OMAHA'S NEW POSTOFFICE.

A Report From the House Committee on Public Buildings.

HALF A MILLION FOR A SITE.

Senator Paddock Takes Vest to Task Regarding His Charge About the Useless Printing of Public Documents.

A Conservative Delay.

WASHINGTON BUREAU THE OMAHA BEE, 513 FOURTEENTH STREET, WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 13.

The house committee on public buildings and grounds to-day reported Mr. McShane's bill calling for $1,500,000 for a new government building at Omaha as amended by the committee. The amendment provides for an appropriation of $300,000 for the securing of a site. The committee state that this action has been taken in view of the fact that legislation by the state of Nebraska is necessary before complete title and cessation of jurisdiction on the part of the state can be obtained by the government, and that inasmuch as the legislature will not meet until the coming year this appropriation is all that is necessary under the circumstances of the case. Mr. McShane has made a vigorous fight on behalf of the full amount, as called for in his bill, and he has been aided by Messrs. Laird and Dorsey. The action taken is stated by several members of the committee to be entirely in the line of the full amount of the appropriation, as called for by Mr. McShane's bill, and with no view to cut the cost of the building when erected. They believe that on the very strong showing made by Congressman McShane as to the necessities of the government at Omaha that there will be no difficulty at the next session of congress in passing a bill providing for the erection of a building to cost $1,000,000. The report of the committee is undoubtedly influenced by the approaching campaign and the feeling among the democrats that appropriations must be pared down to the lowest possible notch in order to make a showing in the coming canvass. It is probable that the bill will come up for passage in the house between the 21st and 25th inst., and as it will have the united and vigorous support of the state delegation, there is no doubt of its adoption. It is not sure, however, that the senate will concur in the amendment of the house. If it does not the bill will go to a conference committee, in which event the bill, as passed by the senate, may be restored and finally accepted by the house.

MEASURES FROM SENATOR PADDOCK.

Senator Paddock to-day in the senate introduced a memorial from the citizens of Lincoln praying that the government should bear its share of the expense of paving and grading the streets adjacent to the government building. He also introduced a petition signed by the governor and various state officers and citizens of Nebraska, praying for a pension for Mrs. Nancy Pollack, which was referred to the committee on pensions.

PADDOCK ON PUBLIC DOCUMENTS.

During the course of the debate on the question of the surplus of public documents in response to Senator Vest's charge that too many documents were printed and that he had several thousand which he was unable to dispose of, Senator Manderson, the chairman of the committee on printing, being absent, Senator Paddock took up the cudgels in debate in behalf of his colleague. He said that his colleague, who is chairman of the committee on printing, was unavoidably absent from the chamber, otherwise he would undoubtedly be heard from in answer to the charges against him and his committee made by the senator from Missouri in the course of his remarks. Mr. Paddock said there might have been some abuses in the matter of printing public documents of the classes referred to by the senator, but that he himself would be glad to receive from the surplus of such documents a few thousand for distribution to his constituents; that there were some hundreds of thousands of pioneers on homesteads in the frontier counties of his state—and the same was true of Kansas and the other states and territories of the newer northwest—who are hungry and thirsty for knowledge of any and all kinds, and they would gladly receive even the documents so vehemently disparaged by the senator from Missouri. There is no subject considered worthy of consideration by the committees of congress or by commissions appointed by its authority to consider any report upon which reports were considered important enough to print, which would not interest the people of his section of the country, at least, and he would be glad to have them for distribution. Being a new senator, he is not entitled to documents for distribution, and he would be glad to receive from the senator from Missouri, or anybody else, five or six thousand or more of these disparaged documents for his constituents.

IOWA MATTERS IN THE SENATE.

Senator Allison presented in the senate to-day the resolutions adopted by the Iowa Short Horn Breeders' association asking that the so-called Miller-Cary bill, as now changed and argued upon by the commissioner of agriculture, etc., be passed by congress, and asking for an appropriation to aid in the suppression of pleuro-pneumonia. He also presented the petition of the Business Men's association of Muscatine, Ia., asking for the establishment of an experimental plant for the manufacture of sugar in the state of Iowa.

ADMITTED TO PRACTICE.

Abram Axtell, of Scotia, Greeley county, Neb., and Alanzon Gaston, of Marshalltown, Ia., were to-day admitted to practice before the interior department.

POSTAL CHANGES.

After to-morrow the special mail service to Broadway, Linn county, Ia., from Uniontown, will be discontinued.

The postoffices at Center Valley, Cass county, Neb., and Keya Paha, Holt county, Neb., have been discontinued. Mail for the first office will now go to Weeping Water and for the latter to Grand Rapids.

The time schedule for the star mail route extending from Ewing to Harold, Neb., has been changed as follows: Leave Ewing Mondays and Fridays at 9:30 a. m.; arrive at Harold by 4 p. m. Leave Harold Tuesdays and Saturdays at 9 a. m.; arrive at Ewing by 1:30 p. m.

