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TODAY'S WEATHER.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16.—Indications: For Minnesota: Fair; warmer in northern portion; northwest winds, becoming variable.

For Wisconsin: Fair; colder; northwest winds.

For Iowa: Fair; north winds, becoming variable.

For the Dakotas: Fair; warmer; north winds, becoming south.

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, WEATHER BUREAU, WASHINGTON, Dec. 16, 6:48 p.m. Local Time, 8 p.m. 75th Meridian Time.—Observations taken at the same moment of time at all stations.

Place.	Bar.	Tr.	Place.	Bar.	Tr.
St. Paul	30.12	24	Med'e Hat	29.70	38
Duluth	29.98	20	Sw't Cur'nt	29.90	18
La Crosse	30.04	26	Qu'Appelle	30.06	16
Huron	30.22	28	Minnedosa	30.22	6
Pierre	30.18	26	Winnipeg	30.00	0
Moorhead	30.16	16	Port Arthur	29.68	20
St. Vincent	30.18	8			
Bismarck	30.20	18	Boston		48-56
Williston	30.16	16	Chicago		32-48
Havre	29.84	36	Cincinnati		70-56
Miles City	30.06	26	Buffalo		46-58
Helena	30.02	36	Montreal		44-46
Edmonton			New Orleans		42-48
Battleford	29.92	6	New York		56-54
Pr. Albert	30.00	12	Pittsburg		58-62
Calgary	30.70	22			

P. F. LYONS, Local Forecast Official.

WHAT shall I do to be shaved?—H. Hayward.

ST. LOUIS has a salacious divorce case and Chicago is again making faces.

WILD OATS usually come high. Aaron Hershfield paid $31,500 for the lot he sowed in Helena.

WHAT can this mean? Only the 17th of December, and snow already. Our climate is actually getting to be a cold one.

IT WOULD not be such a serious mistake, after all, if the intelligent compositor were to set it "satan" instead of sultan.

AFTER all, it would appear that it was talking too much, rather than taking too much, that got Seeley into trouble.

OF COURSE, you will buy a Chistmas present. And, if you are wise, you will not wait till next week to make the purchase.

HON. D. M. SABIN and Thomas Lowry are expected home "from the East" this week. What a load that will take off Sam Phillips' shoulders!

CLAUS A. BLIXT claims to be converted. Samuel C. Seeley makes no such claim. He prefers reading newspapers to attending divine service.

THE very warm and cordial reception accorded Dean Hole in Boston the other day was probably due to the mistaken idea on the part of the Bostonians that his name was Bean Hole.

SITUATION wanted by intelligent German. Will do anything.—Chicago Herald. Please write Emperor William to get off the grass and let American cattle have a chance at it.

"OVER 75,000 Democrats stayed at home on election day," says a Missouri exchange. It might have added, "and several Democratic congressmen will stay at home for the next two years."

JUDGING from some of the testimony in the case and the pet name adopted by Pops Saulpaugh, it is presumed that he met the young lady when she was on one of her periodical "roots."

IF THE Ramsey county representatives barter away the material interests of St. Paul in their ambitious greed for small offices there won't be a hole deep enough for them to hide themselves in.

KOLB has finally thrown up the sponge and quit talking. It is surmised that, in deference to the customs of the community, he has chosen some secluded spot for the purpose and privately lynched himself.

CERTAIN radical municipal reformers in the remote East are advancing the theory that an honest man, provided he be possessed of a high order of intelligence, can be as successful a detective as a professional thief. What is the world coming to, anyhow?

WHEN Jeff Clark, of Missouri, was badgered by Boutelle, of Maine, the other day, he retorted by telling him that he had "more mouth and less brains than any man who ever sat in congress." Had Feig beaten Boen two years ago, it is doubtful whether this distinction could be accorded to Mr. Boutelle.

NOBODY has heard from John Goodnow since the Hennepin county Republican committee published its comments on the brewers' contribution to the Republican campaign fund. But John will be heard from yet. The senatorial election and the annual letting of coal contracts will withdraw him from the obscurity into which he has thrust himself.

WHAT means this newly developed opposition of the Dispatch to Senator Washburn? Has the versatile Mr. Thompson swept the ward insects from his sanctum and had his measure taken for a senatorial toga, or what? Why should not the editors of the St. Paul Republican organs emulate the example of their Chicago types and give us their views of each other? It would be interesting to the public, and would not affect the result. Go it, Thompson; go it, Wheelock.

