

THE NEWS IN BRIEF.

About seventy-five cases of small-pox exist at Plisk, Mo.

John D. Rockefeller has given \$100,000 to Vassar college at Poughkeepsie, N. Y., for a new dormitory.

Frederick Metz, Sr., president of the Metz Bros. Brewing company and a pioneer citizen of Omaha, died, aged 74 years.

Carroll Carrington, a well known newspaper man and writer of short stories, is dead in San Francisco, of pneumonia.

The city of Dresden, Germany, has contracted with a syndicate of bankers for a fifteen million marks loan at four per cent.

Gen. Russel A. Alger, as head of the Alger-Sullivan syndicate, will build a model town near Pensacola on the model of Pullman, Ill.

John E. Dubois, a wealthy lumberman and mine owner of Dubois, Pa., has given \$1,000,000 to the Dunham Medical Institute of Chicago.

William J. Bryan passed through Chicago on his way to Buffalo, N. Y. Between trains Mr. Bryan received a number of calls from Democratic politicians.

The Hamburg-American steamship line has ordered two steamers, each of 7,000 tons, from the Vulcan Ship Building company, of Bremen, for its West India line.

General Weyer, minister of war in the new Spanish cabinet, asserts that he will use all his energy in the reorganization of the army in order to render it useful for service in all circumstances.

The state department gives emphatic denial to the statement in a London newspaper that the United States addressed a note "almost threatening in tone" to Denmark regarding the latter's West Indian possessions.

Every day since William Oehlstrom died, twenty-two years ago, his widow knelt on his grave in the Scranton cemetery, Cleveland, O., and prayed that she might be taken to him. Sunday her prayer was answered.

Alfred Dreyfus returned to Switzerland Tuesday after a stay in Paris, during which he corrected the proofs of the book he has completed, entitled: "Five Years of My Life, dealing with his imprisonment on Devil's Island.

Alexander Crow, quarantine officer of the California state board of horticulture, has received from Australia a box containing several million Pachina flies, which will be liberated in the San Joaquin valley to exterminate grasshoppers.

The Omaha & St. Louis Railroad has closed a contract with the Omaha Bridge and Terminal company, whereby in future it will furnish that road all its terminal facilities in Omaha and South Omaha for both freight and passenger traffic.

The treasury department has issued a warrant in favor of Admiral George Dewey for \$9,750 on account of prize money found to be due him from the court of claims for the destruction of the Spanish fleet in Manila harbor, May 1, 1898.

According to the figures prepared by United States engineers, the defeat of the river and harbor bill will ultimately throw at least 10,000 men out of employment in the Memphis territory, extending from Cairo, Ill., to Vicksburg, Miss.

The treasury department has issued a warrant in favor of Admiral George Dewey for \$9,570, on account of prize money found to be due him from the court of claims for the destruction of the Spanish fleet in Manila harbor, May 1, 1898.

The London Board of Trade Journal warns British manufacturers that the reports of a British commercial agent in the United States show that American boots and shoes are capturing markets where British goods ought to have a practical monopoly.

Judge Neely entered an order dissolving the injunction restraining the Chicago Packing & Provision company from distributing its assets. The company decided to go out of business some time ago, and was planning to distribute its assets among the stockholders. The stock is divided into 20,000 shares of preferred and 20,000 shares of common stock.

The German government has ordered 300 barrels of California brandy for use by its army and navy.

Senator Cullom gave notice of an amendment he will propose to the sundry civil appropriation bill providing for a revenue cutter for Hawaiian waters at a cost not to exceed \$250,000.

James L. McIntosh, Jr., a prominent young attorney of Sidney, Neb., has been confirmed by the senate as receiver of public money at Sidney, Neb.

The memorial to Queen Victoria, suggested by the committee of ministers and former ministers and approved by King Edward, is to be a monument.

Dr. Thomas O'Reilly, 74 years old, died of the grip. He practiced medicine in St. Louis for fifty-two years.

The monthly statement of the public debt shows that at the close of business February 28, 1901, the debt less cash in the treasury, amounted to \$1,087,019,504, a decrease for the month of \$7,576,374.

W. C. Clark, aged 62, former secretary of state, accidentally fell down stairs at Denver, Colo., breaking his neck.

The Copenhagen, Denmark, municipality has given notice of the issue of a communal loan of 20,000,000 kroner. Tenders will be open until March 12.

