

THE DAILY BEE  
Morday Morning, March 14.

LOCAL BREVITIES.

Minnie Woodruff failed to secure Nugent's conviction Saturday afternoon.  
Himelbaugh & Merrian of this city, have ordered eight engines and boilers of the Fremont Foundry and Machine company.  
The law creating three justice districts for Omaha instead of seven, as at present, will bring about a change in the local courts.  
The Y. M. C. A. held a most entertaining meeting in their hall yesterday evening. The announcement was made that at stated periods services would, at the request of the prisoners, be held in the jail.  
The young ladies, pupils of Brownell Hall school, presented a fine appearance Sunday morning as they marched into the cathedral to hear Bishop Worthington's salutatory sermon.  
Jack Nugent and Robert Green were arrested Saturday by City Marshal Cummings for keeping a disorderly house--Buckingham theatre--and will be tried next Saturday.  
A young man last night at the lecture in Metropolitan hall on spiritualism said, if the next world is filled with all that is really beautiful, numbers of ladies he knows should embrace the faith at once and hurry their travels thither. The wretch!  
The report that Sam Gardner, of road house fame, was shot the other night is denounced by that gentleman as utterly false. The rumor found some remote foundation of truth in the fact that he met with a severe accident some days ago, breaking his shoulder cap.  
John M. Brett, of Wood River, well known in this city, was acquitted at Grand Inquest last week of the charges growing out of the "Wood River" case as it was known, except that he pleaded guilty of assault and battery and was fined \$100 and costs. The charges were very serious and the case excited much interest here.  
The slaughtering houses in South Omaha have been running very light during the past few weeks on account of the great difficulty of obtaining the sufficient number of hogs. The shipments are now very light, principally, it is supposed, on account of bad roads. It is believed that with the opening of spring the stock shipments will immediately revive.  
The quantity of dust flying about the air Saturday was absolutely horrid. If experience of the past may gauge that of the future, it is fair to suppose that the sprinkling carts will be trotted out about the time that half of the people are in the blind asylum and the other half have discounted the future on the score of profanity.  
The Omaha Polo club with the accompanying excursionists to the number of about sixty-five, returned from Lincoln about 11 o'clock Saturday morning and reported that they succeeded in defeating the Lincoln club by a score of 2 to 0. The excursion was delayed nearly eight hours by the wrecked bridge near Valley.  
The ice in the Platte so far has done no great damage, though it severely strained two spans Friday night by running forcibly down against the piles. The ice is gradually melting, and will probably move out in a few days. If the bridge stands that no injury of any moment will ensue. The water is running over the road on this side, and it is not safe to cross one of the small bridges. Teams cross the slough.  
The Metropolitan hall lecture last night was well attended and the audience gave a most earnest and decorous attention to the lecturer Mrs. Hull. The theme was "The Old and New, or the Religion of Modern Spiritualism." The lecturer is an earnest, vent and interesting speaker and makes many admirers by her liberal mode of dealing with those who honestly differ with her in opinion.  
M. O'Connor's saloon was burglarized Friday night by some unknown party who removed a pane of glass from a back window. When the place was examined the back door was found open and two bottles of champagne, two demijohns of whisky, about eight hundred cigars, a coat, overcoat, bundle of dry goods and some \$8 in money stolen. The thief is not identified, though one demijohn of whisky and a box of cigars were found on the railroad track.  
John J. Monell Ken, while coming from Denver Saturday on a U. P. train, attempted to pass from a car while the train was running at high rate. His arms were encumbered by a bundle and this prevented him supporting himself by the guard railing. The wind was blowing at a terrible speed and Mr. Monell was bodily blown off. His ankle was sprained and one bone of the leg near the ankle broken. At Columbus he received treatment and arrived in Omaha that evening. He is now resting in comparative ease at his residence.  
Mr. Doyle was stationed last Thursday night as a watchman along the railroad track near the Platte bridge. Friday morning he failed to come for breakfast at the station house, and a man went to look for him up the river where he had been stationed. He found where he had been, had made a fire against the bank and had left his lamp, which was still burning, hanging on a bush beside the stream. Several theories are insisted on to account for his disappearance, among which is the one that he was murdered and his body disposed of in the handy river, for a gold watch which he wore. So far nobody seems to know the truth about his disappearance, and when it is explained the readers of THE BEE will be informed.

A DASTARD'S DEED.

Henry Verpoorten Shot Down in Cold Blood by Thomas Ballard.

The Murderer Confesses the Crime and Gloats Over the Deed.

"I Meant to Kill Him, and I am Glad It's Done"--Details of the Sunday Tragedy.

