, including stocks at nineteen points of accumulation east of the Rocky mountains and in transit from the west to the seaboard and afloat on the ocean destined for Great Britain and continental Europe on the dates named compare as follows:

	Wheat bu.	Corn bu.
U S. East of Rockies,	29,554,000	17,551,000
Afloat on ocean for Europe,	18,680,000	2,520,000
Total March 24, 1884	48,234,000	20,071,000
Total previous week	48,427,000	18,501,000
Total March 25, 1883	47,957,000	20,115,000

McCormick, Kennet & Day say: "Wheat is very cheap and purchases at present prices will pay a big dividend in the near future or we are much mistaken."

Minor, Richards & Co. say: "The market can be summed up as being in a very feverish state and is liable to go up or down sharply. For the present, as there are many influences that can be brought to bear on either side, we would caution conservative trading on either side; but our judgment would advocate a purchase at about 87½c for May. We are not sanguine but that before May deliveries are over we may see still lower prices."

Crosby & Co. say of the day's business: "Wheat opened panicy with about the wildest and largest trade we have ever witnessed. Longs were slaughtered en masse and shorts covered heavily. The excitement was too intense to read the trading, but the liquidation seemed complete, and the break attracted sufficient buying orders to work a sharp reaction of two cents, after which the market ruled feverish the balance of the day. The call was strong and higher under general buying and the curb closes higher at 89⅜cc May. The situation has undergone a change by the day's business, but we are reluctant to think it permanent. The break closed about all the outstanding trades, leaving the market long about the stock in store. Provision houses were free buyers all day and this led to a rumor that a deal had been arranged with Armour at the head of it. This, together with the reported freight engagements of one million wheat, restrained our local bears from selling their lines again on the reaction and also was the main cause of the call and curb advance. If when the excitement quiets these reports are disproven, our market will be compelled to resist another selling pressure, or per contra a deal can bull it. In view of the existing demoralization we prefer to see some tangible evidence to support these rumors before crediting them."

Shepard & Peacock, whose failure was announced on 'change to-day, will probably amount to $10,000. Peacock was formerly a partner of McGeoch, and has been in business for himself about eight months. Their suspension, they say, was not necessary, as they had offers of assistance from many friends, but they thought it best to close out their trades and see where they stood, and they expect to resume business in a few days. Kenyon & Co. were also reported as suspended, but cut no figure as their trading was small. A number of firms transferred their trades to protect themselves. J. T. McCord of the open board was reported failed, with liabilities $5,000 to $8,000.

Chicago Financial.

[Special Telegram to the Globe.]

CHICAGO, March 27.—Money in fair request and firmer at 5@7 per cent. New York exchange 25c discount per $1,000 to par, chiefly at the latter, at which it closed steady. Shippers 60 days' documentary sterling on London $4.85½@4.85¾. Bankers' 60 days' do. $4.87. Shipments of money to the country light.

NEW YORK.

[Special Telegram to the Globe.

NEW YORK, March 27.—It has been rather a field day for the bears in Wall street. The Erie securities unsettled the market early, the second mortgage bonds falling from 90½ to 89, and the stock from 22⅜ to 20⅞. The coalers were raided, and on a big business Deleware & Lackawanna dropped to 124⅛, and Reading from 55 to 53½. The West Shore bonds were sold in large amounts also. Lake Shore, on the prospect of another 2 per cent. dividend, rallied to 102 but gave away later. St. Paul was pretty well held until near the close when it also became feeble.

Northern Pacific preferred held its own and San Francisco preferred advanced to 47¾. The trade of the San Francisco line comes from a country that is full of grain and it is enjoying a lucrative business. The course of stocks to-day has been quite discouraging. Many believed that the sharp decline in the grain markets would stimulate the price of shares. It failed to do so. There was no rally worth mentioning in the late dealings. The market closed quiet, with no indications of any improvement right away. Mr. Gould's properties appear to be left to take care of themselves. On his return he may see fit to brace them up.