Gen. Aaron S. Dagget, recently appointed brigadier general of the army, has been retired.

Stephen Miller Gladwin, one of the founders of the Carew Manufacturing Co., of Holyoke, Mass., and long identified with the paper industries of the country, died at his home in Leonia, N. J. He was 80 years old.

FRICITION AT TIEN TSIN

Russians' Demand Given Defiant Snub by the British.

WALDERSEE ANNOUNCES POSITIONS

Informa Chaffee of the Disposition He Intends to Make of the Troops Under His Command—Japanese and Austrian Troops' Movements.

LONDON, March 13.—Friction has arisen at Tien Tsin between the British and the Russians over a piece of land alleged to belong to the railway company and to have been in possession of the company for some years. According to dispatches from Tien Tsin the Russians assert that this land is part of their new concessions and therefore Russian property.

Mr. Kinder, manager of the railway, began to make a siding, but was stopped by the Russian authorities. He appealed to Colonel McDonald, who referred the matter to General Barrow, British chief of staff in Peking, who replied: "Carry on the siding with armed force if necessary."

Guards were put on the line by the British and the work continued. General Wagasaki, the Russian commander, protested and said the thing would not have been done if the Russians had had as many troops as the British, adding that such matters should be left to diplomacy.

Colonel McDonald again communicated with General Barrow, who telegraphed: "Continue the siding."

General Wagasaki, very indignant, appealed to the Russian minister at Peking, M. DeGiers.

Count von Walderssee has informed General Chaffee that the troops under his command will be disposed of as follows during the summer months:

England will have 1,000 men at the summer palace, a small detachment in Hunting park and 2,000 men near Chang Chow on the Pei Ho.

Germany will send the troops now in Peking to a village northwest of the summer palace in the mountains, while the German troops at Pao Ting Fu will be located in the mountains west of the city.

Italy will draw her troops from that part of the summer palace which some of her forces now occupy.

Count von Walderssee says that, as by such locations of troops any and all trouble can be avoided, he sees no cause for interference.

TREATIES MAY BE EXTENDED.

Time on Those Concerning British West Indian Colonies.

WASHINGTON, March 13.—It is probable that the time for ratifying the treaties with Great Britain respecting reciprocity with the British West Indian colonies will be extended during the present week for a period of one year or eighteen months in order that the treaties may be considered by the senate next December. It was at first thought that the West Indian treaties lapsed at the close of the congress, but it now appears that of four of them—those on British Guiana, Jamaica, Turks and Caicos islands and Bermuda—continue in existence until March 16, while the Barbadoes treaty has until June 8 within which ratification can be made. Following the extension of the time of ratification of the French treaty the British authorities intimated a desire to have similar action taken upon their treaties. As the request was granted to France, the same course doubtless will be pursued as to Great Britain.

IS IN DEATH'S GRASP.

Former President Harrison's Life May End at Any Moment.

INDIANAPOLIS, March 13.—At 2:30 a. m. the condition of General Harrison remains the same as it was since the last previous bulletin issued at 1 o'clock. He remains unconscious, and is breathing with difficulty. The number of his respirations has increased to a slight extent, but not enough to cause additional alarm to the physicians watching at the bedside. It is apparent to every watcher that the general is fighting for his life. Every breath comes with a struggle. The doctors are marveling at the wonderful constitution which is able to resist the slowly but constantly increasing inflammation. The trained nurses and Drs. Jameson, Hadley and Dorsey are constantly watching for the slightest change either for the worse or better.

Dinsmore's Execution Expected.

KEARNEY, Neb., March 13.—Sheriff Funk returned this afternoon from Lincoln with Frank L. Dinsmore, who has been kept at the state penitentiary. Dinsmore was glad to get back. In fact, he did not like the idea of going to Lincoln in the first place. The weather was bad, consequently there was but a small crowd gathered at the Burlington depot to see the man who probably will hang for the murder of Fred Laue at Odessa over a year ago.

Cabinet Meeting Uneventful.

WASHINGTON, March 13.—The cabinet meeting today was uneventful, nothing of importance being considered. The answer of the British government to the senate amendments to the Hay-Pauncefote treaty was not discussed.

Don Carlos Has Not Abducted.

