will be the clerk of that august body. Among the candidates out for that place are: Frank Wilson of Plattsmouth, who has had experience in that line; James F. Zediker, who, like a wart, is always on hand; Ralph W. Strow, editor of the Stella Leader; Mayor Geddes of Grand Island, who is also city editor of the Independent, and C. M. Rigg of Gage, who was assistant secretary of the republican state central committee during the late campaign.

Casper county has a candidate for chaplain of the house in the person of Rev. M. T. Maze, who ran for the legislature on the republican ticket and was defeated. Among Mr. Maze's opponents will be Rev. T. B. Gardner, a colored divine of Lincoln, who is sure he can pray acceptably for the house.

For sergeant-at-arms of the house there are three avowed candidates. Ex-Sheriff Charles J. Trognitz of Cheyenne county, who failed to secure the oil inspectorship under Crounse, is after the job, as is also W. W. Carder of Lincoln and McDonald of Geneva.

It is reported that J. T. Evans has been selected by Secretary of State Piper as his deputy.

John C. Watson wants to be president pro tem of the senate, and the people who want to be secretary of that body are numerous, including Tim Sedgwick, who has worked up a big newspaper boom; H. S. Swenson, editor of the Pender Republic; Harry Hotchkiss and Tom Cooke of Lincoln. John Peters started into the race for the office, but when he saw he had been distanced he withdrew. Bushnell is also a candidate, and if he does not win it is said he will become Congressman Strode's private secretary.

Thede Williams of Geneva seems to be leading the race for sergeant-at-arms of the senate, but he has a number of competitors.

The only man of the old gang who does not seem to stand any show for some sort of a berth at the state house this winter is Walt Seely, and it is reported that he has applied for admission to the home for the friendless.

Rheumatism is primarily caused by acidity of the blood. Hood's Sarsaparilla purifies the blood and thus cures the disease.

SCHOOL FUND IS NO FUND.

Board of Education Finds that Its Balance is on the Wrong Side.

Much has been said during the year with regard to a probable deficit in the school fund and several spasmodic efforts in the way of retrenchment have been made by the Board of Education to stave off the prospective bankruptcy. Just how serious the financial condition of the board was has not appeared until recently, when the end of the year approaches finding the treasury more completely depleted than any one had imagined. It is now a matter of record that the school board will be from $65,000 to $70,000 short at the end of the current month. This has been carefully calculated and the figures stated are reliable.

The first real difficulty that was experienced was one month ago when the warrants were drawn for the October salaries. It was found that there was not money enough on hand to pay them, and the warrants were carried by the banks until such time as the fund could be reinforced by the license money. There was not a dollar on hand with which to pay the November salaries, and instead of paying off the teachers and other employes with checks as usual, they were given their warrants and compelled to cash them as best they could. Some of the banks refused point blank to cash the warrants, but arrangements were finally made through which some of the local banks cashed the warrants and will hold them until the latter part of December, when they will be taken up out of the license money.

In the meantime the banks have presented the warrants at the office of the city treasurer for payment, and they have been stamped "No money in the fund." From the date when this stamp is affixed they begin to draw 7 per cent interest, and it is stated that the reason why some of the banks did not want to cash the warrants was because they did not think the interest was enough to compensate them for their trouble.

The extent of the shortage with which the board is confronted may be better realized when it is considered that the entire levy for the year was only 3 mills or $60,000. Consequently the shortage exceeds the original levy by a considerable amount. While the obligations of the current year may be met out of the license money by paying 7 per cent interest, in the meantime the prospect that is left for the next year is a serious one.

The board was practically even with the world at the beginning of the year. During twelve months it has exceeded its means by $70,000 and with this deficit on hand for next year no one has been able to figure out how the expenses are to be met. The maximum levy is 5 mills and even if the levy should be raised to that amount the increase would only partially supply the shortage, to say nothing of the slump in finances that will come next year if the present rate of expenditure is continued.

Just what is to be done in this emergency no one seems to know. It is stated that there will have to be a general cutting of expenses from the ground up, but even then the retrenchment will come too late. The matter has not yet been brought to the attention of the board in an official manner, but it will soon demand recognition. Several members of the board who were seen yesterday denied that there was any serious trouble in regard to the finances of the board, but the facts which are stated come from the records and cannot be controverted. How soon the board will take official notice of the situation is a matter of speculation.

Dr. Winslow Anderson of the University of California reports: "I pronounce Dr. Price's Baking Powder as perfect as it is possible for any powder to be made."

GUATEMALA BEGINS THE WAR.

Reports of a Serious Character from the Mexican Boundary Line.

