

NEBRASKA ITEMS.

Falls City Observer: Last Saturday morning might have seen the smoking ruins of the Hetter school-house, in Rulo precinct, by parties traveling in that direction. The building and furniture were entirely destroyed, as the fire originated early in the morning, and was not discovered until it had consumed everything. The cause is unknown, although it is believed to be the work of an incendiary, as there had been no fire in the stove in the building since the day before when school was dismissed.

Leap year parties are now all the rage. The girls have made a good beginning and propose to keep it up throughout the year.

The youths of Grafton have organized a band called the Grafton Juvenile brass band, and have been supplied with the instruments formerly used by the Grafton band.

Shubert Q.: The creamery is to be one element in the emancipation of woman. Every woman should work for it; it will give her much needed leisure that cannot do otherwise than good. The historian of the "evolution of the good" will not fail to mention the great benefit which the creamery conferred upon the human race.

The Gosper County Citizen contains the following peculiar advertisement, signed by Mrs. M. J. Smith: "Will the people of the community understand, that some little over a year ago, F. N. Gatta was cleaning out F. N. Smith's well. He changed clothes in the stable and by some means lost his pocket knife, which he accused Christian Smith of stealing and trading off. Said knife was found in the manure pile last week, and can be seen at any time, as Mrs. Smith has it in her possession."

Ainsworth News: The rush of settlers to this country in search of free homes continues unabated. Last Tuesday's evening's train brought in 20 men, all in search of homes. This is remarkable considering the time of the year, but people know that the chances to get good land for the mere taking will soon be a thing of the past. There are yet hundreds of good claims to be had in Brown county, but a few months hence and land-seekers will be compelled to push farther to the front.

Raymond, the squaw man, who had twenty head of horses stolen from his ranch on the Keys Paha last fall, has recovered all of them but four or five. They were found somewhere up the country in the vicinity of the Rosebud agency.

It is said no town in the state appears to be enjoying more of a boom than Nebraska City. It has for a long time been lying in a somewhat dormant condition, but now it has awakened from this unpromising existence and a genuine era of prosperity has set in.

A Lincoln Journal special from Sacramento says: Wm. Anderson was burnt to a crisp last night between 11 and 12 o'clock in his drug store at this place. Nothing was saved, and the loss is about \$300. The deceased had been on a protracted spree for about a week, and slept in the store on a pile of straw by the stove, and it is supposed he either upset the stove or sparks rolled on it and set the straw on fire.

Miss Mary Lewerjahn, a young German girl, sixteen years of age, was killed near the Summit, west of Omaha, on the 23d. She was returning to her home, which is near the scene of the accident, and was walking on one of the railroad tracks, when she saw the Union Pacific emigrant train approaching. Stepping across to the next track to get out of the way, she unwittingly placed herself in the path of the Missouri Pacific train, which was coming from the opposite direction.

Postoffice changes in Nebraska during the week ending January 19, 1884: Established—Thompson, Wheeler county, John Thompson, postmaster. Postmaster appointed—Staplehunt, Seward county, Linus H. Nash.

Fremont Tribune: From Hon. Geo. F. Blanchard, who has just come down from Pine Ridge agency, we learn that the people in the northwestern part of the state do not consider the prospects for extending the Sioux City road beyond Valentine this year very hopeful. As yet there has been no grading beyond that point; and there will be no directors' meeting until May, after which there will be little time for getting material on the ground and preparing for the extension.

Franklin Echo: Wm. A. Cole and D. D. McDonald are about to sink a shaft on Cottonwood creek for the purpose of prospecting for coal. They claim they have abundant indications. We wish the boys success, and hope they may strike "oil."

Sidney Plaindealer: Not the least pleasant part of life in the Lodge Pole valley is its agricultural resources. Very little is raised now, only enough to satisfy the wants of the planters, but the time will come when the valley will blossom like the country about Greeley, Colorado. And those who are considered men of judgment, affirm their belief that in a few years the uplands will be made profitable for farming purposes.

A statement of delinquent taxes due Dodge county which have accrued from the year 1873 to 1883, has just been submitted to the commissioners by ex-Treasurer Grunkranz, showing there is due the county from this source \$21,919.81.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

GENERAL.