MARSEILLES, March 13.—Don Jaime, son of Don Carlos, the Spanish pretender, arrived here today on board the steamer Laos, from China. He declared it untrue that his father had abducted his claims to the Spanish throne in favor of himself. He said he had come home, not to talk over the political situation, but to rest from the fatigue of the campaign in the province of Pe Chi Li, where he had taken part in the capturing of the Pei Tang forts.

TELEGRAPH WITHOUT WIRES.

Weather Bureau Hopes to Operate Over Distance of 500 Miles.

WASHINGTON, March 13.—Secretary Wilson of the Agricultural department is pushing the wireless telegraph experiments along the Virginia and North Carolina coasts. The work is being done by Secretary Wilson's direction under the immediate supervision of Prof. Willis L. Moore, chief of the Weather Bureau. Prof. Moore made this statement to the Associated Press today regarding success of the experiments so far conducted:

"The most efficient method of long distance transmission has been found to be from wire cylinders. The new coast stations are being equipped with cylinders with sixteen wires each and 140 feet in length. From these cylinders it is expected to cover a magnetic field of not less than 500 miles. The stations now in operation are at Hatteras and at Roanoke island, in the Pamlico sound, North Carolina. Workmen are beginning the construction of a station at Cape Henry, which will be the third station. When this is finished the two remote stations will be 127 miles apart. The three points now are connected by a government telegraph line, but this line will be abandoned on the completion of the Cape Henry station. This, incidentally, will save the expense of maintenance of a half dozen repair stations."

MORE HINTS AT PROTECTION.

President of English Chambers of Commerce Indicates Change.

LONDON, March 13.—Presiding at the annual meeting of the Associated Chambers of Commerce of the United Kingdom which opened in London today, Lord Avebury foreshadowed changes in the British tariff and urged the necessity of being prepared to promote the interests of British commerce on the termination of the present treaties. Alterations, he added, were already being considered in the treaties with Germany, Austria and Portugal.

He was greatly interested in the outcome of the tariff war, which had suddenly broken out between the United States and Russia. Naturally, he said, America regarded as a marked bounty the Russian system of aiding the exportation of the surplus beet sugar. The whole dispute illustrated the complicated questions which arose when it was attempted to apply protection generally. As far as Great Britain was concerned, it would enter into negotiations, not wishing to hamper or curtail its commerce with its neighbors, but rather to promote it, being convinced that commerce benefits both buyers and sellers.

On the motion of Mr. Walton, M. P., the meeting passed a resolution to the effect that reparation for the recent events in China should be sought in increased facilities for trade rather than in money indemnity.

ARMY IN HEALTHY CONDITION.

Chief Surgeon Gives Statistics of Soldiers' Sickness.

WASHINGTON, March 13.—Surgeon General Sternberg has received a report from Colonel Greenleaf, chief surgeon of the Division of the Philippines, giving some interesting statistics in regard to the health of the army in that quarter.

The report is dated Manila, January 15 last. At that time the strength of the command was 67,415 and the percentage of sick was 7.49. The consolidated weekly report of hospitals in Manila and the military hospitals in the division show 2,400 sick, of which 399 were cases of malarial fever, 326 dysentery, 253 wounds and injuries, etc. There were eighty-three deaths among the troops during the month ended January 15.

Colonel Greenleaf says that he regards the health of the command as good.

Milk Adulteration in Iowa.

DES MOINES, March 13.—Dairy Commissioner Norton is sending out circulars to the milk dealers in the cities of Iowa calling attention to the fact that the laws of Iowa make no distinction as to whether or not adulterants placed in milk are deleterious or good, but that the laws absolutely forbid adulteration of milk in any way. A great many of the milk dealers of the state have gotten into the habit of using preservatives in their milk. This is unobjectionable from the standpoint of health, and laws forbid it.

Boers to Get Better Terms.

LONDON, March 13.—The Daily News this morning makes the following important statement:

"We understand that the government has greatly modified the unconditional surrender policy. We believe Lord Kitchener has been authorized to offer amnesty to both the Boers and the Boer leaders, except where treachery is clearly proved. Cape rebels only are to be punished by disfranchisement."

Suicide of a Hero.

SIDNEY, Neb., March 11.—John R. Murphy, a passenger on Union Pacific, shot and killed himself with a 38-calibre Smith & Wesson revolver. He fired two shots from the revolver, the first ball glancing, and the second struck the frontal bone on the right side, and passed into the brain. The bullet also destroyed the right eye. He had two discharges from American and British navies.