At quarter past six o'clock last night Henry Verpoorten, a bartender employed in the St. James hotel, was shot and instantly killed by Thomas Ballard.

THE SCENE OF THE MURDER was at the St. James hotel, situated on Tenth street, opposite the Union Pacific depot.

Shortly after 6 o'clock, Ballard, who is employed as night clerk and runner for the house, pushed his way into the bar-room, situated in the basement of the building, and walked up to the bar, behind which Verpoorten was standing at the time. He drew his revolver, at the same time saying in an excited manner, "Now I've got you, you s-- of a b--h." Verpoorten, who seemed to take the matter as a joke, and who probably didn't realize that Ballard had any serious intentions, merely smiled in reply. The latter fired his revolver, at a range very close to the surface of the bar. The ball, 38-calibre, passed directly into the left side of Verpoorten's breast, and being deflected by a rib, pierced the heart. He lived but two or three moments, expiring after a few spasmodic groans without saying a word. The bystanders immediately gave the alarm and Dr. Darrow was summoned. Everything was done in the way of applying restoratives, but a careful examination disclosed the fact that life was extinct, as the aim of the fatal ball had been too unerring. The dead man lay, almost as if asleep, behind the bar where he had been shot down in so cowardly a manner. There was little or no blood shed, and but for a slight rent in his clothing where the ball had pierced, there was nothing in the victim's outward appearance to disclose the fact of the murder. As for

THOSE WHO SAW THE SHOOTING, they all agree on the point of Ballard's guilt. There were five persons in the room at the time, Samuel Stephenson, Charles Altstadt, William Wilson, Emil Ohrwald and William Boquet. Stephenson, who is an employee of the hotel, and who was an eye-witness to the whole affair, gives an intelligent account of how it happened.

Ballard was standing by the stove in the middle of the room," said he, "when Ballard opened the door and walked in. He stepped up to the counter and jerked a revolver on Verpoorten and fired at him. As he shot I heard him say something like, 'I have you now, you s-- of a b--h, and I'm going to kill you.' Verpoorten, as soon as he was shot, fell back without saying a word. I immediately jumped at Ballard and, grasping him around the arms, threw up the hand which held the weapon. He flourished it in the air a little, but it was finally wrested from him.

As soon as he was taken from him, we let him go free in the room until the officers came and arrested him. He did not appear to be intoxicated, but was very much excited and talked rapidly all the time about the matter. He said: 'I thought that revolver to shoot the s-- of a b--h, and I am glad I did it. I came here with the intention of killing Verpoorten. I have done it, and I am not at all sorry for it, I did it to save the damn family.' He was constantly making remarks of this kind, and appeared to

with a sort of delight expressed in his face." William Boquet, a hackman who was also one of the witnesses to the murder, says: "I saw Ballard standing on the south street corner some time before the shooting occurred. He did not appear to be intoxicated, but I could see that he was excited about something. Pretty soon, I started to go into the bar-room in the basement, and Ballard followed me. I walked up to the bar and was about to open a conversation with the bartender, when Ballard followed me up, and drawing his revolver, placed it level with the counter and fired. Verpoorten fell back without a word. There was one of us on each side of Ballard when he fired, and neither suspected what he was about to do, so quickly was the whole thing over with."

Officer Tom Pierronet, of the night force, happened to be in the vicinity, and was speedily apprised of the tragedy. He pressed through the excited throng which was fast banking around the building, and went into the barroom below just as Ballard was making his way to the door, probably with the intention of escape. Officer Pierronet immediately placed him under arrest and escorted him to the city jail, and from thence to the county jail, where he now is. On the way to prison Ballard expressed himself freely on the subject of the crime, admitting that he had fired the fatal shot, and expressing himself as glad that his victim was dead. "I bought the revolver just two hours ago," he said, "to shoot that man with, and I was determined not to let him go." When Officer Pierronet asked him

WHY HE HAD KILLED Verpoorten, Ballard said that he did it because he (the dead man) had been stealing money from the proprietress of the hotel, Mrs. Damon, and that he had been in the habit of confiscating to his own use a large share of the funds that came into his possession. Further statements relative to the motive for the crime he would not volunteer. He seemed to be perfectly cool and resigned, and remarked when he gave up his "runner" badge to the jailer that he would probably never use it again, and made a similar reflection when he gave up his money.