CITY OF MEXICO, Dec. 7.—The latest reports from the Guatemala frontier are of a more serious character than any which have as yet reached this capital. It is claimed that a Mexican colonel of the staff of General Lullane has been assassinated by the Guatemalans, and from unofficial sources it is reported that a company of the Nineteenth battalion of the Mexican forces has had two skirmishes with a force of 400 Guatemalan guerrillas. The first assault of Mexican troops was a harmless skirmish, but the second resulted in two Mexican soldiers being killed. The Guatemalans retreated hastily, and it is not known that they suffered any material damage. This particular body of mounted Guatemalans is reported as still hovering about the vicinity of the Mexican troops, but it is believed that after making the attack they returned to the Guatemalan side of the international line. Should official information confirm these reports it is highly probable the Mexican government will at once demand reparation in a satisfactory manner of the outrage.

General Gourko Has Resigned.

POSEN, Germany, Dec. 7.—A dispatch received here from Warsaw, Russian Poland, says that General Gourko, the governor of Warsaw, on Tuesday last received a telegram from the Russian minister of the interior conveying to him an order of the czar not to interfere with the affairs of the Roman Catholic clergy or to impose any orders upon them.

The dispatch adds that General Gourko tendered his resignation on December 1, and that the governor general of Odessa, Puschkin, has been designated to succeed him.

Socialists Demand Representation.

BERLIN, Dec. 7.—The result of the election of secretaries of the Reichstag was announced today. The socialist candidate was defeated.

The socialists demanded representation in the presidential bureau in proportion to their numerical strength. But when the president of the Reichstag, Herr von Levetzow, asked them whether they were disposed to undertake the duties connected with such representation they replied with an emphatic negative.

Alleged Fears of Fenianism.

LONDON, Dec. 7.—The Morning states that at their own request detectives are shadowing Herbert Asquith, the home secretary, Sir William Harcourt, chancellor of the exchequer, and John Morley, chief secretary of Ireland. Fears are entertained of a revival of the Fenian movement.

MUST PROTECT THEMSELVES

St. Louis and San Francisco Bondholders Issue a Statement.

PREPARATIONS FOR THE REORGANIZATION

For the Best Interests of All Unity of Action is Essential — Depositors of Bonds Incur No Financial Liability.

NEW YORK, Dec. 7.—The committee formed for the protection of the 4 per cent consolidated mortgage bonds of the St. Louis & San Francisco railroad, consisting of Francis Peabody, jr., of Boston and J. Kennedy Todd and Frederick Whittridge of this city, state the situation in respect to the bonds is as follows:

The mortgage was intended to secure $50,000,000 of bonds to be issued for certain purposes specified in the indenture. Of that amount $14,000,000 have been issued, of which about $4,000,000 were exchanged for the 7 per cent stock of the St. Louis & San Francisco company and Atlantic & Pacific second mortgage bonds. The remainder were issued, so the committee is informed, directly to the Atchison company to the extent of $4,877,100 in payment of the floating debt of the St. Louis & San Francisco company to the Atchison company, and a further amount of $5,000,000 bonds for the guarantee by the Atchison company of the entire issue of $50,000,000. The balance of the bonds so obtained by the Atchison company were exchanged for certain Atlantic & Pacific bonds, leaving about $6,000,000 in the legal possession of the Atchison company. Most of them are doubtless pledged. About $8,000,000 are therefore in the hands of the public here and abroad, of which the committee already represents a large number.

The committee considers it necessary to be prepared to take positive action in view of the approaching plan for the reorganization of the Atchison company, and to co-operate in certain legal proceedings contemplated with foreign holders who are working in harmony with this committee. To make such action effective it is desirable that as large a number of bonds as possible be deposited subject to the order of the committee under its plan. No liability is incurred by the bondholders who may assent to the plan except for the payment of 1 per cent for expenses.

MORE OUTRAGES REPORTED.

Stories of Turkish Brutality Told by Refugees Coming In.

ATHENS, Dec. 7.—A further story of outrage by Turks has been told here by an eyewitness of the occurrence. An Armenian has just arrived in this city from Hadjin, an Armenian town, from which he escaped shortly after the outrage was perpetrated. Hadjin was a town of 1,200 wooden houses, situated near Marash. The refugee states that on the night of October 23 four Turkish officers and two gendarmes set fire to the town, using petroleum to cause the more rapid spread to the flames. An Armenian named Merdaklian Garabed, with his mother, witnessed the incendiaries at their work and cried for help. A Turkish official who was appealed to for aid to extinguish the fire refused to permit any assistance. Garabed was seized by order of the officials and thrown into prison. Three days later Garabed was killed and his body thrown into the ruins of his burned house. Two refugees have also arrived here from Zeitun. They state that Turkish troops seized Archbishop Nigobos, in the monastery of Fournoul, near Zeitun, together with eleven residents of the village of Zeitun. Their fate is unknown.

MEETING ADJOURNED UNTIL TUESDAY.

Transcontinental Lines Have Not Yet Perfected Their Agreement.

CHICAGO, Dec. 7.—The general meeting of the western roads this morning lasted but a short time and adjourned without taking any action, being still dependent on the transcontinental lines and their attitude on through rates. The transcontinental lines held an all-day session and finally adjourned until next Tuesday without having accomplished anything. The general body will not meet again until Tuesday, and will then trail along behind the transcontinental roads as before. The opinion is freely given by the roads most vitally interested in the formation of a new association that it will be fully February 1 before the association is in working order.

