THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

TWENTIETH YEAR. OMAHA, MONDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 22, 1890. NUMBER 187.

JUST BEFORE THE BATTLE.

Wild Statements by Both Sides Reported from Kilkenny.

PARNELL'S SAVAGE ATTACK ON DAVITT.

It is Not Favorably Received by His Audience—Another Bloodless Sunday Passed — Father Walsh's Warlike Advice.

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KILKENNY, Dec. 21.—[New York Herald Cable—Special to THE BEE.]—Parnell made a savage attack on Davitt tonight and called him Jackdaw Davitt. He had 500 listeners. Few laughed because Davitt has many friends even in this, Parnell's stronghold. Parnell said Davitt had accused him of attempting to put the men of Ireland against the might of England. He had never appealed to any section of the Irish race. His appeal was made to the whole Irish nation. Unlike Davitt, he had not been a physical force man and deserted them. Patrick Ford was the man who had deserted him, and deserted him by attempting to form a labor party. He had promised the young men of Ireland to obtain home rule by constitutional means. If he found that impossible he would tell them so and consult with them upon the next step. The crowd cheered for Parnell. The meaning was perfectly plain. His manner is most aggressive, as if he wished to fire the crowd. He did not succeed.

There was no bloodshed today. Long John O'Connor Blane and ex-Mayor O'Brien attempted to address a meeting on behalf of Parnell at Crettyard. They were surrounded and driven out of the place. It is difficult to imagine a more infernal din than was made by the crowd. The women were simply frantic with rage and followed the retreat for nearly a mile. Two of Parnell's supporters went to Coone to address a meeting. They met Father Walsh and explained their object. He advised them to move on. Instead they went to mass. Father Walsh told the congregation that two Parnell men were there and added: "You well know what to do with them when you get them outside."

Parnell's followers did not address the meeting. They are glad they are alive.

Parnell had a meeting at John Sivell's near Kilkenny. The city had a triumphal arch made for him and the stars and stripes entwined with flowers presented to the leader. During the speaking a car clattered up and from it jumped Timothy Harrington. He had come from Kilkenny where he had arrived at noon. Harrington seized Parnell's hand theatrically. He was then pushed to the front and said that while the political leaders who directed the Irish organizations in America and had been prominent in raising funds for Ireland were opposed to Parnell still he was authorized to say that the masses were with Parnell. No man there who suggested Parnell's permanent retirement dared to face an American audience. Harrington then made the extraordinary statement that the men who "worked the cables" on this side were not favorable to Ireland, and added "I can say that if we had not been led to believe by these cables that the Irish people were practically unanimous for Parnell's retirement Dillon and O'Brien would never have gone against him."

About a week ago Parnell told me that the result of this election would indicate the sentiment of Ireland. Since he has been over the ground he has changed his mind. Today he said that whether it went for or against him he would canvass every elector in Ireland. Well, he won't begin for some days, for after the poll is declared he will go to Avondale and remain there a day to recruit, then accompanied by John Redmond, he will go to Paris to meet O'Brien.

A large number of meetings were held today by the patriots. At Castle Comer Arthur O'Connor said that two or three years ago Biggar told him he intended to move a vote of censure on Parnell and ask for his deposition but Tom O'Connor dissuaded him. Biggar told him things which had been since proved in the divorce court.

All is in readiness for the election. Two hundred troops and over five hundred constabulary are scattered through the division. The soldiers of the Eighty-fifth infantry are commanded by Colonel Knot and the police by Allan Cameron.

Parnell says he is certain of victory, but gives no figures, neither do any of his lieutenants. Davitt said to me tonight, "If we do not carry this election I will retire from Irish politics forever, for I will believe the Irish people are liars. After deducting 30 per cent from promises our majority is 15,000.

The result of the poll will not be known before noon Tuesday. By the way, Parnell is likely to have a libel suit on his hands. He said tonight that Joseph Ronan of Cork, who brought him into prominence, was murdered by Dr. Tanner. Parnell has since asked the correspondent to say "bungled" instead of murdered. It seems the present Dr. Tanner's father was Ronan's physician, so Parnell was mistaken even in the man.

PARNELL AND THE PRIEST.

They Meet in a Wordy Battle at the Town of Clare.

KILKENNY, Dec. 21.—Parnell and Scully, the Parnellite candidate for parliament, left here at noon for Clare. They were accompanied by long processions of cars filled with Parnell's supporters. Upon arriving at Clare the Parnellites found a meeting proceeding opposite the Catholic chapel, in support of Sir John Pope Hennessy. When Parnell reached the crowd the priest, Father Walsh, addressing Parnell said:

"These are chapel grounds, you must not speak here."

Local farmers here interposed, saying the grounds did not belong to the chapel, and that Parnell had a perfect right to speak there. Parnell said arrangements had been made to hold a meeting in the field and it must proceed. Father Walsh then requested everybody on his side to leave with him, and some few persons followed the priest and Sir Thomas Esmonde, who was also present. The meeting was then organized and Parnell made an address. He said that although his party did not have all the clergy on his side he had no harsh word for any one of them.

