OMAHA, WEDNESDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 28, 1892.

FEAST FOR FLAMES

Orchard's Furniture Store Furnishes a Banquet for the Fire Element.

ESTABLISHMENT WIPED AWAY

Only One Wall of the Palatial Store Left in Its Position.

CONTINENTAL BLOCK ALSO DESTROYED

Freeland, Loomis & Co.'s Clothing Stock Gone Along With the Carpets.

BUSY NIGHT FOR THE DEPARTMENT

Called from Small Blazes to Battle With a Fierce Conflagration-How Fortunes Were Dispelled in Blaze

and Smoke.

Fire played havoc with the two big buildings on the northeast corner of Fifteenth and Douglas streets last night. The fourstory brick structure occupied by S. A. Orchard's immense furniture establishment was entirely gutted, and the flames extended to the Continental building on the corner, destroying the two top floors, used for offices and apartments, and resulting in great damage from water on the lower floors, the clothing stock of Freeland, Loomis & Co. suffering heavily. It was the largest fire that has occurred in Omaha since the destructive hardware fire last March, the total lesses being estimated at something near \$400,000, only partly covered

by insurance. The fire was discovered at 9:35 o'clock and burned furiously for nearly two hours, after which the flames gradually subsided. Though the firemen worked hard, and their efforts were well directed, nothing availed to extinguish the blaze in the Orchard building and it wasonly with the greatest difficulty that the fire was prevented from spreading further than it did.

Started in Orchard's.

The fire originated in the Orchard building. Officer Godola declares that he passed the store less than five minutes before the blaze broke out. After passing Orchard's he had time to walk down to the corner of Fourteenth and Douglas streets and was on the point of crossing the street when he heard a loud report, resembling the explosion of some combustible, and the crash of falling glass Turning suddenly, he saw smoke pouring out of the show window of Orchard's store. Before the officer could reach the place, running at full speed, the interior of the store was already in a blaze. An alarm was immediately turned in, to which the entire fire department responded. In an incredibly short time twelve streams of water were being thrown upon the burning building but the flames mounting the elevator shaft, quickly ascended to the three upper floors. The furniture, being of a very combustible nature, fed the flames and made

In less than half an hour after the alarm was turned in the fire had extended to every the building or its contents were abandoned and attention was turned to saving the adjoining houses. Toward the east Foley's place was not seriously menaced. The Continental block on the corner, however, was in imminent danger. A thick firewall separated the Continental block from the Orchard building and the firemen at first boned that the flames could be confined to the burning store. A door had been cut through the fire wall, affording a means of communication between the two structures. This the firemen found burned down, and immediately took prompt measures to prevent the fire from penetrat ing the Continental block from that point. Crash of Falling Flors.

One after another the floors in the Orchard building caved in. Heavy from pillars fell down through the building, bearing with them pieces of flaming timber. As the interior work began to fall in the plaze seemed to be dying out. While the stock and light wood fixtures were being consumed the building was in a sheet of flame, but when the fire began on the heavy timber the smoke obscured its brightness. The firemen were busily playing their hose on the burning structure, and the fire appeared to be under control, when there was a loud shout from the vast throng assembled in the street to witness the work of devastation.

A thin sheet of flame had darted uy from the roof of the Continental block Soon after. the windows on the top floor threw out an ominous red light, then there was a crash of glass and the flames ablaze and the clock tower on the corner of the building wrapped in flames. After burning for about half an hour the tower fell crashing to the ground. The efforts of the fire department were then directed to saving the Continental block. After three hours hard work the flames were checked but not until the two upper stories were wholly destroyed, the furniture on the second floor was badly injured and the stock of the Freeland, Loomis company, known as the Continental Clothing company, on the ground floor, was seriously damaged by smoke and

WORKING ON ANOTHER FIRE.

They Discovered the Big Blaze.

While the department was working hard to put out the fire in the rear of a secondhand furniture store at 505 South Thirteenth street some one in the crowd discovered the flames from the Orchard building and Delos Beard, the fire reporter, waded in through the four luches of water on the floor and told Chiefs Gaillian and Salter that there was another fire. The two officials immediately jumped into their sleighs, and after ordering all of the apparatus at work to follow excepthe chemical made all haste to the scene.

The slippery roads made traveling ver, hard and by the time the chief and his assistants arrived the whole roof of the build ing was one mass of flame. From the front and the rear of the building the dames poured forth from cellar to roof, and when Chief Galligan jumped out of his sleigh on Pouglas street he saw at a glance that herele work was necessary, and be fairly walked on air as he rushed to the tire box at the corner of Fifteenth and Douglas streets and pulled in a second alarm, followed imme-

diately by a general alarm. The first machine up was chemical No. 8 Captain Windheim looked for a moment at the fire and then cut loose his machine and tried his best to deaden the fire on the ground floor by using plenty of enemical water, but by the time Windneim had his line laid in and commenced playing on the

show windows the fire had burst through the roof, and just as the first hose company laid in its line the roof fell.

Intensely Hot Work.