The eastern roads are just now suffering a serious falling off in shipments, and they declare that the next statement will show a decided decrease in the amount of eastbound rates. The reason given is that railways are practically maintaining tariff rates and that shippers are holding off.

Ordered the Road Sold.

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 7.—United States Circuit Court Judge Caldwell today, upon the motion of the Manhattan Trust company of New York, trustee for $2,340,000 of the road's funds, issued an order for the sale, after proper legal advertising, under foreclosure of the Sioux City, O'Neill & Western railroad. The road has been in the hands of a receiver for some time, but has been rehabilitating itself.

Railway Notes.

Traveling Passenger Agent Jagoe of the Lake Shore is in town.

Superintendent Jack O'Hearne of the Cheyenne shops of the Union Pacific was at headquarters yesterday.

General Passenger Agent Buchanan of the Elkhorn has returned from Chicago, where he was in attendance upon the called meeting of lines formerly comprising the Western Passenger association, looking to a reorganization of the association. He reports slow progress, and will remain at home for several days or until the roads are nearer an agreement than at present.

In golden autumn or icy winter Dr. Price's Baking Powder is equally effective.

Spreckels Didn't Buy the Beet Sugar Factory

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 7.—It is positively denied today that Claus Spreckels has purchased the Chino ranch of 40,000 acres in San Bernardino county, with the beet sugar factory, the Chino townsite, the Chino Valley railroad and other appurtenances. Robert Oxnard, brother of Messrs. Oxnard, who own the beet sugar factory at Chino, and who is associated in business with Claus Spreckels, was interviewed at Spreckels' office today. He said: "No such negotiation has been made and none is in progress or in prospect."

Freyburg Withdraws His Remarks.

NEW ORLEANS, Dec. 7.—The American Hebrew union closed its session at noon today. During the proceedings this morning Julius Freyburg of Cincinnati secured consent, amid applause, to have his remarks concerning the rabbis on Wednesday stricken from the records. Members of the executive board were elected. The customary resolutions of thanks were passed and a superb silver cup presented to Mr. Solomon Marx of New Orleans.

Paid for Being a Deputy Marshal.

GUTHRIE, Okl., Dec. 7.—Late last night four men called at the home of King Berry, near Cushing, in the Sac and Fox country, and riddled him with bullets when he answered their knock at the door. They then fired his home and escaped. Berry had been a deputy United States marshal and had had several tough characters in the neighborhood under surveillance. It is believed these men were the assassins.

Must Answer to Sixteen Indictments.

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., Dec. 7.—Jere Haralson is on trial before Judge Edgerton in the federal court here on the charge of forgery. The indictment contains sixteen counts, of which seven charge forging vouchers, four forging checks, three forging affidavits of residence and two with withholding pension money from the prosecuting witness, Lewis Osbrook, during 1893 and 1894.

Show a Passport or Leave Germany.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 7.—Ambassador Runyon has informed the Department of State, under date of November 23, that all persons sojourning in Germany, not stopping at a hotel, are required to exhibit some certificate of nationality, in the case of an American, a passport, as a condition of continuing their stay, and this is sometimes done after a very short sojourn.

WILL SHUT OUT THE ANARCHISTS.

Boatner is Taking Up the Fight Against the Admittance of the Reds.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 7.—The effort to prevent anarchists from coming to the United States will be resumed in the house of representatives next week if Mr. Boatner of Louisiana, in charge of the measure, secures from Speaker Crisp the time he expects.

This measure provoked an exciting contest at the close of the last session, but its final passage was cut off by adjournment. At that time the government had received official notification from France that a large number of anarchists, driven out of Europe, were enroute to the United States. Secretaries Gresham and Carlisle were specially anxious to secure legislation in order to cut off the influx of dangerous characters. Senator Hill pushed the anti-anarchist bill through the senate, but it met opposition from Messrs. Warner of New York, Goldsier of Illinois and others in the house, and had to be abandoned for the time being. Mr. Boatner will now take up the contest where it was left off, and is hopeful of securing the passage of the exclusion bill before the holidays.

Representative Warner of New York, referring to the measure, says the necessity for it has evidently gone by. "There was no suggestion in Secretary Carlisle's report," said Mr. Warner, "as to the need of such a bill. There was much ado at the last session over anarchists about to land, and it was declared the country was in peril. But what has become of the anarchists? They must have been drowned enroute. No one has heard of them. It is a singular fact that the men who urge this measure live in the interior from ports where anarchists might be feared. The New York newspapers located at this place where anarchists would be most likely to arrive do not believe in the bill."