After some further remarks Parnell concluded the speech, and leaving Clare accompanied by Scully, drove six miles to John's Well, where another meeting was held. Parnell reminded the electors that they had to deal with English statecraft, which was watching to seize every point of vantage ground that the Irishmen surrendered. It was not a big board of guardians for which Ireland contended; it was a parliament that would fully satisfy the aspirations of the people. To achieve this the people must stand by their leader and not leave Ireland to incapable persons who were trying to step into his shoes. The men opposing him were not elected to sit in judgment upon him. Until Ireland gave him his dismissal he would regard himself as the commanding officer, carrying the national banner through the ranks of the foe.

Parnell returned to Kilkenny this evening.

Gladstone's Letter to Young Peel.

LONDON, Dec. 21.—Mr. Gladstone in his letter to Sir Robert Peel's grandson (Speaker Peel's son), who is the home rule candidate in the Marylebone district, says: "For the first time since commencing in parliament the struggle under O'Connel the Irish party, bent on a constitutional and effective scheme of home rule, is looking to Great Britain to pronounce judgment in the contest between it and a minority of the seceders under Parnell. The liberals of Great Bsitain, who themselves since 1886 have had to resist and overcome secession, will not doubt which side they are to recognize with the name and true title, 'the Irish party,' with its honorable tradition of resistance to wrong. Assuredly you enter the field at a moment of extreme interest, when the cause of wisdom, justice and freedom has claims upon all who love it, enhanced beyond the ordinary standard."

Harrington Arrives in Cork.

DUBLIN, Dec. 20.—Timothy Harrington arrived last night in Cork in company with the mayor of that city. The Parnellites had intended to greet him when he landed from the Aurania in Queenstown and had organized a torchlight procession in his honor. They missed being present on the steamer's arrival, but nevertheless made a demonstration. Finally a body of anti-Parnellites charged upon the paraders and routed them, throwing their torches into the harbor. Several people were hurt. Harrington holds that the majority of the Irish in America are for Parnell, although he says most of the daily newspapers and leading politicians are against him.

Parnell Addresses His Supporters.

KILKENNY, Dec. 21.—A meeting of Parnellites was held outside Parnell's hotel here at 9 o'clock this evening. Parnell addressed the gathering.

CALLED OUT AND SHOT.

An Unknown Assassin Mortally Wounds a Farmer.

MARSHALL, Mo., Dec. 21.—Last night about 10 o'clock Mr. John Gamble, a well known citizen of Lafayette county, living a mile north of Higginsville, was shot and mortally wounded at his home by an unknown man. Mr. Gamble retired about 9 o'clock and was awakened about 10 o'clock by some one knocking at the front door. He immediately went to the door, opened it, and found the visitor to be a strange man who pretended that he wanted to know the direction to Mr. Young's farm. Mr. Gamble stepped out of the house into the yard and was pointing out the direction when the assassin stepped behind him, drew a revolver and fired, the ball entering the farmer's back near the right side and passing almost through the body. The fiend escaped in the darkness. The wounded man was alive this morning, but the physicians say that he cannot recover.

THE PEACE PARTY.

It Leaves Pine Ridge to Negotiate with the Bad Lands Hostiles.

PINE RIDGE AGENCY, S. D. (via Rushville, Neb.), Dec. 21.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—A hundred and thirty-four Indians were sent from here this morning as a peace party to the hostiles. An Indian scout who returned from the bad lands tonight says he barely escaped with his life. The hostiles say they will receive no more peace parties and are determined to fight. Carr's command is there skirmishing and waiting for Brooke.

Going After Big Foot.

RAPID CITY, S. D., Dec. 21.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—Captain Ewers wires from Fort Bennett that forty of Sitting Bull's band now at Cherry Creek are ready to come in, and that Lieutenant Hall, who left this party in charge of Hump, will return to bring them in. Big Foot is still defiant at the camp on the Cheyenne, and Colonel Sumner is advancing upon him. Colonel Merriam left Fort Bennett today with four companies of the Seventh infantry to support Colonel Sumner, who, it is thought, will have a lively struggle with Big foot. Twenty wagons filled with partisans of this chief left recently to join the band. Two troops of General Carr's command were in camp last night. The remaining cavalrymen are about the bad lands and guarding their northern appraches. General Miles said that the outlook was more favorable for a peaceful settlement today, and that General Brooke expressed confidence in the success of the mission by the friendly Indians. The first settler or soldier is yet to be killed, but the Indian fighters who keep notched sticks say that twenty-three braves, young and old, have departed for the celestial buffalo ranges.

Northwest Territory Indians.