Articles of incorporation of a union stock yards company were filed at Sioux City.

The report of the government directors of the Union Pacific shows the floating debt of the company reduced \$3,000,000 by the proceeds of the collateral trust loan created for that purpose. The report also shows great improvement in net earnings for December as compared with several preceding months; also, that there will be a surplus largely over \$1,000,000 for the year, after the payment of all fixed charges and 7 per cent dividend.

The new Christian church in Washington known as the Garfield Memorial church, was dedicated last Sunday.

E. S. Peck, cashier of the wrecked Patchogue (L. I.) bank, shot himself on the 20th, just after leaving the bank.

Commodore Timothy A. Hunt, United States navy, died of congestion of the kidneys on the 21st.

J. A. Rogers, a prominent young citizen of Norfolk, Va., was murdered on the 20th. Four arrests have been made.

"Steve" Alexander, a colored gambler, was shot and killed by Geo. Johnson, also colored, while seated at a faro table in a gambling house in Chicago, of which Johnson was the principal owner.

The grand jury has begun examination of witnesses in the Zora Burns murder case at Lincoln, Ill. The opinion is strengthened that O. A. Carpenter will be indicted.

At Canton, Ohio, while a safe was being hoisted to a second story, the chains broke and the safe fell, crushing Renhold Rochers and Wm. Miller, fatally injuring both.

E. E. Bernard, astronomer of the Vanderbilt university, Nashville, Tenn., reports a remarkable change in the Brooks comet on the nights of the 20th and 21st.

The gas works of the village of Malone, N. Y., exploded, demolishing several buildings. The watchman and a boy were injured.

James P. Flynn, aged 27, was crushed to death between cars in the switch yard at Minneapolis. He leaves a wife residing at Cherryville, Ills.

Senator Allison, of Iowa, was re-elected to the senate on the 22d.

Nearly all the rail mills and iron works, furnaces and stove foundries in St. Louis have either closed or are running at half their capacity.

At Socorro, N. M., Joel Fowler, a notorious desperado, was taken from jail and lynched.

George A. Wheeler, a native of Maine, respectfully connected, was hanged at San Francisco on the 23d for the murder of his sister-in-law, Adele J. Tilloston, on October 20, 1880.

At Carthage, on the Upper Cumberland, a raft was drawn into a whirlpool and nine men were drowned.

An Arkansas City fire broke out in Lowman Bro.'s store, consuming nearly a whole block of business houses. Loss, \$43,000; insurance, \$17,000.

At Painesville, Ohio, Cornelius Vanschaak, attorney, of Chicago, violently insane and confined in the Riverside sanitarium, forced the lock of his room and escaped. Next morning his corpse was found underneath the Nickle Plate bridge at Willoughby. His skull and both arms were broken. It is unknown whether he was struck by a train or fell through the trestle.

A preliminary conference was held between the Burlington and the tripartite roads relative to the new western alliance. It is understood the Burlington will enter the alliance if its demands are acceded to.

Judge Hawes, of Chicago, made a ruling that telegraph messages could not be withheld from courts when the promotion of justice requires their production.

The national prohibition home protection party will meet in a convention at Pittsburg, May 21, 1884.

Several railroads, including the Burlington, Alton, and St. Paul, are declining to take grain for transportation to Chicago unless for sale on the track, because all the elevators are full.

Henry Bankenect, a well-known citizen, rushed into the sheriff's office at Manitowoc, Wis., saying he had shot his wife while showing her how to handle a weapon in self-defense. The woman was found dead, sure enough, and the husband was locked up on suspicion of foully murdering his wife.

General Grant denies having any personal interests in Mexico.

Gideon T. Stewart, chairman, and R. W. Nelson and A. J. Jenkins, secretaries of the national committee of the prohibition home protection party, from their headquarters in Chicago, have issued a call for a national convention of the prohibition home protection party, to be held at Pittsburg, Wednesday, May 21, 1884, to nominate candidates for the offices of president or vice president of the United States, to adopt a platform, and for other business.

Preparations for the Montreal winter carnival opening on the 4th of February are very advanced. Invitations have been issued to President Arthur and governors of all states in the union. Favorable replies have been received from many of the latter.