Some idea of the terrible speed of the fire may be imagined when one knows how hard and fast the firemen work when it is neces-sary. Before hose could be brought up the alloway in the rear of the building the whole structure on the alley, from basement to roof, was one mass of flame and the heat to roof, was one mass of flame and the heat in the alley was so intense that it was a hard matter to get pipemen to play on the walls, which were liable to fall at any moment. The half dozen lines of heavily insulated electric wires soon caught from the heat and overlapping flames, and before being turned off were completely ruined and fell to the ground. Captain Graves of hose company No. 6 stood in the alleyway with a two-inch pipe in his hands and threw the stream up the area way between the Orchard block and the Continental building, and tried to cool the walls and thus prevent the fire from spreading.

and tried to cool the walls and thus prevent the fire from spreading.

One of the most gallant incidents of the fire was the dash made by hose company No. 10 through the alley. This company laid in its line from a hydrant at Fourteenth and Douglas streets and started up the alley toward Fifteenth street. The heat balked the horses, but a word from Assistant Chief Salter caused the driver to lay on the whip and the grees galloged down the alley, past and the greys galloped down the alley, past the flames which nearly singed their hair, into air free from smoke onto Fifteenth

street.

The big aerial truck was run up close to the gutter on the cast side of Fifteenth street and as close as possible to the west wall of the Continental building. An effort was made to raise the big ladder, but the wires were in the way and had to be broken down before the ladder and a line of hose could be run up. By the time trucks Nos. 1 and 2 got into position the fire had broken through the west fire wall of the Orchard building, and was spreading across the roof of the Continental block.

WHAT WAS DESTROYED.

Description of the Building and the Stores That Occupied It,

The Continental block was the property of James H. Byers of Leavenworth, Kan. It was 132x132 feet in size and four stories high, and occupied the entire quarter of the block at the northeast corner of Fifteenth and Douglas. The baif of the building occupying the corner was built five years ago for the present occupants, the Continental Clothing company, or Freeland, Loomis & Co., at a cost of \$85,000, and took its name from the firm 'that occupied it. The other half was built two years ago, likewise for the present occupant, S. A. Orchard, who moved in two years ago last September. That part of the building, which was of the same style of architecture, cost \$45,000, the difference in price being due to the fact that the other half was upon the corner and had two street fronts, while it also had the tower, which has been such a familiar feature of that corner.

The corner was leased by the clothing company on terms that provided that it should maintain the insurance, and it carried \$70. 000 on it. Mr. Byers carried the insurance on the other part of the building, and it amounted to only \$20,000, so that the entire building, costing \$130,000, was insured for

Felt Falsely Secure.

The Orehard store was completely gutted, and the fire was working its way over the top of the fire wall to the roof of the portion occupied by the clothing company, before any great concern seemed to be felt regarding the stock in that building. The crowd, and even the occupants of the various floors of the building seemed to take it for granted that there was no danger of the fire getting a hold on that portion of the the older portion was actually ablaze that they bestirred themselves very actively. Even then, when the water that was being poured upon the roof began to work its way down through the eciling into the store room on the lower floor, the feeling prevailed that the fire had spent itself and was practically under control, and the suggestions of Fire Commissioner Hartman, with reference to moving out the stock, called forth the assertion that it would result in a greater loss than would be caused by a little water. It was not many minutes, however, before the water was coming through the ceiling as if it had been coming through the ceiling as If it had been overcoats and umbrelias, which were spread over the stock on the tables, in the show cases and on the shelves, but as the water poured down in streams it was seen that this imperfect protection would amount to nothing and the entire force of the employes of the establishment, together with a number who volunteered their services, began removing the immense stock across the street to a vacant store room, and in half an hour the removal had been very successfully accomplished. The stock was very considera-bly damaged, both by water and its uncere-monious removal, but it was by no means as much as would have been the case had it been allowed to remain where it was. The stock was valued at \$120.000, and was

insured for \$85,000. The annual inventory was in progress, having been began yesterday, and at the time the fire broke out several of the clerks were on the second floor engaged in that work. The stock was at low water mark, which point is reached about the first of January and the first of July. The stock two unry and the first of July. The stock two months ago amounted to \$175,000, but the insurance at the present time is as much as is ever the ease as the firm carries its own insurance above that figure. Samuel Gam ble manager of the establishment, was early on the ground and personally superintended the removal of the stock.

Mr. Orchard Interviewed.

Mr. Orchard was at the fire at Thirteenth and Howard when the alarm of the greater blaze was turned in, and as soon as he learned where it was bastened toward Fifteenth and Douglass as fast as possible. He could, of course, do nothing but watch the fire, and maintained his self-possession as well as could have been expected under the circumstances.

The store was ablaze from top to bottom when he arrived, and he realized that the stock must be a total loss. He exhibited the greatest concern about the safe, and besought Chief Galligan to pour water on that part of the ruins where the safe lay, and keep it as cool as possible. This the chief promsed to do, and assured Mr. Orchard that as soon as the fire in the other part of the building was under control he would direct more attention to the safe, but that it was not safe to send men into the building. When asked about his lesses, Mr. Orchard

said that he had not taken account of stock and could not therefore tell just how much there was in the store.