WINNIPEG, Man., Dec. 21.—A Regina, N. W. T., special says: A detachment of thirty Canadian mounted police left town this afternoon and another tonight for Chief Piapolis' reserve in response to intelligence that a number of runners from across the border had arrived there.

Asked for Protection.

ST. PAUL, Minn., Dec. 21.—A Bismarck special says that the Indian agent at Fort Berthold has asked the protection of troops. The Berthold Indians are threatening the agency.

A Remarkable Thief Captured.

NYACK, N. Y., Dec. 21.—Detectives Zundt and Price of Brooklyn caught big game at Nyack yesterday, arresting James Schoonmaker, alias James L. Stone, the Brooklyn thief, for whom all the best detectives of that city and New York have been searching since June, 1883. At that time Stone, accompanied by two women, drove to the four-story brown stone-front home of Mrs. Helen Robertson in Lexington avenue, Brooklyn, and leased the place for the summer at $100 per month, furnished, from Mrs. Robertson. In August she returned home and found Stone still there, and his supposed wife with him. The next day a neighbor, a real estate agent, said to her:

"Well, I see you have sold your house to Stone for $11,000."

"I guess not," Mrs. Roberts replied. The agent asked her to step into his office, and he showed her the record of such a sale in the Real Estate Record. Word was sent at once for Stone to come to the office, and he said he would do so. Instead, he packed his grip and disappeared with his wife. They were tracked to Brazil and other South American countries, then back to America, and finally to a farm owned by Stone's father at West Nyack.

Their mode of operation was as follows: With his wife's sister, Clara Brett, of Buffalo, they went to the law firm of Carpenter & Rodericks of Brooklyn and there made the necessary affidavits as to the state of the property and had them duly filed with the county clerk. They then negotiated a $5,000 mortgage with Moran & Williams, 45 Broadway, New York, receiving cash belonging to some orphans and held for investment by that firm. Their ill-gotten gains took them to Brazil. The prisoner has a wife and family in Kingston. It is not known whether he has married the woman who was arrested with him. Stone and his beautiful companion came to West Nyack in October.

Illinois Central Repair Shops Burned.

CHICAGO, Dec. 21.—The paint shop and repair shop of the Illinois Central railroad was entirely destroyed by fire tonight. In the first building were sixteen passenger coaches worth $3,500 apiece, and in the repair shop were four coaches nearly completed, also valued at $3,500 apiece. The fire stopped just before a building containing over $150,000 worth of patterns was reached. The total loss is estimated at $125,000.

Four Persons Burned to Death.

LONDON, Dec. 21.—A father and three children lost their lives in a fire in a humble tenement on the strand today.

MEETS WITH LITTLE FAVOR.

Flower's Bill to Extend the Bonded Period Not Likely to Pass.

A CESSATION OF EXTRA SESSSION TALK.

An Interview with Commissioner Morrison Regarding the New Scheme for Pooling Among Western Railroads.

WASHINGTON BUREAU THE OMAHA BEE, 513 FOURTEENTH STREET, WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 20.

It is not at all likely that the bill proposed by Representative Flower of New York, to extend the bonded period of the McKinley tariff act until next June or any other time will be passed by either house of congress. It is opposed by very many senators and representatives, who claim that the measure is in the interest of speculators. There are probably $30,000,000 worth of goods in bonded warehouses awaiting the payment of duties by importers. A large proportion of this amount is Sumatra tobacco wrappers, upon which there is a profit of nearly 100 per cent, or will be as soon as there is the expected reaction. Individual members of congress refuse to assist any movement of this character.

TRAFFIC POOLING AMONG WESTERN ROADS.

A call was made today on Colonel Morrison of the interstate commerce commission with a view to ascertaining his ideas on the present movement of prominent railway men to bring about a combination or pooling of traffic arrangements among the western roads. At the meeting of railroad men held in New York last Tuesday night it was resolved by the railroad presidents that as cutting of rates and railway wars on the lines west of Chicago and St. Louis was draining the profits, it was necessary to form a combination to be mutually beneficial and defensive. The exact terms of that part of the resolution which relates to the combination is as follows: "That the advisory board shall have power to establish and maintain uniform rates between competitive points and to decide all questions of common interest between the members of the association. It shall also have entire charge, through properly constituted representatives of all outside agencies, for the securing of traffic at competitive points. If any officer or representative of any company shall authorize or promise directly or indirectly any variation from established tariffs he shall be discharged from the service, with the reason stated."

A copy of the foregoing was handed Colonel Morrison, and he was asked how he thought it fitted in with the theory of the interstate law. He read the terms over carefully. It was the first time he had seen the resolution. "Of course," said he, "I could not pass on such a thing without having it come before the commission officially. We hear of these steps which are being taken, but can take no official cognizance of them, but any one can judge of how far the resolution and the law fit together by comparing them." Here the colonel took from his whirligig book case a pamphlet copy of the interstate law and turned over to section 5, drawing a ring around the section to indicate its application to the matter of pooling. It reads "That it shall be unlawful for any common carrier subject to the provisions of this act to enter into any contract, agreement or combination with any other common carrier or carriers for the pooling of freight of different and competing railroads, or to divide between them the aggregate or net proceeds of the earnings of such railroads or any portion thereof, and in any case of an agreement for the pooling of freights as aforesaid each day of its continuance shall be deemed a separate offense." As Colonel Morrison said, he would not pass an informal opinion on the matter, but he pointed out the law, which could be read alongside the action of the railroad presidents.

