# HOUSE PROCEEDINGS

WORK ACCOMPLISHED BY THE LOWER BRANCH.

A Succinct Summary of the Past Week's Doings of the Nebraska House of Representatives A Strictly Non-Partisan Review of Each Day's Session.

### Saturday, March 6.

The house sifting committee again reported a number of bills advanced to day, among the number being H. R. 681, relative to municipal initiative and referendum, and 269, to prevent cor-ruption at elections. The house spent the whole of its time in committee of the whole in consideration of H. R. 681 nd a long debate was had.

Considerable opposition was mani-cated and several amendments were affered. As amended, to obviate the cost of holding special elections, the

expenses are guaranteed in case the measure fails of approval.

The committee finally rose, reported progress, and adjourned to Monday.

### Monday, March 8.

It was II o'clock before Speaker Gaffin rapped for order in the house this morning, as a quorum did not not show up until that hour. The principle business transacted was listening to reports of standing com-

Uerling offered a resolution that since the house had lost a great deal of time on house roll No. 68 the house hold evening sessions on Wednesday

and Thursday. Clark of Lancaster moved as a substitute that the house meet this even-ing with house roll No. 68 as a special order. The substitute was lost.

The original resolution to meet Wednesday and Thursday evenings was carried by a vote of 32 to 22, after which the house took a recess.

Bills on third reading were passed, as only two-thirds of the members were present. The house went into committee of the whole with sheldon in the chair.

The committee resumed the discussion of house roll No. 68, the municipal initative and referendum bill, which had not been acted upon on Saturday. Mr. Burkett of Lancaster resumed

his speech opposing the bill, which had been interrupted Saturday. He said he was not opposed to the general proposition of the referendum, but was opposed to this particular bill. He re-viewed the history of Switzerland and the operation of the referendum in that county. He said it was a failure, because only a minority of the citizens.
as a usual thing, ever voted. He said the bill was against our political tradi-tions, as ours was a republican form of government. He thought that under be had; that corporations and correp-ting influences would be able to defeat any good legislation, and in concluding quoted from Bryer's American commonwealth and other authorities to austain his position.

Yeiser of Douglas replied to Mr. Burkett. He thought it was absurd to delegate the power of legislation to representatives without having a check upon their act. It was like a business man engaging an agent without having a right to direct his work. The system had been in operation long

enough to be tested. Switzerland, Mr. Yels s small country, whose inhabitants were all the same national extraction. Four languages were spoken within its boundaries and the results of the system had been successful as practiced

by them.

Mr. Yeiser referred repeatedly to the obligation of the populists to the peo-ple. He reminded them of their party pledges and begged them to stand by

Mr. Wooster of Merrick thought that the people were not acquainted with the measure and did not demand it. Mr. Clark of Lancaster opposed the bill and referred to Switzerland as an

example not to follow.

Messrs. Shull of Nemaha and Roberts of Douglas both favored the bill. The motion to recommend for pass

age carried 52 to 24. Mr. Dobson, who voted againt the

bill Saturday, voted for it. The house adopted the report of the ommittee by a vote of 58 to 24. Those of the majority who voted against the bill were Messrs. Felker, Liddell and Wooster. No republican voted for it. Adjourned.

## Tuesday, March 9.

The house was called to order this morning at the usual hour, and after preliminaries went into committee of the whole.

8. F. 162, defining a legal newspaper, was recommended for passage as originally sent from the senate. H. R. 267, providing penalties for corporations contributing anything of value for the purpose of influencing elections. was recommended for passage.

H. R. 209, by Mr. Young of Cass. regulating amount of money a candidate may spend on his election, was next considered. It is based on the law exlating at present in Ohio and Massa-

In the midst of the discussion the committe rose and reported progress. the house adopting the report.

At the afternoon session the house took up bilis on third reading. H. R. 479, by Mr. Sheldon, to make the nflice of secretary of state self-sup-porting was passed 84 to 1.

102, noted above, failed to pass S. F. 102, noted above, amanufacture H. R. 142, relating to manufacture

and sale of vinegar, was passed.