Cate J. Jenks, a white man, 23 years

old, deserted his sick wife and three children, and eloped with Varina Pearson, aged 13. Jenks is a merchant at Apex, N. C. The girl is a daughter of his clerk, and very small for her age.

The secretary of the navy has received a cable message from Minister Hunt, St. Petersburg, announcing the departure of Lieut. Harber, from Moscow, with the remains of DeLong and party.

Senator Ingalls says he is not a candidate for the position on the bench made vacant by the resignation of Judge McCrary.

Minnie Cummings, of Marshalltown, Iowa, pleaded guilty to keeping a house of prostitution. As she has before been convicted, she will have to go to the penitentiary this time.

At Wyandotte, Kansas, Mrs. Jacob Hartmann, aged 67, while alone, was assaulted by an unknown person, beaten and robbed. Her son, returning at 6 o'clock, found her unconscious upon the floor, and she died soon after.

One hundred and four Italian immigrants arrived at New Orleans on the steamship Prince George, whose tale of starvation at sea and indifferent treatment caused the captain to be held for trial.

A. S. Crocker, a prominent citizen of Ripon, Wis., was caught in the belt of the Ripon flouring mill and carried into the machinery and whirled around a pulley fully fifty times, breaking both arms and legs in several places. He will die.

The state prison at Stillwater, Minn., was entirely destroyed by fire on the 26th. All convicts were rescued except one, who was burned to death within the walls.

The defaulting president of the First National bank of Leadville has been arrested.

Backwoods settlers in Ontario are threatened with starvation owing to the snow blockade and suspension of traffic.

The committee on pensions will recommend a bill to relieve claimants of the burden of evidence regarding their condition when entering the service.

The committee on claims has recommended a bill to prevent the duplication of army pay accounts.

Hoffman, to have been executed at Port Chester, N. Y., has obtained a stay of execution.

WASHINGTON.

Senator Logan has introduced a bill to provide for the extension of benefits to all pensions already granted or hereafter to be granted to soldiers and sailors who were members of the marine corps and served during the late war, and upon the death of such persons, to their widows and minor children, under the laws and regulations that now govern such cases, except that it shall not be necessary that such widows and minor children prove the death of such person to be the result of any disability contracted in the service.

Four hundred Winnebago Indians, now upon a reservation in Nebraska, have petitioned the secretary of the interior to allow them lands in severalty, so as to acquire citizenship.

The secretary of the interior has decided the case of the claim of the New Orleans Canal Banking company to the Metairie lands in the suburbs of New Orleans, claimed under French grants. He reverses the decision of the commissioner general of the land office, and holds that the grant was complete under the former government, and protected by the treaty of 1803.

The emperor of Japan has conferred upon Gen. Horace Capron, of Washington, the second order of the "Rising Sun" as a mark of appreciation of the valuable services rendered by the latter to Japan. This is the first time an order has been conferred upon a foreigner.

Representative Hardman reported favorably from the sub-committee of the house committee on territories, the bill providing that no territory will be admitted into the union unless it has a permanent population equal to that required.

The senate committee on military affairs ordered the bill for the relief of Fitz John Porter reported favorably.

Nominations: Hugh J. Dobbs, of Nebraska, register of the land office, Beatrice, Nebraska.

Mr. Hoar introduced a bill in the senate, the object of which is to prevent the circulation through the mails in this country of lottery advertisements coming from foreign countries.

The senate has agreed, after amendment, to the Anthony resolution relating to the exclusion of American meats. It reads: "That the committee on foreign relations be instructed to inquire and report to the senate such legislation as shall protect our interests against the governments which prohibited or restrained the importation of meats from the United States."

Gov. Curtin, chairman of the house committee on foreign affairs, has been instructed by the committee to communicate with the secretary of state and learn whether that official had information that any foreign minister of this country attempted to nullify the unanimous action of the house of representatives by reflection on any of its members.

Captain Gould, of Missouri, appeared before the sub-committee of the house committee on commerce, having under consideration laws regulating steam vessels. He recommended that the liability clauses of the present laws apply to river craft as well as to the lakes and ocean.

A communication from Robert Beverly, A. J. McWhister and M. G. Ellzey, committee of the national agricultural con-

gress, to General Hazen, chief signal officer, is to be presented to congress praying for extension of the signal service.