SENATOR ROACH, of North Dakota, is attaining a distinction in Washington that is not at all enviable. He was one of the few opposition senators who voted against the consideration of the amendment taking off the differential and protection tax on sugar. How or why a Democrat could do this is a mystery to us of the Northwest. The correspondent of the St. Louis Republic, however, who is on the spot, finds no difficulty in finding the inward reason. He recalls that when Senator Roach entered the senate, Senator Hoar proposed an investigation of some incidents of the senator's earlier career in Washington, and the correspondent claims that it was Gorman who prevented the passage of the resolution for the investigation. This is a possible, but not at all a creditable, explanation of Senator Roach's very singular conduct.

CHIEF JUSTICE GILFILLAN.

James Gilfillan, for nearly nineteen years chief justice of the supreme court of Minnesota, and for thirty-seven years a resident of the state, is dead. As citizen, lawyer, soldier, judge he has borne well his part among men, and dies, while there should be yet some years of useful life before him, at the age of sixty-five, full of honors.

We spoke recently, on the occasion of the death of one of our men of large affairs, of the men who helped build the state. In a different way from those who aided in the material development of the new state, but in a not less important or enduring way, Mr. Gilfillan was also a state builder. If other men gave their energies and abilities to driving out into the prairies the railroads that made possible their profitable occupation by the thousands who have since made their homes on them, and thus furnished the raw material of a state, it fell to the share of the chief justice to bear a hand in that not less important work of administering the laws, which are the bands that hold the social organization together. If law is a rule of conduct, the task of deciding the rule in the court of last resort is an important and a responsible one. Constitutions are to be defined, legislative acts are to be construed and tested by the constitution, and where the case is one of first impression, the conflicting decisions of other courts are to be weighed in the scales of justice to determine which rule shall be the law of the state.

How well the dead judge performed this task, the prominence of the decisions of our court, the respect accorded them by other courts, bear witness. For this work he was singularly well equipped by nature. He brought to it the rugged common sense of the Scotchman and rigid conscientiousness of his Calvinistic ancestors. If he thought he was right, he was uncompromisingly tenacious of his judgment. The qualities that aided in making him a strong judge had their drawbacks also. He was always the lawyer and judge more than the statesman. So, when, as in the famous Chauncey-Wass case, the essence of the question was one of public policy more than of adherence to strict legal precepts and precedents, he overlooked the public policy and followed in the narrow paths of the law.

The same qualities gave him much more the appearance than the actuality of an austerity that, while it added dignity to and increased respect for the judicial office, detracted from his popularity. He had none of the arts or wiles of the politician, and his first appointment to a seat on the bench was due to the high appreciation of his qualifications by Gov. Marshall. The Republican convention that convened soon after did not share this appreciation, and nominated another; but at the next vacancy Gov. Davis restored him to the bench, and the succeeding party conventions felt bound to regard the public esteem in which his judicial abilities were held.

In a few weeks more the harness he has worn so long and labored so effectively in would have been removed, and he would have retired to private life. It is his good fortune to have died in harness. No man should wish for better fortune than to be allowed to be in service, useful to his kind, up to the last moment of his life.

A CHANGE FOR THE WORSE.

If any change is made in our laws relating to mortgage foreclosures, the one proposed which puts the mortgagee in possession immediately on foreclosure, giving to mortgagor out of possession a year for redemption, will certainly not be and should not be adopted. The objection urged against the mortgagor remaining in possession is that he has no interest in the property except to get out of it during the year what he can, and that when it lapses into the possession of the mortgagee its value is impaired.

It is not clear that its condition would be much different with the mortgagee in possession during this time. With the probability or possibility of redemption, either by the mortgagor or his assignee, there would be no inducement for the mortgagee to make expenditures in repairs or in maintaining the property in good condition, when a redemption might make a clear loss out of such expenditures. On the other hand, it is not right to assume that every foreclosure means abandonment of property by the mortgagor.

Mortgagees do not ordinarily let their debt run and accumulate until the margin of value between the security and the property is exhausted. There is usually enough of margin left to stimulate the mortgagor either to redeem or to dispose of his equity. To deprive him of the use of the property during the year of redemption would be to rob him of the means, in most instances, of making the redemption. We believe that it is for the welfare of the mortgagor as well as of the mortgagee, that the sale should be absolute when made, and accompanied by immediate transfer of the possession to the purchaser. The property would then sell at its market value, instead of being, as now, knocked down to the mortgagee in a sale which is a farce, the conditions preventing competitive bidding. But there should be, prior to this sale, a notice of foreclosure, and a year of redemption before the sale.

THE MAN WHO KNOWS IT ALL.

That community or state which is so fortunate as to possess the genius who knows it all is as subject to commiseration as to felicitation. If the genius is Baconian and takes all knowledge for its domain, and is ready primed with a decisive opinion on all subjects, the state is the more fortunate or unfortunate, as it pins, or not, its faith to the impeccability of its presiding genius. All communities have these men who know it all, and sometimes, but not often, they break into the newspapers and sit in the editorial chair.

