

The Rock Island Preservation Society proudly nominates the Star Block, 1821 - 29 2nd Avenue, for local landmark designation. We feel that this grouping of three buildings meets criteria 3 and 5 of the Rock Island Preservation Ordinance.

The "Star Block" was built in downtown Rock Island in 1874 from plans designed by architect Isaac N. Holmes. Regarded as a noted local architect, Holmes' architectural genius was touted in the 1876 Holland's Rock Island Directory. The architect for the Harper House Hotel, directly across the street from the Star Block, he received accolades for its perfect arrangement. Too, he is credited with the Masonic Temple, the Moline High School, and the Methodist Church in Galesburg and the German Methodist Church of Pekin.

An April 4, 1874 article in The Daily Argus describes the Star block as a "handsome brick building . . . three stories high and finished with elegant and uniform iron fronts, plate glass, and fine cut stone trimmings" -- certainly a testimony to Holmes' architectural genius. It was supplied with gas, water, water closets, and all the conveniences and comforts of modern buildings in the best of cities. The first floor of the entire block would contain stores, the upper floors would be used as office space or residences (see attachment 1).

In 1874, 2nd Avenue was known as Illinois Street and it served as Rock Island's Main Street connecting Court House Square on the west and Union or Spencer Square on the east. Spencer Square sat on the southeast corner of the intersection of 2nd Avenue and 19th Street, then known as Jefferson Street. The elegant Harper House Hotel sat on the southwest corner. Retail stores and a livery lined the northeast corner. And it would seem as though architect Holmes envisioned the northwest corner as a handsome block of commercial buildings of a single facade, under a central peak, bearing the name "Star Block".

Built of red brick laid in common and stretcher bonds, the "Star Block" is a series of three separate structures. The buildings are all three stories tall but 1886 Sanborn Maps reveal that they were of varying depth (see attachment 2). The entire unit is five segments or store fronts wide. A peak on the fifth segment displays a three dimensional star over the word BLOCK. At the time of construction the building to the west of this peak was also included in the block, but little evidence of this remains today.

The "Star Block" is an example of what is called a two-part commercial block. Prevalent from the 1850s to the 1950s, these structures were two to four stories high and characterized by a horizontal division into two distinct zones reflecting differences in internal usage. The single story lower zone, at street level, was public space used for retail stores, banks, or hotel lobbies. The upper zone was used as more private space, offices, hotel rooms, or meeting halls. Facades of early two-part commercial blocks were very simple reflecting tastes of the

period and the attitude that commercial buildings performed essentially a practical function. Victorian versions of the two-part block began to appear in the 1850s. The buildings become more ornate. The cornice was accentuated serving as an elaborate terminus to the whole building. Windows were embellished by decorative surrounds or caps. Ornamental framing in the form of a stringcourse or cornice between each floor of the upper zone or differing vertical supports was often included. Underlying all such changes was a new taste for decoration and the increasing desire to have the buildings themselves perceived as ornaments to the community.

Italianate in design, the "Star Block" features widely overhanging eaves and decorative brackets on both the 2nd Avenue and 19th Street sides of the buildings. The 2nd Avenue front facade shows a marked distinction between the street level zone and the upper two stories. A postcard featuring the building and postmarked 1906 reveals an iron balcony placed to highlight the division (see attachment 3). Continuous pilasters rise form the base of the front facade to the cornice and serve to unite the three stories while at the same time dividing the facade into five distinct sections. The windows of the buildings are of special note. All those that are not storefront are typically Italianate, tall and thin, of one or two pane glazing, and sitting on stone sills. In addition they are all arched and topped with decorative surrounds. The width of the window varies with its placement in the building as does the composition of the decorative surrounds. Windows facing 2nd Avenue are topped with cut stone surrounds. Those facing 19th Street are topped with stone caps in combination with brick surrounds similar in shape to the stone ones on the front. Finally those windows with no street or avenue facing are hooded with two rows of arched brick. The street level storefront windows on the west appear to be very old. Two obliquely placed plate glass windows flank a recessed entrance. Two styles of leaded prism glass are featured in the transoms.

At the time of construction, the storefront on the corner of 19th Street and 2nd Avenue was spoken for by the tailoring and clothing firm of Walker and Dodge. The building itself, which contained this and a second storefront, was owned and built by Weyerhauser & Denkman. The second building belonged to Schmidt & Son, barbers. The third building with its two storefronts was owed by Fred Hass and served as a showroom for his stoves, tinware, plumbing, and sheet iron work. A fourth building (not part of this nomination) with two storefronts was owned by Thomas Schindler and housed the City Meat Market. In the years to follow, city directories list these and other businesses along with professional offices and residences as occupants of this prominent commercial and residential block. In fact those who lived and worked at the address felt no need to use a street name or number. They would list their address solely as Star Block, Rock Island, Illinois (see attachments 4 & 5).

