

LOCAL DEPARTMENT.

From Wednesday Mail.
Four miles in the Black Hills were sold to a California company on Friday last for \$400,000.

Monday evening, between this city and Albia, on the C. & B. C. passenger train eastward bound a son was born to the wife of the conductor of the Pullman sleeping car. She was removed to a hotel on her arrival in this city where she is receiving all the attention necessary. That young chap is a born railroad man.

POCKET PICKING.—A very aggravated case of pocket-picking took place in the lower part of the city, yesterday. A man after over-indulgence in the cup that included, went to sleep in his boarding-house, and some sneak thief followed him to his room and went through him for all he was worth. A man by the name of Shuey was arrested, to-day, charged with the crime. His trial has not yet taken place.

On Monday last, the mail carrier arrived, and Martinburg, brought the mail into this city upon his back, traveling the whole distance, eighteen miles, carrying a good sized mail. The same with the mail from here and Blackburg. Yesterday the Martinburg mail failed to get in, but the distance from here to Blackburg being shorter the carrier has succeeded in packing it in up to this date.

Jail Delivery.
Monday night four fellows confined in our county jail on trivial charges, generally effected their escape. As near as we understand the matter some person from the outside helped the prisoners in the hall to a scuffling or something of that sort with which they tried to get out of the jail and two prisoners locked up in all got away, and all were released before ten o'clock next day and all inside the city. Charles Bartlett, the fellow who robbed L. E. Gray's son last summer, Geo. Zimmerman, Tom Shaw and Peter Bann were the party. No blame is attached to sheriff Spillman as the matter was consummated when he was out of the city.

New Year's Day was duly celebrated, yesterday, by the gentlemen in calling on the ladies, in goodly numbers. While but few announcements were made in the daily, as to where the ladies would receive, yet by a large number kept open house as did last year. We did not call ourselves, but from gentlemen who we heard, we learn that they were hospitably received and entertained wherever they called. They were more changed were cordial and we most sincerely hope that after three years of almost constant gloom and wet weather, that a new era of peace, prosperity and happiness is about to dawn on our city and country, and from henceforward we shall have royal good times and that sociability and good will may prevail more generally than heretofore.

From Thursday Daily.
Mr. John Jones, a farmer residing about five miles north of Newton, was found dead in his field on Saturday evening last. He went to work on his fence in the morning, and on turning for supper, search was made with the above result. He leaves a wife and three children. The cause of his death was heart disease.

B. F. Compton, the brakeman ran over some time since, by the cars at Moulton on the North Missouri railroad, died at Moberly yesterday. It will be remembered that he was brought to this city immediately after the accident, and amputation was performed by Dr. Broom, surgeon of the road. He remained here for some weeks, but was taken to Moberly long since, where he died as above stated from the effects of his wound.

Water Works.
The mains on the street were filled with water to-day. The hydrants were opened and the water discharged with great power. The trial was entirely successful. What pressure was put on we have not learned. After an hour's trial the increased pressure found a defective pipe at a point between the railroad and the pump house, and it bursted, the water flying like fun. It was soon repaired. Of course the defective pipe will be disclosed in a few days' trial. The power disclosed is ample and more than is necessary. Our people may now have another demonstration of the immense motive power, which has resulted from the expenditure, enterprise and pluck of many of our citizens.

From Friday's Daily.
A German named John Stolz, suicided at Des Moines yesterday, by shooting himself with a pistol. He was from Omaha, and was 55 or 60 years of age.

On Sunday evening last, Ten Murphy, of Davis county, shot Dan Layman, of the same county, in the head. They had been drinking and had been drinking out of the same jug previous to the attack. Murphy put all his property out of his hands and has fled the country.

Prof. Tice's predictions in regard to the weather for this month have been tolerably fairly verified. It has been cold from the 1st to the 3rd as he predicted, but there is a fair prospect in predicting cloudy weather, with rain or snow from the 4th to the 6th. From the 6th to the 9th he predicts very cold weather. From the 9th to the 13th, cloudy weather with rain or snow in places.

Burglary.—Yesterday P. M., Mr. and Mrs. Fellows left their residence for the city. A man was working in an out house during the whole day. They locked the house up as is their custom on leaving home, made more necessary from the fact that they live in the suburbs of the city. While they were absent Mr. Hall, a hired man, went out to see Mr. and Mrs. Fellows and coming to the house he thought he heard some one within, but in attempting to enter found the doors fastened. Hall observed a light broken out of the window, and he thought it had been accidentally broken. Finally as he could not get in he went out where the man was at work in the out house and they both returned, the man saying he knew where they kept the key he went to the front door. It was unlocked and Hall went to the out house the burglar escaped.

Mortgage Notes Wanted.
I will purchase some long time notes secured by real estate mortgage, at 10% O. M. Lab.

NOTICES.

Can you write it 7 to 8 yet?

\$275,000 was spent on the capitol in 1877.

Dubuque is having an artesian well and has got down 835 feet to Potsdam sandstone.

Porter, the Marshalltown and Daventon bigamist, gets four years in the penitentiary.

The Nonpareil figures up \$465,000 worth of improvements in Council Bluffs for 1877, which is a good showing.

A Cretion minister got beatly drunk, the other day, owing to his parishioners being backward in paying his salary.

The annual meeting of the Iowa Miller's Association will take place at Des Moines, Wednesday, Jan. 10.

Blomfield is having a terrible winter-sawyer war. The prospect of its becoming a bore is pretty good.

The Des Moines and Minnesota narrow gauge railroad was completed to Story City, Monday, the last day of 1877.

Postmaster Page, of Kirkville, will please accept our thanks for a number of new subscribers sent us since New Year.

One of Creston's business men has the following notice posted up: "To trust is to bust—but bust is hell. No trust, no bust, no hell."

A considerable number of persons have enrolled their names as subscribers for the Daily or Weekly Courier since New Year's Day.

Four thousand one hundred and fifty Des Moines now sport the blue ribbon, and in consequence there must be less blue and red noses shown.

The history of Marion county, comprising 300 pages, has been published. As near as we understand the matter some person from the outside helped the prisoners in the hall to a scuffling or something of that sort with which they tried to get out of the jail and two prisoners locked up in all got away, and all were released before ten o'clock next day and all inside the city.

Revenue agent, John B. Miller, has been transferred from the District of Iowa, Minnesota and Nebraska, to Michigan, with headquarters at Detroit.

The bank of I. N. Thomas, Des Moines, has joined the innumerable banks of Iowa and has handed in its doors. Nominal assets \$48,000, liabilities \$25,000.

Prof. Wales, Supt. of schools, at Albia, got into a wrangle with the School Board, and as a result, he has been dismissed. Albia seems to be in a bad way generally just now.

An eminent writer says that diamonds are merely stones, and that wearing them shows the absence rather than the presence of artistic taste. That is the reason we don't wear ours.

On New Year's, at a ball in Union Hall, Burlington, there was a general fair-weather among the women. One of the demi-monde commenced the row and one woman was stabbed in the cheek. So the Gazette tells it.

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