Lord Chief Justice Coleridge is said to have remarked on one occasion that he wished he was "as cocksure of one thing as Macaulay was of all things." "Timothy Titcomb" sagely remarks that "there is hope for the young person who discovers that he knows nothing." A philosophic Teuton is also credited with the wise observation that "the more you live the more you find by shiminey oudt." The man, however, who knows it all is always cocksure of everything because he never discovered that he knew nothing, and, live as long as he may, he never finds anything out. He had found it from the beginning.

These men who know it all are the veritable Jack Bunsbys of the press. With him they declare that "what I says I stands to." To the unhappy wight who ventures to differ with them, or doubt their infallibility, or to suggest that they do not know it all, these Bunsbys oracularly declare with their original: "Whereby, why not? If so, what odds? Can any man say otherwise? No. Awast then." And the matter is finally disposed of. "The bearings of this observation lays in the application on it," but we do not feel it necessary to make it. We leave that to others.

WE HAVE READ IT.

We hasten to assure the Pioneer Press that we have read the pooling bill as it passed the house. We have, since writing the article that stirred the bile of our atrabilious neighbor, also seen the opinion of Judge Brewer in the Nebraska rate case, and do not find the language in it attributed to him by the Chicago Tribune, although it is fairly inferable from his general reasoning and his decision that he regards a rate as reasonable that will admit of a fair return to the investors in railways.

In spite of our anxiety to avoid agitating our neighbor, we are constrained to repeat our statement that the effect of the pooling bill, if enacted, will be to allow the railways to fix their rates to suit themselves, with the factor of competition wholly eliminated. The process of reasoning by which we arrived at this conclusion we submit for the due consideration of our esteemed contemporary, hoping against hope that it may be satisfactory.

The act bill provides that it shall not be unlawful for "different and competing carriers, subject to the provisions of the act, to enter into a contract for the division or apportionment among themselves, or with other carriers, of the whole or a portion of their traffic, or any of their gross or net earnings," provided that they submit such contract to the interstate commission, and it is by them approved. The bill provides that the commission shall disapprove of the contract whenever they find, either on their own motion or on that of any interested party, that the rates are unreasonable. From the decision of the commission an appeal lies to the federal circuit court.

These contracts, thus validated, are termed pools. This the Century Dictionary defines as "a combination of the interests of several otherwise competing parties, such as rival transportation lines, in which all take common ground, as regards the public, and distribute the business among themselves equally, or according to special agreement. In this sense pooling is a system of reconciling conflicting interests, and of obviating a ruinous competition, by which the several competing parties or companies throw their revenue into one common fund, which is then divided or distributed among the members of the pool on a basis of percentages or proportion previously agreed upon, or by arbitration."

This sustains our statement that the factor of competition is entirely eliminated. What are the restrictions on the power of the companies in the pool or the "other carriers" with which they arrange to fix such rates as they wish? The instinct is just as strong in railway managers to get "all the traffic will bear" as it is in any man to get all he can for what he has to dispose of. There is no requirement in the bill that the contracts of pooling shall specify the rates of transportation, and this information the commission must get through other sources. That body may disapprove of the contract if, among other things, it finds the rates unreasonable. If the provision ended there, if the decision of the commission were final, we would still be left in the dark, as we are not aware that they have ever formally decided what shall be the basis of computation as to whether a rate is reasonable or not.

But it is not left with the commission. The pool may appeal to the circuit court from the decision that the rates are unreasonable.

Here the decision, or rather the general course of reasoning, of Judge Brewer in the Nebraska case comes in. The legislature had fixed maximum rates of freight within the borders of the state. Stockholders of the roads brought suit to restrain the state commission from enforcing the law, making the officers of the road parties also. The plaintiffs contended that as the rates fixed were unremunerative, the companies could not earn enough to pay them any dividends, and that the act was therefore a virtual confiscation of their property, in violation of the federal constitution. After disposing of some objections raised by the state, the court says that "the grave question remains whether the maximum rates are so unreasonable as to justify the court in staying the operation of the act."

If the proceeding was one to condemn the property for the use of the public then its present value would be the test, the court admits. It was argued that, by parity of reasoning, a rate that permitted a fair interest to be paid on that value was reasonable. "In the absence of other testimony," the judge says, "the stocks and bonds outstanding or the construction account might be fairly assumed as the basis of computation for the compensatory quality of rates." In the case at bar the testimony was ample that the road could be duplicated for a much less amount than that of the stocks and bonds. "Nevertheless," the court continues, "the amount of money that has gone into railroad property, the actual investment, as expressed theoretically by the stocks and bonds, is not to be ignored even though such sum is far in excess of the present value." And, after some argument that seems to us as specious, he decides that the "reduction of 29½ per cent in the rates of local freight is unjust and unreasonable to those who have invested their money in these enterprises."