The full block of matching facades stretching from 18th to

19th Street along 2nd Avenue was never realized. The financial crisis of the mid 1870s kept the grand plan from final form. Kellerstrass & Vogele, wholesale grocers, did complete the building at 1809 - 11 2nd Avenue in the style of the "Block" in 1876, but the two properties never joined in a common style (see attachment 6).

Today three of the four corners of the 2nd Avenue and 19th Street intersection have undergone dramatic change. But the "Star Block" remains a striking example of the commercial architecture of the late 1800s. Two second story windows on 2nd Avenue have been modified and the entire 2nd floor of the center building has been covered. The eastern three storefronts have been modified over the years as well. But the overall character of the building remains intact and restoration seems a definite possibility.

It is indeed the hope of the Rock Island Preservation Society that full restoration of the "Star Block" would be accomplished. And we deem it vitally important to protect the architectural integrity of the "Block" as it now stands. The "Star Block" is representative of an Italianate two-part commercial block style of architecture that typified the successful commercial development of the late 1800s. In addition, it has served for over 100 years as an established visual feature anchoring the eastern end of our "Main Street," 2nd Avenue. Therefore, the Rock Island Preservation Society nominates the "Star Block" for local landmark designation.

AND ASSIGNMENT
QUIT CLAIM DEED, Statutory Form
STATE OF ILLINOIS, Rock Island County, ss.

Filed and Recorded December 12, 1989, at 3:24 o'clock P.M. Fee \$15.00

89-20479

Recorder of Deeds

THE GRANTOR Gerald R. Eilers

of the City of Davenport in the County of Scott and State of Iowa
for the consideration of One Dollar (\$1.00) and other good and valuable consideration
CONVEYS and QUIT CLAIMS to Penny M. Woolworth
of the City of Rock Island County of Rock Island and State of Illinois,
all interest in the following described real estate:

The West 20 feet of Lot 6 in Block 2 in that part of the City of Rock Island known as and called Spencer and Case's Addition to said City;

RI-6397

situated in the County of Rock Island, in the State of Illinois, hereby releasing and waiving all rights under and by virtue of the Homestead Exemption Laws of the State of Illinois.

Grantor hereby assigns, transfers and sets over to Grantee all of the Grantor's right, title and interest in and to certain Articles of Agreement dated December 12, 1989, recorded on December 12, 1989 as Document No. 89-20478 in the office of the Rock Island County Recorder.

This Quit Claim Deed and Assignment is given pursuant to an Agreement for the Exchange of Property dated August 31, 1989 between Grantor, as Accommodator, and Grantee, as Exchanger. The terms of that Agreement are incorporated as if they were fully set forth herein.

I hereby declare that this Deed represents a transaction exempt under provisions of Paragraph e, Section 4, of the Real Estate Transfer Tax Act.

Dated this 12th day of December A. D. 1989.

Gerald R. Eilers (Seal)
Gerald R. Eilers

Signed, Sealed and Delivered (Seal)

in Presence of (Seal)

(Seal)

STATE OF ILLINOIS }
Rock Island County } ss.

I, the undersigned, a Notary Public, in and for said County and State, aforesaid, DO HEREBY CERTIFY, that

Gerald R. Eilers

Filed and Recorded December 21, 1989, at 8:32 o'clock A.M. Fee \$ 15.00

Margaret J. Beards Recorder of Deeds.

This Indenture Witnesseth That the Grantors, ABE PULLMAN, a widower not since remarried,
of the City of Rock Island in the County of Rock Island and State of Illinois
for and in consideration of the sum of One (\$1.00) Dollar and other good and valuable consideration----- in hand paid, CONVEYS and WARRANTS to
ROBERT L. MAURUS
of the City of Rock Island County of Rock Island and State of Illinois

the following described real estate, to-wit:

- PARCEL I: The East 40 Feet of Lot 7 in Block 2 in that part of the City of Rock Island known as and called Spencer and Case's Addition to said city, situated in the County of Rock Island, in the State of Illinois.
- PARCEL II: The South Twenty-two (22) Feet of the North Sixty-five (65) Feet of Lot Number One (1) and the South Twenty-two (22) Feet of the North Sixty-five (65) Feet of the West Twenty (20) Feet of Lot Number Two (2) all in Block Number Fourteen (14) in Spencer & Case's Addition to the City of Rock Island, Illinois; also, all right, title and interest of the vendors to the use of an alley over the West Ten (10) Feet of the East Forty (40) Feet of said Lot Two (2) in common with other owners' right to use the same, situated in the County of Rock Island, in the State of Illinois.

Subject to an agreement between the parties for its sale dated January 2, 1980
Subject to an agreement between the parties for its sale dated January 2, 1980
I and II: Subject to easements, restrictions and covenants of record.

situated in the County of Rock Island, in the State of Illinois hereby releasing and waiving all rights under and by virtue of the Homestead Exemption Laws of the State of Illinois.