Mr. Warner's objection to the bill last session was that it did not define anarchists, but gave government officials a dangerous authority to call any one an anarchist, and then deport him. The anti-anarchist bill as now before the house provides that no alien anarchist shall hereafter be permitted to land at any port of the United States or be admitted into the United States, but shall not be so construed as to apply to political refugees or present offenders.

Yet to be discovered—the woman who was disappointed in cooking with Dr. Price's Baking Powder.

BOOKMAKERS COMPELLED TO QUIT.

San Francisco Talent Too Active for at Least Five of the Professionals.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 7.—It is stated that the present race meeting at the Bay District track has not proven a bonanza to all of the twenty-three bookmakers who appeared in the ring at the beginning of the season. Five of them have been compelled to leave the ring, and it is stated that their combined losses amount to fully $50,000. Hopkins & Co., Carpenter & Co., Kennedy & Coleman, Ed Smith and Ell Peart are the "bookies" who have taken down their signs.

Ed Corrigan's gelding, Watterson, dropped dead in the second race today. There was only three horses in the race, and after going half a mile at top speed a blood vessel burst in Watterson's head, and he dropped. His jockey, Hill, fell in the soft mud and was uninjured. Corrigan paid $3,000 for Watterson. As usual, the betters picked the winners in the first two races, and after that went all to pieces. Summary:

First race, six furlongs, selling, maidens: Patriot, 96, R. Isom (2 to 5), won; Major Ban, 101, Hinrichs (8 to 1), second; Headflower, 76, McClain (5 to 1), third. Time: 1:22. J. O. C., Lochinvar, Keene, Foxhall and My Sweetheart also ran.

Second race, seven furlongs: Cadmus, 108, Carr (4 to 5), won; Enthusiast, 99, Weber (9 to 5), second. Time: 1:36. Watterson, 102, Hill (6 to 5), dropped dead. No others ran.

Third race, five furlongs: Cicquer, 106, R. Isom (4 to 1), won; Goldbug, 110, Caffey (60 to 1), second; Norlee, 98, Jones (4 to 1), third. Time: 1:07¼. Silver State, Sallie Culvert and George Smith also ran.

Fourth race, five furlongs: Three Forks, 98, Hinrichs (6 to 1), won; Hanford, 84, Jones (12 to 10), second; Sir Reginald, 107, Carr (8 to 5), third. Time: 1:07¾. Jake Allen, Sam Brown, Norven and Gordius also ran.

Fifth race, one mile: Realization, 97, Flynn (15 to 1), won; Braw Scott, 103, Carr (11 to 1), second; Hydy, 95, Cockran (4 to 1), third. Time: 1:52. Florence Dickey, Red Pat, My Luck and Melanita also ran.

Schaeffer Crowding on Steam.

CHICAGO, Dec. 7.—Schaeffer not only defeated Ives tonight, but managed to gain 344 points upon his opponent, putting his total score at 2,375, while that of Ives is 3,000. Schaeffer played a strong and brilliant game, making runs of 134, 217 and 194. Schaeffer made an average of 62 14-15, surpassing his own average and coming close to the best average made by Ives in New York, which was 63 1-5. Ives best runs were 132 and 164. The score:

Ives—20, 4, 11, 132, 164, 62, 30, 8, 37, 2, 3, 58, 0, 19, 34, 15—660.

Schaeffer—0, 16, 3, 134, 217, 15, 40, 34, 97, 0, 33, 194, 0, 73, 99—944.

Average tonight: Ives, 37½; Schaeffer, 62 14-15.

Grand total: Ives, 3,000; Schaeffer, 2,375.

Average for five nights: Ives, 40; Schaeffer, 32 49-75.

Decided Against Bob Knerbs.

CHICAGO, Dec. 7.—The board of appeals of the American Trotting association, which has been in session for the past three days, completed its work today and adjourned. A resolution was adopted declaring that the mare at Wakefield, Neb., declared by R. L. Kneebs and his representatives to be the bay mare Bethel, is not the mare Bethel. Kneebs is now in prison in Germany charged with using the mare Bethel as a ringer. Kneebs has asserted that Bethel is in this country. The board has now upset his claim by its decision.

Fournil is Leading Gallagher.

NEW YORK, Dec. 7.—In the billiard match between Fournil, the French champion, and Tom Gallagher of Chicago, tonight Fournil made 100 and Gallagher ninety-three points. The score now stands: Fournil, 800; Gallagher, 736. Fournil's highest run so far is 122; Gallagher's, 17.

Woodbine is Now Wild.

WOODBINE, Ia., Dec. 7.—(Special Telegram.)—Woodbine normal foot ball team again defeated the Denison team, 58 to 4, on the Woodbine grounds. Woodbine is wild with enthusiasm.

To keep up with the times you cannot afford to be without Harper's Weekly. Only $4.00 a year.

A Pessimist.

Atlanta Constitution: "How's crops now?"

"Purty good; but I reckon it won't last."

"Got a new mule, haven't you?"

"Yes; but I guess he'll git foundered."

"Politics lively?"

"Purty much; but I reckon they'll beat me."