Henry Clews & Co. wired Schwartz & Dupee, as follows: "Soon after the opening of the board the traders felt the sting of disappointment, that Mr. Gould did not signalize his arrival by becoming at once a pronounced buyer of stocks. Many traders for several days past have been busy loading themselves up expecting to sell out on him as soon as ht reached Wall street. It soon became evidene to such holders that it was necessary to look elsewhere for buyers, than to Mr. Gould, to shift their burden upon. The market in consequence has inclined to lower prices on the apparent sad reality that Gould is not inclined to climb for stocks at the present time. Many uncharitable people indulge in the suspicion that Gould may be induced to be a buyer after a while at the then prices of some of the stock. They assert he has industriiously marketedunder the cloak of his absence but that his time is not yet. There were ruinous rumors calculated to produce a farorable change, such as the coalers would resume full work after April first and that the trunk line raotes were to be restored at once, which coincided with the out spoken and sanguine utterances published in an interview with Vanderbilt in the papers but they failed to advance prices except momentarily. The grain market raceed again this morning and touched the lowest price for wheat in seventeen years. We advise buying now on weak spots.

VANDERBILT VS. PORTER.

Vanderbilt and Depew Respond to H. H. Porter's Letter of Yesterday.

An Attorney's Opinion that the Omaha Company Has a Good Case Against Porter and Associates.

That the Company Can Require Them to Account For Six Thousand Nine Hundred Shares of Preferred Stock.

NEW YORK, March 27.—The following statement was given out to-day for publication:

William K. Vanderbilt and Chauncey M. Depew, were asked what answer they would make to the reply of H. H. Porter, to their letter to himself, David Dows and Roswell P. Flower, in reference to the alleged wrongful issue and appropriation of a portion of the preferred stock of the Chicago, St. Paul & Minneapolis Railway company. This statement is as follows: Their letter to Dows, Flower and Porter was a purely business matter relating to the affairs of the Chicago, St. Paul Minneapolis & Omaha Railway company. Harvey Kennedy brought suit against these parties for his share, as a partner, in certain stocks and the proceeds of the sale of certain stocks of the St. Paul, Minneapolis & Omaha Railway company. The case was tried on this. As the Northwestern company is a large owner of the Omaha stock, Austin J. Fox was retained to care for any interest it might have in the action. From the testimony of Porter, Dows and Flower, and the opinion of Judge Van Vorst Fox advised the Omaha company it had a good cause of action against these gentlemen as directors for the unauthorized issue and the distribution of 6,980 shares of preferred stock of Chicago, St. Paul & Minneapolis Railway company. Thereupon the executive committee of the Omaha directory appointed Vanderbilt and Depew a committee to examine into the right of the company and take such action as might be necessary to protect its interests. After a careful examination the committee came to the same conclusion as had Fox. They then submitted the whole matter to ex-Judge Comstock, who rendered the following opinion: "I have examined professionally, into the facts connected with the issue of 6,980 shares of preferred stock of the Chicago, St. Paul, Minneapolis & Omaha Railway company in the year 1868, by H. H. Porter, president, and some of his associate directors to themselves and others. The entire transaction appears to have been the subject of recent investigation in a suit in the supreme court of New York. Porter, and the other directors referred to, were examined in that suit, and the facts were found and passed upon by the judge who tried the case. From the data furnished I conclude the 6,890 shares of stock equal to $698,000 par value, were issued without any consideration being paid to the railway company, and were appropriated, the greater portion by Porter, some other portions by his associate directors referred to, and some smaller portions to other persons. As directors, they were in the relation of trustees for the management and protection of the corporate estate, and as such, were bound to protect it against the issuance of any obligation or stock which might bring a charge upon it, unless the issues were made under due authority, and for a due consideration. They were certainly bound to abstain from dealings in their own favor, which they could not permit in favor of any one else. They are, therefore, liable to account with their company, in respect to the 6,980 shares of preferred stock, so issued and appropriated. Vanderbilt and Depew, not wishing to do any injustice to these gentlemen in so grave a matter, sent them a letter, published in all the morning papers by Mr. Porter, in the hope, that by satisfactory explanations the litigation might be avoided. Their only duty and purpose was, to protect the interest of the company for which they were acting. Mr. Porter answered them first, through the newspapers, his letter reaching the person to whom it was addressed, after its publication. This reply brings in matters relating to W. H. Vanderbilt, the Rock Island election and other irrelevant subjects, but furnishes no reply to the serious inquiry, under what authorization, and for what consideration, 6,980 shares of preferred stock of the company of which he was president, were issued and distributed to himself and others.