Thomas W. Wilson was to-day appointed postmaster at Linwood, Butler county, Neb., vice George E. Richards, removed.

AN ALIEN LAW.

Representative Struble, of Iowa, to-day introduced a bill amending the law which prohibits aliens owning lands in the territories by prohibiting aliens acquiring title by loaning money on lands and foreclosing the mortgage.

PERRY S. HEATH.

Nebraska and Iowa Pensions.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 13.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—Pensions were granted the following Nebraskans to-day: Original invalid—Joseph S. Coffin, Colon; George D. Mullinah, Creighton; Jefferson H. Foxworthy, Lincoln; Marion B. Brown, Indianola; George W. Hagan, Guide Rock; Oliver F. Reynolds, McCook; James Atkinson, Beatrice; John Timmerman, Flora. Increase invalid—Montgomery Stroud, Rockville; Jesse J. Ferguson, Syracuse; Claus Young, Madison. Mexican survivors—Daniel Scott, Scotia. Increase—Samuel H. Likins, Carnes. Reissue—Michael Sullivan, Arapahoe.

Pensions for Iowans: Original invalid—John A. Cooke, Yale; Jacob Blattner, Casey; Edward M. Gerard, Council Bluffs; John H. Smith, Swan Lake; John Grandy, Troy Mills; Samuel W. Johnson, Rippey; Charles Totten, Bridgewater; Calvin L. Brock, Olin; Henry L. Clapsaddle, Sibley. Increase—Winfield Green, Cedar Rapids; James T. Johnston, Bedford; John Dicus, Exira; Charles H. W. Payne, Adel; James Pugh, Atlantic; Jefferson Kisling, Onowa; Jerome Long, Bonaparte; Eliza R. S. Rice, Ames; Jesse Guttery, Tingley; Leander U. Browning, Clinton; John Gulick, Madrid. Reissue—Austin Crawford, Ainsworth; Daniel F. Haynes, Washington. Original, widows, etc.—Mary C., widow of Willis Lyon, Elgin; Jane M., mother of John T. Earnest, Northfield; minor of Stephen S. Foster, Leets.

Jung Ah Lung's Case.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 13.—A decision was rendered by the United States supreme court to-day in the Chinese immigration case of the United States against Jung Ah Lung, brought here by appeal from the circuit court of the United States, district of California. The decision of the lower court, by virtue of which Jung Ah Lung was discharged from custody on a writ of habeas corpus, is affirmed.

A RELIGIOUS PIONEER.

Death of Archbishop Jean Baptiste Lamy at Santa Fe.

SANTA FE, N. M., Feb. 13.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—Archbishop Jean Baptiste Lamy died at his home at 8 o'clock this morning in his seventy-fourth year, after an illness of five weeks, of pneumonia. His death was painless. The pneumonia had been subdued several days previous to his death, but he had not the strength to rally from its effects. He was born in France, came to America in 1839 and to Santa Fe in 1857, having been appointed bishop of Agithon and vicar apostolic of New Mexico. It was to a great extent by his labor that the Catholic church and its numerous educational and charitable institutions have reached their present degree of prosperity and power in the southwest. His early life here was one of great hardship, of danger from hostile Indians on his numberless visits to the churches scattered over a wide area of country, and on his journeys across the plains to church councils held in the Atlantic states. He was made archbishop of Santa Fe twelve years ago, with Colorado and Arizona included in his diocese, but resigned in 1885 on account of the breaking of his health from age and hard work. He was succeeded by Rev. J. B. Salpointe, who had been his coadjutor. Archbishop Lamy's body will lie in state at the Catholic cathedral here until Thursday or Friday, when the funeral will take place. The Santa Fe cathedral is a noble structure and a monument to the archbishop, as it was built through his effort. He was known and loved by more people than any one in this country and the mourning over his death is general and profound.

NEBRASKA NEWS.

A Hebron Woman Searching For Her Absconding Husband.

LINCOLN, Neb., Feb. 13.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—Mrs. Baker, a lady from Hebron, Thayer county, appealed to the police to-day for assistance in finding the whereabouts of her husband, who at the last state fair time deserted his wife and came to Lincoln with another man's wife. He has been seen on several occasions in this city since leaving his home.

His Third Visit.

LINCOLN, Neb., Feb. 13.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—Adolph Gunther, a resident of the village of Hickman, this county, was brought to the city to-day insane, and will be taken to the asylum. It is his third attack and third visit to the hospital.

The Poll Book Thief.

GRANT, Neb., Feb. 13.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—The detectives who were put to work on the poll book robbery reported in Sunday's BEE, hit upon a clue to-day. Nearly enough evidence is accumulated now to warrant the arrest of the party suspected.

SEVEN DROWNED.

Only One Survivor Out of a Party of Eight Colored People.