"We were to have began taking account tomorrow," he said. "We always have about \$110,000 in stock on hand at the end of the \$110,000 in stock on hand at the end of the year, and it would have amounted to a little more than that this year. I remarked only yesterday that our stock on hand this year would be larger than ever before. It was insured for about \$80,000, all through local agents, and it will make my loss fully \$80,000 above the insurance. We had about \$10,000 worth of fixtures, and they were but lightly insured, in comparison to the stock. I don't think there was over \$5,000 on them. We had just fitted up an art room, and I had been think there was over \$5,000 on them. We had just fitted up at art room, and I had been thinking that the insurance was not heavy enough, but had made up my mind that I could afford to carry some of the insurance myself. I have never had a fire before, and I suppose that is why I had got in the way of thinking that I didn't need so much insurance as some people carry on a stock of that size. This will be a very heavy loss on me, and I don't know yet what I will do in the way of starting up again. The stock is totally destroyed, so there will be nothing left on hand to be disposed of. I

[CONTINUED ON SECOND PAGE.]

TOSSED ON AN ANGRY SEA

Thrilling Voyage Across the Atlantic by the Steamship Noordland.

SHE WAS DISABLED IN A TERRIFIC GALE

Passengers Driven Frantic by Fright-Saved from Sinking by Coolness and Good Seamanship Her Propeller Shaft. Broken 300 Miles from Land.

LONDON, Dec. 27.-The American line steamer Ohio, from Philadelphia, December 14 for Liverpool, passed Brow Head today. She had in tow the four-masted Belgian steamer Noordland from New York, December 14, for Antwerp.

The voyage of the Noordland was tempes tuous almost from the hour of leaving Saudy Hook. The winds blew almost i hurricane and the ship had much difficulty in making headway through the waves. Some of the passengers were so apprehensive of danger that they could not be induced to retire at night and sat about the saloon dozing at intervals, ready to take to the boats in the event of an accident, although the boats could have lived only by a miracle in the terrible seas. The waves tossed their ley foam on the decks until the lower rigging was covered with a congealed frosting and the deck itself was like a skating pond. The only comfort or security was in the cabins. Captain Nickels, his officers and crew, spared no pains to secure the safety of the ship, and the sailors never shirked an order, however perilous and painful.

When the Accident Occurred. The Nordland labored along successfully

until Thursday evening. It was a butter cold night and the passengers were congrat-ulating themselves upon gradually nearing the end of their voyage. The steamer was in longitude 18 degrees 52 minutes west and latitude 50 degrees 10 minutes north. At 9 n the evening a tremendous crash was eard and the vessel quivered from end to The passengers who were sitting up were tossed about like nine-pins, several of them being thrown to the floor. Several terriffic blows resounded, one after the other, as if the vessel were being struck by a gi-gantic hammer, which, indeed, was the fact,

for the propeller shaft had broken. The fright of some of the passengers was pitiful to behold. They rushed hither and thither, delaying the officers in their efforts to get at the cause and extent of the disas-ter. Captain Nickels knew well enough what the sound meant, and with a reassur ing word to the passengers he hastened to investigate. The vessel rocked furiously while the broken shaft seemed about to erash through the ship at every concussion. Water rushed into the tube, menacing the stoke hold and the engine rooms, and the panic stricken passengers thought for a while that the vessel was about to sink Several minutes clapsed before word was given for the engines to stop.

At the Mercy of the Gale.

The Noordland lay helpless, tossed by the gale, and as the water rushed in there seemed immigent danger of sinking. The pumps were manned and put to work, every man of the crew being summoned to duty. For twenty-four hours continuously the pumps were kept at work and the water was prevented from gaining on the workers. Then the passengers were informed that

they were not in present peril.

At the time of the accident the Noordland was 200 miles west of Queenstown. The crippled steamer was sighted by the steamship Ohio, which left Philadelphia on the day that the Noordland left New York and needed assistance was at once extended attended by much difficulty and the continuous stormy weather made it necessary to navigate with caution, but the Noordland arrived without further accident.

An examination showed that the fracture of the shaft was six feet inside the stern. The steamship Noordland was towed into Queenstown harbor by the steamship Ohio at 7 o'clock this evening. All the passengers were on deck, waying hats and handker-chiefs and cheering. The passengers were removed to shore by a tender. All showed signs of the anxiety which they had suffered, and some of the elderly steerage passengers were hardly able to walk. Several women fell on their knees and cried the moment they were landed.

Frank Shea, a first cabin passenger, now stopping at a Queenstown hotel, told his experience tonight:

Story of a Passenger.

The first two days out of New York were fairish, though part of the time a heavy sea was running. The weather then grew rapidly worse. On the night of the accident w were making about twelve knots an hour The ship was rolling heavily and most of the cabin passengers were below-sick. Five or six of us were in the smoking room, talking about how we should pass Christman in Antwerp, when there was a terrific crash, and we were thrown from our seats into a heap on the floor. The vibration of the ship almost shook us from our feet as we started for the door. It seemed as if a gigantic haumer was pounding the slip's bot-tom. When we got outside we saw the captain coming from the engine room. The passengers came running on deck, half dressed and white from fear. We surrounded the captain and he told us that the main shaft was broken, but there was no immediate reason for alarm. The officers who were not busy below walked about among the passet busy below walked about among the passet busy below. sengers and encouraged all to believe that there was no danger. In a few minutes we learned that the engineers at a great risk to their lives, had found the two stay plates and the planumer blocks had smashed the gland of the engine. The bulkhead, however, had been kept tight. The vessel pitched and rolled terribly, so that we saw we could not trust to the basts in case the we could not trust to the boats in case the