Dated this 21st day of December A. D. 19 89

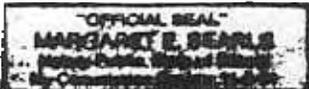
Grantee's Address:
Robert L. Maurus
1824 40th
Rock Island, IL 61201

Abe Pullman (Seal)
Abe Pullman (Seal)
(Seal)
(Seal)

STATE OF ILLINOIS }
Rock Island County } ss.

I, the undersigned, a Notary Public, in and for said County and State, aforesaid, DO HEREBY CERTIFY, that Abe Pullman, a widower not since remarried,

personally known to me to be the same person, whose name is subscribed to the foregoing instrument, appeared before me this day in person and acknowledged that he signed, sealed and delivered as instrument as his free and voluntary act, for the uses and purposes therein set forth, including the release and waiver of



A. D. 1989

THIS INDENTURE WITNESSETH, That the Grantor,
ASSOCIATES FINANCE, INC.

a corporation duly organized and existing under and by virtue of the laws of the State of ILLINOIS and duly authorized to transact business in the State where the following described real estate is located, for and in consideration of One Dollar and other good and valuable considerations, the receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, and pursuant to authority given by the Board of Directors of said corporation, CONVEYS AND WARRANTS to RICHARD L. KUHLMAN and CHERYL S. KUHLMAN, husband and wife, as joint tenants and not as tenants in common,

THE ABOVE SPACE FOR RECORDER'S USE ONLY

whose address is
2347 E. Lombard
Davenport, IA 52803,
the following described real estate to-wit:

The East Forty (40) feet of Lot Number Six (6) in Block Number Two (2) in that part of the City of Rock Island known as and called Spencer & Case's Addition, also sometimes known as and described as Sub-lot Eight (8) of said Block Two (2) Spencer & Case's Addition according to the assessors plat of A.D. 1864, except the North Forty Two and a half (42½) feet of the East Forty (40) feet of said Lot Six (6), subject to the right of entry onto the S. 6 feet of the N. 48½ feet of the E. 40 feet of Lot 6 in Block 2 Spencer & Case's Addition for the purpose of maintaining and improving the wall of the building occupying the N. 42½ feet of the E. 40 feet of said Lot 6,

GRANTOR DOES WARRANT AND WILL FOREVER DEFEND TITLE AGAINST ALL PERSONS LAWFULLY CLAIMING, OR TO CLAIM THE SAME, BY, THROUGH OR UNDER IT, BUT NOT OTHERWISE
(Continue legal description on reverse side)

situated in the County of Rock Island in the State of Illinois.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, said Grantor has caused its corporate seal to be hereto affixed, and has caused its name to be signed to these presents by its W.D. KOCH VICE-President, and attested by its KATHARINE ANDERSON ASST. Secretary, this 26th day of July, 1990.

ASSOCIATES FINANCE, INC.
By W.D. Koch
W.D. KOCH VICE-President.

