

THE NEWS IN BRIEF.

A young son of a farmer named Guse was accidentally shot by his brother at Mishicot, Wis., and died a few hours later.

E. A. Potter, dealer in general merchandise at Allison, Ia., assigned to Turner Burbeck for the benefit of creditors. The assets are estimated at between \$5,000 and \$7,000, with liabilities at between \$3,500 and \$4,000.

Mrs. Fred Beek of Two Rivers, Wis., was drowned in a cistern. The jury rendered a verdict of suicide while in a temporary fit of insanity.

Edward Meyers and William Williams are charged with having passed counterfeit dollars at Wilton and Durant, Ia. The men have been buying babbitt metal and block tin from hardware stores at Wilton.

Alfred Rand of Milwaukee was drowned in the Kinnickinnic river while skating.

A. J. Funkhouser, an extensive farmer of Pleasant Grove township, near Charleston, Ill., has assigned. The assets and liabilities reach about \$25,000.

Washington Cox of Martinsville, Ind., aged 60 years, committed suicide by shooting himself. Ill-health and despondency were the causes. He left a widow and seven children.

F. J. George, representing himself to be from Independence, Ia., is held in custody at LaPorte, Ind., accused of obtaining money under false pretenses. The first Baptist church of Portage, Wis., was destroyed by fire.

Mary J. Hawley, an old pioneer widely known, fell dead from heart disease on the street at West Branch, Ia., while returning from church.

Thomas Reynolds, 21 years old, was drowned while skating on the bay at Sturgeon Bay, Wis. He was a school teacher in Hainesville, and a nephew of Charles Reynolds, member of the Republican state central committee.

William Divine, a farmer near Shakertown, Ky., returning home, found his wife murdered. Two infants were clinging to the dead body of their mother.

John Hutchinson, formerly city marshal of Whitney, Ia., was arrested by Deputy Sheriff Rathbone on a charge of bigamy and taken to Eldora, Ia.

Ole Oleson, a mail-carrier between Franksville and North Cape, Wis., aged 72 years, was injured in a runaway and died in a short time.

Dora, the 1-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Elsie Brown, living east of LaGrange, Ind., died from the effects of swallowing chewing gum.

Gave Three Cheers for the Major. Cleveland, Jan. 12.—As President-elect McKinley was leaving church yesterday morning three small boys ranged themselves in line before the carriage door. The president-elect bowed and smiled and was about to say a pleasant word to the youngsters, when one of them, evidently by prearrangement, cried: "Three cheers for McKinley." The cheers were given with a hearty good will.

THE MARKETS.

New York Financial.

New York, Jan. 11. Money on call nominally 1/4@3/4 per cent.; prime mercantile paper, 3/4@4/4 per cent.; sterling exchange was strong, with actual business in bankers' bills at 48 1/4@48 3/4 for demand and 48 1/4@48 1/2 for sixty days; posted rates, 48 1/4@48 1/2 and 48 1/4@48 1/2; commercial bills, 48 1/4.

Silver certificates, 48 1/4@48 1/2; no sales; bar silver, 64 1/2; Mexican dollars, 65 1/2. United States government bonds strong; 4's registered, 120 1/4; do. coupons, 120 1/4; 5's registered, 114; do. coupons, 114; 4's registered, 110 1/4; do. coupons, 110 1/4; 3's registered, 105 1/4; Pacific 3's of '98, 107 1/4.

Chicago Grain and Produce.

Chicago, Jan. 11. Following were the quotations on the Board of Trade today: Wheat—January, nominal, closed 77 1/4; May, opened 80 1/4, closed 80 1/4; July, opened 78 1/4, closed 78 1/4. Corn—January, opened nominal, closed 22 1/4; May, opened 24 1/4, closed 24 1/4; July, opened 23 1/4, closed 23 1/4. Oats—January, opened and closed nominal; May, opened 18 1/4, closed 18 1/4; July, opened 18 1/4, closed 18 1/4. Pork—January, opened and closed nominal; May, opened 57 1/4, closed 57 1/4; July, opened 57 1/4, closed 57 1/4. Lard—January, opened 32 1/4, closed 32 1/4; May, opened 31 1/4, closed 31 1/4.

Produce: Butter—Extra creamery, 13c per lb.; extra dairy, 17c per lb.; fresh packing stock, 8c. Eggs—Fresh stock, 15c per doz. Poultry—Turkeys, 90c per lb.; chickens (Hens), 60c; spring chickens, 60c; roosters, 45c; ducks, 20c; geese, 15c. Potatoes—Burbanks, 20c per bu.; Hebron, 18c; Sweet Potatoes—Illinois, \$1.00@1.35 per bu.; Honey—White clover, 10c per lb.; extracted, 6c; Apples—Common to fancy, 40c@50c per bu.