"We were just becoming calmer when we where just becoming calmer when we want the crew rushing through the steerage carrying bedding, mats and carpets to be stuffed into the tunnel box. We all knew then that water was coming in. Nobedy slept that night. The women sat crying in the cabins and the men crowded the smok-ing room to play cards and talk over the situation. We all were badly frightened. The vessel rolled terribly and with every roll came a tremendous thump as if a piece of the shaft was loose and smashing things in the hold. The sails had been spread, but they did not steady the ship noticeably. We knew we were far from the track of the transatiantic steamers, and no one would have guessed that our chances for life were more than two in tive.

"The crew worked heroically at the numps for twenty-four hours after the acci dent, and at the same time the engineer were busy at the shaft, fixing plugs and try g to prevent a further influx of water Eventually word was sent out that the flow of water had been checked. We had plenty of food and water, and therefore, with fairly favorable weather, would have been able to hold our own for some time. As the sea was still too rough, however, for any life boat, we were a gloomy lot. Friday was uneventful. The tables were laid as oscal, but few cared to cat.

"At 2 o'clock on Saturday morning the lookout yelled: 'Light ahead!' Everybody turned and listened eagerly for the next word. 'She's a steamer,' was the next call. We all shook hands and cheered and many ran about shouting for by. We all remained on deck the rest of the night watching the Ohio's lights. At daylight she steed by and passed a hawser.

Difficult Work of the Research

"At that time and subsequently our peak was full of water and despite the expres-

second hawser broke, as did also the third, On Sunday morning other hawsers were fixed and as the weather had improved meantime they held until we reached the harbor?

The steamship Ohio proceeded to Liver-pool this morning. Most of the steerage passengers were taken back and will live aboard until further orders are received. Probably the Noordland will then proceed to Antwerp, where she will be completely overhauled.

Auxlous About the Umbria.

London, Dec. 27.—Anxiety is felt over the nonarrival at New York of the Cunarder Umbria, which sailed from Liverpool De-cember 17, and, allowing for stormy weather, should have reached port at least two days igo. Apprehension is so serious that rein

surance has been begun.

The officials of the Canard line say they have no doubt that the Umbria's delay is due to the breaking down of her engines.

TO M. PASTEUR.

Seventieth Birthday of the Famous Savant

Fitty Observed. [Copyrighted 1892 by James Gordon Bennett.] Pants, Dec. 27.- New York Herald Cable -Special to Tue Beg.1-The 70th anniversary of the birth of M. Louis Pasteur, the distinguished biologist and chemist, was celebrated today with great pomp and undisturbed by the political scandals of the hour. M. Pasteur was given a magnificent ovation. The famous savant entered the hall leaning on the arm of M. Carnot, president of the republic. The speech of the English surgeon, Sir Joseph Lister Bart, was loudly applauded, especially that part in which he said he admired M. Pasteur as much for his integrity as for his scientific attainments.

M. Pasteur was so moved by the ovation which he received that he was not able to speak, and his son read his speech. The aged scientist sobbed when he spoke of his

wife and relatives. Then the various delegations filed by to ongratulate him. The most applauded were the Copenhagen and Stockholm delegations. The scene was most interesting. It was regretted that the united scientific societies of Berlin were not represented.

The Panama inquiry was continued today. Yesterday no one was arrested. There is a report that the medical expert who performed an autopsy on the body of Baron de Reinach had come to the conclusion that the baron was poisoned and had not committed suicide. More revelations are expected in regard to the sudden deaths of several persons mixed up in the affairs of the Panama Canal company. There are some coincidences which are remarkably curious and disquieting. The people, however, are somewhat quieter. JACQUES ST. CERE.

STARTLING RUMORS.

New Revelations in the Panama Canal Scandal Promised. London, Dec. 27.-The Chronicle's Paris

correspondent says: Two sudden deaths may form the subject of a special inquiry. He hesitates to mention the person's names, which are given as mero conjecture.

The startling revelations made by Detective Amiel have been revived. The correspondent declares that in answer to an advertisement in Figure, he (Amiel) was offered money to murder Dr. Herz. He continues: "Amiel asked me to publish the story, but when I sent for him I found that he was dead." he was dead." The Gaulois compares the unhealthy Pan-

ama scandal to the scandals of the period of Roban, and says that the diamond necklace allegation made against Mme. Carnot will probably not lead to the disgrace of a high official. "A cartridge similar to that used in the

ard Magenta outrage was found today, close to the de Reinach residence in the Rue de Lisbonne." The Standard's Vienna correspondent says: "French detectives are shadowing

Mile. Dupoin, friend of the late Baron de Reinach. Her various journeys between Buda Pesth, Vienna and Bucharest are supposed to have connection with important documents deposited in one of the cities." The Paris correspondent of the Telegraph remarks upon the fact that no denial has been issued to the story that M. Ribot, upon hearing of M. de Preyeinet's interview with M. Andrieux, asked de Preyeinet to resign and offered the war portfolio to another statesman. M. de Preyeinet, it is said, refused to resign and appealed to President Carnot, who supported him.