In committee of the whole several bills were considered, and recommend-

H. R. 301 was in the first of the series of twenty bills amending the laws relative to the giving of bonds required from the city, county and township officers, etc., and in some cases of civil procedure so that the bonds might be riven by guarantee companies. Mr. Yeiser said he saw no reason of legislating for a bond company. He moved to indefinitely postpone. Mr. Rich, the author of the bills, said his friend from Douglas county seemed "corporation He explained the bills and on motion of Mr. Sheldon of Dawes each was read by its title and recommended

utes in the same manner in one bill. stood 50 to 40. Not getting a constitutional was declared unconstitutional by the attorneeral.

Refere adonting the report of the

Before adopting the report of the committee the house adjourned.

Wednesday, March 10. In the house this morning the resubmitted from yesterday and after

some debate was adopted.

The sifting committee reported to advance H. Rs. 200, 233, 203 and 204, the university appropriation bills, to-gether with 196, to rebuild Peru nornal dormitory; 6, to abolish deficiency judgments: 428, providing a penalty for the non-compliance of common car-riers with orders of the board of transportation: 47, requiring the signature of both husband and wife to a mortgage on household goods, and 46. re-quiring street railway companies to restibule their cars.

The last two named are senate files Mr. Wooster precipitated a sharp discussion by giving it as his belief that many of the petitions purporting to R. were never posts at affect that the coing was part of a scheme.

Mr. denkins protected against what he considered a wholesale charge of forwary against the old soldiers.

forgery against the old soldiers. Clark of Lancaster thought the gentleman from Merrick ought not to make

such assertion on suspiscion.

Mr. Wooster replied from the standpoint of an old soldier who had the honor of his comrades more at heart

than either of the objectors.

In committee of the whole action was taken on several bills. H. R. 209, 233, and 203, reported by the sifting committee, were recommended for

When H. R. 204 was reached, trouble commenced. The bill appropriates \$20,000 to build an addition to the dairy building at the state farm. An extended debate was had on the

measure, the house being pretty evenly divided. The members became some-what excited the further they progressed with the debate, and finally a motion to recommend favorably car-

On the adoption of the report on H. R. 204, the vote was close and unsatisfactory, and in the midst of much confusion the speaker recognized a motion to adjourn, which carried, thus shutting off a night session, which was originally contemplated.

### Thursday, March 11.

As soon as the house convened this morning roll call was demanded on the motion to adopt the favorable report on H. R. 204. appropriating \$20,000 for an addition to dairy or state farm. The report of the committee was not concurred in.

A motion to adopt the report on Peru dormitory carried. The house spent the greater part of

the day in committee of the whole considering H. R. 614, the committee bill appropriating the current expenses of the state government for the years ending March 31, 1899. There was only one instance of a cut in the recommendations of the finance, ways and means committee, though numerous attempts were made to economize. Appropria-tions were added to establish water works plants at the Geneva industrial school and at the Nebraska institute for the blind at which institutes the charges for the use of c ty water were considered exorbitant. An \$500 item for medical attendance was cut from the expenses of the institute for the blind at Nebraska City on representation by Roddy that the sum was far in excess of what was necessary.

The following is a comparison of the appropriations for the current expenses made in 1895 and as passed in the house Thursday:

	1895	1807
Governor	\$8,200	\$8,100
Governor	30,500	31,000
Com. of labor	1.100	650
Secretary of state	3,000	2.300
Auditor	6.400	6,025
Treasurer.	2,250	1,500
Supt. of public instruction.	10,250	11.060
Attorney-general.	1.200	2,550
Com. pub. lands and bldgs	2,100	1.950
Brd. pull lands and bldgs	22,675	21,700
Brd edu. lands and funds	18,000	4.000
Brd. purchase and supplies	400	400
Supreme court	15.210	15,300
Banking department	1,500	1.630
State library	10.000	7.900
Board of transportation	595	850
State normal school.	14,796	9.842
Lincoln hospital, insane	103.500	118,500
Industrial home. Milford	20 200	18.000
Home for the friendless	25,500	31.000
Hastings insane asylum	127,800	151.125
Norfolk insane asylum	79,450	71.670
Geneva industrial school	25,350	30,400
Omaha inst. deaf and dumb !	49,460	30,740
Kearney industrial school	86,400	67-750
Soldiers home, Grand Island.	67.750	64,750
Institute for the blind	43.950	31,225
Institute for feeble-minded.	.e-control	
Beatrice	63,550	56,300
Fish commission	8.550	7.750
State penitentiary, including the purchase of the Dorgan	2,100	137,00
contracts	138,700	63.100
Soldiers' home. Milford	8,000	
State university.	50.850	
Board of irr gation	2,900	2.400
Total	1.045.216	8943.73