CAPITAL NOTES.

WASHINGTON, March 27.—Senators Ingalls, Sawyer, Jones, (of Fla.) and Manderson, with their families, left Washington this morning for a pleasure trip to Jacksonville, Florida, they were accompanied by Sergeant-at-arms Canady, of the senate.

HOLIDAYS FOR THE LETTER CARRIERS.

The house committee on postoffice and post roads decided, by seven against four, to recommend the passage of a bill, providing that all letter carriers, at free delivery offices, be entitled to leave of absence for fourteen days each year without the loss of pay, upon the same conditions as now granted employes in the postoffice department,

THE EXTENSION BILL DEFEATED.

The house, in committee, struck out the enacting clause of the bonded extension bill by 131 to 87. The house vote, yeas 185, nays 83, confirmed the action of the committee in striking out the enacting clause of the whisky bill.

RIVER AND HARBOR BILL.

The river and harbor committee has nearly completed the consideration of the proposed river and harbor bill. It is understood the aggregate of the bill will not exceed $11,000,000. The principal items will be appropriations for the Mississippi river, Missouri river and the Ohio river, and great harbors on the Atlantic, Pacific, lake and gulf coasts, to the Mississippi and its tributaries. About $5,000,000 will probably be appropriated. The committee has not yet decided what part of that amount shall be expended upon the Mississippi itself. Members of the house are being invited before the house, to make such statements as they see proper concerning improvements in their respective districts and states. The bill will be reported to the house not later than April 20th.

PATENTING LANDS.

The house committee on public lands, agreed to report a bill authorizing the patenting of lands, to the contesting settlers within the limits of Maquesamos ranch, on the Western Pacific railway. The land is in California and embraces 45,000 acres.

Quality.

Dude—Do I understand you to say, Doctor, that mental powers depend on the quality and not on the quantity of brains?

Docter—That is the opinion of the latest authorities.

Dude—And you have no doubt about it youaself?

Doctor—None, whatever.

Dude—Then if you wanted to ascertain the quality of my brain what would you do?

Doctor—Borrow a lectometer.

ACROSS THE OCEAN.

The British Defeat Osman Digma's Forces Again.

The Campaign Ended and the Troops to Withdraw.

Bismarck Gives Sargent a Snub at a State Dinner.

THE FIGHT.

SUAKIM, March 27.—The British forces began the advance on Tamanieb at 5 this morning. Firing opened at 7:30, and was brisk upon both sides. The rebels were in larger numbers than yesterday. The English cavalry and mounted infantry led and drove the rebels from the rocks, dispersing them among the hills. There were no British causalities. Loss of the rebels is unknown.

The Rebels fired on the British troopers from rocks upon the left. The cavalry dislodged them, and advanced to within 100 yards of Tamanieb. As soon as Graham came up with the infantry and guns shells were thrown among the flying Arabs, and exploded close to them. On reaching Tamanieb the men and horses made straight for the wells and slacked their thirst. After a brief halt the cavalry moved out to the right and left of the village in pursuit of the retreating foe. The village forthwith was burned to the ground. Gen. Graham will explore the region in the neigborhood of the wells of Tamanieb, then return with his force to Saukim. The campaign is at an end.

DANGEROUS WORK.

LEIPSIG, March 27.—The police discovered a dynamite bombshell in a densely crowded building. No clue as to who placed it there.