The sub-committee of the house committee on agriculture agreed to report with two amendments the bills prepared by the cattle breeders' convention for the extirpation of diseases of domestic animals. The appropriation determined upon was \$250,000 instead of \$500,000, and the states are required to contribute a sum equal to that appropriated among them by the general government.

On the 24th the senate financial committee had several meetings to consider banking bills. Senator Sherman's bill was taken up and a substitute offered by Aldrich authorizing the issue of currency equal in amount to the par value of all bonds except the 4 per cents deposited as security for circulation, the banks to receive at the rate of \$110 in currency for every \$100 in bonds, the arrangement to continue until January 1, 1890, and thereafter the amount to decrease one hundred dollars each year until it reaches the par value of the bonds. Some question having arisen in regard to the effect of the two measures, it was determined to ask the opinion of Comptroller Knox. Knox went before the committee this afternoon and expressed the opinion there was little to choose between the measures as to ultimate effect. The committee adjourned without final action.

The house committee on agriculture on the 26th reported the bill prepared by the committee of cattle men. A number of memorials from live stock associations accompanied the bill; also a communication from Dr. D. E. Salmon, veterinary surgeon of the department of agriculture. This communication points out the dangers to the west by the existence of pleuro-pneumonia among cattle in the east, and reviews the extent of the disease in the latter section of country.

The house committee on claims directed a favorable report on Holman's bill to prevent fraudulent duplication of accounts and claims by officers of the government. The penalty for presentation of an account containing fraudulent items is forfeiture of the entire account.

A court-martial is ordered to meet at San Antonio February 4th, for the trial of Captain A. S. D. Keyes, of the Tenth cavalry, on charges of duplicating his pay accounts.

It is understood the office of assistant surgeon-general of the army will be abolished. The secretary of war, speaking on the subject stated, while he did not know who proposed a bill to that effect, still such a move would meet entire approbation.

Commissioner Albert Fink appeared before the house committee on commerce and made an argument in defense of the railroad pooling system. He asserted the people had received transportation at low rates, and little profit to the roads, and that no extortion had been practiced.

FOREIGN.

ENGLAND.

It is stated that Waddington French ambassador, declared to Earl Granville, foreign minister, that France would not recommence negotiations with China until all her objects in Tonquin are achieved. Waddington has informed the French government that Granville approved the views of France in the matter.

The lord mayor of London is requested to grant the use of Guild hall for a meeting to protest against the evacuation of Sudan.

The London Post says that shortly before the special train which took the Prince of Wales to visit at Rothschild's, at Hailor, left Euston station, five packages of dynamite were found in a tunnel through which the train passed.

IRELAND.

Notwithstanding the government's proclamation and the presence of two hundred police, a meeting of nationalists was held in the yard of the Catholic chapel of Loughrea, Dublin. Three priests addressed the meeting, denouncing the government for suppressing the meetings of nationalists, and advising their hearers to join the league.

SPAIN AND GERMANY.

It is stated that, notwithstanding the recent change in the ministry of Madrid, Germany still favors Spain's ambition to rank among the great powers by conversion of the Spanish legation at Berlin, and the German legation at Madrid into embassies; but Germany will await the initiative from Madrid.

ENGLAND.

Moody began a mission at Stratford Bow on the 22d. Notwithstanding the hurricane, 6,000 people were present. Moody said it was very encouraging to see so many people come out in such a storm, and hoped the mission would be a great success. Telegraph wires to all points have been prostrated. The storm extends throughout the kingdom.

FRANCE.

The minister of marine has received a telegram from Admiral Galiber stating that the health of the French troops is satisfactory. Creole troops from the Isle of Bourbon are stationed at Tamatone and Majurga. They repulsed the second attack of the Pavos upon Majurga.

ENGLAND.

The annual banquet of the society for aid of foreigners in distress was held in London on the 24th. The lord mayor presided. The French ambassador, the United States consul general and a majority of the foreign consuls and two hundred other persons were present and £35,358 were subscribed to the society's fund.

Madagascar advices are that the new queen, Ranavalona III, was crowned on the

22d of November, and that the queen and prime minister have declared they would not surrender an inch of country to the French.

EGYPT.