NEW ORLEANS, Feb. 13.—A party of eight persons, all colored, crossed the river Saturday afternoon in a skiff. The boat was old, and when the party was returning and within a hundred feet of the home landing the swell of a passing steamer caused the skiff to go to pieces and seven of the occupants were drowned.

The Gould and Sage Larceny.

NEW YORK, Feb. 13.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—It is said the charges against Russell Sage and Jay Gould for larceny of Union Pacific railroad bonds will be brought to the attention of the grand jury at once. But one fact has come to light that warrants the expectation that the officers of the law will not dismiss the charges without some sort of public inquiry. District Attorney Fellows declares he has been approached by men having an interest in the case. There has been some criticism in some quarters over the action of the district attorney's office in holding a secret conference to hear arguments. The district attorney in an interview said: "I have been appoached by men evidently bent on an effort to influence me, suggesting I should be careful. Some have even said that if I would act agreeably to their view they could arrange things pleasant for me." People attached to Gould's interest say that Jay Gould will be in New York before March 1. The following cablegram was received by a Wall street agent from Mr. Gould: "See and find out how much he wants to stop this business."

Steamship Arrivals.

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 13.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—Arrived—The Indiana, from Liverpool; the Minnesota, from London.

QUEENSTOWN, Feb. 13.—Arrived—The Gallia, from New York; the British King, from Philadelphia; the Palestine, from Boston.

HAVRE, Feb. 13.—Arrived—The Champagne, from New York.

DOVER, Feb. 13.—Arrived—The America, from Baltimore, for Bremen.

BOSTON, Feb. 13.—Arrived—The Lake Ontario, from Liverpool.

LONDON, Feb. 13.—Arrived—The Helvetia, from New York.

The Crown Prince.

[Copyright 1888 by James Gordon Bennett.]

SAN REMO, Feb. 13.—[New York Herald Cable—Special to the BEE.]—The weather continues cold and rainy and generally unfavorable for the crown prince, but no fever yet. He was permitted to talk. His family doctors have suddenly become very reticent and have very little to say about the real condition of the prince, but I am assured the throat is doing well. He suffers no pain. The inner tube is taken out frequently for clearing.

O'Brien and Sullivan Honored.

LONDON, Feb. 13.—William O'Brien and T. P. Sullivan, Irish members of parliament, who were recently imprisoned, arrived in London and received an ovation from 10,000 persons who had gathered at the station to welcome them. They were escorted by an immense procession to Hyde park, where 40,000 people were assembled and held a meeting in their honor.

An Opium Smuggler Bailed.

WATERTOWN, N. Y., Feb. 13.—Erwin A. Garner, who with his cousin, Ephraim Gardner, was arrested and taken to Ogdensburg on Tuesday last on the charge of smuggling opium, has been released on $1,000 bail and is now in this city. Erwin's trunks, which were seized, have been found to contain documents showing that Gardner was a United States inspector during four months in 1885, with headquarters on the Pacific coast.

Ross Wins the Spalding Race.

LONDON, Jan. 13.—The sculling race between Wallace Ross, of America, and George Bubear, of England, for the championship of England, challenge cup and a stake of £400, took place to-day over the Thames course from Putney to Mortlake.

Ross had the Surrey side of the river and led throughout. At Hammersmith, two miles from the start, he was ten lengths ahead. He then eased up and won by six lengths.

Weather Indications.

For Nebraska: Colder, generally fair weather, with cold wave, fresh to brisk northerly winds.

For Iowa: Light local snows, followed by fair, colder weather, with cold wave, fresh to brisk winds, shifting to northerly.

For Eastern and Southeastern Dakota: Fair weather, preceded in southern portion by light snow, colder, with cold wave, fresh to light northerly winds, becoming lighter and variable.

Another Dakota Blizzard.

ABERDEEN, Dak., Feb. 13.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—Early this morning a strong wind from the north developed into a blizzard, completely blocking the railroads by noon. To-night the thermometer is 10° below zero. Although the storm seems nearly as severe as that of January 12, no loss of life is anticipated, as the storm came up gradually.

TELEGRAPH NOTES.

The Kennebec Journal insists on Blaine staying in the race.

In the French chamber of deputies yesterday Premier Tirard called for a credit of 19,900,000 francs, which was adopted.

Chief of Police Ebersold, of Chicago, tendered his resignation to Mayor Roche last evening. No reason was assigned.

Two thousand men are still continuing the effort to rescue the passengers on the mail train on the Arlberg railway, buried by an avalanche.

The first clause of the socialist bill passed the second reading in the reichstag yesterday. The clause prolongs the existing law until September 30, 1890.

Harper Meadows, a member of a highly respected family at Olney, Ill., has been arrested on suspicion of having assassinated Joseph F. Leanor on Saturday.

Judge Gresham was seen at Louisville, Ky., last evening and asked his opinion of Blaine's letter, but refused to say anything, saying he was not talking politics.

