Bold Work of Fusion Officials in the Soldier's Home at Grand Island.

In Charge Indulge in High-Handed Act of Scandals.

GRAND ISLAND, Neb., August 27 .-The Soldiers' Home at Grand Island adds another long chapter to the history of gross mismanagement of the state institutions under the Poynter administration.

criminal negligence, abuse of the inmates and kindred offenses, in which high officials at the Home are directly involved.

The commandant of the Home is L. A. Beltzer. In his efforts to replenish his exchequer he has permitted no opportunity to escape. Beltzer is associated with his son in the publication of a weekly fusion paper known as the Polk County Independent. As a result of this, nearly all the job printing for the institution is done by the Beltzers, for which they have hundreds of dollars from the state that have not been receipted, and, so far as this evidence is concerned, there is nothing to show that they have ever been paid, aside from the fact DR. KIRBY EXPOSES THE DEAL, sician (See Voucher B46725). There that the warrant record shows that warrants have been issued on the state treasury by the auditor. In many instances, too, claims have been allowed the commandant and the physician in dered. Voucher B42182 is a voucher drawn in favor of Dr. Swigart, the physician in charge at the Home in payment for a \$7 truss which he claimed to have purchased, but no bill from the dealer showing that it filed or presented.

In the last year the Beltzers have material furnished the Home, most of B33343, B34913, B34914, B36376, B36377,

has also been attacked by the Beltzers and some of Home for services rendered. that fund has been diverted to the cash drawer of the Polk County Independent. In all, about \$20 was taken from this fund (see vouchers B34916, B43445, and B47049).

The Beltzers not only conduct a newspaper plant, but they also own and conduct a nursery. It is charged that the Star nursery, the one owned by Commandant Beltzer, supplied the trees that were planted on the grounds of the Home last spring, thus providing the industrious commandant with cept by him. Recently, as a result of another route to the treasury. In no startling rumors, Commandant Beltzinstance has the state entered into a er installed his son as Hospital Stewcontract with Beltzer for printing or ard, but, as he is a young man with for nursery stock. He has had no no practical knowledge of medicines and the result is that he has charged the state outrageous prices.

One claim rendered shows that he charged the state \$18.75 for 5,000 envelopes (of poor material), or at the rate of \$3.75 per thousand, a price fully 35 per cent higher than is charged by almost any other printing office in the state to regular customers. The same claim calls for \$7.50 for 2,000 letter-heads (of an inferior quality of paper), or at the rate of \$3.75 per thousand, a price 30 per cent above the average charge.

Voucher B34914 for \$37 was drawn in favor of Commandant Beltzer in payment of a claim for printing itemized 1,000 Morning Report Blanks....\$ 4.25

5,000 Envelopes (cheap quality). 18.75 2.000 Pass Blanks..... 200 Commandent Reply Blanks 1.50 2,000 Letter-Heads (inferior quality)

In this instance no bill was ever rendered and none is attached to the voucher on file. In fact there is no evidence, beyond Commandant Beltzer's naked statement, that the material was ever delivered. Nor is Commandant Beltzer content-

ed with drawing \$1,500, furnishing printed material at excessive prices and unloading inferior stock from his nursery upon the state. He has gone farther, and has succeeded in placing the name of his 19-year-old son, C. E. Beltzer, on the payroll as hospital steward at \$30 per month and board, lodging and washing.

SERIOUS CHARGES. The official most under the ban suspicion at the Home is the physician in charge, Dr. H. M. Swigart. His record at the Home, as told by the inmates and by documentary evidence, is, to say the least, a shameful one. Apart from dissipation and culpable neglect, it is charged that he is incompetent, and, what is equally as bad, that he has played fast and loose with the funds allotted to his department. Dr Swigart has been in office a little over a year, and yet he has already exhausted the \$1,500 appropriated drugs and instruments, and bills of this character are now being paid out of other funds. The drug fund was exhausted May 18th, or in less than ten months after Dr. Swigart took

DR. SADLER TALKS. Dr. Sadler, who is a fusionist and who was physician in charge at the Home for four years preceding Dr. Swigart, when asked to explain the cause of the dissipation of the drug

fund by Dr. Swigart said: "There is certainly something crooked about it. I will guarantee to run the department on \$1,500 per year for drugs and instruments, and have \$900 of that amount left over to put in my pocket. I ran the Home four years on \$2,000, and I had money in the fund and a large supply of drugs on hand at the end of that time. When Dr. Swigart succeeded me I turned over to him enough drugs to last the Home for at least two months, and I turned over the balance of money remaining in the fund to the state. I had \$1,000 to run the Home two years, and as I have said, at the end of the two years I still had some of the money left and a large surplus of drugs. In ten months Dr. Swigart has used almost as much money for drugs as I have used in four years, and that

only a slight increase in the number of inmates with practically no increase in the number of hospital patients. "Then, too, when I was at the Home,

the inmates got all their medicine from me, whereas I know of my own THE COMMANDANT AND PHYSICIAN at the Home are purchased down town by the inmates themselves out his of their own private funds. The truth is, on account of the amount of med--Inside Light on the Dissipation of icines purchased in town at private the Drug and Other Funds-A Chain expense, the \$1,500 which Dr. Swigart had at his command should have been more than sufficient to last the two years for which it was appropriated." "How do you account for the short-

age in the drug fund?" "I will say frankly that I don't believe that that amount of drugs was ever delivered to the Home. I believe the state has been charged for drugs It is a story of fraud, debauchery, It never received. It would be impossile to use \$1,500 in ten months for drugs and instruments. Fully half the gart's brother has had his name on amount has been diverted. There is pay roll in one capacity and another fraud somewhere, and that is all there