## Friday, March 12.

The sifting committee this morning among other bills roported for advance ment H. Rs. 247, Mr. Pollard's revenue bill: 463, the blanket ballot bill: 342, for administrasion of the penitentiary: 274, for branding and tagging convict

The committee on miscellaneous subjects presented a majority report in favor of indefinitely postponing S. F. 173. and a minority report to send it

to the general file. Jenkins moved adoption of the ma-jority report. Sheldon, Felker and others tried hard to have it sent to the

general file. This is the bill taxing deposits in state banks to create a fund for the

security of depositors. The majority report was adopted. Under the regular order bills on third reading were taken up and the follow-

ng passed: House rolls 134 providing for sale up der execution of stock in corporations and interests in companies not incorporated; 150, to prevent adulteration of cider: 154, providing that gold coin and standard silver dollars shall be legal tender in the payment of debts was passed without the emergency clause; 26. to prevent useless waste of natural artesian water: 229, to prohibit persons from climbing on moving cars or trains; 10 and 12, relating to partisan election boards; 267, prohibiting corporations from contributing money, etc., to influence voters; 557, to amend H. R. 5; 170, to prevent im-

penalty of \$1,000 for importing voters: 172, to prevent coercion. for passage. The bills simply correct the law enacted at the last session. rage upon women was hotly contested which, because it amended the stater and after a call of the house the vote

portation of voters; 171, providing

M 1887 1 5 7 5 7 5 7 5 7 5 7 5 7 5 7 5 7 5 7	YEAS-50.	
Alderman	Groavenor	Roddy
Bernard	Henderson	Severe
Billings	Hile	Sheiden
Blake	Helbrook	Shull
Burkett	;lolland	Snyder of J'n'n
Byram	Horner	Soderman
Campbell	Hull	Stebbine
Casebeer	Hyatt	Sotton
Chittenden	Jenkina	Taylor of Fill
Clark of L'nor	Jones of Gage	Weich
Cofe	Jones of Nem's	Wheeler
Dobson	Kapp	Wimberly
Eager	Keister	Woodward
Kastman	Lemar Mills	Yelser
Gaylord	Morrison	Young Zimmerman
Grandstaff	Pollard	Simmerman.
Grandetait	NAYS-40	
Ankeny	Liddell	Roberts
Baidwin	Loomis	Robertson
Clark of Rich.	McCracken	Smith of D'glas
Cartie	McCarthy	Straub
Kadorf	MoGee	Taylor of Dgiar
Feiker	McLeod	Ueriling
Fouke	Munn	Van Horn
Gerdes	Marshall	Walte
Givens	Mitchei	Wiebe
Grell	Moran	Winslow
Grimes	Neabit	Wooster
Hamilton	Prince	Wright
Hui	Rich	Mr. Speaker
Jones of Wayne		WHO COLORS
ABSEN	T AND POT VO	T1NG10.

### THE DINNER HOUR.

A Philosopher Says That the Meal Is Never Served Ahead of Time.

"It is a curious thing," said the rumbler, "that, while I have been keeping house for thirty years and have had my wife tell me a thousand times that dinner was late. never once knew of a time when dinner was ahead of time. I made a careful inquiry among my friends (and I have many who have been domestic longer than I) and do not find a single well-authenticated case when dinner was ever, at any time or place, ahead of time. Five times a week the cook will do something that she ought not to do and dinner will be anywhere from five minutes to an hour behind time, but she never gets under sufficient headway to have things on the table be-fore the appointed time. I have and I intend to write a pamphlet about it."