One of the expects who assisted Dr.

One of the experts who assisted Dr. Brouardt at the de Reinach inquest says that the result may be a surprise to every body. If he had to make an oath on the subject, he would not say, he adds, that Baron de Reinach was poisoned.

URUGUAY PURCHASING ARMS.

She Will Demand Satisfaction for Insults Offered Her Consul.

[Copyrighted 1892 by James Gordon Bennett.] Valparaiso, Chili, (via Galveston, Tex.,) Dec. 27 .- By Mexican Cable to the New York Herald-Special to THE BEE. |-A meeting of the cabinet was held today at Santiago to discuss the diplomatic controversy caused by the Guerrero incident, The Herald's correspondent at Buenos Ayres telegraphs that a meeting of the Argentine Cabinet was held last night to discuss the explanation which Minister Guerrero gave of his objectionable pamphlet, and also to formulate a demand that Chili withdraw Guerrero as minister to the Argentine Re public. Your correspondent at Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, says it is reported that a battle has taken place between the police and gov-

The Herald's correspondent at Montevideo telegraphs that the government of Uruguay has contrated for a supply of arms and war materials to be delivered within a month Uruguay is preparing to make a demand upon Argentine for the insults offered the Uruguayan consul by the revolutionists in the province Corrientes. I learn that the revolutionists are meeting with great success and that the government at Buenes Ayres is trying to suppress them. News received today says that Claudio Vienno had invited leading followers of the late President Baimaceda to attend a meeting to be held in Mendoza in

Boston Wool Market.

Boston, Mass., Dec. 27.—Demand for wool steady. Sales: Ohio and Pennsylvania fleece sell at 276c28c for X, 28c for XX, 296c30 for XXX and above; and 35c for No. 1 combing and washing. In territory wools there have been sales of fine on a scoured basis at 55c, and medium at 376 (9c. Texas, California and Oregon wools are unchanged; pulled wool is in steady demand at 28@34.c for washed. Australian wool is firm and foreign carpet wools are in steady request.

More Kunsas Election Contests. ests of republican seat s in the legislature by defeated populist candidates were begun

today. One is against Hon. Solon O. Thatcher, senator-elect from Douglas county, the ground of contest being alleged fraud and the other is against A. C. Sherman of Shawner county, the ground of the action being that Sherman, at the time of his cleaning that Sherman, at the time of his cleaning to the county of the section was resulting to the county. was postmoster at Rossville and there-

Struck a Seam of Asbestos.

BRADUMY, S. D., Dec. 27 .- A family named Rasmussen, living five miles west of this sions of encouragement, every one was anxious. The strain caused by the heavy sea
was so great that after five minutes the
hawser broke. Before another bawser
could be passed, nine hours crapsed. The

IN FAVOR OF THE DEMOCRATS

Wyoming's Celebrated Election Contest Decided in the Supreme Court.

LEGAL RETURNS FROM CARBON COUNTY

Those Certified To by the Justices of the Peace Must Be Canvassed by State Board of Canvassers -The Decision.

CHEVENNE, Wyo., Dec. 27. - [Special Telegram to The Bee.]—Justice Conaway handed the decision of the supreme court on the de murrer to the petition of Bennett and Chapman to compel the state board of canvassers to count Hanna precinct in Carbon county. Chief Justice Groesbeck and Justice Merrill concurred in the opinion. County Clerk Ross had sent in one set of returns and the two associate justices of the peace a second. Ross' returns did not include Hanna precinct on the ground that the returns purporting to be from that precinct did not show they were the returns of any election held in the county. The state board counted the abstract of the county clerk, thereby defeating Bennett and Chapman.

Demurrer of the Canvassing Board. To the alternative writ of mandamus issued by the court the state board of canvass

ers demurred on the following grounds: First-The petition and alternative writ do not set forth any circumstances rendering it necessary that a mandamus should issue originally from the supreme court.

Second-The fact of the petition and writ indicate that this court has no jurisdiction

Third-Neither the petition or writ state sufficient cause of action. Neither the petition or writ state sufficient facts to entitle plaintiffs to the relief prayed for.

The first objection was waived. The second was urged on the ground that each house was the sole judge, under the constitution, of the qualifications. The objection was overruled on the ground that the decision affected merely the state board of canvassers, leaving to the house of repre sentatives full and final jurisdiction in the matter. The third and fourth grounds of the demurrer were considered together, being similar in nature.

The court quoted many authorities in its opinion. The first question raised was, "Did the clerk err in making a separate abstract and rejecting that of the justices of the peace?" There had been conflicting opinions urged as to whether the clerk constituted the board or it consisted of the clerk and two justices of the peace of equal power. Concluding an exhaustive discus-

sion of the point, Justice Conaway said:
"There can hardly be a difference of opin-ion that the weight of authority coincides with the reason and policy of the law. The rights of the people in choosing their officers are certainly safer in the hands of a can vassing board of three persons of different political parties, when practicable, than in the hands of one man. It is easy to see how absolute authority in the important and delicate duty of canvassing the vote of the counties, respectively vested in a sin-gle officer in each county will result in conflicting views of law and duty and diverse practices in different counties. In one county the votes of precincts would be refused on one ground, in another county on a different ground, as affecting their authen-ticity. This evil will evidently be counter ticity. This evil will evidently be counter-acted to a considerable extent by the board of canvassers organized as indicated. It results from these views that the two justices of the peace whom the clerk of Carbon county took to his assistance in canvassing the vote of Carbon county together with him self, constituted a board of canvassers for the county that the action of the majority of them was the action of the board; that the abstract made by the justices of peace the official abstract of the votes of the cincts of the county and the one that sh have been made by the county clerk. Tha he did not do this must not be allowed to de feat the operation of the law or the right of the parties or the people.