"Is your health good?"

"Purty good; but I reckon I'll ketch the rheumatism."

As Dimly Suggesting Another Reform.

Chicago Tribune: Mrs. Thusiasm—I have called, my dear Mrs. Hardfax, in the interests of humanity, to ask you to join with hundreds of our best women in signing this pledge not to wear another sealskin garment of any sort."

Mrs. Hardfax—I shall be delighted to sign it. Oh, what lovely stuffed birds those are on your hat! Where did you get them?

The Mantle of Charity.

Detroit Free Press: The lady was making some remarks about the kind of clothes some other ladies at church had on.

"The finest garment a woman can wear," said her husband, "is the mantle of charity."

"Yes," she snapped, "and it's about the only one some husbands want their wives to wear."

Jack Rabbits Thick in Kansas.

GREAT BEND, Kan., Dec. 7.—Jack rabbits are becoming so numerous here that the country is likely to be overrun with them. The farmers complain of the damage to young orchards. Sportsmen are killing them as fast as possible, but the supply seems to be inexhaustible. One merchant has shipped over 1,000 this season.

Boiler Explosion Killed One.

UPPER SANDUSKY, O., Dec. 7.—At Carey, twelve miles north, a boiler in an oil drilling outfit exploded today, instantly killing Nicholas Goshey of Holgate, O. Several helpers were probably fatally injured.

FROM BEHIND THE CURTAIN

Part of the Performance the Public Are Not Familiar With.

ANOTHER VIEW OF "THE BLACK CROOK"

Something About the Inner Workings of the Great Spectacular Which is Now on at the Boyd—Opening of a New Theater.

There are thousands of people who see the "Black Crook" while sitting in the cushioned chairs of the parquet and dress circle of Boyd's theater, but there only a few, aside from the actors, who have any idea how the big spectacular production appears when watched from behind the scenes.

Back of the drop curtain there are all kinds of people, mortals and immortals, to say nothing of scenery, spangles, glitter and glory.

Yesterday when a Bee man gained access to the stage at the Boyd there were devils and fairies, amazons and supes flying around in what seemed to be an endless confusion. The canvas castles, trees and mountains slipped back and forth across the stage with an airy disregard, and here, there and everywhere at once a gentleman in black was coaching the ballet, managing the stage hands, engineering the innumerable electric wires and batteries, giving orders and answering questions. He was concise, collected and cool calmness personified. When the seething caldron of queer looking beings and mixed up scenes was apparently at its worst, he drew back with a warning "hush!" followed by a single clap of his hands. Peace spread her white wings, the curtain rose and a moon silvered valley, silent and deserted, covered the stage.

The "Black Crook" behind the scenes has a kaleidoscopic fascination that only the grand spectacular can have. The throng of coryphees and brilliant hued dancers are in odd contrast with the dusty, grimy, gloomy stage property, and sooty stage hands. In the first act his satanic majesty appears at the top of a realistic mountain, and during a blood-curdling oration sends electric fire flashing from his fingers in a decidedly devilish fashion. Little Staccione does some experimental pirouettes on her wonderful toes, and throws herself into the ballet master's arms with the laughing abandon of a baby, as she winds up with a dizzy whirl.

"Take that gum out of your mouth. Did you ever see a devil chewing gum, you blockhead?" came in a wrathful sotto voce, as a band of imps came tumbling off the stage. The gum was removed, and a subdued twitter greeted the culprit's breach of sheolian etiquette.

"The jewel ballet to your places," called the gentleman in black, Mr. McCarty, and an avalanche of jewels followed his order. A little figure rolled in a big woolly blanket coat crept quietly through, and a small voice remarked woefully.

"My hardest act is coming. Just wait till you see my hair when I come off." A few minutes later the blanket coat was left behind, and a pair of small flashing feet and a lot of white lace petticoats were whirling in a sort of a living Fourth of July pinwheel, as Carlise did her special act with the comedians. Changing scenes and changing costumes make the eyes ache and the head dizzy, and good nature was paramount. Not a profane word was heard; the confusion proves but systematic management, and the old time ideas of cursing managers, flirting ballet girls and beer drinking soldiers were exploded. It was "business" from the lifting of the curtain till the grand transformation scene, when the white and silver robed angel remarked solemnly that she was "going to heaven," and climbed into a machine of ropes and pulleys, went heavenward and came down again to smear her face with cold cream, rub off the "makeup," yawn sleepily, and remark most unangelically that she was "hungry enough to eat Herzog himself."

BOYD MAY BUILD ONE.

Has Under Consideration the Erection of a Popular Priced Theater Building.

Ex-Governor James E. Boyd returned from Chicago yesterday morning, and stated to a Bee representative that within the past few days he had been approached by several Omaha business men with a proposition to build a popular priced theater in Omaha, with him at the head of the enterprise, and was now busy considering the same. The governor said also that he had been strongly advised by prominent theatrical men to get control of the theatrical business in Omaha; that one management for a regular priced and cheap priced theater would mean larger profits for both the resident and traveling managers and increased benefits to the public. He said that he already had an investment of nearly $200,000 in theatrical property in Omaha, and had been in the business here thirteen years, and the people of this community knew that when he inaugurated an enterprise it was pretty sure of consummation.