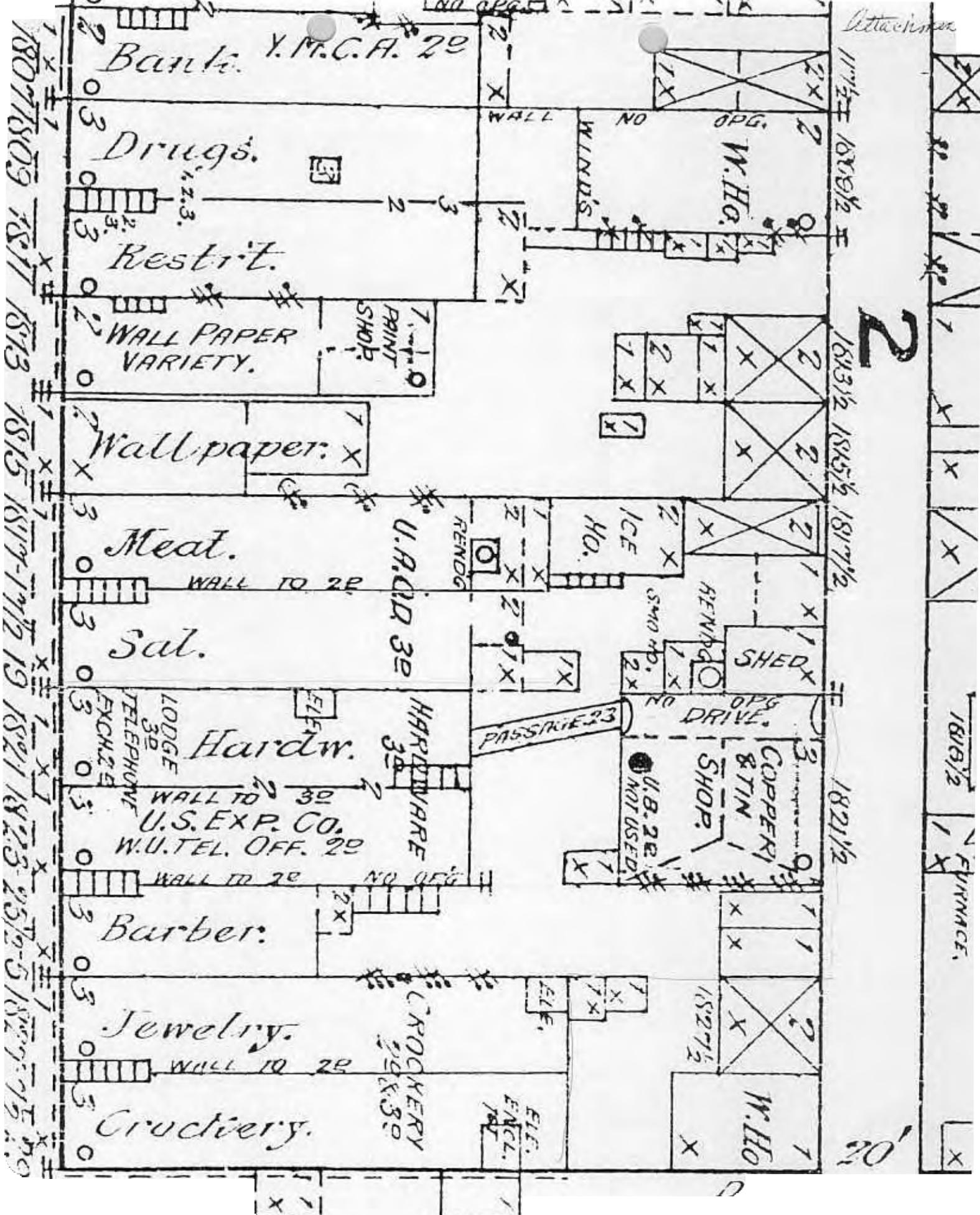
Attest: Katharine Anderson
KATHARINE ANDERSON ASST. Secretary.

STATE OF ILLINOIS/ TEXAS }
DALLAS COUNTY } as
I, the undersigned, a Notary Public, in and for said County, in the State aforesaid, DO HEREBY CERTIFY THAT
W.D. KOCH
personally known to me to be the VICE-President
KATHARINE ANDERSON
of said Corporation who is the grantor, and ASST. Secretary of said corporation, and personally known to me to be the same persons whose names are subscribed to the foregoing instrument, appeared before me this day in person and severally acknowledged that as such VICE-President and ASST. Secretary of said corporation, and caused the corporate seal of said corporation to be affixed thereto, pursuant to authority given by the Board of Directors of said corporation, as their free and voluntary act, and as the free and voluntary act of said corporation, for the purposes therein set forth.

Given under my hand and seal of office this 26th day of July, 1990.

Attachment

2



1807/1809 1811 1813 1815 1817-19/2 19 1821 1823 25/2-5 1827-29

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FURNACE.

ELEC. ENCL.

CROCKERY 29 & 30

Crockery.

Jewelry.

Barber.

Hardw.

Sal.

Meat.

Wallpaper.

WALL PAPER VARIETY.

Restrit.

Drugs.

Bank. Y.M.C.A. 29

W.HO

COPPER & TIN SHOP.

SHED

ICE HO.

U.R. QID 3E

HARDWARE

LODGE TELEPHONE EXCHANGE

U.S. EXP. CO. W.U. TEL. OFF. 29

PRINT SHOP

WIND'S

W.HO.