So, when the interstate commission shall have examined the rate sheets submitted by the pooling companies and decided that the rates are unreasonable, and the appeal is taken to the federal court, we find an entirely different rule prevailing as to the computation of what is a reasonable value or what the services of the railways are "reasonably worth" from what prevails in any other vocation. Were the Pioneer Press to sue on a quantum meruit for the services it had given an advertiser, for illustration, it could not offer as a basis of computation the cost it originally incurred for its plant, and claim that advertising rates should be adjusted so as to make a fair return on the first investment. But this is the measure established by Judge Brewer's decision, and it would have to be a rate far in excess of any made in recent years that, under this rule, would be held to be unreasonable. Practically, then, the only limit in rates is the fear railway managers may have of public opinion and its effects when sufficiently aroused.

FROM MANY SOURCES.

What will the policemen do for Christmas dinners for their loved ones? How many little hearts will throb with grief when Christmas day dawns and finds their little stockings empty? Will the copper who has credit with the butcher, the baker and the grocer feel at peace with the world when he glances over his table and realizes that a mortgage hovers over every viand there? Will the mothers feel like offering prayers of thankfulness when they read upon the faces of their offspring those unmistakable signs of grief and woe? Will tears of joy spring from their eyes when they see the expectant children jump merrily from their beds and hug — their empty stockings?

Stand up, Mr. McCardy, and answer these questions. They are intended for you. From the luxury of your handsomely appointed home, tell us what will the policemen do for Christmas?

***

"Charlie is a connoisseur on cheese, isn't he?" asked Dobson.

"Yes," replied Smith, "he swears by cheeses," and then he wondered why all the ladies held up their hands in horror.

***

The second-class pawnbrokers are reaping a harvest just now, and their terms are becoming more exacting and usurious. A young man pawned his jewelry in a Seventh street joint a day or two ago in order to send his sweetheart a Christmas gift. The pawnbroker loaned him $5 and charged him $1 a month, and it was some time before he would give the young man a ticket. The work going on in these pawnshops is disgraceful, and should be investigated.

***

Poor John Goodnow started out this year to become famous in politics. He was president of the State League of Republican clubs and a member of the state central, the county and city committees. He sought the political editor of each paper and said, "You need not bother about political news; I'll furnish it." As a consequence, he filled the papers with John Goodnow to the exclusion of the other committeemen. One of the editors, who disliked Goodnow, refused at any time to use his name, and Goodnow refused to furnish that editor any more news. The editor kicked, an investigation was had and the committees decided that thereafter the secretary and not Goodnow could furnish the stuff. Goodnow threatened to resign, thinking it a direct slap at him, but he didn't resign and he didn't become great. Today he is only John Goodnow.

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It is understood that Harry Hayward will apply for a writ of mandamus to compel Sheriff Ege to appear and show cause why he refuses to allow Hayward to be shaved on the face.

***

The "depravity" joke which appeared in these columns a few days ago was handed in by a man who said he was on the cable car when it occurred. But it shouldn't nettle the painfully funny man on an evening paper, who would be more popular if he furnished diagrams and microscopes with his "original" productions.

AT THE THEATERS.

"The Charity Ball," Belasco and De Milles' famous comedy drama, which began a three nights' engagement at the Metropolitan opera house last night, is one of the clean, wholesome American society plays which strikes a responsive chord in every heart. It is replete with human interest, lofty in tone and sentiment, rich in comedy, and, handled as it was last night by a company of competent players, it becomes at once a faithful and inspiring picture of scenes and incidents constantly occurring in the society of today. The piece has been seen here before, but by repetition it loses none of its rich flavor, as was evidenced by the large and select audience that witnessed last night's production. The play deals with the conflicting passions of a young man of the hour who deserts a pure and innocent girl for the glitter and wealth of an attractive actress. The young man is finally reclaimed through the efforts of his brother, a clergyman, and his own sense of honor and manhood, which ultimately awakes to a live realization of the miserable role he is enacting.

The story is beautifully told, and the company now presenting the piece is one of the best ever seen here. The role of the clergyman is artistically enacted by Benjamin Howard, a prepossessing and talented player, who fully grasps the opportunities the character affords him. His performance was a treat in every sense of the word. So, too, was that o Joseph Francis, in the role of the worldly brother. Helen Tracy, as the mother of the boys, presented the sweet old character in a style wonderfully true to nature, and the climax in the third act, where she unconsciously interrupts the quarrel between her sons, was superbly done. Bess Van Buren was a charming character, and Berenice Wheeler's interpretation of Ann Cruger, a New York girl, was an excellent bit of acting. The rest were competent. The piece will run the first half of the week.