THE MURDERED MAN. Henry Verpoorten was about 45 years of age. He has been in the country for fifteen years, during about half of which time he has been connected with the St. James hotel as bartender and waiter. About the time of the death of Alexander Damon, in the spring of 1884, he was discharged, but was afterwards, in July, 1884, recalled by Mrs. D. From that time until his death, he has been in the employ of the hotel, with the exception

of about three weeks. He was unmarried and had no relatives in this country except one sister in the east. He was a man of peaceable disposition, and never known to be unduly quarrelsome. He had been intimate with Ballard during the period of his connection with the hotel, and, until a few days ago, the most friendly feeling, apparently, existed between the two men. The slight motive, already suggested, for the commission of the crime, can hardly be taken as the correct one, and it is hinted that REVELATIONS OF A STARTLING AND SCANDALOUS NATURE will be made, in the disclosure of the true state of affairs.

THE MURDERER. A reporter visited the county jail last night and sought an interview with the man Ballard, there confined. He had been placed in a cell of the tier usually tenanted by criminals of the more dangerous class.

The reporter ascended the steps leading to the balcony and stood in front of Ballard's cell. A tall, uncouth looking man advanced to the door of the cell in response to the query of the reporter, "Is this Mr. Ballard?"

"That is my name, sir," responded the prisoner in a low, subdued tone. He further stated that he had been in Omaha since 1868, and for six or seven years had been connected with the St. James.

Questioned as to why he had killed Verpoorten, he replied with an air of braggadochio: "I don't know that that is any of your or the public's d--d business."

"Did you not tell Officer Pierronet that you killed Verpoorten because he was robbing Mrs. Damon?" "Well, sir, if I said it, I said it. That's all about it."

"Do you know the penalty of killing a man with premeditation?" "Well, I've been here a long while. I don't give a -- what the penalty is. I wish you would go straight to h--l."

The police all class Ballard as a bad customer to handle. He is known around the depot as a brow-beater and a low ruffian.

THE CRIME is one of cold blooded murder, pure and simple. No circumstances of palliation, so far as can now be discovered, exist to fend off the fate which the murderer so richly deserves. The commission of the deed by Ballard will be attested to by a number of witnesses, and unless the plea of insanity is set up and successfully carried out, there can be no escape for the murderer. Ballard had been drinking freely all day, and while he was not thoroughly intoxicated, this fact probably had something to do with the commission of the crime.

The weapon used was a British bull-dog, six chambered, of 38-calibre. Ballard had bought another one earlier in the day, but it had been taken away from him by a friend who was apprehensive, from threats made by Ballard, that he might commit the crime with which he is now charged.

THE INQUEST. Coroner Drexel was summoned at once and was soon on the spot, taking informal depositions of testimony. The body of the dead man was moved to the undertaking rooms at 1417 Farnam, and the inquest will be held this morning at ten o'clock. District Attorney Estelle will conduct the examination for the state.

The Musical Union concert, of the event of yesterday afternoon at the opera house. These concerts, which are being guided toward complete success by the indefatigable efforts of Mr. Julius Mayer, are meeting with increased attendance from week to week, and the one yesterday was better patronized than ever. As for the merit of the affair, it is not necessary to say that the musical numbers were handled with the usual taste and fitness of this popular orchestral organization. Detailed comment is unnecessary.

- 1. Overture--"Barber of Seville"....Rossini
- 2. Two Songs Without Words....Mendelssohn
- 3. Waltz--"A Night in Venice"....Strauss
- 4. Overture--"Fidelio"....Beethoven
- 5. Song--"Heaven Hath Sent a Tear"....Kueken....(With Violin Obligato) Mrs. M. Michaels.
- 6. Selection--"Beggar Student"....Millocher
- 7. Swedish Wedding March....Sondermark
- 8. Overtures--"Zampa"....Harold
- 9. Song--"My Bride"....Millard
- 10. Potpourri--"Bonquet of Melodies"....Fach

General Ticket Agent Stebbins, of the Omaha Pacific, has gone direct from St. Paul to New Orleans, where he will attend the meetings of the General Railroad convention.

Messrs. Kimball and Shelby, of the traffic department of the Union Pacific, have returned.

The visiting engineers have concluded their negotiations with the Union Pacific officials, and have drawn up formulated articles of agreement, which will shortly be published.

The Union Pacific headquarters are being equipped with fire escapes of the Benner pattern, one each to be erected on the east and west sides and two on the north side.

The River. Advice from the Missouri river at different points tell of very little change in the condition of that body of water. The ice is moving freely and no overflows are reported.

On the Platte, the ice is also moving rapidly and in some cases with disastrous effect. Near Valley, for instance, the Union Pacific bridge has been so weakened that the passage of trains is impossible, for the present. One of the "banes" (supports of the structure) has been swept away and the bridge is now pronounced to be in a dangerous condition. It is being repaired, and at the headquarters it is stated that the trains will soon be running as usual.