WALL

RENDG

RENDG

DRIVE

PASSAGE 23

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WALL TO 20

NO USE

WALL TO 28

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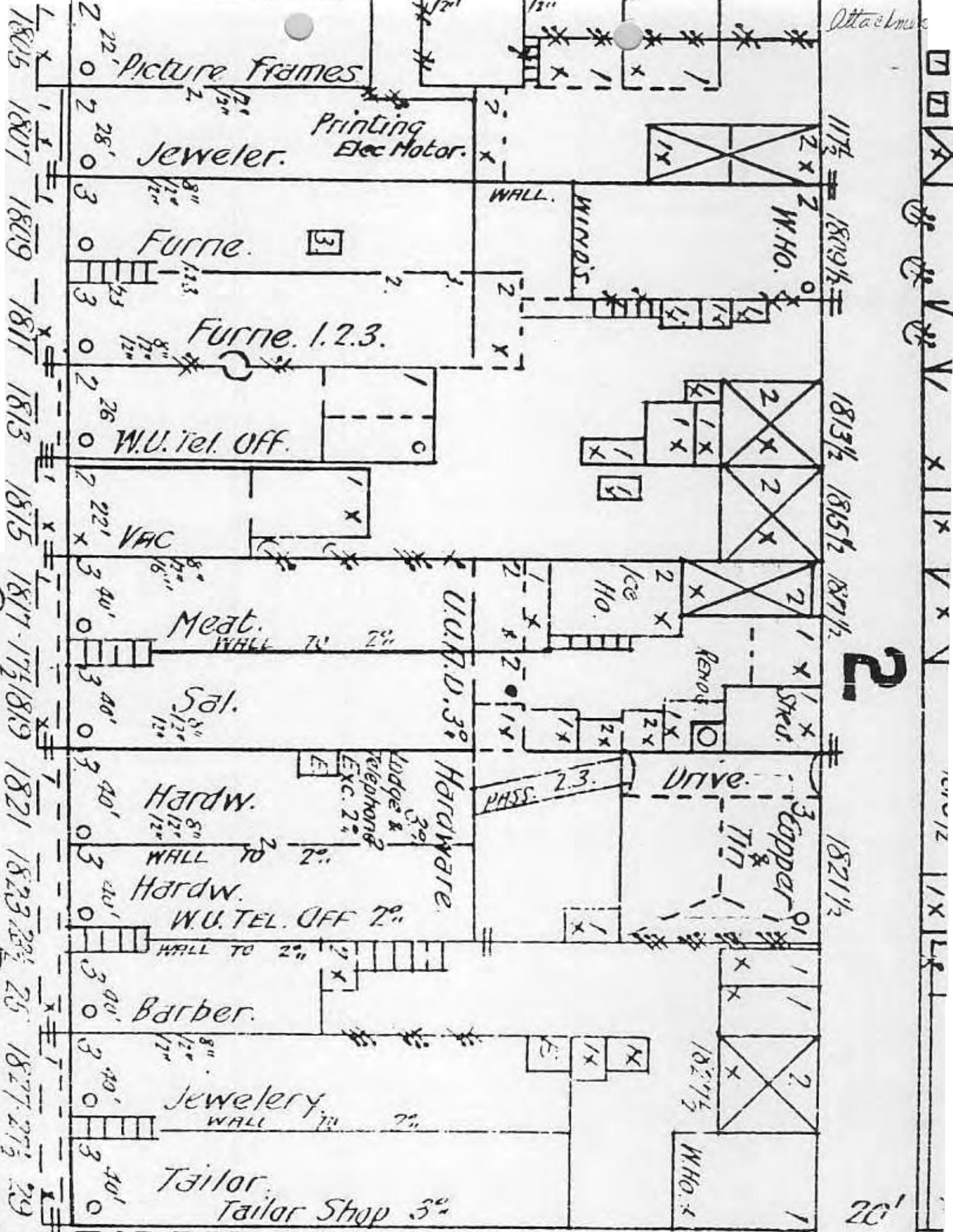
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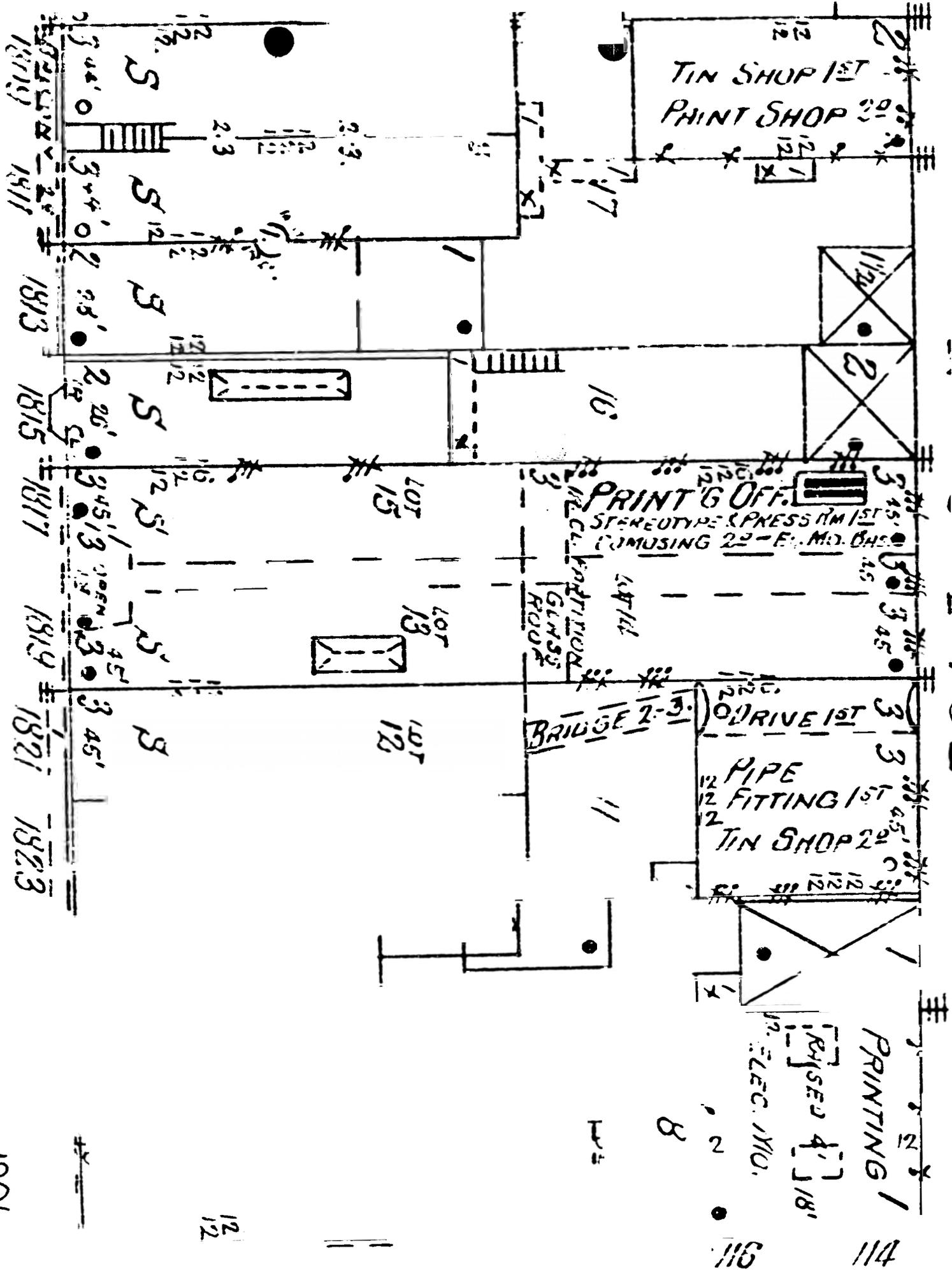
Attachments