The governor sent for a copy of the ordinance now in force pertaining to the construction of theaters, and found it to be very materially changed from that of 1891, when the present Boyd was built; that a theater need not be built on the ground floor, that it does not require iron construction, area ways or exits on the sides. Governor Boyd says that a cheaply-constructed theater might make more money than a fireproof house, but that he would have no hand in the building of a fire trap, such as might be constructed under the present ordinance, and that he does not believe the people of Omaha want such a theater. They want a safe one or none.

The governor said that he would reach a decision in a very short time, due notice of which would be made.

Ed Cooke, the energetic advance agent for "A Railroad Ticket," which will be at the Empire Christmas week, is not a fatalist, but he is decidedly superstitious regarding his visits to Kansas City. Every time he goes there he hears bad news. A year ago last October he was in Omaha in advance of the "Railroad Ticket," which was booked for the Farnam Street theater. He went to Kansas City and had been there but a few hours when he heard that the theater had been burned to the ground, destroying all the wardrobe and scenery of Katie Emmett's "Waifs of New York" company. Cooke hustled back to Omaha and made arrangements for his show to play at the old Exposition building.

"A Railroad Ticket" was booked this season for the Fifteenth Street theater during Christmas week. Monday Cooke arrived in Kansas City and Tuesday night sat down to supper with a party of friends at the Midland. He was telling about the burning of the Farnam Street theater a year ago, when a telegram was handed him. He opened it and read of the destruction of the Exposition building in Omaha, with all of Katie Emmett's wardrobe and scenery.

"I hadn't noticed until that minute," said Cooke, in speaking of the matter afterward, "that there were just thirteen people seated at the table. I do not know whether that had anything to do with my misfortunes, but I am superstitious enough to believe so."

The one remnant of Cooke's life is also connected with the burning of the Farnam Street theater. He was in love with a girl whom he expected to marry this season. A letter from her was in the box office of the theater and went up in smoke with the rest of the contents of the building. Cooke never answered the letter, because he never received it, and when he went east last summer he found that his girl, in a fit of pique, had married another man. Now he swears that he will either build a fire proof theater in Omaha or refuse to include that city in his advance circuit.

The Ezra Kendall company will keep its Iowa dates, opening in Council Bluffs as advertised. The company was compelled to cancel its Omaha dates, owing to the burning of the Fifteenth Street theater.

No one who has taken Harper's Magazine gives it up willingly. Price, $4.00 a year.

Chinese Treaty Arrives in Washington.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 7.—The long delayed Chinese treaty has at last arrived in Washington. It was delayed because the Chinese government, wishing to adopt every precaution, had dispatched the document to the United States by way of Europe, instead of by the shorter Pacific route. Late this afternoon Secretary Gresham and Yang Yu, the Chinese minister, exchanged the final ratifications, and nothing now remains to be done but to promulgate the treaty, and it is expected that the proclamation will follow in a day or two.

AS GOOD AS THE BEST.

Uncle Sam's Latest Naval Fighting Machines.

When the English government, a few years ago, began the construction of eight enormous battleships of 14,000 tons displacement, says Cassier's Magazine, the United States, following suit, authorized the construction of three battleships which were to carry the heaviest armor and most powerful ordnance. These vessels, the Indiana and Massachusetts, now being built by the Messrs. Cramp, and the Oregon, by the Union Iron works, are nearing completion. They are of 10,300 tons displacement, and are designed to successfully meet in battle the best ships of other nations.

The hull is protected by a belt of heavy Harveyized nickel-steel armor, seven and one-half feet deep, turned in forward and aft around the bases of the armored redoubts. The belt is three feet above and four and one-half feet below the water line. Forward and abaft this belt are three-inch nickel-steel decks, sloping at the sides to four and one-half feet below the water. There is also an armored deck over the belt. Coal bunkers are worked over the belt deck, and belts of cellulose six feet thick are worked on the slopes of the armor deck forward and aft. Above the belt armor, and extending from redoubt to redoubt, the side is protected by five inches of armor. The vessel is cut up forward to add to the maneuvering power and enable her to readily disengage herself from an enemy after ramming.

Rising from the armored citadel, made by the eighteen-inch belt, are armored redoubts, seventeen inches thick, extending through the main deck three and one-half feet, giving an armored freeboard of fifteen feet two inches. These redoubts protect the turning and loading gear of the heavy 15-inch turrets. The armament consists of four 13-inch guns, eight 8-inch guns, four 6-inch guns, six 1-pounder guns, two Gatlings and six torpedo tubes. This represents a weight armament superior to that of any of the latest battleships laid down by other powers.

A Confession.