DEATHS FROM TRICHINOSIS.

BERLIN, March 27.—It is officially stated that last year at Ermsleben, a small town of Prussian Saxony, 403 persons became seriously ill and sixty-six died from trichinosis. The disease was caused by eating raw pork which all came from one and the same hog. Fatal effects are reported from Geisen.

FATAL QUARREL.

BERLIN, March 27.—A captain and lieutenant of the army were playing a friendly game of cards. A dispute arose and the hot headed lieutenant became furious. He whisked out his sabre and gave the captain his death stroke.

NEGOTIATIONS.

CAIRO, March 27.—Col. Kitchener and Major Rundle have started from Cairo to cooperate with Captain Chermside, in negotiations for opening the road to Berber. Telegraphic communicatisn between Berber and Shendy is restored.

GAVE SARGENT ONLY A BOW.

BERLIN, March 27.—*Deutsche Tagblatt* says: At Bismarck's dinner in honor of the emperor's birthday, Bismarck greeted Sargent with a corteous bow, but shook hands with all the other diplomats.

CHURCH EXTENSION.

LONDON, March 27.—A meeting was held last night at the residence of the Duke of Westminister, in the interest of church extensions. The Bishops of Lichfield and St. Albans advocated Canon Anson's mission to northwestern Canada. The Earl of Carnavon praised the steadfast loyalty and affection of the Canadian church towards the English church. He urged the church to imitate the railways and extend their sway from sea to sea.

PARNELL INTERVIEWED.

DUBLIN, March 27.—The *Freemans' Journal*, of which E. Dwyer, M. P., is editor, publishes an interview with Parnell. The house of lords, Parnell believes, will reject the new franchise bill, and the result will be a dissolution of parliament and an appeal to the country. The government is dependent.

GLADSTONE'S HEALTH.

LONDON, March 27.—The *Standard* doubts whether Gladstone will much longer be able to support his mental friction inseperable from his present position. It urges him to accept a peerage, which need not be considered equivelent to retirement.

BRITISH VICTORY.

LONDON, March 27.—General Graham telegraphed this morning: "Evening and night were cool. Reville sounded this morning at 3:30, and quietly as possible the troops got in readiness to advance on Tamanieb. The cavalry are in front, the infantry following in Echelon of brigade squares, with guns between brigades." A later dispatch says: The British advanced to-day to Tamanieb and burned the village. The Arabs have fled and fighting is ended.

ECCLESIASTICAL APPOINTMENTS.

ROME, March 27.—At a consistory to-day, the pope appointed Right Rev. F. X. Leray, archbishop of New Orleans, and Right Rev. D. Mauncy, now at Corpus Christi, Texas, bishop of Mobile.

THE TORPEDO BILL.

BERLIN, March 27.—In the Reichstag today a bill appropriating 19,000,000 marks for construction of Torpedoes passed its second reading.

MUST HELP EACH OTHER.

PARIS, March 27.—The delegates of parisian artisans who visited the Boston exhibition and other delegates from the workingmen, have resolved that French labor societies are morally bound to assist the striking cigar makers of New York.

THE MADAGASCAR POLICY.

PARIS, March 27.—In the chamber of deputies to-day De Sanessan's interpellations in regard to Madagascar, came up. Prime Minister Ferry, in explanation and defense of the government's policy in Madagascar, said in substance: Delegates of the Hovas, with whom the negotiations were being conducted, left Paris suddenly without paying their hotel bills just when the agreement seemed imminent. It is hoped that the negotiations which have been resumed will result in a treaty which shall guarantee protection to the inhabitants of the northwestern district of Madagascar, and of the resident Frenchmen, as the acquisition of the land by foreigners, except Frenchmen, is inadmissible. To raise the question of sovereignty would involve war to the knife with the Hovas, and would make necessary a policy of conquest. It is incumbent upon us to be modest and wise, in order to obtain practical results. If, however, the pending negotiations fail, we shall spare no efforts to reduce the Hovas to submission.