Small Fires. An alarm turned in from box 35 about 5 o'clock Saturday morning called the fire department to the corner of Nineteenth and Clark streets, where the house of a widow, Mrs. Sarfield, was blazing. The flames were speedily extinguished and the loss will not exceed \$50.

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PERSONAL.

Julius Treitscke and wife left for New Orleans last night.

Hon. C. H. Dewey has returned from an extended pleasure trip in New Mexico.

A. A. Kimball, esq., of the St. Paul Photograph, was in Omaha Saturday on business.

H. H. Meday, manager of Hammond's packing house at this point has been at Detroit for the past week, on business.

The resignations of D. J. Smith and J. W. Rose, clerks in charge Omaha & Ogden railroad company, have been accepted by the P. O. department and vacancies filled.

Mrs. Shean, wife of W. A. Shean, of the U. P. baggage department, is just recovering from a severe illness of two weeks' duration. She left Saturday for her old home at Lincoln for a short stay.

Miss Day writes from Chicago to C. A. Ringer that she will be in Omaha about the 18th. All her friends will find her at C. A. Ringer's after the 18th, full of spring styles.

G. A. Dunlap, Lincoln; A. N. Bradt, Beatrice; R. R. Dunn, St. Louis; Jos. R. Porter, Beatrice; T. A. B. Stout and wife, Louisville; D. Knouse, Liberty; N. Sandquist, North Platte, are at the Casfield.

M. F. Martinovich, well and favorably known throughout the city and state, has been engaged as business manager of the Omaha Medical and Surgical Institute to attend to the outside business of that institution.

L. M. Shaw, of Shaw & Kuehnle, the well known law firm of Dunlap, Iowa, has been in the city during the past week.

Miss Carrie Swanson, one of Oakland's fairest daughters, is in the city, spending a few weeks with her sister, Mrs. C. L. Smith.

Hon. Geo. W. E. Dorsey and wife passed through this city Saturday on the way home from Washington. The Bee acknowledges a pleasant call from Mr. Dorsey.

Mr. Jos. Goldsmith, one of the proprietors of the Misfit Clothing Parlors, returned Saturday morning from Aurora, Indiana, where he had been to witness the marriage ceremony of his sister.

Frank W. Crew, well known throughout the state, passed through Omaha Saturday en route to his St. Paul home, from a fortnight's visit to Iowa where he was called by telegraph. Mr. Crew arrived in time to speak a few farewell words to his dying father, whom he buried a few days after his arrival.

At the Metropolitan: E. B. Jims, Kearney; J. T. Hayden, Lincoln; A. H. Burnett, Minden; John T. Lacey, Grand Island; A. L. West and wife, Hastings; J. N. Glenn; J. Plattmoth; Fr. Heyschlag, Nebraska City; J. D. Garner and wife, J. W. Jones and wife, Blenco, and Miss C. Curtis, of Hastings, Neb.

W. C. T. U. The ladies of the W. C. T. U. will hold their Monday business meeting in their parlors over the lunch room, corner of Fifteenth street and Capitol avenue, on Thursday at 2:30 p. m. All are most cordially invited to attend.

By ORDER OF SECRETARY.

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THE TEST: Place a can top down on a hot stove until heated, then remove the cover and smell. A chemist will not be required to detect the presence of ammonia.



DOES NOT CONTAIN AMMONIA. ITS UNQUALIFIED PURITY HAS NEVER BEEN QUESTIONED. In a million homes for a quarter of a century it has stood the consumers' reliable test.

THE TEST OF THE OVEN. PRICE BAKING POWDER CO., MAKERS OF Dr. Price's Special Flavoring Extracts, Dr. Price's Special Malted Natural Flavor, and Dr. Price's Lupulin Yeast Gems.

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25 00 Merchant-Tailor made at	\$12 00	\$25 00 Merchant-Tailor made at
30 00 " " " "	14 00	\$10 00 " " " "
35 00 " " " "	16 00	\$8 00 " " " "
40 00 " " " "	18 25	\$6 00 Merchant-Tailor made at
45 00 " " " "	20 00	4 00 " " " "
50 00 " " " "	23 00	5 00 " " " "
55 00 " " " "	25 00	6 00 " " " "
60 00 " " " "	28 00	7 00 " " " "
65 00 " " " "	30 00	8 00 " " " "
70 00 " " " "	35 00	9 00 " " " "

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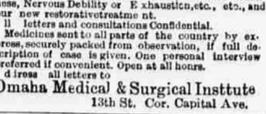
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