Carnegie Still Giving.

NEW YORK, March 13.—Andrew Carnegie has promised to give Yonkers, N. Y., \$50,000 for a public library building, the city to guarantee \$5,000 annually for support.

SYDNEY, C. B., March 13.—Andrew Carnegie has offered \$15,000 for a public library building here, the city to guarantee \$1,500 annually for maintenance.

NEWCASTLE, Pa., March 13.—Andrew Carnegie has offered \$40,000 for a public library here, the city to guarantee \$4,000 annually for support.

THE TREATY REJECTED

British Government Formally Turns Down the Senate Amendments.

NOTE FRIENDLY BUT NOT FINAL

Present Proposition Impossible of Acceptance, But Other Negotiations May Be Easily Opened on this Side of the Water.

WASHINGTON, March 12.—No opportunity offered this afternoon for the conference between the president and Secretary Hay respecting the answer of the British government to the State department's communication reciting the action of the senate upon the Hay-Pauncefote treaty, which reply was returned at noon today. Therefore it cannot be stated what action, if any, will be taken by our government. It is stated that there is no hurry, even in the event that it shall be decided to invite Great Britain to join in fresh negotiations as to an isthmian canal, congress not being in session to consider a treaty if one should be framed. The belief seems to be warranted that there will be no further negotiations on the subject in the immediate future, unless some event not now foreseen by the officials causes a radical change in the situation.

For the present the text of the British answer will be withheld from publication, on this side of the water at least, though it is said that after the president has thoroughly considered the matter some general statement may be made as to the points developed.

The British answer is quite long, as such documents go, and would make about two newspaper columns. The tone of the reply is distinctly friendly throughout, particularly so in the concluding assurances of good will and a desire to co-operate in the realization of this undertaking. Although the text is withheld, it is understood that the answer takes up each of the three amendments made by the senate and presents the difficulties in the way of assenting to them. As to the amendment which struck out all that clause of the treaty inviting other maritime nations to concur in the neutralizing of the canal, the British view is that while the United States and Great Britain can bind themselves by treaty to neutralize the canal, they cannot make this action binding on all other governments, unless these governments concur.

As to the entire abrogation of the Clayton-Bulwer treaty, as provided by one of the senate amendments, it appears to be the British view that such a step is too far-reaching to be taken without some negotiation in which the British side of the case is represented. The so-called Davis amendment appears, however, to be the chief obstacle in the way of an agreement, and while the British answer makes no suggestion of any further negotiation, it seems to be a fair inference from its general tenor that if a modification of this amendment could be secured there probably could be an amendment upon the other points of difference.

A reading of the answer also makes it plain that while it does not make counter-propositions or propose further action, yet it does not preclude such action by laying down a course which will be adhered to without the slightest deviation. On the contrary, the answer takes the form of an argument tending to show that the amendments proposed by the senate do not fairly consider the various British interests involved, and that for that reason they cannot be accepted in the form presented. There is nothing pre-emptory in the tone of the answer.

FROM HARRISON'S BEDSIDE.

Midnight Bulletin Stating that Condition is Unchanged.

INDIANAPOLIS, March 12.—At midnight Dr. Jameson left the Harrison home, after having spent nearly three hours with his patient. The other two physicians were present and effort was directed to relieving the congestion in the left lung. Dr. Jameson gave out the following statement:

"General Harrison's condition is not changed from what it was early in the evening. His strength is keeping up well and his pulse is strong."

"The inflammation of his lung has not spread any and there is no danger to be apprehended unless the inflammation does spread."

"The talk about a crisis in General Harrison's condition is absurd. There will be no crisis; he will either gradually grow better or he will grow worse gradually, and will in the same way grow weaker. He is perfectly conscious at this hour and is now resting easily."

TRY NATIVES FOR MURDER.

Terrorizing Filipinos Who Are Favorable to Americans.

MANILA, March 12.—The trial of the nine natives charged with having murdered Quisumbing, president of a Calamba, because he was friendly to the Americans, disclosed how the insurgents terrorized the natives even in territory occupied by the Americans. Members of the secret society known as Mandocuts systematically abducted and killed Filipinos favoring American rule. In two months the Calamba Mandocuts killed forty-nine natives.