Chicago Live Stock.

Chicago, Jan. 11. Live Stock—Prices at the Union Stock yards today ranged as follows: Hogs—Estimated receipts for the day, 40,000; sales ranged at \$3.05@3.45 pigs, \$3.25@3.45 light, \$3.05@3.10 rough packing, \$3.20@3.40 mixed, and \$3.15@3.40 heavy packing and shipping lots. Cattle—Estimated receipts for the day, 12,000; quotations ranged at \$4.80@5.20 good to extra shipping steers, \$4.30@4.90 choice to choice do., \$3.80@4.40 fair to good, \$3.20@3.85 common to medium do., \$2.80@3.40 butchers' steers, \$2.40@3.45 stockers, \$3.85@4.05 feeders, \$1.75@2.70 cows, \$2.40@4.15 heifers, \$1.70@3.75 bullocks, oxen and stags, \$2.80@4.10 Texas steers, and \$2.75@6.10 veal calves. Sheep and Lambs—Estimated receipts for the day, 1,000; sales ranged at \$2.40@3.85 western, \$2.25@3.35 Texans, \$2.00@2.55 natives and \$3.00@5.25 lambs.

East Buffalo Live Stock.

East Buffalo, N. Y., Jan. 11. Dunning & Stevens, Live Stock Commission Merchants, East Buffalo, N. Y., quote as follows: Cattle—Receipts, 18 cars; market steady to strong for good shipping and heavy steers, with light butchers' and common to fair grades 15c@16c higher, with trade rather slow; choice to best heavy steers, \$4.80@5.00; good to choice shippers, \$4.50@4.75; fair to medium, \$4.25@4.50; light half fat butchers' steers, \$3.80@4.30; prime fat heifers, \$4.75@5.10. Hogs—Receipts, 192 cars; market a shade lower, but active at decline; Yorkers, half light, \$3.55; mediums, \$2.40; mixed packers, \$3.40@3.45; pigs, \$3.55@3.60. Sheep and lambs—Receipts, 8 cars; market a shade lower for lambs; sheep fairly steady to strong; best lambs, early, \$3.15@3.25; good to choice, \$4.80@5.10 common to fair, \$4.25@4.75; culls, \$3.50@4.00; mixed sheep good to choice, \$3.80@4.00; culls to fair, \$3.00@3.40; mottleds, \$2.75@3.00; 115 pounds, \$4.00; handy natives, \$3.50@3.75.

St. Louis Grain.

St. Louis, Jan. 11. Wheat—No. 2 red cash elevator, 87c asked; track, 86c@90c; No. 2 hard cash, 80c; May, 80c bid; July, 74 1/2c bid. Corn—No. 2 cash, 20 1/2c; January, 19 1/2c asked; May, 22 1/2c bid. Oats—No. 2 cash, 17 1/2c asked; May, 19 1/2c asked. Rye—35c asked.

Milwaukee Grain.

Milwaukee, Jan. 11. Wheat—No. 2 spring, 70 1/2c; No. 1 northern, 81c; May, 70 1/2c. Corn—No. 3, 20c. Oats—No. 2 white, 18 1/2c. Barley—No. 2, 34c@34 1/2c; samples, 32c@33c. Rye—No. 1, 38c.

Detroit Grain.

Detroit, Jan. 11. Wheat—Cash white, 90c; cash red, 92c asked; May, 92c asked; July, 79 1/2c asked.

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Finding the Pinky.

When cards and dice are not convenient, "finding the pinky" is a favorite form of betting for drinks. The game consists of squeezing the fingers of one hand with the other in such a fashion that the tips all look alike. The other fellow in the game then tries to designate which is the little finger. If he designates the wrong finger, he pays for the drinks. If he succeeds, the owner of the fingers pays. An expert in the game can so arrange his fingers that the tips not only all look alike, but the little finger is found where one of the other fingers would naturally be. Betting on "finding the pinky" is not always confined to drinks. Considerable sums are sometimes wagered on the entrancing game.—New York Sun.

Experimental Farms.

"The idea of experimental farms, as inaugurated by the Seaboard Air Line," said a visitor to New Orleans who hails from North Carolina, "is making a hit with the residents along the road. The scheme was prompted by a desire to find out just what crops were best suited to the climate, and the result of the investigation should be most valuable as a pointer for agriculturists."—New Orleans Times-Democrat.

He Made a Hit.

A "Julius Caesar" company that was playing throughout Texas was about to close its season on account of bad business, when its manager hit upon the happy idea of equipping Brutus and his colleagues with hip pockets and six shooters, and he has been compelled to use the "standing room only" card ever since.—Washington Post.

OUR COAST DEFENSES

A CONVENTION TO BE HELD TO DISCUSS THEM.