The coroner's jury at Marissa, Ill., yesterday decided that J. W. Guthrie, the wealthy farmer supposed to have been murdered by burglars Sunday last, in reality suicided.

Ralph Lee, who shot and dangerously wounded his step-father, Banker Rawson, in Chicago some months ago, was yesterday sentenced to eighteen months in the county jail. His mother will be tried next week.

Chicago's city council last night passed a new gas ordinance, the most important feature of which is that it compels the various gas companies to supply gas to private consumers as well as to the city at $1 per 1,000 cubic feet.

No important cuts were made yesterday by the warring western roads, but the Burlington announces that to-day, in connection with the B. & M. road, it will reduce grain rates from all Nebraska stations and the Missouri river 8c per 100 pounds. This is a heavy blow to the Iowa and Chicago trunk lines, as they have about 12,000,000 bushels of grain cribbed and stored in western Iowa which will be hurried to market at the reduced rate.

A banquet in honor of Lincoln's birthday was given at Columbus, O., last night, and attended by prominent republican speakers, including Senator Sherman, Governor Foraker, Governor Luce of Michigan, Governor Beaver of Pennsylvania, and others. Murat Halstead, of the Cincinnati Commercial Gazette, in responding to the toast, "The Press," paid a glowing tribute to the memory of the martyred president.

AMUSEMENTS.

The Treat of the Season at Boyd's.

The Howard Athenaeum Star Specialty company opened at Boyd's last night. It is a remarkably fine attraction, one of the very best that has been here this season. Many of the performers are previous acquaintances, but their acts are new and prepared on purpose for this tour, while the new engagements are of uncommon merit and attractiveness. The Whirlwinds of the Desert, the four Arabs, give a performance that has never had an equal in this country, and they were greeted with the most enthusiastic applause. Robini and Rezene, in an eccentric trapeze act, also brought down the house; the brothers, Fonte-Boni in a curiously clever bell imitation act are great, and a London magician, Carl Hertz, introduces some tricks that almost partake of the preternatural. The Irwin sisters—May and Flora—repeated their great success of years gone by. "Home Rule" is a good medium for displaying their specialties this including the singing by Miss May, who carried the audience by storm with "Way Down in Maine" and other novelties; the male impersonation of Miss Flora was capital. Adams, Casey and Howard gave a refined black-faced musical sketch of a similar nature to that in which they have previously won much favor. Miss Lizzie Daly more than satisfied the demands of her unlimited admirers for her inimitable work at the shrine of Terpsichore. Hoey and Dailey need no special mention, save to say that they are as popular as ever in their not unfamiliar dialogue act. The programme is quite lengthy, but every item is good, and the company will not be duplicated here this season, for its equal is not on the road.

NAILED THE DARKEY.

A Traveling Man Plays Policeman For a Little While.

A traveling man by the name of Shankland, representing a glass factory at Gloversville, N. Y., stepped up to a darkey in the corridor of the Paxton at midnight last night, took him by the collar and marching up to the office directed the clerk to telephone to the central police station for an officer. The negro all this time presented a stolid indifference, but when Officer Cullen and a companion arrived he weakened and asked for what he was to be pigged.

"Lock him up and I will appear against him. I am directed by your superior officer in this move," said Shankland, and the officers departed with their prisoner.

To a BEE reporter Shankland explained that he had employed the negro, whose name is Archie White, to assist him during the day in carrying about his sample case. As a reward, upon their return to the Paxton where Shankland is quartered, he dove down in his pocket and handed White, as he supposed, a silver dollar. But a little later he discovered that it was a $20 gold piece and not a dollar, and by advice of the proprietors of the house he started out to find White, accompanied by a policeman delegated for the search by Chief Seavey. White, however, succeeded in eluding his pursuers, though they heard of him as having been in several places spending money freely. Upon his return to the Paxton he was quickly gobbled up, and to-day will be given a hearing.

A Veteran Becomes Insane.

Nelson Brown, the old G. A. R. Patriarch who has a candy stand on the corner of Douglas and 16th streets, has become insane and was taken to the police station last night on complaint of T. Erichson, the shoemaker next door to him. The old man has seen hard times lately and this, coupled with neglect and insufficient food, has weakened his mind. Some two or three months ago he was murderously assaulted by a mulatto, who beat him into insensibility with pop bottles. Since then the old man has never been himself.

Ninety New Locomotives.

Fifteen of the new locomotives ordered by the Union Pacific railroad will arrive in the city by March 1, and the balance will follow regularly at a rate that it is expected the full number will be in working shape by April 1. Rome, N. Y., Philadelphia, Pa., and Paterson, N. J., shops are furnishing them.

Rapid Transit.

BALTIMORE, Feb. 13.—A company was incorporated in this city to-day which proposes to send merchandise and mail by electro-automatic power over elevated railway cars which cannot run off, and to make the line of transit from Baltimore to Washington in ten minutes. Some very prominent business men and capitalists have engaged in the enterprise.