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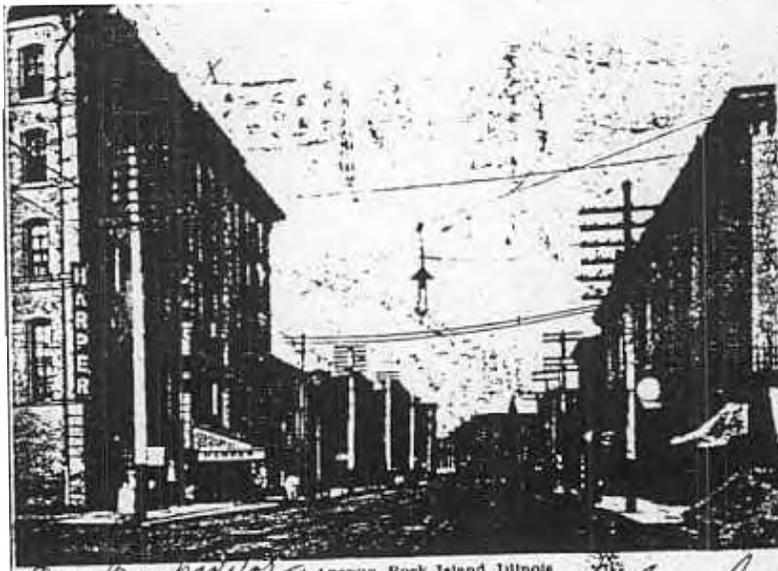
STAR

BLOCK



1819
 1811
 1813
 1815
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 1819
 1821
 1823

1906



Caroline I thought you were going to write I would be glad to hear from you I take great pleasure in writing so let me hear from you soon that I may write you a letter

Our Domain - Second Avenue, Rock Island, Illinois

Yours truly, Pauline

H. MONTGOMERY, PUBLISHER, ROCK ISLAND, ILL.—81



6-14-1901 - Snowy Afternoon - West Rock Island, Ill.

Post cards are from the Postcard Collection Rock Island County Historical Society Delaware

ESTABLISHED 1864.



BREWER'S
STEAM
KETTLE

Fred. Hass

STOVES,

Tin, Copper

AND

Sheet Iron Work.



Plumbing, Gas & Steam Fitting,

Steamboat, Brewery and Distillery
work a Specialty.

Manufacturer of the Celebrated

Baudelot Beer Cooler,

Steam Brewers' Kettles,

STILLS,

And all kinds of Copper Work.

Star Block,

ROCK ISLAND, ILLINOIS.

Climax Soft Coal Base Burner,
the best in the market.