"I guess you're right," said the kicker. "I am a married man of some few years myself, and I have had the same experience. I may get home an hour earlier than usual and be hungry as three bears, but that does not make a particle of difference. Dinner never comes before 6 o'clock, which is the scheduled time, but it very frequently comes much after that time. I had an old uncle once who noticed the same thing. He was in the house one day and he put the clock ahead two hours to see if he couldn't work the miracle. But the cook fooled him." "What did she do?" asked the

grumbler, eagerly. "She turned on the natural gas before she put in the match, and when the fire department got through

### it was 9 o'clock. AMERICANS ABROAD.

Foreigners Enjoy Taking Advantage of Their Ignorance.

In a quiet way the Italians get r great deal of amusement out of the English and American tourists, says the Chicago Record. On a steamer with Senator Howell in the chair. omo the cantain was interrogated by an English woman as section 5 that while seven councilmen to the name of a certain mountain peak to which she pointed The captain did not know, but he did not intend to confess his ignorance. He glanced at the mountain in question, then at the woman. Her main characteristic was embonpoint. And the captain, suddenly inspired, gravely replied: "Monte Stomacho." The The woman, in all seriousness, described in her little note-book the mountain and gave to it the name the captain had used. An American lady was visiting the Pitti gallery at Florence, when she came to a picture of lope Leo the Tenth, in which the popo is represented in a sitting position. The lady studied her Baedeker industriously, then looked at the picture, then again sought information from Baedeker. She was puzzled, and, finally turning to a gentleman near, who happened to be a professor from the college at Padua. said: "Could you tell me. sir. what madonna is this?" "La madonna della seggiola" ("The madonna of the chair"), said the professor gravely.

## MISSOURI METHODISTS.

Chaplain Hagerty Presents a Gavel

Pen that Have Bistories. NEVADA, Mo., March 12 .- The twenty-ninth annual session of the St. Louis conference of the M. E. church convened at Trinity church, this city, yesterday morning. Rev. T. H. Hag-erty of St. Louis, department chaplain of the G. A. R., presented the bishop with a gave, and pen. The handle of the gavel was made from young hick-ory grown on a southwest Missouri ory grown on a southwest Missouri battlefield, and the pen of oak from a tree under which General U. S. Grant was standing when his commission as general was handed to him.

The roll call developed the fact that 107 members were present. Secretary William Stephens of Belton, Mo., was re-elected secretary by acclamation, and Messrs. S. B. Campbell, E. P. Anderson and W. T. Scott were elected assistant secretaries. J. J. Gallion assistant secretaries. I. L. Gallion was elected statistical secretary and I. J. K. Lunbeck was elected treasurer.

Emerson and Euskin. On the occasion of Emerson's last visit to England he sought out Ruskin and went to his house to see his pictures and other works of art there. ticent talker, could no longer bear the stream of pessimistic words. "At last." he said afterwards to a friend, who has only recently made public the anecdote, "I could not endure it any longer, for his thoughts were as black as night, and I took a sudden leave of him."

THE UPPER BRANCH.

A Condensed and Concise Non-Partisan Report of the Labors of the Nebraska Senate for the Past Week -- Action Taken on the Various Measures.

Tuesday, March 9.

After preliminaries in the senate this morning, on motion of Senator Grothan, a sifting committee consist-ing of Senators Grothan, Mutz, Dun-das, McGann, Beal, Watson and Haller was apppointed.

Senator Mutz of Keya Paha, chairman of the committee on enrolled and engrossed bills, reported that senate file No. 33, the stock yards bill, was correctly enrolled and immediately moved that the bill be placed upon its passage. The motion met with no opposition and the bill was read, and the

against its passage, and one or two sent up written explanations why they voted no. Following is the vote in de-

YEAS-25. Lee McGann Miller Muffley Murphy Mutz Graham Grothan Haller Osborn Ritchie Schall Steele Beal Canaday Conoway Dearing Dundas Farrell NAYS-7. Caldwell

Talbot

Fritz Johnson Ransom Spencer ABSENT AND NOT VOTING-1.