Patti's Bogus Agent.

NEW YORK, Feb., 13.—United States Commissioner Lyman decided that the evidence was sufficient to send Benson, the alleged Patti ticket forger back to Mexico for trial. Benson's counsel was granted a hearing for to-morrow to allow the introduction of new testimony.

Roumanian Election.

BUCHAREST, Feb. 13.—The second ballot for members of the Roumanian chamber of deputies resulted in the election of twelve government candidates and five members of the opposition.

Elgin Butter Market.

ELGIN, Ill., Feb. 13.—Butter sold on the market to-day at 29c per pound.

$9.00 saved by getting best warranted teeth worth $15.00 of Dr. Haughawout for $6.00, S. W. cor. 13th and Farnam st

Best soft coal, Silver Creek. Try it. Jeff. W. Bedford, 213 S. 14th.

AMERICANS ON THE NILE.

Wealthy Tourists Who Are Thoroughly Killing Time.

THE OBSERVANCE OF LENT

Society in Gotham to Come to an Early Close—The President's Sister in a New Role—A Unique Character—Clara Belle's Letter.

NEW YORK, Feb. 11.—[Correspondence of the BEE.]—Since William K. Vanderbilt sailed away on a trip around the world little has been heard of him. The newspapers have not followed him up with closeness. Now and then a brief telegram has appeared, announcing that Mr. Vanderbilt had graciously consented to be received by the sultan, or some minor potentate, who would undoubtedly gladly exchange boots with his money guest. That Mr. Vanderbilt spent Christmas in the vicinity of the Dardanelles and that Mrs. Vanderbilt did not forget to send a New Year's check to New York in the interests of charity. But some of Mr. Vanderbilt's friends have been fortunate in obtaining private advices about him, and from one of these letters I obtain a great deal of information. Mr. Vanderbilt's experiences thus far have been devoid of anything remarkable from the point of view of the adventurer. He has had no encounters with brigands, either Italian or Turkish, he has not been followed by pirates in the mediteranean; he has climbed no dizzy mountain heights, nor has he attempted to enter Morques in disguise, he has not bearded the tiger in his lair, nor shot the sacred white elephant on the banks of the Ganges. In fact, Mr. Vanderbilt's life is, in his own opinion and that of his friends, altogether too valuable to risk in any such foolhardy manner. That may do for moneyless nobodies, but never for the biggest of American money kings. Mr. Vanderbilt, according to the best authority, has, however, been able to enjoy himself much more to his satisfaction. At present he is in Egypt, and on his way up the Nile. He has chartered the steamer Prince, Abbas, which returned to Cairo last week, having on board the Duc de Chartres and a party of illustrious gentlemen. Mr. Vanderbilt was introduced to the noble duke and they had a pleasant time while both parties remained in Cairo. The steamer Prince Abbas is getting to be the regular excursion boat of the Nile for parties who can afford to pay the exceedingly large price charged for her use. The fittings and furnishings are of the most luxurious character, and almost equal to the magnificence of Mr. Vanderbilt's own yacht. The steamer is a large one compared to the general run of vessels in use on the Nile, and the Vanderbilt party will not find it necessary to complain of cramped quarters. The start was made a few days ago and the ultimate destination is the First Cataract. Stops will be made at Luxor, Carnak, Thebes and other towns and villages on the up trip and possibly at some on the return. Mr. Vanderbilt has written that Egypt is not a country of pleasant sights, although abounding with things of interesting nature. He found more rags and misery in Cairo than he ever before imagined possible. The turbulent Nile, with its muddy waters and loamy black banks has caused him to express surprise at the stories of Cleopatra and her wonderful barge. To his mind, floating on the dirty waves and watching the crocodiles as they impudently flirt their tails, is not such a delightful thing as it is alleged to have been. He admits, however, that the moonlight, and beautiful houris in picturesque costume and soft music may have made a difference. Mr. Vanderbilt's Nile visit will last much longer than the three weeks that it usually takes, because he expects to be some time in exploring the wonders of the place where he intends to stop. He will manage to get back in time, however, to avoid any dangers from the annual overflow. He has taken along with him a goodly supply of choice Perfectos to prevent infection from the ill-smelling rags that are omnipresent in Egypt at this time. He believes that good tobacco smoke will drive away any such danger, and invites his companions to puff away at his best brands all the time.