***

Probably the most unique musical organization in this country is "The Metropolitans," which will be at the Metropolitan for one night only. It consists of but six or seven people, and the style of entertainment they present is something after that given for so many years with great success by the late Rosina Vokes. The entertainment in which the members of "The Metropolitan" appear differs from the manner of Miss Vokes' performances, in consequence of the fact that while two or three short works are given for an evening's programme, these works are short operas, written without choruses, instead of comedies. The prima donna soprano of "The Metropolitans" is one of the handsomest and most talented of American cantatrices, Miss Florence Wolcott. During the engagement "The Metropolitans" will present "Pygmalion and Galatea," preceded by the one-act comic opera, the "Sleeping Queen."

***

The new farce comedy, "A Summer Blizzard," which was produced at the Grand for the first time last night, met with the approval of an immense audience. It has about as much plot as the ordinary farce comedy and is built on the adventures and woes of a theatrical manager, with sufficient intervals between events to admit of a number of excellent specialties. The author was evidently not hampered by the question of definite connection, but nobody expects anything definite in a farce comedy and this is one of the rapid, kaleidoscopic sort. The part of Herman Highball was enacted cleverly by Barney Reynolds, a German comedian of merit, who is particularly clever in imitations; and Clayton White was very good as Willie Little, the advance agent. Nellie Rosebud furnishes some clever songs and dances and has a pleasing stage presence. Beatrice Goldie has a wonderfully clever voice and there is a good chorus of fair maidens.

THAT SILVER COMBINE

Republicans From the Rocky Mountain States Will Demand Action.

THEIR PARAMOUNT ISSUE.

Unless They Gain Their End They Will Parnellize Congress.

WOULD WELCOME THE SAGE.

Secretaries of Congressmen --Boen and McCleary-- Capital Gossip.

Special to the Globe.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16.—As the Republican senators and representatives from mining and Pacific coast states express themselves regarding the feeling among their people, an idea of the difficulties that will face the Fifty-fourth congress may be formed. In Minnesota and many other states, particularly in the Eastern Republican commonwealths, the Republican leaders and the capitalists back of them have since the election been felicitating themselves on the downfall of the Populists and the free silver cause. But they have been premature, to say the least; for while the Populists, in name, will gain little in the next congress, and have lost Colorado and Kansas, there are just as many Populists bearing the label "Republican" as ever.

When Congressman Hartman arrived from Montana the first thing he did was to declare that two free silver senators will be elected by the legislature of Montana next month. "Silver is the paramount issue in our state" declares Mr. Hartman, "and all parties are united for it."

Urge Tactics of Parnell.

Congressman Willis Sweet, of Idaho, makes the same statement, and as he will undoubtedly succeed Senator Shoup in the senate after the fourth of March he will be in a position to work to that end in the next congress. Mr. Sweet is a member of the committee on coinage in the present house, and is one of the ablest men from the silver states. Like Senator Dubois, he agrees with Senator Jones in the necessity of a silver party. In the fight against the Wilson bill at the last session Mr. Sweet took occasion to state that while he favored protection he had no sympathy with the representative, of the Eastern manufacturing states in their frantic appeals for the defeat of the tariff bill. They had voted, he declared for the destruction of his state when, they helped to repeal the Sherman silver act. At another time the Idaho member said:

I believe that the time has come for the representatives from our section to unite in favor of silver and help no section or part that will not help us to re-establish silver. I believe we should Parnellize congress."

While Senator Pettigrew, of South Dakota, has taken pains to deny the story that he is a member of the silver Republican combination, there is no doubt whatever here that both he and Senator Hansbrough, of North Dakota, will be found working in the next congress with Senators Jones, Stewart, Peffer, Power, Dubois, Sweet, if elected, as is probable, Allen, Teller and Wolcott for a free coinage bill. To the senators named above one more will be added from Montana, two from Wyoming, one from California, probably one each from Washington and Oregon.

Trouble for the East.

That this is a very strong organization is evident, and the fact that its members are almost entirely Republicans in name is sufficient to show the anti-silver Republicans from the East that there is trouble, and lots of it, ahead in the long session of the Fifty-fourth congress.

The sparse population of the silver states makes the representation in the house small when compared with the senate, and this is the only element of weakness in the plans of the silver men. Had they the same proportion of the lower house as they have of the senate there would be no doubt of the early passage of a free coinage bill at the first session of the Fifty-fourth congress.

But small as is the number of representatives from the silver states they will fight Czar Reed for speaker, unless he promises to give them a proper representation on the committee on coinage. In case they see that he is determined to set up the committee against them they will undertake to stir up trouble and get some one else in the race. In a fight of this kind they figure that they can depend upon the support of a large number of the new members, who think that Reed did not during the last session pay enough attention to the first-termers. Minnesota has one or two members who would come under this designation, and, as they are for McKinley for the presidential nomination, they would not need much urging to enroll themselves under an anti-Reed banner.