FINANCIAL CONDITION.

PARIS, March 27.—At a meeting of the new budget committee at the chamber of deputies to-day. Rouvier, chairman, said the finances were not in an alarming condition. The deficit was more apparent than real. Great vigilance, however, would be nenessary as it would be impossible to place any further taxes upon the people. Their aim must be to increase the national resources by diminishing the expenses of several public officers.

THE SITUATION AT SUAKIM.

CAIRO, March 27.—The authorities consider Osman Digma's retreat, without a decisive battle, leaves the opening of the Berber route unsettled. It is reported that Osman is now at Newarch, a hill village, five miles from Tamanieb. He has several hundred adherents, chiefly Bishareens, from the Berber district. General Graham, after a reconnoissance toward Sinkat, will return with his force to Suakim, leaving Captains Chermside and Cameron with the friendly sheikhs to negotiate terms upon which the tribes will keep the Berber road free. General Stephenson and Sir Evelyn Baring urge upon the home government the necessity of an early withdrawal of all English troops from the Red sea coast. Admiral Hewitt proposes that 400 marines be left to garrison Suakim, to be relieved every fortnight. It is reported that general Stephenson is in favor of garrisoning Suakim, and Massowah, with a contingent of native Indian troops, to be relieved from Bombay, monthly. Hassan Bey, commander at Kassala, sent word to Massowah, that the Kassala garrison has food and munitions for one month. He asks to be relieved by an English force.

THE STATE TO PAY THE SALARIES.

BERLIN, March 27.—Prussia orders state payment of the salaries of the Catholic clergy of the diocese of Cologne to be resumed, beginning in January last.

PREPARING FOR THE ELECTIONS.

BERLIN, March 27.—The reichstag adjourns to-day for the usual Easter vacation. Political parties are preparing for general election. An inspired article in the Munich *Gazette*, declares, the election will turn on the law against socialists. The electors will find themselves between these alternatives, to support either the law or the partizans of the socialists. The government hopes to arouse among the German people a conservative movement, analagous to that of 1878, after the attacks on the emperor's life.

ANARCHIST'S IN SWITZERLAND.

LONDON, March 27.—The Swiss federal council has ordered the immediate execution of the order expelling the four anarchists.

TWO FAMOUS DESPERADOS.

Exploits of Ben Thompson and King Fisher—Clearing a Banqueting Hall with Revolvers—Capturing a Town.

[Dallas Texas Special.]

If Ben Thompson had not been killed the other night in San Antonio he probably would have been finished here. He intended to come to this city to attend the convention of cowmen, and as he was morally certain to get into trouble, it is also certain that he would have had no quarter. Dozens of cattle men and others now here came with the expectation that they would have a battle with Thompson, and the word had gone around that if he indulged in any of his customary pranks he should be fought to the death. The determined efforts of several unknown citizens of San Antonio who, standing high over Thompson's head, filled his body with bullets, spared the cowmen here the disagreeable duty of killing him during convention week. Since his death and that of King Fisher there has been a general disarming throughout Texas. Hundreds of men who carried weapons for no other reason than that they feared they might encounter one or the other of these desperados have now put away their six-shooters, and probably will have no occasion to carry them.

Thompson was well known to the cowmen of Texas. He always attended their conventions, and usually made himself obnoxious. When the cattle raisers met in Austin, two years ago, Ben kept the entire crowd on the verge of battle for three or four days, but no blood was shed. On the last day of the convention he drank heavily, and when the delegates were indulging in a farewell banquet he jumped into the dining hall with an unearthly war whoop, flourishing a big revolver in each hand. The attack was so sudden that the cowmen stampeded, some jumping out of the windows, others crawling under tables, and still others dashing madly into the street.