Senator Cullom, as chairman of the interstate commerce commission, was asked his interpretation of the resolution. He was not fully informed on the details of the agreement, but as far as he understood it the plan was not so much for a pooling of freights, which the law forbids, as it was a maintaining of rates which would be up to a fair living point. Exactly where the line is between the "pooling of freights" and the maintaining of uniform freight rates is a nice question of interpretation.

EXTRA SESSION TALK CEASES.

Talk about an extra session of the Fifty-second congress, to convene this spring, as an incident to the delay in necessary legislation by democrats who are fighting the adoption of the election bill has ceased altogether. The democrats learned some time ago that they could not force the republicans to back down from any of their positions by fear of necessity for an extra session. It is possible that the election bill will not be passed. There are many who believe it not at all likely that any kind of a financial measure will become a law. The democrats may in time defeat ultimate action upon any of the important general measures pending, but they have long since learned that they cannot fight the president or the republicans in either house into backing down from the position they have all along occupied. Although the outlook tonight for an agreement upon a general financial measure is disheartening, the republican leaders in the senate believe it is likely that some kind of a compromise will be affected whereby all legislative assistance possible for the relief of the financial distress will be afforded before March 4.

DECREASE IN DESERTIONS.

The decrease in desertions from the army continues. In 1888 the desertions for the month of November were 189. For the same month in 1889 they were 164 and for November, 1890, they were 90. The percentage of desertions to the strength of the whole army has been for the past year 8 per cent.

CUSTOMS-REFUNDS.

Few of the current readers of the press are aware that large sums are every year appropriated to refund to importers customs which have been wrongfully collected. Congress has just been asked by the secretary of the treasury to appropriate $431,579 for customs-refunds.

The repayment or refund of these sums is one of the highest moral obligations of the government. When imports are received at the custom houses of the country the collectors make appraisements and levy duties according to their interpretation of the law. It very often occurs that the importer classifies the goods so as to pay either a lower rate of duty or no duty at all. Some times the question arises whether the articles are dutiable at all—whether they are not entitled to free admission under some clause of the tariff law. The appraisement may be questioned. The importer wants his goods to meet orders, for the market current, or desires their use. He pays the duty imposed, but takes an appeal. The decision of the collector may be confirmed by the secretary of the treasury, in which event the importer may appeal to the supreme court of the United States, on the construction of the tariff law or some other question. If the decision below is not sustained, or the government loses, the latter not only refunds the duty collected, but it pays the expenses of the suit or suits. The customs refunds for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1890, aggregated $346,526, and the interests and costs $85,052, making a total of $431,579. This amount congress will provide.

PREJUDICE IN CONGRESS.

It may be strange, but it is very true that a general prejudice defeats many good propositions in congress. There is a large class of members of the house who would much prefer to see a panic sweep the country of a vast majority of its commercial institutions than vote for a bill which would prevent such a disaster if the remedy come through the national banks. They are prejudiced against bankers.

Another class of legislators would rather see the shipping interests of the country conducted by foreigners and the United States kept at the mercy of foreign nations in times of war and peace than vote appropriations, however small, for the establishment of a merchant marine because they are prejudiced against subsidies. Yet these same men can see no impropriety in a city or community going down into its pocket to secure the location of a factory or other industry which would improve that locality.

Many men there are in the house who would rather see the interests of the government lay in the dust, or bankruptcy place her property on the auctioneer's block before authorizing the issue of a new series of bonds. They have heard the cry against the "bloated bond-holder." They are, however, constantly advocating the issue of treasury notes or flat money, with no basis of security other than the government's credit, which is the only security for government bonds. They are prejudiced against the security holder in any form.

There will be more prejudices entertained by members of the next congress than any known since the war, and there will be the greatest latitude given wildcat schemes known in the history of the government.

ARMY MUSIC AND ITS TROUBLES.

"We have been very careful about the work barracks bands perform since the row under President Cleveland," said Adjutant General Kelton to your correspondent. "Under Mr. Cleveland we permitted a military band to play at a public entertainment, and came very near being boycotted by the musicians' union. They claimed that wherever and whenever the military bands went outside of their intended sphere and appeared at a public ball or entertainment they came into competition with professional musicians, and therefore took bread out of the mouths of families of men who play for a business.