Washington Star: "Did ye hear 'bout it?" said Meandering Mike.

"Hear 'bout what?" asked Plodding Pete.

"Whut Andy Carnegie says. He thinks its a disgrace fur any man ter die rich."

"Dat's whut it is, too. Er man dat leaves er fortune behind 'im sets up er monnyment ter commemorate 'is selfishness. It is de depth of deggerdation."

"I know it," replied Mike, with a sign; "but do you know I've got so fur down in the worl' dat I'm hardened. I'd jes ez soon drop a couple o' notches furder an' be a millionaire when I die ez not. I would, honest."

Prof. W. T. Wenzell, the well known chemist of San Francisco, writes: "I consider Dr. Price's Baking Powder to be pure and wholesome, and in every way a superior article."

LOCAL BREVITIES.

Thomas Fornal was arraigned before Judge Dundy yesterday for mailing an improper letter through the postoffice to a friend in Denver.

The regular meeting of the Board of Public Works yesterday afternoon was devoted to the approval of a few small estimates and bills.

Charles Scott of Omaha and Miss Carrie Sherman of Salina, Kan., were united in marriage by County Judge Baxter yesterday afternoon.

James Roan and Frank Boste were up before Judge Dundy yesterday for cutting timber from government land. They were fined $10 and costs each.

W. H. Brown fell off a load of hay in the upper yards of the Union Pacific railroad and sprained his ankle badly. Dr. Towne had him removed to the Presbyterian hospital.

James Veboril, Joseph Siroky, Frank Svoboda and Peter Svoboda were each fined $10 and costs yesterday by Judge Dundy for selling liquor without taking out a government license.

Ben Michels, a farmer, who lives three miles west of Bennington, called at the police station yesterday to report that his house had been entered by thieves and about $5 worth of property stolen.

The grand jury at the federal building is still grinding away at the Capital National bank case. A number of new witnesses have been summoned and the investigation is likely to continue for many days yet.

There will be a meeting of the Clifton Hill Improvement club at the hall, corner of Military avenue and Grant street, this evening, to consider very important matters. All citizens of the northwest part of the city are invited to attend.

At noon yesterday the Omaha Milling company called up police headquarters by telephone and stated that they had caught three men stealing grain from cars, and that they had the thieves corralled. When the police arrived the thieves had escaped.

It is reported that during the past few days a St. Joseph company has offered $150,000 for the ground on the corner of Farnam and Fifteenth streets, where the Farnam Street theater formerly stood, and that the owners have declined the offer.

At the Unity club last night the department of poetry entertained the members. Dr. Mann, the head of the department, explained the nature of poetry and its varieties. After his instruction he read a number of selections from the poetical works of Aldrich.

Yesterday C. W. Reed bought of his partner, James Casey, his interest in the Dellone hotel and hereafter Mr. Reed will be sole proprietor. Mr. Casey expects in about ten days to go to Pittsburg, Pa., where he may again engage in the hotel business.

A large gang of workmen were engaged yesterday in pulling down the walls of the old Baptist church destroyed by fire last Tuesday morning. The dangerous part of the walls of the old Exposition building were also razed. The work drew a large crowd of idle curiosity seekers.

James Morgan was arrested last night on a warrant charging him with adultery. The complainant is a woman who claims that she is the lawfully wedded wife of Morgan. She says that Morgan has married another woman and that the couple are living at 812 North Sixteenth street. Morgan was intoxicated when he was arrested.

Judge Allen Field of Lincoln appeared in federal court yesterday and had a number of cases against Bankwrecker Mosher dismissed. The suits were instituted by depositors, and in a test case made some time since, the court held that they were not properly commenced. The cases will be brought again in a modified form.

H. C. Russell, the new commissioner of public lands and buildings, is in the city accompanied by Major H. C. McArthur of Lincoln. It is stated on good authority that Major McArthur will be the new commissioner's deputy. Colonel Russell will not affirm or deny the statement, but he does deny the published statement that he intends to make a clean sweep of his office.

W. H. Russell of the Mutual Investment company has complained to the police that his vacant house at Thirty-fifth and Franklin streets has been ransacked and fourteen window sashes stolen. The sashes were traced to Tom Gallagher's house at Thirty-second and Burdette streets, but when the police went to arrest Gallagher he had flown. Gallagher has often been in jail for stealing.

Charlie Brown, a Chicago lad, ran away from home November 16 and when last heard from was trying to reach Omaha. An uncontrollable desire to tread pathless forests and to reduce the Indian population is impelling Charlie westward. He is 15 years old, of slender build, black eyes and hair, poor teeth and has a large scar above his right ear. The boy is also known as Arthur Brown and Charlie Vandervoort, the latter being his stepfather's name.

Church Howe, commander of the Nebraska Grand Army of the Republic, and Rev. L. P. Ludden, secretary of the state relief commission, have been in Omaha for two days making arrangements for shipping supplies to destitute members of the Grand army. It has been decided to handle all supplies intended for the old soldiers through the relief commission. All supplies will be shipped direct to the commission at Lincoln and distributed from there. The railroads have all granted exceptionally favorable rates.