"Doing" the Nile has apparently attracted a great many Americans recently. Mr. J. Pierrepont Morgan, the rich banker and statesman, chartered the same steamer that Mr. Vanderbilt is now using. He was in a hurry, however, and broke the time record on the trip by steaming night and day instead of lying-to at night. He returned to Cairo in a week and a half from the time he started. Mr. Ismay of the White Star line also made the trip and a number of well known Americans have been there incognito. Letters have been received in New York from Mr. and Mrs. Daniel B. Fearing, the wealthy society couple who took a wedding trip to Japan last fall, Mr. Fearing is a wealthy gentleman of adventurous spirit who became tired of the insipid pleasures of society life in New York. Mrs. Fearing is a charming young woman who shares her husband's love for travel, and, as money is no object to them, they have been enjoying themselves royally. They left New York on a special car and their own servants for San Francisco and thence traveled by private yacht to Yokohoma. A beautiful residence had been engaged for them in advance and had been fitted up in luxurious manner. In the delightful climate and surrounded by new and curious conditions they have managed to entertain themselves wonderfully well. They at first intended to return in six months but their appetite for travel has only been whetted by their experience and they expect now to circle the globe before they return. Their next stop will be in India.

Society mourns the early advent this year. It is generally agreed that February 15 is a date altogether outrageous for the suppression of gayety in its violent phase, and the enforced substitution of sewing bees, quiet luncheons, charitable bazaars, and the carrying of prayer books in the afternoon. There was a time when the Lenten season might be opened ignored, and church authority defied with impunity. But society doesn't do that sort of thing now. It's fashionable to be churchly, so the sackcloth and ashes are metaphorically donned without a murmur. Some young women even go so far as to attend church two or three times a day. They may be escorted home by a different young man each time, but they console themselves with a consciousness of duty performed. There is some talk of a great charity fair before Easter, to be led by such names as Astor and Vanderbilt, but the project has not yet taken definite shape, and come to nothing.

Notwithstanding the widespread popularity of Lenten observances, however, there are a considerable number of wealthy New Yorkers whose absurd independence of the conventionalities has led them to a charming new departure in their set. This is a departure for Florida, Nassau, or some other genial clime a few days before Ash Wednesday, and a return to civilization a few days after Easter. At least twenty families have departed within the last week, with the sole purpose of escaping the dullness of Lent, and many more are going.

But if Lent is observed rather strictly, society makes the most of the gay season up to the last moment. While the afternoon receptions and the evening "small and earlys" at private houses are as numerous as ever, the entertainments at Delmonico's and the Brunswick have greatly increased in number. For instance: Delmonico's second floor is engaged for every night up to Ash Wednesday, for balls and other social affairs. Private entertainments in public places—admission by card only—grow in favor and save much wear and tear on the goods and chattels of handsome dwellings. It is done by forming so-called "clubs" or "circles," and issuing engraved invitations. Delmonico weeps when he thinks of Lent, but it is doubtful if he goes to church—even once a day.

The dancing season closes with the beginning of Lent, of course, and it has been an unusually gay one, in consequence of the condensation already mentioned. A feature of the last ball in the Astor coterie was the presence of four bridal parties. In each instance the bride was there wearing the costume in which she has stood before the altar, except that the veil and orange blossoms were discarded. The four groups of bridesmaids also appeared in the dresses which they had worn at the weddings. These interesting bridal parties kept themselves intact for an hour or so, and around them crowded admiring spectators. An air of rivalry was imparted the exhibition, too, for it was inevitable that comparisons should be critically made, not alone as to the personal beauty or lack of it but in the matter of clothes. At all events it was a successful attempt to inject an almost sensational element into what would have been a fine but conventional climax of the season.

Propriety and Shakespeare have had a collision, and Miss Rose Elizabeth Cleveland had something to do with it. That is to say, the extremely fashionable school in which she is a member of the faculty was the place of the impact. The rules of that establishment, governing the conduct of the pupils, compels the girls who board there to get a special permission every time they go outside the walls, except for promenades together and with a chaperone. Applications for leave to go to theaters are generally refused, but Shakespeare has usually been honored with a breach of this law. When Booth & Barrett last played here these school girls were allowed to go to the matinees in chaperoned parties, and even at night, under approved escort. Modjeska is in town this week in a round of Shakespearean plays, and the girls under Miss Cleveland supposed that they could witness these representations. But when it came to "Cymbeline" and "Measure for Measure," with their shocking plots, the question had to be carefully considered: On the one hand it was argued that Shakespeare's works were above condemnation, even in these pieces usually offered by actors, while it was as strenuously urged that the adventures of the heroine in each in each instance were utterly unfit for young girls to see. Miss Cleveland was delegated to find out how far Modjeska intended to go in a literal illustration of Shakespeare, and she wrote a polite letter to the actress, asking if the bedchamber scene in "Cymbeline" was to be given as in the play. Modjeska replied that not only would every word in it be broken, but that, after mature consideration, she had decided to emphasize it by the utmost degree of pantomime. She said that the whole play depended upon this principal scene for its intelligibility and interest. Thereupon she felt that artistic reverence for Shakespeare not only demanded that this particular passage should not be curtailed, but that it should be given with all possible dramatic force. Miss Cleveland as emphatically decided that her girls should not see "Cymbeline." Probably she was right. There is a great deal of good poetry in this play of Shakespeare's, but the principal feature of the story is the surreptitous visit to her bedside by an adventureous scoundrel, in quest of false evidence against her modesty. However, several audiences did see Modjeska in this dramatic exploit, and personal observation of one of these gatherings impells the writer to declare that Shakespeare literally illustrated on the stage is a shock to sensitive eyes and ears.