"There is no objection to bands going out of the barracks at any place to appear in political demonstrations—to escort governors, receive the president, cabinet officers, attend local soldiers' reunions, and even to play at entertainments for public charity," continued the general, "but we must know that wherever they appear they do not possibly come into competition with local or professional bands from a distance, and that the object for which they work is charity, or there is to be no profit for any one. This thing of controlling the military bands is annoying. The public believe the bands are for them, and that they should be given for all public demonstrations, especially where funds are to be raised for a public benefaction; but in nine cases out of ten where a band is permitted to go out it is shown, or the attempt is made to show, that a profit accrues for somebody, and a private band might have got the employment."

FINANCIAL LEGISLATION.

There has been one very unusual feature in the financial legislation which this congress has been called upon to enact. Heretofore congress has made laws for future ills in the financial kingdom. It has been called upon to diagnose monetary ills which had not appeared upon the surface, and in many instances which never would have appeared. This congress has had to deal with imminent dangers. It has had a case in hand, as it were. It has not handled a theory, but a condition in fact. And it may be added that a theory is much easier to master than a condition.

Never were so many propositions made upon any subject as have been made to alleviate the financial stringency through which we have been passing for three months; and never were so many impractical propositions made. After all the affairs of the government in many respects resemble those of an individual. So long as the individual members of congress had some unseen to deal with they swam beautiful. They could resolve with seeming statesmanship. Their ideas were seldom known to be impracticable. They proposed to fathom the unknown and untried future. Now we have had upon us a condition—a glaring present, all full of roaring rapids, precipitous cataracts and dangerous abysses. How to cross or bridge the dangers was the question. The propositions made were for instant use and immediate effect. It made all the difference in the world. The theorists were without occupation. The practical business man was the individual for the hour. And only those who have demonstrated practicability by some success have had weight. It has indeed been a poor season for the loiterer or professional politician. The dearth of practical bills upon the financial situation is evidence that there is a dearth of practical men in congress; or else the problem presented was too sublime, too deep, for a conglomerate body to get together upon.

Unquestionably congress could have come to the relief of the country many weeks since and avoided all distress, but the question at once presented itself, will not there rise up from the grave of the threatened panic a more serious spectre? Inflation was the thing most dreaded and at the same time most mooted. It seems not to have been an auspicious time for tried and able statesmen. There is so much prejudice against banks on the democratic side of congress that it would rather see the business interests of the country smashed than saved through banks, which it hates. Like the patient who would rather die than be bled and saved, the democrats prefer bankruptcy to salvation if by it the banking system is to be perpetuated.

The mass of suggestions has come in the form of untried legislation. His has been the work of theorists, the impracticable statesmen. And strange to say, nine-tenths of the legislation proposed to reach an emergency anticipated something which might happen in the far future.

The lesson of this all is that we need more business men in congress—men of practical ideas, demonstrated business capacity—and fewer theorists and politicians. We may be confronted with other calamities in the future, calling for financiering, not politics.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Senator Allison has gone home to Iowa on private business.

Miss Kilbourne of Keokuk, Ia., is spending the winter with Mrs. A. D. Andrews, daughter of General Schofield, at 1224 Connecticut avenue. They are at home to their friends on Tuesdays.

Congressman Hansborough of North Dakota left for home yesterday. He will not return until after the holidays. He is pushing Senator Price very hard and the friends of the former say he may be the next United States senator from that state.

PERRY S. HEATH.

AN OBJECTIONABLE RULE.

It Demands a Commission from Shippers to the Chicago Stock Yards.

CHICAGO, Dec. 21.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—Judge Cyrus J. Findley, state president of the Farmers' Mutual Benefit association has inaugurated a warfare which promises to make lots of trouble for the Chicago live stock exchange and its members. The farmers are complaining energetically about the rule recently adopted by the live stock exchange prohibiting its members from buying cattle from any persons except members of the exchange. The enforcement of this rule means that those who ship cattle to the stock yards must pay a commission of 50 cents a head to the members of the exchange for selling the stock. The payment of this commission is objected to by the members of the American live stock company, who have agents of their own and can sell their cattle at an expense of 20 cents a head as well as by individual farmers, who object to being compelled to operate through particular commission men in order to effect sales. The farmers are up in arms against the operation of the rule in question and intend to test its legality. Acting for them Judge Findley yesterday submitted the facts in the case to Attorney General Hunt with a view to having the proper steps taken to test the question, and the understanding is that proceedings will soon be commenced in behalf of the state either to revoke the charter of the live stock exchange or to enjoin the enforcement of the objectionable rule.

Steamship Clearances.

NEW YORK, Dec. 21.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—Passengers sailed today for Havre, on the Bourgogne from Hoboken, and those who sailed from Mediterranean ports yesterday to the same port, on the Rhaeta, from New York and Genoa, arrived at Prawl P. Nose and proceeded to refo[illegible]

WITH MALICIOUS INTENT.

A Jack Left on the Union Pacific Rails Results in Disaster.

TWO MEN ARE SERIOUSLY INJURED.