In Case of War With a Foreign Nation Our Coasts Could Be Riddled and Incalculable Damage Done—A Gathering of Deep Interest For All Patriotic Citizens.

A convention will meet at Tampa, Fla., on Jan. 21 which ought to be well attended and which certainly ought to have an interest for the whole country. It is called by the governor of Florida in a circular letter which he has sent to the governors of all the other states, and the object of it, as he sets forth in his letter, is to "discuss methods for the proper defense of southern harbors and to devise means for their betterment." The harbors which he has in mind are those of the southern Atlantic seaboard and of the gulf.

The call for this gathering comes at a peculiarly opportune time. The possibility of trouble with Spain gives a deep interest to the subject of protection for the coasts. It happens in this case that the part of the coast which would be the hardest to attack is the part which is the least adequately defended. All the country's ports are weak in means to repel an enemy, and those from the Virginia coast around to Florida and Texas particularly so.

The danger to be guarded against is not the possible holding of any of these ports for nobody in Europe or anywhere else believes any foreign nation could do this for more than a few days at the outside—but the destruction or

serious injury of some of them by a sudden dash might be an incident of a war with even a third rate power like Spain.

This peril should give the whole country a deep interest in the coming gathering and impel every state to send delegates to it. There is no immediate danger of trouble with Spain or any other country; but, as before mentioned, this Cuban conflict, unless the fingers are suppressed, may involve the United States at any time. Yet, even if this Cuban struggle were ended, the necessity for strengthening the country's harbors would remain.

The defenseless condition of the coasts shows a lack of forethought which exposes us to ridicule and at the same time deprives the country to some extent of a weight in diplomatic matters commensurate with its extent and resources. The creation of an adequate system of coast defenses will require the labor of years, and a beginning of the work cannot with safety be any longer neglected.—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

FOR DUTCH RELICS.

Museum to Be Established in New York by Colonial Dames.

New York will soon possess another museum, which will be one of the most unique institutions in this country and a place of national interest. The Colonial Dames of the State of New York have secured the famous old Van Cortlandt mansion at Van Cortlandt park, and will convert it into a repository for colonial and revolutionary relics.

The Dames have not yet completed their plans for their treasure house, but their idea is to make the collection of a

series of object lessons of the life of the early colonists. The society expects to begin repairs upon the house in the near future. Extensive alterations are not contemplated. Only those necessary to restore it to its original condition and make it a harmonious setting for the heirlooms of the Knickerbockers will be made.

Among the exhibits it will contain will be a collection of old Dutch wills which has been discovered in Albany. They are exceedingly curious and throw light upon the possessions of the ancestors of some of New York's best known people. There will also be some rare specimens of furniture, old paintings and silver, books, miniatures, arms, china and even clothes worn by the early settlers of this country.—New York Journal.

Wants to Give Gypsy to Cubans.

Gypsy, the bad, man killing elephant, is not to be killed by electricity. Her owner, W. H. Harris, sent a telegram to Senator Palma tendering her to the Cuban insurgents, and she is in her cage, on the Panhandle tracks, in Chicago, subject to the orders of the Cuban junta. Following is the telegram sent by Mr. Harris:

Senor Palma, American Representative of Cuban Insurgents, New York: I have Gypsy, large, man killing elephant on track, awaiting to be killed, as she is too vicious for show purposes. She is a trained performer and will obey any command, and I think she would be serviceable in the rough country of Cuba, where it is, I am told, difficult to manipulate fieldpieces. I want to dedicate her to the cause of humanity and liberty. Will ship at your expense to any American port and will agree to secure any animal man to go with her to Cuba. If Hannibal found elephants useful in battle, why should not Gomez conquer with Gypsy? W. H. HARRIS.

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Detailed particulars regarding the work and how to secure it at practically your own price, may be found in an advertisement on another page of this issue.

An Interesting Coincidence.

It is a curious coincidence that the new battleship Alabama, which is now being constructed at Cramp's shipyard, Philadelphia, is No. 290 on their list of vessels constructed. The Confederate cruiser Alabama, which created so much havoc with commerce during the war, was No. 290 on the construction list of the Lairds of England, and for several months after her purchase by the Confederate government was known as No. 290, until she was christened Alabama.—Chicago Record.

Kansas to Employ Bloodhounds.

There will be a great demand for bloodhounds in Kansas during the next few months. A number of communities are advertising for hounds with which to run down and capture thieves of all classes. A public meeting has been called by the Ottawa Anti Horse Thief association, and bloodhounds will be purchased to pursue the great number of horse thieves who have been operating in southeastern Kansas. Under the first administration of the Populist party in Kansas bloodhounds were kept at the penitentiary, and it is claimed that this precaution prevented many attempted escapes. The one prisoner who attempted to flee was found 24 hours later in a tree six miles distant, safely guarded by the bloodhounds.—Cleveland Plain Dealer.