Very few of them were armed, and the well-known desperation of the men threw them into a momentary panic. Five minutes later the banqueters were going around with tears in their eyes, bemoaning their luck, and wishing they could have had a seconds warning of the terror's approach. When the banquet hall was cleared Thompson stood at one end with a revolver in each hand, and emptied his weapons, two shots at a time, at the glasses on the tables, breaking about half of them. After this experience the cowmen determined to be ready for him, and many of them came to the meeting this year expecting to have trouble with him, for he sent word early that he would be here.

Ben Thompson had been a border desperado ever since the war, and his victims numbered fully a score. He was well known in all the cities of Texas, in many western mining camps, and along all the cattle trails. His parents are English people, who came to this country just before the war, when Ben was a lad of 16. He served in a Confederate regiment during the rebellion, and at the surrender crossed over into Mexico, where he was a soldier for a short time under Maximilian. On the fall of that monarch he returned to Texas and entered on a carreer of crime which has few equals even in this country. Running gambling games of all kinds, he made his home with the cattle men. When the drive occured he and his brother Billy always went along, and always got into trouble. In 1868, when Abilene was the shipping point for Texas cattle, Thompson arrived there with a herd and the same night undertook to "run the town" as he called it. William Hickok, better known as Wild Bill, was Marshal of Abilene, and hearing of Thompson's movements, he recruited a party and attacked him. Thompson had several backers, and in the running fire that was kept up for more than an hour, several men on both sides were killed and wounded.

The next morning Wild Bill organized a posse and chased Thompson and his friends into the Indian territory, keeping close on their trail, and allowing them no time to rest or sleep. Thompson finally escaped, but he never appeared in Abilene again while Wild Bill was Marshal.

The next year the drive ended at Ellsworth, Kansas, where Ben and his brother Billy determined to recover some of their lost prestige. They captured the town immediately on their arrival, and when the sheriff remonstrated they shot him dead. Finding the place too hot for them, they left the town the next day, closely pursued by a posse, but the brothers, who were magnificently armed with Winchesters and revolvers, kept their pursuers at bay, and escaped in safety to Texas. Although Billy Thompson was arrested for this murder some time afterward and taken back to Kansas, he was never punished for it.

After killing a number of men down on the border, Thompson appeared in Austin in 1874, and, provoking a quarrel with the owner of a theatre there named Wilson, shot him dead. This was a desperate battle, a dozen men taking part, and weapons of every description, from a shotgun to a bowie knife, being used.

Much of Thompson's devilry was committed in a spirit of fun. Going by the Raymond House in Austin one night, he noticed a number of guests on the piazza fanning themselves.

"Let's have some fun," said he to his companion, and, walking behind one of the strangers, he fired his revolver twice in rapid succession into his chair. The man was hit by one of the bullets, but was not fatally hurt. In the excitement Thompson escaped.

Once when in partnership with a man named Lorraine in the gambling business at Austin Thompson, who had drawn more money from the bank than was due him, was turned off when he asked for more. Drawing his six-shooter, he put one bullet through the check rack, smashed the globe of the hazard dealer with another, and shot off a gas burner.

Hearing that a woman named Fannie Kelly had spoken of him in uncomplimentary terms, he visited her at her house and opened the interview by shooting the keys out of her piano, shattering the mirrors, and snuffing the lamps with pistol balls.

Only two weeks before his death he wrote to Jim Courtright of Fort Worth, saying:

I have got no place to go, and I am coming up there to run your town. I understand you are running it now.

To this Courtright replied:

I am Deputy City Marshal here. I can run the town without your help. You need not come.

Ben had one or two fights with Courtright, and knowing his man pretty well, let him and Fort Worth alone.

King Fisher was younger, slighter and more genteel than Thompson, although the latter sometimes dressed elegantly and appeared well. Fisher was quiet and of pleasant address. An old admirer said of him one day that "no man was ever wrapped up in a tougher hide than Fisher." He was run out of Mexico for robbery. He lived on the border generally. He had killed many men, his choice being Mexicans. He had a deadly antipathy to the "greasers," and enjoyed killing them. When Fisher left Mexico the last time he had several stolen horses in his possession. His party was pursued. When they reached the river he told his men:

"Wait here till I go back to the top of the hill. If they are so close that we won't have time to get the horses across, I will fire my gun and you will shoot the horses."