This leads up to Comstock's raids upon undraped art, and one of our variety theatres—the only one close to Broadway, and commonly visited by polite people—has this week taken shrewd advantage of the subject. Wherever did you hear of any body, even the most acute stickler for propriety, objecting to skin-tight coverings on the circus performers? Three athletes happened to be under engagement to this establishment. One of them was a young woman. Ordinarily they threw flip-flaps, and did other acrobatic things, in the costume common to their profession. But this time the manager saw the chance for novelty and humor in keeping skirts on the girl during her performance. Therefore, we have the remarkable sight of summersaults and contortive feats by a maiden dressed in the long skirts of conventional life.

In the busy throng of lower Broadway and tributary thoroughfares, as old Trinity's clock is making toward noon, may daily be seen a buxom girl of about twenty, with rosy cheeks, intelligent eyes, and a big basket of fruit on her arm. In and out of buildings she goes, until, when relieved of her cargo she disappears for half an hour while she loads again. To be sure she is only one of an army of women engaged in this business, but she is a unique character for all that. They call her Jo. Nobody ever knew an apple girl's surname, or perhaps ever dreamed that she possessed such a thing. Jo has been working the neighborhood of Wall street for a number of years, and she has struck a vein that will make her rich in time. At first she was a freelance, and took trade as it came; but as soon as one found business thriving to an extent beyond her capacity she weeded out her customers, retaining those who had proved most profitable. Her patrons are chiefly brokers and lawyers. Jo is shrewd and Jo is secretive and the method of her money making may be explained by a simple transaction. She enters a broker's office, and passes unchallenged to the private room of the head of the firm. An elderly gentleman greets her cordially, selects a couple of oranges and asks her with a smile to "send up a couple just like last week." Jo makes an entry in a little note book, the old banker hands her a bank bill and she makes her exit. But on the way out a young man at a desk intercepts her, buys an apple or two, whispers mysteriously, passes her a note and she vanishes. Down in the market Jo had a contract with a certain fruit dealer, and buys at bottom prices. There soon after we find her, engaged in making up three baskets of selected fruit—one larger and finer than the others. Then she addresses and attaches a card to each, and orders them to be sent uptown before sundown. Late in the afternoon a basket of fruit is handed the broker's wife. A larger basket is delivered to another lady—not his wife. Basket No. 3 finds its way to a very cosy flat where a Vaudeville actress pays the rent. Jo clears about $1 on each basket, and the gentlemen concerned are relieved of making purchases where acquaintances might be encountered and awkward explanations rendered necessary. Jo holds the secret of many a man, and the happiness of more than one home in that little note book of hers. But she's very discreet.

CLARA BELLE.

Barn and Horses Burned.

GIRARD, Kan., Feb. 13.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—A livery stable owned by M. J. Lovener was burned to the ground together with its contents. Ten head of horses, two mules, sleighs, buggies and equipments were all destroyed. The horses were insured for $1,900. Loss $4,300.

Burglarized Pullman Cars.

WYANDOTTE, Kan., Feb. 13.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—Officer James Gilley arrested William Kelley last night for burglarizing Pullman palace cars and stealing pillows, blankets, etc. He is in jail in default of bail.

Notice.

A grand benefit concert, for the benefit of the Nebraska heroines, Miss Minnie Freeman, Miss Lole Royce and Miss Lena Woebecke, will be given at the Grand opera house, Thursday eve, Feb. 23, 1888, by the members of Second United States' infantry band.

The entire receipts will be contributed to the Omaha BEE fund.

Programme will appear at a later date in all papers.

To Buy, Trade, Sell, Rent
Or exchange, see J. L. Rice & Co.

R. Kalish, tailor, has removed to Exposition, cor. 15th and Capitol ave.

CALIFORNIA EXCURSIONS.

Burlington Route.
Tickets sold every day, good six months, choice of routes. Special cheap excursion Feb. 16. For particulars write to or call at
CITY TICKET OFFICE,
1324 Farnam st.

Architects and Superintendents.
Hodgson & Son, 26, Iron Bank.

J. L. Rice & Co., Real Estate.

For Hanscom Place.
Improved property, see J. L. Rice & Co.

Bal Masque.
The Omaha Turnverein Feb. 22 at Germania hall. Members can secure tickets for themselves and ladies, and also for their friends by applying to the undersigned committee. Tickets $2.00 each including 2 ladies. Phillip Andres, Fred Anderson, Henry Rahlff, Fred Wells, C. Hoarman, E. Stein, B. M. Mohr, E. Meyer, B. Jobst, and Frank J. Lange, committee on arrangement.