~~He~~ determined to discard the purchase of shoddy and handle only *first*
~~the~~ material. By acting in this manner he has succeeded so well
~~and~~ built up such a large business that he is acknowledged one of the
~~leading~~ and most fashionable merchant tailors in the West, and is
~~popularly~~ known as "the artistic tailor" of Rock Island. Being a
~~progressive~~ individual, he has acquired great proficiency at this busi-
~~ness~~ and attends to his own cutting, which art he learned on scientific
~~principles~~. He has few if any misfits, and as we have said before,
~~never~~ makes up shoddy, but the best imported goods and domestics.
~~A~~ *greatly* number of our best dressed and most fashionable citizens are
~~drawn~~ by him, while he has many patrons in other cities, including
~~Chicago~~. We have not yet spoken of the charges of this establish-
~~ment~~ hence would say that while they are higher than shoddy or
~~cheap~~ made goods, many of which are comparatively thrown together,
~~and~~ they are much lower than at many similar places, for the same
~~quality~~ of garments. A good fitting, well-made, stylish suit of clothes
~~can~~ be bought of Dixon, the artistic tailor, at fair prices, which will
~~give~~ satisfaction to the wearer and be found as represented.

FRED HASS, STOVES, STEAM FITTING, &C.

This is one of the most extensive stove houses and manufacturing
 establishments in the city, its prominence having been attained by the
~~owner~~ named gentleman's industry and energy. He has been a resi-
~~dent~~ of this city *twenty-one* years, the past *fourteen* of which he has
~~been~~ in business on his own account. At this time he began in a
~~small~~ way, but gradually enlarged his business with the growth of
~~the~~ city until now he is one of the leading manufacturers. He owns
~~the~~ elegant brick store he now occupies, 51 Star Block, opposite the
~~Barber~~ House, which is 20 by 82 feet, two stories high, which includ-
~~ing~~ the basement, is all used for store and storage purposes. In the
~~rear~~ of this is his manufactory, also of brick, 40x40 feet three stories
~~high~~, and equipped with the most modern and latest improved ma-
~~chinery~~. The whole establishment is under the general supervision
~~of~~ the proprietor, who is a practical manufacturer, and is conducted
~~and~~ arranged in a creditable manner and offers inducements, and
~~turns~~ out work of a high order. His stock consists of stoves in al-
~~most~~ endless variety, tinware and house furnishing goods generally,
~~and~~ the manufacturing department is devoted to plumbing, gas
~~and~~ steam fitting, steamboat, brewery and distillery work being
~~also~~ a specialty. Beer coolers, kettles, stills, etc., etc., he makes
~~and~~ almost anything in the manufacturing line. The kettles,

PROPERTY OF THE

Rock Island

mash tubs, steam boilers and heaters made for Wagner's Brewery by
 Mr. Hass, prove the excellence of his work, and his ability as a man-
 ufacturer. For any thing in the above line you can not go to a better
 house than the above, whose advertisement read on page 16.

CITY.

ANOTHER FINE IMPROVEMENT.

The New Building of Kellerstrass & Vogele.

The new building on Second avenue between 18th and 19th streets, erected by Mr. Kellerstrass, of the firm of Kellerstrass & Vogele, during the past season, is now completed and occupied. The building is of brick, 40 feet frontage, three stories high, with a fine basement, and with stone facings and plate glass windows. The first story contains two splendid store rooms, one of which is occupied by C. P. Hengstler as a wholesale and retail cigar and tobacco store, and the other room and the balance of the building by Kellerstrass & Vogele, wholesale grocers. The building is fitted up with all modern conveniences, the elevator being one of Reedy's powerful hoisting machines.

The work on the building was let by contract as follows: Stone work, Nicholas Lippig; brick work, Patrick Kennedy; carpenter work, John Volk; plastering, Patrick Mulligan; painting, Wm. Schnell; tin roof, water and gas fitting, Fred Hass, and Mr. I. N. Holmes, who designed most of the finest buildings in this vicinity, is the architect.

The cost of the building is about \$12,000. It is, in design, a continuation of Star Block, and it is hoped that the two intervening stores will, ere long, give place to a fine building, which will make the continuation an unbroken one.

The store lately occupied by Kellerstrass & Vogele is now being fitted up by Sheriff August Huesing, who will occupy it after the expiration of his term of office.

Spare rib, tenderloin, sausage meat, leaf lard, &c., at Gilmore's pork house. 16dt

Arrest of Burglars.

On the night of the 10th inst., Bronson's boarding house, on the corner of Sixth and Main streets, Davenport, was entered by burglars and a watch valued at \$45, a coat valued at \$25, and another coat and a pair of boots worth \$20 taken. Chief Martens, over the river, obtained a clue as to who the burglars were, but he found that they had left the city. He notified our police force to be on a look-out for the thieves, and on Saturday evening Deputy Marshal Miller and Policeman Brennan arrested a young man named John Murray, as being one of the burglars. He had one of the stolen coats on when arrested. He consented to go over the river on Saturday night without a requisition, and was taken over and lodged in jail.