Not Hall's Secretary.

The Minneapolis Journal, in an editorial paragraph in the issue of Nov. 22, said:

"Congressman Hall's private secretary, as correspondent for the GLOBE, gives Mr. Hall a very nice send-off in a Washington letter this morning. Mr. Hall is a very clever gentleman, and ranked very well in the house last session. Of course that might not be saying very much for him, as it did not take very much of a man to rank well in that house; at the same time, he is regarded with favor in Washington as a gentleman of ability and character."

To the deserved compliment paid Congressman Hall by the Journal the GLOBE'S Washington correspondent takes no exception, but he does object to the statement that the private secretary of Mr. Hall and the GLOBE correspondent are one and the same person, for the very simple reason that it is not true. The GLOBE'S correspondent is not and never has been Congressman Hall's private secretary, and the Journal in so stating does the member from the Third district an injustice, which is, of course, unintentional.

But if the Journal is looking for Minnesota congressmen who have newspaper correspondents as private secretaries the cases of Congressmen Fletcher, Tawney and Kiefer are respectfully referred to them. All three of these gentlemen have bright, accommodating and able newspaper men as their private secretaries, from whose pen they have received many complimentary notices, but no one has ever intimated that these notices were due to the emoluments they received for the performance of their duties as private secretaries.

Expected the Sage.

The people of Washington, naturally enough, take more interest in the result of the elections all over the country than the people of any other city. This is because upon those elections depends what men will sit in the common council of Washington, and also whom they must look to to furnish them a certain amount of entertainment. From the reports they had of the late Minnesota campaign they rather expected to hear of the election of Hon. Ignatius Donnelly to succeed Mr. Washburn in the senate, and many were really disappointed in the result. They have read and heard so much of the Sage since he sat in congress as one of Minnesota's representatives that they desired to see and hear him in the United States senate. In their liking for brilliant men the people of Washington are restricted by no narrow partisan ideas. The advocate of almost anything in the way of legislation is sure of a respectful hearing in Washington among the people and in the newspapers of the city.

Boen and McCleary.

Congressman Boen has been devoting himself almost entirely to his duties at the departments. He will push his project for a canal and storage reservoirs to prevent future floods in the Red River valley. He is, now that the campaign is over, greatly amused at the attempt of Prof. McCleary to steal the credit for the canal and irrigation scheme. The Seventh district member went to the chief of engineers for information regarding this matter six months before the Second district member put in an appearance in Washington. This was in March, 1893, and so he can afford to smile at the feeble imitation of the Mankato man.

AMONG THE BOOKS.

"At the Gate of Samaria" is a thoroughly modern novel, bristling with the latest theories of sociology. It is sometimes a protest against realism—sometimes a plea for the enfranchisement of woman, and always a clever argument for naturalness in the relations of the sexes.

We do not think that the author has been quite successful in delineating the Bohemian life. Indeed, who will attempt to give the subtle fascination of the student life after Thackeray and Du Maurier? The heroine, Clytie, is a very modern young woman, who escapes from the prosaic surroundings of her Purlian father and sisters in an English village to London. There she "goes in" for Art with a big A, and becomes famous as a painter of dirty street children, somewhat after the fashion of Marie Bashkirtseff. Besides winning success as an artist, she has lovers, and falls desperately in love with and marries a masterful giant, who is the lion of the day, having just returned from an African exploration. The courtship is brief, as becomes a lionized soldier who has never been disobeyed or thwarted in his life.

Stories of awful cruelties practiced by the returned explorer upon helpless savages are afloat, and one cannot help thinking that our author had Stanley in mind. Their honeymoon is passed in southern France and Italy; but rapidly wanes, and they return to England. His love, being purely sensual, is soon sated with her physical beauty; and he cannot appreciate her noble qualities of mind and soul. She becomes disillusioned upon finding that there is not a single aspiration or taste common to both of them. And so their paths diverge, and Clytie's idol becomes her Juggernaut. There is a series of quarrels, and the story winds up with a separation. Clytie returns to Bohemia, and the husband to darkest Africa.

We are glad to inform the prospective reader that before the fall of the curtain vice is punished and virtue rewarded, as in the good old Bowery dramas of a quarter of a century ago. It is a book that seems to have a purpose; but it lacks virility and "snap" — without which no book can be permanently successful.

"At the Gate of Samaria." By William John Locke. New York: D. Appleton & Co. Paper, 50 cents. For sale by St. Paul Book and Stationery company.