A York Crank Discharges a Shotgun Into a Band of Skaters—Pete Johnson's Brief Freedom—Fannie Patton Suicides.

BEATRICE, Neb., Dec. 21.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—A disastrous wreck occurred on the southbound Union Pacific passenger train a mile and a half below Holmesville, this county, about 10:20 this morning. The accident was caused by an iron track-lifting jack being placed on the track with evident malicious intent. The train was going at full speed around the curve when the obstruction was encountered. The engine went off the track, as did the tender, and the mail car was toppled over. Engineer D. S. Patton was badly scalded and otherwise injured. Bridge Inspector W. H. Mercer, who was riding on the engine, was scalded and will die. The fireman jumped just as the engine was leaving the track and landed twenty feet away from the wreck uninjured. No other casualties occurred. The engine is a complete wreck, as is the tender. The wreck will probably not be removed before morning. The two injured men were brought here for surgical attention.

Fired into the Crowd.

YORK, Neb., Dec. 21.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—This morning a party of boys were skating on the creek south of the city and were ordered to stop by M. J. Shackleford who lives close by. The boys paid no attention to him but continued their skating, and as they were not on Shackleford's land they told him he had no right to order them off, whereupon he went to the house and got a shotgun and again ordered the boys to quit. They didn't comply and he deliberately fired into the crowd. Four boys received several No. 5 shot and one was quite seriously wounded.

A warrant was issued this afternoon and Shackleford was arrested on the charge of shooting with intent to kill. He was brought before Judge Bates who told him that if he could give $500 bonds to appear December 29 for trial he would release him as he did not want to hold court on Sunday, which he did.

A Sad Life Ended.

NEBRASKA CITY, Neb., Dec. 21.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—Fannie Patton died in a house of ill-fame in this city last night of heart disease. She was the daughter of prominent and wealthy parents in Louisville, Ky., by the name of Hail, and came to this city from Denver, where she was taken by a worthless husband who deserted her after eloping with her from her home.

Pete's Brief Freedom.

YORK, Neb., Dec. 21.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—Pete Johnson, a colored youth who was sent to the penitentiary from this city two years ago for forgery, returned to town last night on the midnight train and was immediately arrested and jailed. He will be held until the authorities at Lincoln can be heard from, as it is supposed that he is wanted in that city.

A Little Failure.

NEBRASKA CITY, Neb., Dec. 21.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—The sheriff last evening took possession of the G. A. Wilcox variety store on an execution issued in favor of the Nebraska City National bank for $5,172. It is claimed the difficulty is only temporary and on account of the small holiday trade.

A Delightful Evening.

CRETE, Neb., Dec. 21.—[Special to THE BEE.]—A very pleasant reception was given last Tuesday to W. A. Bridges and his bride by Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Johnstone and Mr. and Mrs. George Bridges at the residence of Mr. Johnstone. Two hundred guests were present and a most enjoyable evening was spent.

CONGRESSIONAL PROGRAMME.

What the House and Senate Will Do the Coming Week.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 21.—It is unlikely that any positive legislation will be achieved by congress this week, and the failure to take the usual holiday recess is not expected to result in any measurable advancement of public business.

In the senate the elections bill will probably consume the first three days of the week. The possibilities of an interruption hinge altogether upon the result of the negotiations now in progress among the republican senators upon the subject of the caucus financial bill. If a harmonious understanding to support this measure is reached the elections bill may be laid aside in its favor and the discussion in the senate turn on financial matters until the day before Christmas, when it is expected that a recess will be taken until Monday.

It is probable that a successive adjournment for two or three days at a time will mark the course of the house during the Christmas holiday season. No business of importance is expected to be done, as so many members have left Washington for home that a quorum can hardly be secured. Monday is District of Columbia day and the house will probably pass upon local legislation until some measure is proposed upon which a vote is demanded and the absence of a quorum thereby disclosed. Such other days in the week as the house is in session will probably be devoted to comparatively unimportant measures.

GRAIN MEN'S COMPLAINTS.

They Will Seek to Have Many Grievances Remedied.

SPRINGFIELD, Ill., Dec. 21.—The executive committee of the Illinois Grain Dealers' Protective association held a meeting here last night to discuss matters relating to their business and certain abuses from which they suffer. One of them is the liability of dealers for grain bought from tenants on which landlords hold a lien. A bill bearing on this subject and in the interest of grain buyers was introduced in the last legislature but failed to pass. Another attempt will probably be made to secure the passage of such a bill this winter. The grain dealers also protest against the recent advance in seaboard rates made by the railroads. They claim that large quantities of grain, which had been bought upon very close margins, have been delayed in shipment by the failure of the railroad companies to furnish cars, and that the advance in rates means the loss of many thousands of dollars to buyers, for which the railroad companies are responsible. They favor a change in the system of inspection, by which railroad companies can be held responsible for losses by stealage, leakage and shrinkage, which, they claim, is often caused by the neglect of the companies in failing to move cars promptly.