He rode back, and soon the report of his gun was heard. The Mexicans came up soon after only to find a lot of dead and dying horses.

Fisher was the man who was presented to Horace Greeley in 1870 or 1871, when the venerable editor was in Brenham for the purpose of delivering an address before the agricultural society. Mr. Greeley had expressed a desire to see a typical Texas desperado, and Fisher good humoredly posed before him in this character. Mr. Greeley looked at him searchingly, and said he did not like to ask an improper question, but he would really like to know how many men Fisher had killed.

"Only one," was the prompt reply.

"Why," said Mr. Greeley, with a look of surprise. "I was told that you had killed five Mexicans at a fandango on one occasion, to say nothing about many other like crimes."

"Mexicans!" ejaculated Fisher, with a string of oaths which startled his inquisitor; "I don't call Mexicans men."

Among other stories of this man's murderous exploits in Mexico is one to the effect that he charged through a town on the other side of the Rio Grande with nine pairs of Mexican ears strung on his bridle rein.

Gordon Pasha's Religious Views.

Pall Mall Gazette.

Naturally enough there is a strong sympathy in Gen. Gordon's character with Mohammedanism. Replying to a correspondent who had spoken of Mohammedanism, as being imperilled, he said: "Not so. I find the Mussulman quite as good a Christian, as many a Christian, and do not believe he is in any peril. All of us are more or less pagans. I like the Mussulman; he is not ashamed of his God; his life is a fairly pure one. Certainly, he gives himself a good margin in the wife line, but, at any rate, he never poaches on others. Can our Christian people say the same thing?"

There is a story to the effect that when the King of Abyssinia said to him, "You are an Englishman and a Christian." Gordon replied: "I am an Egyptian and a Mussulman." But whatever truth there may be in this story, he certainly views all religious questions in a very broad and Catholic spirit. "The heathen are God's inheritance, and he hears their prayers." The incantations of the native magicians, when employed in good faith, are to him prayers which the highest does not disdain to hear. When a Moogi Balaam cursed him from the river bank he noted that it was odd a disaster soon afterwards followed, "I believe," he writes, "that God may listen to the cries for help from the heathen who know Him not. These prayers were earnest prayers for celestial aid in which the prayer knew he would need help from some unknown power to avert a danger. That the native knows not the true God is true, but God knows him, and moved him to prayer, and answered his prayer."

Gen. Gordon is absolutely free from all fear of death. The story of his conversation with the King of Abssynia is well known, in which he informed the King that, so far from dreading him because his life was in his hands, he would be obliged to any one who would relieve him of the burden of life. That expression, however, conveys a very erroneous impression of Gordon's habitual mode of thought. No one is more cheerful, and few people have less patience with what he calls the "cruet stand" expression of countenance.

"Why are people like hearses, and look like pictures of misery? It must be from discontent with the government of God, for all things are directed by Him. If, by being doleful in appearance it did good, I would say be very doleful; but it does not do any."

So strongly, indeed, does he follow this out, that on one occasion he maintatned that a cheerful man of the world was much more acceptable in God's sight than a gloomy Christien.

English farmers are employing quick-lime to prepare heavy clay soils for the production of crops. It is the usual practice to apply the lime the season before the land is to be planted.

TO THE PUBLIC.

We, the undersigned liverymen of St. Paul, having the finest carriages and hearses in the city, do hereby agree to furnish carriages and hearses for funerals at the following prices, viz:

Morning's carriages, $2.00 each.
" hearses, 3.00 "
Afternoon's carriages, 3.00 "
" hearses, 4.00 "

KIMBLE P. CULLEN, 23 & 25 West Fohrth St.
W. L. NICHOLS, 34 West Fourth street,
J. F. ALEXANDER, Cor. Eighth and Sibley Sts.
E. W. SHIRK, Overpeck's old stand.
GEO. W. TURNBULL, 343 Exchange street.
HEWSON C. SEMPLE, Cor. Tenth and Pine.
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LAKE MINNETONKA
NAVIGATION COMPANY.