Acted in Perfect Fairness.

The county clerk has acted with perfect fairness from his view of the law. He has placed the canvassing board, and through it this court in the poss-ssion of the exact facts as to the acts of himself and associate canvassers in making the canvass of the Carbon county vote. We must consider the copy of the abstract made by the two jus-tices of the peace as the one authorized by the action of the majority of the board and as the legal and official returns to the state board of cally assers of the vote of the

"It results that the state board has no canvassed the return of the vote of the county, but another apparent and unauthorized return. Their duty to canvass the true return is ministerial and may be con-

trolled by mandamus. "The demurrer is serviced,"
When the court reconvened in the afternoon Judge Vandeventer, counsel for the respondents in the mandamus case, filed a answer to the petition of the relators. I answer to Bennett's petition it is argued be answer to be meet a petation it is argued be was not regularity nominated and there were irregularities in certifying to his nomination by the county clerk. In Chapman's case the same allegations are made, besides the additional one that he is not a citizen of the United States and, therefore, ineligible

A demurrer was at once filed by A. C. Campbell, saying the state board of can-vassers had no authority to inquire into the eligibility of a candidate, that, therefore, i as a question that could not be considered

r the court. Judge Vandeventer read many decisions all tending to show elearly that the courts were in the habit of declaring void the election of officers for irregularities

An adjournment was taken to Thursday morning, when a decision on the demurrer to the answers will be handed down.

Benefits the Cattlemen. RAWLINS, Wyo., Dec. 27.-[Special Tele-

gram ' Tug Bug.]-A large number of stockmen are in the city from the several ranges in Carbon county. They all report all kinds of stock doing exceedingly well. with no losses during the late snow storms. the snow being a blessing, allowing their flocks and herds to range far back from the streams, nearly all of which are frozen up where there is excellent grazing. Shee men are starting their flocks toward the des

Cheyenne, Wyo., Dec. 27. [Special Telegrain to Tue Ber. |- The mandamus case brought by L. Schalk, candidate on the democratic ticket for county commissioner, to compel Clerk Ross to count the returns from Hanna precinct, was argued today before Judge Scott, who reserved his decision till the decision of the supreme court on the ame question in a similar case might be

Work of Cheyenne Thieves. Chevenne, Wyo., Dec. 27.-(Special Tele

gram to THE BEE. |- The city has for the past week been infested with a gang of bleves, who have broken into many houses. though in no case making a large haut. addition, the bogos check passer has been around and no less than half a dozen citizens have been victimized by useless checks varying in amounts up to \$50.

CASPER, Wyo., Dec. 27.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.] —At a depth of forty-five

feet today the McConnell Asbestos company struck a solid twelve inch seam of asbestos. It is the biggest strike yet made in the us-bestos field. There are 25,000 pounds of

asbestos ready for shipment on the moun-

COLD WESTHER PREVAILS. Reports of Suffering and Death From the Ex-

Isting Low Temperature.
Wichita, Kas., Dec. 27.—Snow fell again last night and after a prief intermission began again this morning. Railroad traffic throughout the state is badly demoralized. Trains all pulled by two locomotives and are still badly behind time or are stalled alto sether. A frightful loss of stock is reported in "No Man's" land and elsewhere.

Changeston, S. C. Dec. 27.—A blizzard struck Charleston this morning, and for the first time within the past fifteen years the

bear only one crop this year. They usually Fortness Mornor, Va., Dec. 27,—The worst blizzard in twenty years struck this yieldity about midnight and the snow has been falling ever since. The electric car line to Hampton is blocked and navigation is sus-

house tops were covered with a thin coating of snow and sleet. The orange trees in the city are injured somewhat and will probably

pended.

Diffusive Mich., Deg. 27.—Within the past two days two persons have lost their lives because of the cold weather. They were Charles McIwain, a laborer, and Michael Duross, an expressman. The former was found dead in an outhouse, while the latter met his death in a lumber yard, both men having how from which under the influence. having been frozen while under the influence of liquor. HURON, S. D., Dec. 27.—Intensely cold

weather has prevailed here and throughout the Jim river valley for the past three days. The thermometer registers from 20? below zero. Great suffering is reported from many directions.
Pirrsnung, Pa., Dec. 27.—The Alleghency.

Monongahela and Ohio rivers are frozen over and river traffic is entirely suspended for the first time in many years.
WHAMINGTON, N. C., Dec. 27.—Snew covers the ground here to the depth of several inches, an almost unheard of thing in this

ROCKEFELLER'S MUNIFICENCE.