Sunday forenoon Policeman Brennan arrested another young fellow named Wm. Hunter, as a partner of Murray, but not

NOTES HERE AND THERE.

—Prayers were offered, in Trinity church, yesterday, for Mrs. S. M. Goldsmith who is dangerously ill.

—About an inch and a half of snow last night—but it is fast disappearing under the rays of the sun to-day.

—Hayes's home is in Fremont, Ohio, and that is where he made his tax returns. Fremont voted 961 for Tilden and 573 for Hayes.

—The proceedings of yesterday in South Carolina will not convince the country that the canvass is honest and fair.—*New York Evening Post (Ind. Rep.)*

—Grant ordered the army down south to secure an honest count of "the votes actually cast." That's what every honest man should desire. Shall we get it?

—Geo. Courtney, the engineer on the Peoria road, who was injured in the accident on that road a short time ago, is improving slowly, but is not able to walk yet.

—Neal Garra, the young man who wandered from his boarding house in this city a few days ago while insane, is improving rapidly under the treatment of Dr. Craig.

—The D. & N. W. Railroad company have erected stock yards in Davenport—on Front between Main and Harrison, south of the track—which will take in about eight car loads.

—If Mrs. Cynthia Belcher, of Post Bygon, doesn't get her letter as soon as she should, it will be because her correspondent put it in THE ARGUS' box instead of in the post office.

—The members of the Louisiana returning board have no reason to feel pulled up by the extraordinary manifestations of national confidence in their integrity.—*New York Tribune.*

—The dramatic entertainment in Turner Hall last night was well attended and much liked by those who were present. After the entertainment, the young folks had a pleasant dance.

—Bud Doble with his celebrated trotter Goldsmith Maid, and two other fast stagers, passed through this city on Saturday evening, over the C. R. I. & P. R. R. bound for San Francisco.

—Grant has introduced a new method of avoiding trouble from his political opponents. It is to call in the army and navy to help him defend himself when he is in a tight place. How do the people like the new idea?

—Grant, in concentrating troops at Washington, is trying to "ban" the progress. A British knog, Charles L. told that game over, and it cost him his head. There is no law in this country against hanging a president, if he counts for nothing.

—City Marshal Hawes, it is said, will be succeeded by Perkins's deputy, and Deputy Marshal White is mentioned as Charles's successor as marshal. That has made a very good deputy marshal, and would, no doubt, make a good marshal.

—The action of South Carolina returning board is not only a defiance of the treaty, but a violation of the 14th and 15th amendments.

Mrs. Jones, how is your health this morning? Thank you, madam, much improved. I bought a bottle of Dr. Bull's Cough Syrup last night, and after the first dose my cough was checked. I slept well, and have not coughed once this morning.

BLOSSBURG COAL at E. G. Frazer's warehouse.

Blankets at Mitchell & Parsons' cheaper than any other place in the three cities.

All enterprising druggists sell largely of Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption, Coughs and Colds.

Howe's concentrated syrup, the great blood purifier, and ague cure and tonic bitters, can be had of Bengston and Thomas.

Old sewing machines made new by Hazard & Bro. in Wilson sewing machine office, No. 209 Main street, Davenport, Iowa. 13d&wtf.

We will give \$500 to any one that will produce a handsomer set of stove patterns than the Victoria soft coal self-feeding stove at David Don's. 11-13dtf

The Grand Central Hotel, New York, is the only leading first-class hotel that has come down to "hard pan" rates, viz: reduced from \$4.00 to \$2.50 and \$3.00 per day.

NEW RULING MACHINE at THE ARGUS BINDERY. Paper ruled in any style or any colored lines. Leave orders at THE ARGUS COUNTING ROOMS, opposite the Post office.

The Weather--To-Day.

The following shows the temperature at THE ARGUS OFFICE to-day as indicated by thermometer.
At 9 A.M. 41° above zero 12 M. 37° above zero
At 3 P.M. 35° above zero 6 P.M. 37°

Quinine can be taken without taste by mixing in "Quinine Elixir." Cheap. Better than pills. Druggists keep it. For sale by the ounce. Manufactured by Atlantic Woodward & Co., Peoria, Ill. 6-11mwf&wly

RUPTURE CURED in from 30 to 90 days by the use of the Triumph Truss and Rupture Remedy, manufactured by the Triumph Truss Co., 334 Bowery, N. Y. This Truss and Supporter took the medal at the last session of the great American fair. Send 10 cents for their new book.

ACKNOWLEDGED.—It is acknowledged by chemists and physicians that Price's Special Flavoring Extracts are the purest in the market. They are used by the first families in this country, and are daily increasing in popular favor. Housewives who desire the most delicious flavor in their cakes, puddings and pastry, will get it by using Dr. Price's Extracts.

11-27-1876 MC

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