The following resolution was offered by Senator Ransom:

Whereas. The kingdom of Greece is engaged in a struggle with all the great powers of Europe to emancipate the Island of Crete from the dominion of the Turkish empire, therefore

Resolved, That we express our sympathy with Crete in its aspirations for freedom and we applaud the heroic endeavors of King George of Greece in opposition to the powers to preserve Cretan liberty.

Senate file 352, by Senator Dundas, which provides for a state vault for safe keeping of state funds, was conmade this curious and interesting sidered in committee of the whole and phase of home life a careful study, after some debate, was made a special order for Thursday at 10 a. m.

At this juncture a written statement from Senator Watson was read expressing his regret at not being able to have his vote recorded in favor of the stock yards bill.

The special order of the afternoon was senate file 219, the penitentiary bill, which after being amended on motion of Senator Ransom by striking out the provision of the bill authorizing the hiring of labor to contractors, was recommended for passage. The amendment offered by Senator Ransom and adopted is considered of great importance as it has the effect of prohibiting convict labor by contract.

The trans-Mississippi exposition bill which has just come from the house was read the first time at the urgent request of Senator Ransom of Douglas The senate adjourned at 6:15.

### Wednesday, March 10.

In the senate a dispute arose as to the time set for the consideration of the Lincoln charter bill. From the record it appeared that the time was p. m. This was disputed and a motion prevailed to correct the record to 10

After hearing several petitions on various subjects the senate went into committee of the whole on the charter. Senator Talbot moved to so an were elected at large they should reside in distinct wards, one from each ward. Mr. Talbot said that under the ward representation it would be impos-

sible for the bad element to control the city. Agreed to. When section 7 was reached Senator Talbot moved to change the bill so as to allow the city attorney and water commissioner to remain elective. Not agreed to. He then wanted the water commissioner's duties placed in the hands of the city engineer. Not agreed to. The noon hour interrupted and the committee arose with leave to sit

again at 2 p. m. On motion of Senator Ransom, 100 additional copies of S. F 15, the Omaha charter, were ordered printed for the use of members of the house.

At the afternoon session consideration of the Lincoln charter bill was resumed in committee of the whole and occupied the attention of the senate balance of the afternoon.

Senator Talbot made the principal fight against it, while Senator's Mc-Gann and Gondring were the principal fighters for the measure.

The committee did not finish consideration before adjourning, and it will be taken up tomorrow. A motion by Senator Schaal to ap

point a committee to investigate D. E. Thompson's charge that lobbyists claimed they could have the Lincoln charter bill killed for money, was tabled, the lieutenant-governor casting the deciding vote.

## Thursday March 11.

There was little business done in the senate today outside the Lincoln charter. The exposition bill was advanced and made the special order to follow the state vault bill which will be considered tomorrow forenoon. If the vault bill is disposed of the exposition appropriation bill will probably be passed in the senate. An attempt will be made to increase the appropriation, which now stands at \$100,000.

The sifting committee recommended the passage of Beal's bill abolishing deficiency judgments and a bill providing for public scales for weighing stock.

The senate put in the entire day on the Lincoln charter, making the second day devoted to that measure. The bill was finally adopted and recommended for passage. Only two impor-tant amendments were made to the original bill. An amendment providing for the submission of a prohibitory ity about his treasures until the sage amendment at every municipal elecof Concord, himself a somewhat re- tion on petition ot 300 electors. Whether it was advisable to vote on the license question at the municipal election or the general election was freely discussed. The municipal election was

fixed as the time. Senator Talbot of Lancaster made a

charter to a vote of the people, but failed to move the majority. After the battle was over Senator Talbot was congratulated by friends and senators from the opposition for his straightfor-

ward manner of fighting. One important amendment offered by Senator Talbo; was adopted. It in creases the proposed number of councilmen from five to seven, all to be elected at large, one from each ward.

Friday, March 12. Bills on third reading was the first order this morning. The following were read and passed:

Joint resolution 25, fixing a Friday in the middle of the month of May as bird day, when children in public schools are to be taught the importance of preserving bird life; S. F. 40, providing for the organization of mu-tual hall insurance companies by owners and cultivators of land.