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"America's Godfather," by Virginia W. Johnson, is one of the prettiest holiday books we have seen this season. It is daintily bound in blue and white, with wide margins and some twenty illustrations. Florence is always attractive, with its beauty of the past; its fame in history, in art, in drama, its architecture, its great men and women. But to live again those golden days, to feel the charm descend from that period to us, one must go to other books than "America's Godfather."

The style is immature, rather that of an immature school girl than of a trained writer. Its sentences are often very long and too much involved. It shows a vast amount of research and hard work, and hence it seems a pity that the author has not devoted more attention to the presentation of her information and knowledge of her subject. Miss Johnson had no data for her many pages on the life of Vespucci. She often naively admits this, and tries to draw a picture of the man as he might have been. There is a great mass of half-digested material in the book. Sentences, extracts, thoughts, historical facts, all thrown together without method or reason. For a certain class of givers it will prove a boon in the holiday season. It is new, presentable and instructive. It will look well upon my lady's boudoir table—and the pictures may recall to her pleasant days beneath the blue sky of Italy. "America's Godfather: The Florentine Gentleman," by Virginia W. Johnson, author of "Genoa the Superb," "The Lily of the Arno," etc. Boston: Estes & Lauriat; $2.50.

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A volume of beautifully illustrated stories and poems for children is the "Little Ones' Annual for Christmas" that has just been published by Estes and Lauriat, of Boston. It is an attractively gotten up annual, and contains a number of original stories and poems by a host of well known juvenile writers. The book contains 447 illustrations, and is a whole kindergarten training in itself. At the same time the book does not aim to be instructive without entertaining, and for a Christmas gift it will delight the heart of any child. "Little Ones' Annual for Christmas." $1.75 Boston: Estes and Lauriat. For sale by the St. Paul Book and Stationery company.

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Among the pretty little holiday publications from the Frederick A. Stokes company is the "Treasury of Table Talk" and the "Table Talk" of Lincoln. The latter is edited by William O. Stoddard, one of Lincoln's private secretaries and the author of "Abraham Lincoln, the True Story of a Great Life." The two little volumes belong to a series, are beautifully illustrated and among the most suitable of many holiday publications published by that firm. "Treasury of Table Talk." "Table Talk," Lincoln. 75 cents each. New York: The Frederick A. Stokes company. For sale by the St. Paul Book and Stationery company.

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Two more additions have been received to "The Temple Shakespeare" that is being published by MacMillan & Co. "Twelfth Night" and "All's Well That Ends Well" are the latest numbers that have been received, which leaves six of the series that are yet to be published. "The Temple Shakespeare." New York: MacMillan & Co.; 45 cents a volume. For sale by the St. Paul Book and Stationery company.

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Bound copies of St. Nicholas magazine, Volume XXI., Parts 1 and 2, from November, 1893, to October, 1894; and also Volume XXVI., new series of the Century, dating from May to October, 1894, have just been received from the Century company. St. Nicholas, Volume 21; Century magazine, Volume 26. New York: The Century company. For sale by the St. Paul Book and Stationery company.

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"Across Asia on a Bicycle," a story told by two students who traveled from Constantinople to Peking on bicycles, in the Century magazine during this year, has made its appearance in book form, just in time for the holidays. These young chaps wanted to see the world, and because this mode of traveling was a cheap and easy one, they adopted it. The adventures that they met with are told in a very interesting way, and the book is profusely illustrated with views taken by themselves. "Across Asia on a Bicycle." By Thomas G. Allen Jr. and William L. Sachtleben. New York: The Century company, $1.50. For sale by the St. Paul Book and Stationery company.

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Among the holiday publications is a new edition of "Samantha Among the Colored Folks," by Mrs. Marietta Holley. The productions of Josiah Allen's wife have always found a host of readers, chiefly on account of their sympathetic way of dealing with a somewhat ignorant and downtrodden race. "Samantha Among the Colored Folks." By Josiah Allen's Wife. New York: Dodd, Mead & Co., $1.50. For sale by the St. Paul Book and Stationery Company.

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Few writers are more readily heeded by the public than Charles C. Coffin, whose "Boys of '61" has long been widely read, and each succeeding book from his pen is eagerly read. Several years ago "Caleb Krinkle" was published, but did not then receive a very general acceptance, and, as it was withdrawn from circulation entirely, it is comparatively unknown. Recently the story has been republished under the caption of "Dan of Millbrook," and, as the story has been entirely rewritten and retouched with the author's riper genius, it is bound to prove one of the most acceptable of the famous author's works. The story is a charming tale of New England life, and, as it appeals more especially to the young, it will be received largely by boys who love interesting stories of adventure, which is so frequently followed by unforeseen success.

"Dan of Millbrook." By Charles Carlton Coffin. Boston: Estes & Lauriat. Cloth, $1.50. For sale by the St. Paul Book and Stationery company.