Eyraud Appeals.

PARIS, Dec. 21.—Eyraud has appealed to the court against the sentence of death pronounced upon him yesterday.

Henry Watterson's Silver Wedding.

LOUISVILLE, Ky., Dec. 21.—Mr. and Mrs. Henry Watterson celebrated their silver wedding at their Fourth avenue mansion in this city last night, the reception lasting from 8 to 12 o'clock. There were over one thousand guests. The presents were amazing in their quantity and splendor, filling the entire room set apart for the purpose. The happy couple received quite two thousand congratulatory letters and telegrams from every part of America and many parts of Europe, including some of the most famous people. Mr. and Mrs. Watterson (who is a daughter of the late Hon. Andrew Ewing of Tennessee) were married in Nashville in 1865. From the Hon. Harvey Watterson, the father of Henry, to the child of Mr. Watterson's son, Mr. Ewing Watterson, there were four generations of the family in the house tonight.

DEMANDS OF SWITCHMEN.

If Not Granted a Strike in the West is Talked Of.

CHICAGO, Dec. 21.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—Railroad managers are alarmed at the possibility of a serious strike among western switchmen. The western roads were to have given an answer yesterday to the demands of the switchmen that all men wherever employed be paid according to the Chicago scale. At the request of railroad managers the roads were given until Tuesday to consider. The switchmen say that an answer must be forthcoming on that date. There are rumors that if the demand is refused there will be a strike of all switchmen between Chicago and the Rocky mountains. The demand is supported by the union, and Frank Sweeny, chief of the switchmen's largest organization is in full sympathy with the men. Railroad men say it is preposterous that the men should demand as much pay for switching in the small western towns as is paid for work in the Chicago yards. They say it costs more to live in Chicago and that the work in the great Chicago yards is much more dangerous than at the small country towns. It is hardly probable that the demands of the switchmen will be granted, but a compromise may be effected. It is not considered probable, if a strike occurs, that the Atchison system will be affected, as this company granted the Chicago scale to all its switchmen several months since.

AN IMPECUNIOUS KING.

Kalakaua a Financial Wreck and Depending on Small Loans.

SAN FRANCISCO, Cal., Dec. 21.—King Kalakaua I is considerably cast down over the withdrawal of the Sherman resolution. He had fondly anticipated that through some favorable legislation he would be enabled to restore the credit of his kingdom and make a loan. There can be no doubt of it that the potentate is in a bad way financially. It is related that when he resolved to come to this city, and had accepted the invitation to take passage on the cruiser Charleston as the guest of Admiral George Brown, he found that he was short of funds and was unable to make a borrow. In this financial crisis he went to the royal treasury and rifled it of its entire contents, which aggregated $103.50, a sum entirely inadequate to the royal needs. But not to be disappointed in his desire to come to San Francisco, he went, with his suite, aboard the Charlestrn and set sail. The second day out a poker game was inaugurated and among the players were the king, Admiral Brown, the captain, the flag lieutenant and one or two naval officers. In a few hours the contents of the royal treasury had found their way into the pockets of the naval officers, and the king was a financial wreck. Admiral Brown was importuned for a small loan of $8; the flag lieutenant a little later contributed $2.50; the captain paid a tribute of $4, and the result was that when the Golden Gate was reached every officer aboard had in his possession from one to three I. O. U.'s bearing the kingly signature. So runs the tale, and it is said that even the waiters at the hotel have contributed in the way of small loans to meet the expenses of the royal visit.

Death of Father Ashfield's Slayer.

MEMPHIS, Tenn., Dec. 21.—Al Reeves, the slayer of Father Ashfield, is dead. He died a maniac in the county poorhouse of this county. His demise recalls one of the foulest and most sensational crimes ever committed in this city. In a fit of insanity the maniac went to the rectory of St. Peter's armed with a deadly knife. He called for Father Ashfield, who had many times befriended him, and was admitted to his private room. A few moments later a terrible shriek came from the apartment. The attendants who rushed to the scene found the priest dying from wounds in his breast and his murderer weeping over and caressing his victim. Reeves was arrested, placed in jail and adjudged insane. He was sent to an asylum, from which he escaped and went to Philadelphia, where he was found last summer, working as a drug clerk, and was rearrested, and brought back to Memphis again. He was tried and again adjudged insane and placed temporarily in the county asylum, from which place he will be buried.

Succi Eats a Square Meal.

NEW YORK, Dec. 21.—When Signor Succi arose from sleep today after a long slumber, which he fell into soon after his feat was ended last night, an elaborate meal was placed before him. He ate with extraordinary relish chicken soup, fried smelts, fried calves brains, quail on toast, fruit, confections, ice cream, coffee and a pint each of Barols extract and grand sec. Succi occupied two hours in consuming the food. He never faltered, but ate with a zest that puzzles even George Francis Train, who was present. Julian Hawthorne and the poet, Stephen Massett, were also present when the faster dined. At the conclusion of the meal Succi was presented with a handsome toothpick and soon thereafter retired for a nap preparatory to a trip to Boston, where he goes to exhibit himself at a museum.