Hawaii Must Explain.

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 12.—Secretary Hitchcock has called on the governor of Hawaii for a report on the recent election of the territorial secretary from the floor of the legislature. The territorial secretary was seeking to record the proceedings there, and a resolution was passed which forbids his entry on the floor on the ground that it was contrary to the principle of independence of the legislative and executive branches of the government.

DEATH IN A BOILER EXPLOSION.

Four Score Employees Killed or Burned in a Laundry.

CHICAGO, March 12.—By the explosion of a boiler in the Doremus steam laundry, on Madison street, near Theop, on the West Side, shortly after 8 o'clock this morning the entire building was wrecked. It is stated that about thirty girls and between fifty and sixty male employees were burned in the ruins, which took fire. Twelve girls were dragged from the wreckage before the fire broke out. They were badly hurt.

It is feared that the others caught in the crash of the falling walls and flying timbers were killed. A general alarm was turned in and hundreds of firemen attacked the pile in a desperate effort to drag the unfortunates from certain death in the fire.

The building was a two-story brick. The boilers which exploded were located in the basement. There were between seventy-five and ninety men and women employed in the laundry and they had just gone to work.

Reports of the number of dead in the ruins run all the way from six to twenty. It is known that thirty-six employees of the laundry had entered the place before the explosion took place, because the automatic time-keeper in the ruins showed that number of registered arrivals. Two or three were entering at the moment of the explosion, making the approximate total of forty employees in and around the building.

The list of injured includes several persons residing in the adjoining buildings, nearly all of which were badly damaged.

The most conservative estimate by the police concedes that at least three persons, dead or alive, are still in the ruins, yet the search for bodies in the ruins came to a sudden end early in the afternoon and the work of rescue was entirely abandoned. The cause of the explosion of the boiler and the dispute between the firemen and police as to who was responsible for the recovery of any bodies which might be concealed beneath the debris. The firemen said they had performed their whole duty and, gathering up their hose, they retired from the scene. The police said it was not their work to dig for bodies and nobody else volunteered to do the work.

GUARD GRAVE OF THE QUEEN.

Soldiers to Keep Watch Over England's Late Ruler.

NEW YORK, March 12.—Apprehension appears to prevail at London, according to a cablegram to the Journal and Advertiser, as to the possibility of an attempt to desecrate the mausoleum at Frogmore at which Queen Victoria is entombed. Not content with the strong guard of police that has until now kept watch over it, by order of the king, the authorities have established a strong military post there, and soldiers are to assist the police in future in keeping guard over the body of the late queen. That the arrangement is to be a permanent one is apparent from the fact that a guard house of considerable dimensions is being built in the immediate vicinity of the mausoleum.

RUSSIA IS PRESSING CHINA.

Demands Immediate Signing of Convention or More Drastic Terms.

LONDON, March 12.—The Times, in its second edition today, published a dispatch from Shanghai, March 11, saying: It is reported upon trustworthy authority that Russia has notified China that unless the Manchurian convention is signed at an early date she (Russia) will withdraw the convention and substitute harder terms in the place. Li Hung Chang declares that he is powerless to resist and has appealed to the United States, Great Britain, Germany and Japan to intervene in China's behalf. Considerable uneasiness, in consequence of the extreme friction, is believed to exist between the Yangtze viceroys and Li Hung Chang.

TO BE A NEW REVENUE DISTRICT.

North and South Dakota Separated from Nebraska.

WASHINGTON, March 12.—The president has issued an executive order creating a new internal revenue district by detaching the states of North and South Dakota from the Nebraska district and making them a separate collection district. This order will go into effect upon the appointment and qualification of the new collector.

Burlington Buys Another.

CHICAGO, March 12.—The Tribune tomorrow will say: The Davenport, Rock Island & Northwestern road, owned by John W. Gates and some of his business associates, has been sold to the Burlington system for a price said to be about \$4,000,000. The road is a small one, extending from Moline, Ill., by way of Rock Island and a large bridge the Mississippi river to Davenport and Clinton, Ia. It covers a distance of forty miles.

Nation Jury Cannot Agree.

WICHITA, Kan., March 12.—The jury in the case of Mrs. Nation has failed to agree and has been discharged. It is said they stood 7 to 2 for conviction.