The senate went into committee of the whole for consideration of Senator Dundas treasury vault bill.

A motion to make the bill a special

Senator Murphy declared the bill bad. To lock up the money and withdraw it from circulation would precipitate another panic. The state had lost because individuals had lost. When a great many citizens of a state stood upon the margin of bankruptcy the

state must also lese Senator Gondring opposed the counting of money and allowing members of the board of public lands and build-ings access to the vanit and holding the treasurer responsible.

Senator Mutz favored the bill. It was time the state treasury was divorced from the banking business of the state. The people deserved some protection. No precedent was neces-sary. Nebraska should lead in reforms. He argued at considerable length and with great earnestness.

Senator Lee practically endorsed the position of Senator Mutz. He thought the panic in this state had only com-menced. It was time the banks ceased to do business on state money.

At the close of his argument the committee arose. The bill was made a special order for 2 p. m. Monday, and the senate took a recess.

The trans-Mississippi exposition bill was considered by the senate immedi-

ately after the noon recess in committee of the whole. As the bill passed the house it appropriates \$100,000 in aid of the exposition.

Senator Murphy moved to increase the amount to \$150,000. Senator Cana-

day moved to amend the amendment by reducing the amount to \$50,000. Debate was indulged in at some length. Senator Canaday's amendment was lost, being supported only by himself and Messrs, Dundas and Osborn. The amendment to increase was lost also. The house amendment requiring \$200,-000 of the Omaha subscription to be collected before the state's appropriation should be available was reduced to \$100,000, and an amendment was adopted limiting the expense and salary of directors to \$50 a month.

The committee then arose and re-ported the bill for passage.

### MOORE TRYING TO SETTLE. Moneyed Men Look at His Mining Prop

erty With a View of Buying. Ex-Auditor Moore is expected to be in Colorado for the purpose of showing his mining property to prospective purchasers of stock. If he can dispose of stock it is claimed by his friends that he will be able to pay a deficiency of \$23,000 which he owes the state. His case comes up for trial March 24, and while his friends do not know whether he can raise the entire amount by that time they think he can do so in time to prevent a trial. A continuance will probably be asked on March 24. The Colorado property is believed to be worth more than the amount of the deficiency.

## RAINS CAUSE A WRECK.

Two Men Killed and Two Injured in Indiana Passengers Narrowly Escape.

EVANSVILLE, Ind., March 11 .-Shortly after midnight the midnight cannonball express train from Chicago, reversed. on the Evansville & Terre Haute railroad, struck a water weakened place on the embankment of White river less than a mile from Hazelton and the next instant the engine, the baggage car and the smoker went into the stream, which was at flood height.

The smoker stopped just as the front end was over the crevasse. Two of the train crew, Conductor Sears of Terre Haute and Fireman Joseph Bateman were killed and two

The crevasse widened just after the wreck and the baggage car and smoker floated off into the stream.

The sleeper and ladies' coach were taken back to Vincennes. Many Evansville people were in the sleeper, in-cluding State Senator Leich and wife, returning from Indianapolis.

The recent rains had covered considerable of the roadbed, and the en-tire service of the road had been directed since last Friday to getting the road in shape. All trains had orders to proceed cautiously on slow time for safety, and the train that was wrecked was moving under these orders. Where the accident occurred there is a long stretch of embankment upon which the track is laid. This is surrounded by back water from White river. It is supposed that ground hogs had burrowed under the embackment to get away from the flood and that the water followed.

## For Rifling the Mails.

FATETTE, Mo., March 12 .- This city was thrown into a state of excitement yesterday by the arrest of C. W. Fuchs, a prominent merchant and leading Republican of this city, on a warrant sworn out by an inspector of the post-office department, charging him with riffing the mails by means of false keys to lock boxes in the postoffice of this city. The case promises sensa-tional developments. Conspiracy is charged.

