

cars are unloaded into two rows of pits, holding a carload each, the upper bins running the grain through the cleaners, and the lower bins to the elevators, of which there are two in number, although gravity does the work when cleaning, and grading is unnecessary.

Omaha, until recently never possessed first-class hotel accommodations; none felt it more than the citizens themselves. This necessity induced many of the prominent and most enterprising merchants and residents of the city to organize a stock company, to build what they have called the Grand Central.

The latest Omaha enterprise is the Omaha White Lead Co., organized in 1878, with a paid-up capital of \$100,000. The works are to be constructed as soon as possible, and will be located one half-mile west of the U. P. Depot.

Omaha has also a beautiful driving park, known as Hanscom Park, the gift of Mr. A. J. Hanscom and Mr. James G. McGath. It is situated about one mile southwest from the center of the city, contains 80 acres, is in as romantic and picturesque a locality as one could wish, with a perfect forest of shade trees and beautiful walks, fountains, etc., and, in fact, is "a thing of beauty," and to the citizens of Omaha, we believe, will be "a joy forever."

Owing to the wonderful increase in the receipts of cattle, at Omaha, during the last year, amounting to 95,500 head, a movement is on foot to establish extensive stock yards, near the city.

Among the manufactories of Omaha, is an oil mill, that consumes \$95,000 of raw material annually.

Omaha is the headquarters of the Department of the Platte. The Omaha Barracks were established here in 1868; are eight in number, capable of accommodating 1,000 men. They are situated about 3 miles north, and in full view of the city. Latitude, 40 deg. 20 min.; longitude, 96 deg. from Greenwich. Eighty acres of land are held as reserved, though no reser-



THE GRAND CENTRAL HOTEL.

And a well kept house it is.

vation has yet been declared at this post. There is an excellent carriage-road to the barracks, and a fine drive around them, which affords pleasure parties an excellent opportunity to witness the dress-parades of "the boys in blue." It is a favorite resort. The parade, the fine drive and improvements around the place, calling out many of the fashionable pleasure-seekers of Omaha. The grounds have been planted with shade-trees, and in a few years it will become one of the many pleasant places around the growing city of Omaha.

The post is the main distributing point for all troops and stores destined for the West. The barracks were erected for the purpose of quartering the troops during the winter season when their services were not required on the plains, and as a general rendezvous for all troops destined for that quarter.

Besides the Union Pacific, there are two other railroads that branch off from Omaha.

The Omaha & Northwestern, and the Omaha & Plattsmouth Branch railroads. These roads were chartered under the general railway act which gave two thousand acres of land for every mile of road completed before a specified time. The route of the Northwestern is five miles up the Missouri River Valley, then northwest to the valley of the Papillion, thence to the