BANQUETED AT BILLINGS

Omaha Commercial Club Members Given a Royal Reception Last Night.

MONTANA DISPENSES TRUE HOSPITALITY

Visitors from Nebraska See Much to Marvel at and Hear Many Words of Encouragement—Ties that Bind Are Now Valuable.

BILLINGS, Mont., Dec. 7.—(Special Telegram.)—A delegation of about twenty-five members of the Commercial club of Omaha arrived in Billings last night over the new line of the Burlington, which has recently been completed to this city. They were met at the station by a committee from the Business Men's club of Billings, and today has been devoted to entertaining the visitors. They had never before visited the great Yellowstone river valley, and were both surprised and pleased at all they saw. They were shown some of the finest and most productive ranches in the world, and are so pleased with Montana that they have decided to pay it a second visit soon.

When the Omaha jobbers ascertained the number and character of the business houses of this city they were brought to a full realization of the importance to Omaha of the completion of the Burlington to Montana. When told one business house alone in Billings paid annually $40,000 for railroad freight they could scarcely realize how a city of only 2,000 inhabitants could do such a large business.

Tonight the visitors were entertained in the handsome parlors of the Billings club, where a banquet was served, which, according to the verdict of the Omaha gentlemen, could not have been excelled in the Gate City itself. In the popping of champagne corks and the exchange of good fellowship Billings and Omaha were tonight bound together by commercial ties which are sure to redound to the mutual advantage of both cities.

After the banquet the guests were formally welcomed to Billings by Judge A. W. Milburn of the district court. Responses were made by the following Omaha gentlemen: A. B. Smith, assistant general freight agent of the B. & M.; C. F. Weller of the Richardson Drug company, E. E. Bruce of Bruce & Co., Daniel Farrell, jr., of Farrell & Co., Euclid Martin, C. Parlin, Orendorff & Co., John S. Brady of McCord, Brady & Co., Charles A. Coe of the Morse-Coe Shoe company, and George M. Tibbs of M. E. Smith & Co.

Judge Matheson, I. D. O'Donnell, one of the most successful ranchers in Montana, and Hon. Powell McCormick, also spoke, welcoming the visitors, but the speech of the evening was made by Hon. T. H. Carter of Helena, who happened to be in Billings. He pictured in glowing terms the meaning and results of the binding together by bonds of steel the great states of Montana and Nebraska. At the close of his remarks the Omaha gentlemen gave three cheers and a tiger for Billings and Montana, which were responded to in kind by the members of the Billings club on behalf of Omaha and Nebraska.

The excursion was tendered the Omaha jobbers by the Burlington, and they have had an ocular demonstration of the new market which the road opens in this city. At 12 o'clock tonight the party left on the return trip, expecting to stop off at Sheridan, Wyo., Deadwood and other points, and reach Omaha next Friday.

FORGED AMERICAN SCHOOL BONDS.

England and Ireland Flooded with Them by a Firm of High Standing.

LONDON, Dec. 7.—A telegram received here from Belfast says that £30,000 of American school bonds have been placed in Ireland and that £150,000 of the same securities have been placed in London during the last ten years. A large amount of these securities are believed to have been forged, but the exact proportion is not yet known. The work of placing these alleged forged securities is said to have been done by a member of an American banking house. One of the partners of this concern is said to have absconded. The names of the parties concerned are not yet obtainable.

The school bonds referred to were not listed in London, but it was stated that they were regarded in the United States as being first-class securities and as ranking in many cases next to United States bonds. The American firm which placed the bonds in Ireland and England has hitherto been considered of high reputation. In many cases the bonds have been held for many years and interest has been paid regularly, the coupons being domiciled in the office of the firm in America. The first issue of the bonds was made seven years ago. One of the brokers interested in these securities claims to be ignorant of fraud and has gone to America to inquire into the matter.

Gasoline Stove Exploded.

DALLAS, Tex., Dec. 7.—By the explosion of a gasoline stove on which Mrs. Davis Polsky was cooking dinner today her clothing and that of her 1-year-old child was set on fire and both burned to death. M. Wasson, in an effort to save them, was dangerously burned.

Movements of Seagoing Vessels Dec. 7.

At Halifax, N. S.—Arrived—Assyrian, from Glasgow.

At Bremerhaven—Arrived—Saale, from New York, via Southampton.

At Glasgow—Arrived—Scandinavian, from Boston, via Halifax.

Minnie M. Keyser
Pataskala, Ohio.

Consumption Checked

Obstinate Case of Catarrh

Local Applications Failed—Hood's Sarsaparilla Cured.

"C. I. Hood & Co., Lowell, Mass.:

"Gentlemen:—I ought to make known my experience with Hood's Sarsaparilla, so that others afflicted may learn where to find a remedy