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In placing the "Riverside Literature Series" of English classics within the reach of everybody by publishing them in pamphlet form, the well-known firm of Houghton, Mofflin & Company have conferred upon the young students of literature throughout the country an inestimable benefit. Many of the very best things in the whole scope of English literature have been published from time to time, and their latest effort is a three-part edition of "Tales From Shakespeare," by Charles and Mary Lamb. In all nineteen tales are published, and in this list are those relating to the Shakespearian play most generally studied by the pupils of our schools. These pamphlets are published at 15 cents each. With this series of the "tales" comes the play of "Julius Cæsar," edited by that cultured and learned scholar, Richard Grant White, which will be found of great value to the student of Shakespeare.

"Riverside Literature Series." Boston: Houghton, Mofflin & Co.

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A very interesting narrative of travel and diplomatic experience is published by Charles H. Sergel company, entitled "The Man From Oshkosh," by John Hicks, LL. D., late United States minister to Peru. The book from beginning is a most interesting story, and gives a great deal of valuable information concerning the South American country to which Dr. Hicks was sent, and on whose behalf he was able during his ministry there to perform many valuable services. It recounts also much of interest in the early part of the narrative concerning the pioneer days of Wisconsin and of this Northwest country in general. It will be found an excellent book on which to bestow a careful reading.

"The Man From Oshkosh," by John Hicks. Chicago: Charles H. Sergel company. Cloth, $1.25; paper, 50 cents.

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The name of Sam Walter Foss as a writer of verse is a familiar one to the reading public, and the recent publication of a number of his best poems under the title of "Back Country Poems" will tend to widen his already established reputation as a poet. As a writer his genius is versatile, and his poems abound in dainty touches of humor, pathos and sentiment. As he fittingly says:

"'Tis not the greatest singer
Who tries the loftiest themes.
He is the true joy bringer
Who tells his simplest dreams."

This pretty volume from the press of Lee & Shepard will prove a "true joy-bringer" to the lover of charming verse. "Back Country Poems." By Sam Walter Foss. Chicago: Lee & Shepard. Cloth, $1.50.

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The most dramatic of all Charles Dickens' wonderful stories, "Tale of Two Cities," has been published in a charming holiday attire by Dodd, Mead & Co. This beautiful edition, which makes an exquisite Christmas gift, is illustrated with some of Edmund Garrett's best work.

"A Tale of Two Cities," by Charles Dickens. Illustrated by Edmund Garrett. New York: Dodd, Mead & Co. In two volumes, $3.50.

For sale by the St. Paul Book and Stationery company.

MAGAZINES RECEIVED.

"The American Historical Register." Philadelphia: The Historical Register Publishing company.

"American Federationist." New York: The American Federation of Labor.

"The Kindergarten News." Springfield, Mass.: Milton Bradley company, publishers. Rhodes Journal of Banking. New York: Bradford, Rhodes & Co.

"The Interior." Chicago: The Interior Publishing company.

"Harper's Bazar." New York: Harper Brothers.

"Harper's Weekly." New York: Harper Brothers.

"Youth's Companion." Boston: Peary, Mason & Co.

LITERARY NOTES.

Book News for December, the holiday issue, is increased to twice the usual size, and is full of holiday hints for bookish people. Its pages are generously illustrated with sample pictures from worthy books of the month, and its usual departments overflow with news of the latest publications, authors' doings, etc. Philadelphia: John Wanamaker.

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Harper & Bros. publish this week (Dec. 15) six books, among which are the "The White Company" and "The Parasite"—both by A. Conan Doyle. Dr. Doyle, it should be mentioned, is himself responsible for the statement that "The White Company" is his best work. "The Parasite" has just been making its own impression during its publication as a serial in Harper's Weekly. W. J. Henderson's ingenious and entertaining volume of "Sea Yarns for Boys" stands next on the list, and then in sharp contrast the "Commemorative Addresses" by Parke Godwin—earnest and eloquent comment upon George William Curtis, Edwin Booth, Louis Kossuth, John James Audubon and William Cullen Bryant. Then follows "A Martyred Fool," a novel, by David Christie Murray.

WORKINGMEN PLAN.

Semi-Annual Meeting of the State Federation of Labor.

CONVICT LABOR RESOLVES.

Important Measures to Be Urged Upon the Legislature for Passage.

ST. CLOUD MAN PRESIDENT.

Other Officers -- Forty-Five Delegates From Twenty-Three Unions.

Special to the Globe.

ST. CLOUD, Minn., Dec. 16.—The semi-annual meeting of the State Federation of Labor convened in this city at 10 o'clock this morning, President M. E. Murray, of St. Paul, presiding. Vice President Benjamin McLain, of St.