The Annual Meeting of the Shareholders of the above company will be held at the office of C. A. Zimmerman, St. Paul, on Tuesday, April 1st, at 12 o'clock, noon. WM. SECOMBE,
85-91. Sec'y-Treasurer.

BRISBIN & FARWELL,
LAW OFFICE.
ROOM 6,
Corner of Wabashaw and Fourth streets.
Over Express Office. 270

MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS.

LARGEST STOCK, LOWEST PRICES, and BEST GRADES OF

PIANOS!
AND
ORGANS!
In the Northwest.

STEINWAY, CHICKERING, HAINES, GABLER, KRANICH & BACH, BEHR BROS., ARION, DYER & HOWARD.

You can't fail to find what you want in this array.

DYER & HOWARD
148 & 150 East Third St.

AMUSEMENTS.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE.

3 Nights and a Matinee, commencing, Monday.
March 31.

BOSTON
Ideal Opera Co!

MONDAY.....FRA DIAVOLO.
TUESDAY.....MARRIAGE OF FIGARO.
WEDNESDAY (Matinee)....BOHEMIAN GIRL.
WEDNESDAY.....BARBE BLEUE

First time in our city.

Sale of seats commences positively at 9 o'clock this morning.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE.

To-night and To-morrow Night.

COMMENCING

Thursday, March 27th!

EMERSON'S
GRAND CONCERT CO.,
Under the auspices of
ACKER POST NO. 21,
Grand Army Republic.

Benefit Performance for Memorial Day.

Seats now on sale. Seats $1.00, 75c. Standing Room 75c, 50c. Gallery 25c.

OLYMPIC THEATER!
TO-NIGHT.
A WORLD OF SHOW!

Engagement of the Premier Organization of the Country,

CASTLE'S CELEBRITIES!

With Chas. A. Loder's new and original comedy in two acts, entitled

HILARITY.

Family Matinees Wednesday and Saturday at 2:30.
SPECIAL NOTICE—All ladies accompanied by a gentleman will be admitted free this evening.

PROPOSALS will be received at the office of the Board of Water Commissioners, 23 East Fifth street, on or before the 2d day of April 1884, for constructing one and one-half miles of

BRICK CONDUIT

for water supply. Work to be done in accordance with plans and specifications on file in the office of the Engineer of said Board.

A bond of twenty per cent. of the amount bid with two sureties, resident of the state of Minnesota, must accompany each proposal. A form of bid will be furnished on application.

The Board reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

L. W. RUNDLETT,
Engineer Board of Water Commissioners.
73*

PILES! PILES!

A sure cure for Blind, Bleeding, Itching and Ulcerated Piles, has been discovered by Dr. William, (an Indian remedy) called DR. WILLIAM'S INDIAN OINTMENT. A single box has cured the worst chronic cases of 25 years' standing. No one need suffer five minutes after applying this wonderful soothing medicine. Lotions and instruments do more harm than good. William's Ointment absorbs the tumors, allays the intense itching, (particularly at night after getting warm in bed,) acts as a poultice, gives instant and painless relief, and is prepared only for Piles, itching of the private parts, and for nothing else. For sale by all druggists, and mailed on receipt of price, $1. NOYES BROS. & CUTLER, Wholesale Agent, St. Paul, Minn.

CLOTHIERS.

YOUR CHOICE FOR $10.

We have placed on a separate counter all our Men's Spring Suits carried over from last season, and marked them YOUR CHOICE for $10. We want to close them out before the Spring Trade becomes active, and have marked them at this very low price to tempt early buyers. There is not one Suit in the lot that is not worth $15, and the retail price for many of them was $18 and $20. Your choice for $10, as long as they last.

BOSTON One-Price CLOTHING HOUSE
Cor. Third and Robert Streets, St. Paul.