He Gives Another Gift of a Million Dollars to the Chicago University.
CHICAGO, Ill., Dec. 27.—John D. Rockefeller has made another huge gift to the University of Chicago. The sum is understood to be over \$1,000,000, but the exact figures are not

For the last two months the trustees of the university have been endeavoring to persunde Mr. Rockefeller to give them \$2,000,000 in order to carry out some of their cherished The New York capitalist objected to giv-

ing that sum outright, but submitted a proposition for a vast sum to be given, providing certain plans which he suggested be carried out. This proposition was submitted to the trustees today "I cannot give you the exact figures,"
id one of the trustees this afternoon, "bu

I will say that through the generosity of Mr. Rockefeller we have now a fund which will enable President Harper to carry forward the institution on the broad basis which he conceived for it."

New Your, Dec 27.—President Harper of the University of Chicago arrived in this city today. In an interview as to John D. Rockefeller's million dollar Christmas gift to the university be said: "For a Christmas to the university he said: "For a Christ-mas gift it is about the biggest on record. Mr Rockefeller has been very kind to the

play such munificence to an institution of HE WAS A FAITHLESS LOVER.

university and we think it especially grateful that a citizen of New York should dis

Sad Experience of a Pretty Little French Girl. Kansas City, Mo., Dec. 27. - Reine Buhaute,

journey across the ocean and half way

across the American continent to marry her sweetheart, started on her return home this morning, the victim of her faithless lover. Mutual friends started a correspondence between Mile, Dubaute and Felix Dunas, a Frenchman who came to this country in 1890 correspondence led to the engagement of the two, although they had never seen each other. Finally the day was set for the wedding and Mile Dohaute, who was a governess at the time, in an Englishman's family in London, started for America man's family in London, started for America to meet her intended husband. The meeting place was to have been the office of French Consul Lang. Mile. Duhante arrived promptly on time, but M. Dunas failed to put in an ap-pearance. Consul Lang wrote to the turdy lover, and received reply from Dunas that he had changed his mind and that he did not now desire to marry. Mile. Duhaute. This drove the little French woman to distraction and she threatened to commits uside having and she threatened to commit suicide, having no friends in this country and no means to return home. Consul Lang informed her mistress in London of the situation by cable and the latter cabled funds for Mile. Duhaute to

return to London. She started on the home SUFFERING FROM THE GALES.

Disabled and Buttered Vessels Arrive in New York Harbor. NEW YORK, Dec. 27.-Every vessel #hat creeps battered and storm tossed into this

harbor tells of heavy gales and treacherous The big French liner Normandie, nearly three days overdue, came steaming into quarantine today. She little resembled that stately, well groomed leviathan that left Hayre on the 17th. Ice was on her in sheets and clusters of fantastic leicles hung all over the ship. Captain Torent, her commander

ever experienced. The Fulda, which left Genoa December 4. also had a tough time. Her decks were flooded, and one buge wave smashed her

heavy port life boat.

The steamship Rotterdam, which sailed from Rotterdam. December 10, was covered. with a ragged coat of ice from stem to stern. One of her life boats was smashed. Several vessels arrived proin South America, and all badly storm-tossed.

DIED IN ITS MOTHER'S ARMS.

Kansas City. Kansas City, Mo., Dec. 27.—The 11-days-

old child of an emigant named Carl Valdo. died in its mother's arms at the union depot today. The child was born at sea and could not partake of nourishment. The mother was unaware of the infant's death until her attention was called to it by a policeman. When she discovered the babe was dead her were absolutely penniless and had breakfast. A subscription was made up for them among the people in the waiting room, and the coroner took possession of the dead buby, and they were sent on their way to Jennings, Kas, their destination. The baby was buried in potters field.

CHICAGO, Ill., Dec. 27.—Delegates to the third annual convention of the Machine Woodworkers' International Union of America went into asssion here today, nearly 200

The proceedings are presided over by John Green of St. Louis, while the other officers present are General Vice Presidents Frank Heacock of Omaha, and Frank Frank of The reports presented from the general district organizers show that the organiza-tion has received many accessions to mem-

bership during the past year and is in an exceedingly prosperous condition.

New York Exchange Quotations. New York, Dec. 27 .- (Special Telegram to THE BEE |- Exchange was quoted as follows: Chicago, 70 to 80 cents premium; Boston, par to 10 cents premium; St. Louis, par.

GORHAM BETTS ARRESTED

One of the Lincoln Asylum Robbers Taken

Into Custody. EXPRESSED NO SURPRISE AT BEING HELD

He Seemed to Think the Whole Proceeding Was Regular Peculiar Experience of a Lincoln Woman with Christmas Robbers.

Lancoux, Neb., Dec. 27. - [Special Telegram to Tue Bee |-Gorham Betts was arrested at Nebraska City today and brought to Lincoin this evening by Deputy Sheriff Langdon. Betts was formerly a member of the coal firm of Betts & Weaver of this city, and held for some time a contract to supply the state insane asylum with coal. He is charged with having obtained money under false pretenses, and his arrest is the outgrowth of the recent investigation by the grand jury. He expressed no surprise when placed under arrest, but said that since he had heard of the arrest of the other parties concerned in the asylum contracts he had expected to be gathered in himself. Up to this evening he had not succeeded in secur-

ing bail, but expected to before morning.