Furnished House For Rent.
Five room house near street car, $25 per month. Furniture for sale at a bargain for cash or on time. Inquire of A. Hospe, 1513 Douglas.

Harney Street Corner.
See J. L. Rice & Co.

Brook Trout.
BLACK BASS AND CROPPIES AT MOTZ FISH MARKET, 414 S. 13TH.

Parnell Social Club.
Remember Tuesday evening, Feb. 14, the above named club gives another of its series and a good time is assured all those favored with invitations. Grand march promptly at 9 o'clock.

Chicago Street
Full lot between 11th and 12th st. Sale or trade. J. L. Rice & Co.

Seidenberg's Figaro is the only long Havana filled 10c cigar for 5c on sale everywhere.

Another Piano for $40.
A. Hospe, jr., 1513 Douglas street, has a piano for $40, an organ for $30, for cash or on monthly payments.
A fine upright piano for $175 on monthly payments.
A good square piano for $100.
A. Hospe, jr., agent for the celebrated Emerson pianos and Kimball organs.

J. L. Rice & Co., Real Estate.

Dr. Hamilton Warren, Magnetic Physician and surgeon, Room 3, Crounse block, cor 16th and Capital ave. Chronic and nervous diseases a specialty. Telephone 944.

Saunders Street.
Sixty-three feet front on paved street, $1,000 less than what is asked for property surrounding it. J. L. Rice & Co.

Musical gymnastics by the deaf mutes, at the Grand Opera house, to-morrow evening. Admission 50 cents.

Jones and 12th St. Corner.
See J. L. Rice & Co.

A New Ice Firm.
F. Weymuller and R. Peterson have entered a co-partnership under the name of the Omaha Ice company. They will handle on first-class ice, both at wholesale and retail. The patronage of their friends is solicited, and perfect satisfaction is guaranteed to the trade in every instance. Their office is located at 310 South 15th st.

Jackson Street Lot.
See J. L. Rice & Co.

A Dinner Party.
Quite a pleasant entertainment was given at the Paxton on Saturday evening, the occasion being a dinner party under the auspices of Juan Boyle and his accomplished wife, of Kearney. The dinner was in honor of General and Mrs. Wheaton. There were several invited guests from among army circles, and the affair was a complete social success. A visit to Boyd's theatre by the entire party completed a most pleasant evening.

Capitol Avenue Lot.
Between 14th and 15th streets. See J. L. Rice & Co.

Had the Couple Arrested.
Mrs. P. M. Walsh and Mr. C. E. Seward were arrested at the Cozzens hotel last night on the charge of adultery. The charge is said to be brought by Mrs. Walsh's husband, with whom she has not been living for several months past.

Children Cry for Pitcher's Castoria.

When Baby was sick, we gave her Castoria.
When she was a Child, she cried for Castoria.
When she became Miss, she clung to Castoria.
When she had Children, she gave them Castoria.

THE SPECULATIVE MARKETS.

Every Element Combines to Boost the Price of Wheat.

CORN CONTINUES TO PILE UP.

Liberal Buying of Oats Early in the Session—Provisions Exhibit Spasmodic Trading—Cattle Fair.

CHICAGO PRODUCE MARKET.

CHICAGO, Feb. 13.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—Everything which might be expected to influence the price of wheat pointed this morning towards a higher range of values. Foreign news was the best for a long time, reports were larger, there was a large decrease in the visible supply—larger than was generally expected—and, what seemed a totally unexpected aid to the bulls, a big cut in storage rates. There was not a bear point in sight. All these things seemed to possess strength early in the day, but the power dropped pretty much out of them before the session was over, and, as a result of the morning's trading, May wheat closed just ⅛c higher than it closed Saturday. The explanation of the early advance was apparent to everybody. The reason for the loss of it was not so clear. The only solution of the problem offered was that buying orders from the outside were all filled early in the day, and they ceased to come. Local traders, for whom the market consists of one day, and that only, believing that the expected bulge was now coming indeed, had bought wheat, and when prices failed to advance any further proceeded to unload it as fast as possible and only found buyers at lower figures. Trading was active and there was a good volume of business early, but later the pit became rather dull. May wheat opened at 81⅜c and immediately sold up to 81⅝c. This was the highest point of the session, though the market lingered in that neighborhood for some time, with foreign houses buying and good buying for New York account. In the latter part of the session the price sagged to 81⅜@81¼c and closed there at 1 o'clock. June wheat opened at 82@82⅛c, sold at 81⅛c and 81⅜c and closed at 1 o'clock with the last named price asked.

While the visible supply of wheat continues to decrease the supply of corn is rapidly piling up, and this in spite of a short crop and comparatively light receipts in this market. To this fact and the rather easier feeling in provisions the decline in corn to-day ought probably to be attributed. The market seemed strong early and advanced a little, but later dropped ⅛c and closed at nearly the lowest point of the session. The increase in the visible supply was 475,000 bushels. May corn opened at 51