Colonel Costlogan telegraphs from Khartoum a report that he has received a part of Hicks Pasha's army encamped near Lake Bahad. The report is doubtful.

THE OCEAN DISASTER.

The Dead Being Identified by Relatives and Friends--A Thrilling Description.

NEW BRADFORD, MASS., January 20.—The town is full of people looking for the bodies of relatives lost in the wreck of the steamer City of Columbus. There has been a deplorable lack of system in regard to the disposal of bodies picked up along the coast. Stray bodies have been picked up by passing vessels and carried to widely separated points. Among them, Edgarton, Woodside and Vineyard Haven. There are eleven bodies at Vineyard Haven, and a number at other points unknown, owing to the fact that no communication with them exist. A tug with newspaper correspondents and some of the relatives of the missing, started out to-day to visit the wreck, but a sleet and snow storm set in, making the sea rough and rendering it impossible to get nearer than an eighth to a quarter of a mile from the vessel, whose prow is fifty feet out of water and the stern slewed around in deep water. There appeared to be three bodies hanging in the mizzen rigging.

Purser Spaulding, after describing how he and the second steward went through the cabin arousing passengers, said:

The vessel keeled over so far on the port side that all staterooms on that side were submerged. On the weather side of the deck were three or four passengers. When the ship righted and settled it was a terrible scene. Confusion reigned on deck and men and women, some with children in their arms, clambered up to the deck, clinging frantically to every available projection. They crowded upon each other so fast that they could not be counted as they rushed upon deck, only to be met by some monstrous wave, and swept off into the sea. Groans, yells and curses contended with the fury of the gale. Women shrieked and men shouted themselves hoarse. Sea after sea swept over the ship carrying off everything not made of iron. It was blowing a hurricane and the moon shone brilliantly. The land was plainly visible. I saw eight or ten men hanging to the rigging. I went to the main top with the steward and a passenger. The after part of the ship filled and sank and the vessel righted. The sea at this time was making a clean sweep over the ship. I saw a life raft with half a dozen men on it. The fireman cut the lashings with a razor. One of the port boats was lashed and upset. I saw other ineffectual attempts to launch boats, and at one time I let myself down, thinking to get on board. The sea washed the line away and back again and he clambered into the main top, where he staid till taken off by the life-boat. A steamer passed within four miles, but paid no attention to the signals. The steward says the life-boat crews of the Massachusetts Humane society are the bravest men he ever saw. They saved twenty men.

The Slayer of Dukes Goes Free.

The jury in the Nutt trial returned a verdict of not guilty, on account of insanity at the time the act was committed. The jury filed in at 9:57 a. m., and as they seated themselves the silence became oppressive. After the usual questions the prisoner was ordered to stand up. But he was so weak that he had to be assisted by his feet. The foreman then announced the verdict, and the crowd, which was with difficulty restrained during the day, gave vent to its approval in a loud cheer, which the crowd outside took up and answered back, and another cheer went up from those inside. Finally order was restored and the prisoner remanded to jail another day, when he will be examined by a committee as to his present mental condition. Mrs. Nutt and Lizzie were not present. They remained at the residence of Major Brown, where the glad tidings were quickly conveyed to them. Congratulatory dispatches are pouring in on them from all points.

Nebraska State Farmers' Alliance.

KEARNEY, Neb., January 17.—The Nebraska State Farmers' Alliance concluded a two days' session to-night. After transaction of routine business a platform was adopted declaring in favor of national and state legislation to regulate railway traffic with both a maximum and minimum rates, and demand the abolition of the national banks and the substitution of a currency by the government direct; to oppose protection and demand a tariff for revenue only; express sympathy with labor and ask protection for labor. Organization was recommended for the abolition of convict labor. They ask congress to reclaim all unearned land grants and reserve the public domain for the actual settlers and oppose the acquisition of public lands by foreigners. A resolution was also passed endorsing the conduct of Senator Van Wyck. The alliance has taken measures to recognize and its members will continue an independent party movement.

CONYERS, GA.—Dr. W. H. Lee says: "Brown's Iron Bitters is a good medicine and many are using it in this place."

Candy pulls are included among the fashionable entertainments of the hour among people who think it fun to be socially democratic.

Senator Sabin has allowed his views on finance to be published.