A somewhat exciting episode occurred in Lincoln yesterday afternoon, the facts of which were learned only by accident this evening. Yesterday being a general holiday most of the business houses were closed all day. Shortly after the mon hour Mrs. Sanderson, wife of the proprietor of the Columbian tafforing house on O street, went to the store in search of her husband. The door was locked, but she saw two strange men inside. She went up the front stairs of the block in which the stere was located and then by descending a rear stairway she gained an ingress to the building. She asked the men what they wanted. One of them replied that they were sent for a package, and at the same time picked up a bundle of cloth and started for the door. Mrs. Sanderson intercepted him and he brutally struck her in the face with his clenched fist and knocked her down. The curtains in front were down and as the woman lay there in a dazed condition one of the fellows, with an oath, proposed that they take advantage of her defenseless situation. By this time she had recovered and springing to her feet she secured a large pair of cutting shears and prepared to defend herself. Springing to the side of the window she apparently pressed a button in the wall. One of the men asked her what she had done and she replied that she had called the police. The ruse had the desired effect and the men decamped. The facts were not reported to the police, Mr. Sanderson not caring for the publicity

FATAL BURLINGTON WRECK.

Engine Crew Killed in a Collision with Stock. McCook, Neb., Dec. 27.-[Special Telegram to THE BEE. |- Engineer Andrew Cummins and Fireman Baxter Goodrich, in charge of a locomotive attached to a gravel train, were killed this afternoon six miles west of here. The engine was derailed by running over a number of horses. The famia pretty French girl, after having made a lies of the vicins reside at Red Cloud, from whence they recently came. The track was

cleared by midnight and traffic continued.

C. H. Hayes Pulled at Chicago with Stolen

Stock in His Possession. St. Louis, Mo., Dec. 27.—This morning C. H. Hayes arrived at the National stock yards with nine cars of Texas cattle, which he turned over to the Western Live Stock Commission company for disposal. Now he is languishing in a cell at the East St. Louis police station and will be called upon to answer a charge of cattle stealing.
Mr. Snow, inspector for the Northwest Texas Cattleraisers association, noticed that a number of cattle which Hayes brought with him were branded with the "hash knife." this brand belonging only to the Contineutal Cattle company, and proceeded to in-vestigate the matter. He found that the cattle had been sold but the money had not

been turned over to Mr. Hayes. He then sent for a deputy sheriff and that worthy escorted Hayes to the station on a charge of stealing cattle.

Justice Wilson held Hayes under \$250 bonds. Being unable to give the bond, Hayes was locked up. There were twenty-nine head of cattle and

steer identified as belonging to members of the association.

DOCTORS IN SESSION.

Meeting of the Western Society of Obstetricians and Gyneacologists. Kansas City, Mo., Dec. 27.—The Western Society of Obstetricians and Gyneacologists met in annual session here today, with fifty members present from states west of the Mississippi river. The day was consumed in the reading of papers upon technical sub-jects, by Drs. Mitchell of Topeka, Kan.; Shreeves of Des Moines, Ia.; Sutherland of

Herrington, Kan.; Richmond of St. Joseph, Mo., and several local physicians.

Dr. Joseph Price, the noted obstetrician from Philadelphia, on his way to the Pacific coast, is stopping over to attend the society's meeting, and will tomorrow perform a delicate operation at the city hospital which the members of the society will witness. Among other noted physicians present are Dr. T. H. Hawkins of Denver and J. E.

Summers of Omaha.

BROKE JAIL. Escape of a Notorious Mississippi Desperado.

JACKSON, Miss., Dec. 27.-Brooks Story, the noted desperado, has at last succeeded in making his escape from the state penitentiary here. This is the fourth attempt. His last attempt was only a few days ago, when in company with three other convicts he was discovered digging a hole under the prison walls. He was then placed in a cell on the ground floor and in irons. Notwithstanding these precautions, he dug through his cell and after stealing a gun and a supply of ammunition, by the aid of a rope let himself down by the side of the walls and is a free country of the side of the walls and is a free country of the side of the walls and is a free country of the side of the walls and is a free country of the side of the walls and is a free country of the side of the walls and is a free country of the side of the walls and is a free country of the side of the walls and is a free country of the side of the walls and is a free country of the side man. Bloodhounds were put on the trace, He was put in the penitentiary for ten years for robbing the express company at Durant

Colorado Farmers Meet.

DESVER, Colo., Dec. 27.-The State Farmers Alliance and Industrial union met here today and were in session until late tonight. After the election of officers iengthy resolutions were adopted, among them being the recommendation that the state should own the coal mines and the irristate should own the coal mines and the irri-gation ditches, and also that convicts be em-ployed in the construction of the ditches. Woman suffrage was approved of, and the declarations of the Ocala and St. Louis alt forms reaffirmed. The alliance will com

Killed Himself.

Louisvinus, Ky., Dec. 27,-Louis Lev! of the firm of Levi & Bosley, commission merchants at 163-165 Fourth street, and a widely known man, shot himself in the head this morning, death following in-stantly. Melancholy brought on by the dan-gerous filness of his wife is the only cause so fur as known.