Intemperance Responsible.

GALVESTON, Tex., Dec. 21.—Peter Fink, German, about fifty years old, while laboring under a fit made a desperate attempt to commit suicide at his home, on East Strand street, this morning. Officer Richardson burst in the door and found Fink lying on a bed, with blood gushing from two ugly gashes in the left and right sides and from a horrible gash across the windpipe. The desperate man was quickly disarmed, but pleaded to be allowed to finish the job as he was of no use. He was conveyed to the hospital for treatment, where physicians pronounced his wounds fatal. Fink is an old citizen, and has occupied many positions of trust and confidence in leading commercial houses here. Intemperance, however, got the better of him, and this and despondency caused him to commit the act.

A Boy Kills Himself.

COLLINSVILLE, Ill., Dec. 21.—Willie Simpson, aged sixteen years, son of W. A. Simpson, an employe of the Collinsville zinc works, was found today about 5 o'clock sitting in an unconscious state in a chair in the office attached to J. H. Clark's livery stable with a bullet hole through his head. At his feet, in a pool of blood, was found a 32-caliber revolver with one chamber empty. He expired about an hour later. The shooting was intentional, as he had threatened several times this last week to commit suicide. No cause can be assigned for the act.

Showed How to Kill a Chicken.

PEORIA, Ill., Dec. 21.—James Hannon, while showing a funeral party how to kill a chicken today, broke the neck of Patrick Lyons, a man sixty years of age. The party were sitting in a saloon after the funeral and Hannon gave the old man's neck a slight twist. The fact that the old man was dead did not develop until several hours later, when the party arose to go home. The practical illustration had broken his neck.

One Hundred Lives Reported Lost.

BUENOS AYRES, Dec. 21.—A disaster has occurred at Cordova, where the canal burst its embankments and destroyed hundreds of houses. One hundred lives are reported lost.

A CHILD BURNED TO DEATH.

Horrible Accident at a Village on the Chicago & Northwestern Road.

HE WOULDN'T BURY A DUNKARD.

An Iowa Minister's Object Lesson on Temperance — A Big Railroad Land Suit to be Commenced at Sioux City.

HAWARDEN, Ia., Dec. 21.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—A sickening accident occurred here today. A three-year-old son of Edward Lennett, a car repairer for the Chicago & Northwestern railroad, was playing in the tool house where oil and greasy waste were kept. In some way the child set the waste on fire, destroying the tool house and burning himself to a crisp. When the body was taken out of the ruins the flesh dropped from his limbs.

A Minister Creates a Sensation.

FORT DODGE, Ia., Dec. 21.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—Rev. F. S. Buenger of LeMars has created a storm of indignant comment by refusing to read the burial service or in any way take part in the funeral services over the body of Volga Eldges, a member of his congregation, who died from the effects of whisky. Rev. Buenger has been vigorously advocating total abstinence, and says that he took this course to more emphatically impress upon his people his abhorrence of strong drink and those who use it.

A Thousand Acres in Litigation.

SIOUX CITY, Ia., Dec. 21.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—A question involving the title of about one thousand acres of land on the Nebraska shore, where the town of South Sioux City stands, is soon to come up in the courts. When the Sioux City & Pacific road was built it obtained a grant of certain lands within ten miles of the road on either side, and this includes a large tract of land in and about South Sioux City. When this grant was made the government notified the officials in the land offices to make no entries and issue no patents to settlers on the same, but in the course of time land office officials changed and the instructions were lost sight of and patents issued for portions of the lands to settlers, who either held or assigned their claims to others until they were purchased by the Short Line railroad company. After the Sioux City & Pacific secured the lands it assigned them to the Missouri Valley land company, which in turn deeded its interests to the Iowa railroad land company, which now claims legal title to the property and alleges that the Short line people have no right in the property as their patents to it are prior. Much of this land was purchased by the Short line company at from $30 to $40 an acre, and if the land company succeeds in perfecting its claims, this sum will be lost to the railroad unless it can recover on the deeds by which it holds the property.

HERE'S A SNAP.

Mexican Government Offering Prizes to Bona Fide Settlers.

PITTSBURG, Pa., Dec. 21.—A special from Lima, O., says: B. C. Faurot, a well known banker of this city, and who is also president of the Columbus, Lima & Northwestern railroad and largely interested in railway enterprise in Mexico, returned home from New York this afternoon and announces the consummation of a deal with John W. Young, the eldest son of Brigham Young, whereby the men come in possession of 3,000,000 acres of land which was granted Faurot by the Mexican government three years ago. The negotiations have been in progress for some time and were finally closed in New York yesterday. The land is located in the northern part of Mexico. About three years ago Faurot obtained a valuable grant