Mrs. Carrie Nation has given bond again and was released from jail today. Her sureties are C. H. Moore and J. B. Elroy. Moore is her brother. Mrs. Nation said she will make her home in Topeka in the future.

BRITISH REJECT AMENDMENT.

Utterly Refuse to Accept Provision to the Hay-Pauncefote Treaty.

WASHINGTON, March 12.—The answer of the British government to the amendment to the Hay-Pauncefote treaty, made by the senate, was received today by the British ambassador and committed to Secretary Hay. The contents of the document is a dignified but a complete rejection of the senate amendment and it leaves upon the United States government the responsibility for any further action that may be deemed expedient.

IRRIGATION OUT WEST

Department of Agriculture Reviews the Condition in Wyoming.

CANADIAN METHODS ARE STUDIED

Guiding Principle is Security of Title and Use of Available Water for Lasting Benefits to Greatest Number—Progress of Work.

WASHINGTON, March 11.—The Department of Agriculture has issued as bulletin No. 96 a paper entitled "Irrigation Laws of the Northwest Territories of Canada and Wyoming," with discussions by J. S. Dennis, deputy commissioner of public works of Canada; Fred Bond, state engineer of Wyoming, and J. M. Wilson, agent and expert in the office of irrigation investigations at Cheyenne, Wyo.

The bulletin was prepared under the direction of Prof. Ellwood Mead, irrigation expert in charge of the office of irrigation investigations, who, in submitting the subject matter of the publications to the Department of Agriculture, stated:

"This publication has been prepared because of a demand for information regarding the Wyoming law and the Canadian northwest irrigation act, both of which were partially described in bulletins numbered 58 and 60 of the office of experiment stations. Several of the western states are now earnestly seeking for some way to put an end to the litigation and controversy and to provide some simpler, cheaper and more effective method of establishing titles to streams than is possible through a resort to the courts. The success which has attended the operation of the two laws therein given makes them worthy of study and the six principles noted as having served as a guide in the framing of the interpretation of the northwest irrigation act are believed to be so sound and fundamental as to be worthy of general adoption. I believe the publication of the bulletin will be of service in pointing the way to much-needed reforms in many of the arid states."

The six principles upon which the Canadian northwest irrigation law is based are as follows:

- "First—That the water in all streams, lakes, ponds, springs or other sources is the property of the crown.
- "Second—That this water may be obtained by companies or individuals for certain described uses upon compliance with the provisions of the law.
- "Third—That the uses for which water may be so acquired are "domestic," "irrigation" and "other" purposes, domestic purposes being limited to household and sanitary purposes, the watering of stock, the operation of railways and factories by steam, but not the sale of barter of water for such purposes.
- "Fourth—That the company or individual acquiring water for irrigation or other purposes shall be given a clear and indisputable title to such water.
- "Fifth—That holders of water rights shall have the protection and assistance of permanent government officials in the exercise of such rights.
- "Sixth—That disputes or complaints regarding the use or diversion of water shall be referred to and settled by the officials of the government charged with the administration of the act and that decisions so given shall be final and without appeal."

LI HUNG CHANG ILL AGAIN.

Physician Says His Life Hangs by a Thread.

PEKIN, March 11.—Li Hung Chang is again seriously ill, and his physician says his life hangs by a thread.

Prince Ching and Earl Li seem to think that by spreading rumors of the court's unwillingness to return to Peking, unless this or that thing is done, they can influence the deliberations of the ministers of the powers. As a matter of fact, according to reliable reports from Sian Fu, the imperial personages are extremely uncomfortable at Sian Fu, where they live in the house of the governor, which is only a small structure. French missionaries who have just returned here from Sian Fu believe the emperor dowager would bring the court back to Peking on the first offer of the allies having as a basis the removal of the troops, except the legation guards.

Carter Given a Position.

WASHINGTON, March 9.—Former United States Senator Carter of Montana has been appointed by the president a United States commissioner of the St. Louis exposition. He has accepted the offer. The position pays \$5,000 a year.

Disastrous Storm in Chicago.

CHICAGO, March 11.—One of the worst wind storms of the season struck Chicago yesterday and during the two hours it was at its height damaged property throughout the city to the extent of \$175,000. Many heavy plate glass windows were blown in. Telegraph and telephone companies were the worst sufferers. Thousands of poles were blown down and Chicago was practically isolated from the west and northwest by telephone and telegraph all day.