James G. Blaine's Brother Dead. WASHINGTON, March 11.-Robert G. Blaine, a brother of the late James G Blaine, died last night at his residence in. this city. He was 65 years of age and leaves a widow and six children. Mr. Blaine has resided here for a nummanly fight against the fire and police ber of years and for some time was em-

# SENTENCED FOR LIFE

VERDICT OF JURY IN THE ARGABRIGHT CASE

Result of the Second Trial More Disastrous than the First-The Jury Four Hours in Making Up Its Verdict of Murder in the First Degree.

The case of the state vs. J. W. Argabright at Auburn was given to the jury Tuesday night, and after being out four hours the jury brought in a ver-dict of murder in the first degree and fixed the punishment at imprisonment

The first trial of the case occurred two years ago, and resulted in a verdiet of manslaughter and ten years imprisonment.

There is much sympathy for the family of Argabright, who are excellent people. He married a daughter of William Smelzer, living near Nemabs City. During 1893 Argabright and his wife had numerous quarrels, which culminated in her returning to her parents home, taking her two children

Argabright went to Smelzers and undertook to persuade his wife to return with him, but she refused. A school exhibition was held in the Smelzer district, which the Argabrights and the Smelzers attended. Mrs. Arga-bright was there with her two children and Argabright tried to communicate with his wife, but she refused to see him. At the close of the exhibition Smelzer picked up one of the Argabright girls and started to leave the school house yard, when Argabright approached him with the request to see his child. Smelzer refused the request at the same time pushing Argabright to one side. This so angered Argabright that he drew a revolver and shot Smelzer, killing him almost instantly.

Judge Letton will convene court on Friday, when it is supposed argument will be made for a new trial.

## JUDGE TAKEN TO TASK.

Decision Rendered at Beatrice Almost Canses Consternation.

The recent decision of Judge Stull of Gage county holding that township taxes voted and assessed by the township electors are to be added to the taxes assessed by county authorities in determining whether county authorities have assessed taxes in excess of the limit of 15 mills on "county authorities" by the state constitution, grows more unpopular the more it is known and the better it is understood, and is creating consternation among the eighteen counties in the state having township organization. This decision was contrary to the judgment of the numerous disinterested attorneys who heard the case argued, as well as to the uniform construction which has been placed on the law in Gage and many other counties in the state where township organization has been adopted. It has introduced great uncertainty and confusion into the finances of the county and should it stand, threatens, if it does not destroy, the township

The people of Gage county generally believe in the township system and do not want it taken away from them. It gives them direct local self-government. Under this system. by their own votes, fix their own town taxes, which cannot exceed 7 mills on the dollar valuation and direct its expenditure. No taxes are more cheerfully paid than town and school district taxes, and competent lawyers claim school taxes are affected by this decision just the same as

town taxes. It is understood the case will at once be appealed to the supreme court, where, on account of its public importance, an early decision is expected, and if the opinion of the local bar is any criterion the lower court will be

BREVITIES. James Law of Nebraska City has been granted a pension.

The young men of York college have

formed a cadet company. The corner stone of the new Swedish Lutheran church at Greeley was laid

Monday. The Douglas county ballots were sent Monday afternoon to the recanvas board at Lincoln.

A heavy rain fell in the vicinity of St. Edwards Sunday night, accompanied by thunder and lightning. The two-year-old daughter of Will

Adams of Hastings, who was recently so seriously burned, is not expected to The Pioneer block at South Omaha. one of that city s most substantial busi-

iness blocks, burned early Sunday morning. The Omaha council has passed a new curfew ordinance, so amended as to meet the objections urged against the

old measure. Walter Dunn, a printer, was caught in the act of stealing money from the dri wer in Herman Maske's saloon at

Pierce Monday. Raymond Musser, convicted at O'Neill last week of manslaughter, was Wednesday sentenced by Judge Kinkaid to eight years in the peniten-

Bayley & Coles, druggists of York, have been arrested, charged with selling liquors without a permit to do so. John Rakus, a young farmer living about twenty miles north of Columbus, went insane and has been taken to the

asylum at Norfolk. Congressman Sutherland left Nelson for Washington Monday and his friends and neighbors gave him a toyal farewell, irrespective of party.

The rivers and lakes of the state are beginning to fill up with ducks and geese on their way north, and hunter govern themselves accordingly.