"I know of my own personal know- sipation. ledge that Dr. Swigart was absent from the Home more than one-third of the time in the last year. While keep track of the way the funds are absent, his duties were attended to being juggled. Vouchers have been by Dr. Kirby. Dr. Swigart drew his drawn for druge against the "mainsalary just the same and Dr. Kirby tenance fund" (see Vouchers B47031, was paid—well, if you ask him he and B45643), and repairs have been will probably tell-but my opinion is paid for out of the "fuel fund" see charged their own prices and drawn that he was paid out of the drug fund Voucher B43946. The "telephone and treasury. In many instances the state never delivered, and the money paid heavily by the Beltzers for printing has paid money to the Beltzers on bills over to Dr. Kirby. I think this is material. The June salary voucher that have not been receipted, and, so where a great deal of the drug fund of this year shows the payment of \$25 went, and that this accounts for the to H. M. Swigart as hospital steward, funds being exhausted."

> Dr. Kirby had removed to Beatrice and it was at the latter place that he was SHAMEFUL TREATMENT OF INinterviewed. When asked if he had been paid for attending to Dr. Swi-

was away, Dr. Kirby said:

An investigation of the official recthe contract for supplying drugs eve since Dr. Swigart took charge. Swigart has absolute charge of th drug supplies, he orders what he pleases and he does his own receiving and checking. No account kept of drugs received at the Home ex competition, no bids being asked for, or drugs, the change provides no safeguard and amounts to nothing more than an increase in the income of the Beltzer family of \$30 per month.

NOT A FIT MAN. Dr. Sadler and Dr. Kirby both agre that Dr. Swigart is not a fit man for the position he occupies. Both felt restrained by professional courtesy, yet each was of the opinion that the circumstances were such as to justify an infraction of the established rule among professional men.

Dr. Kirby said: "Dr. Swigart is not a fit man for the position. His professional knowledge. is limited and he is addicted to the use of liquor. He is not skilled in surgery nor has he much general knowledge of diseases and medicines. "I remember one instance where I was called to attend an old soldier inmate named Dye, whom he was attending. On reaching the home I found Dye I discovered that in giving him an enema a pile tumor had been puncproven fatal) hemorrhage had resultsaying that not he, but his brother, did it. Dr. Swigart's brother was not a doctor and the enormity of the blunder was in no way lessened by his attempt to shift the blame.

"An inmate named Henry Curtis was taken down with small pox and Dr. Swigart, when my attention was called was doctoring him for chicken pox. He had Curtis in the same ward with twenty other patients. I saw at a glance that it was small pox and I told Dr. Swigart he should remove Curtis at once to the pest house. He said no; that it was simply chicken pox. I told him if he did not remove him at once that I would appeal to the local authorities, get help and do it myself, as there was great danger of the disease spreading to all of the 325 inmates. He then yielded and isolated Curtis. The poor fellow died coln. shortly afterwards. I think it was about the latter part of May of this

"Fortunately only one case resulted the fellow through.

and attended to that one and pulled "It is my professional opinion that Dr. Swigart is unfit for that or any other position requiring any great amount of knowledge of diseases,

medicines and anatomy." It is a notorious fact, and it is the talk about town, that a large amount of liquor is bought, ostensibly for the Home, but in reality for other pur poses and reasons. It is charged that, not only does Dr. Swigart require it for personal use, but that he has sold whiskey bought by the state to inmates and made no report of the money. One inmate has already made an affidavit to the effect that he purchased whiskey at the Home from Dr. Swi- a great deal of abstract thinking. This gart, and another that Dr. Swigart is scarcely less strange, however, than the building of a barn costing \$1,200 refused to furnish liquor on a pre-without advertising for bids, some-

in face of the fact that there has been evidently that has not been over- bacco, cigars, cigarettes, fancy grocer-

FEASTING AT THE CRIB. From the Commandant down, the officials at the Home know a soft snap when they see it. They are not overlooking anything. Those who have personal knowledge that more than 30 relatives seem to take interest in havper cent of the medicines now used ing them live at the expense of the

Commandant Beltzer is there with his wife and two sons. One of his dler. sons is on the pay roll as hospital steward

John H. Powers is there as adjutant with his wife, son and daughter. Until recently the daughter had a horse which she kept there at the state's expense. His son is on the pay-roll as farm hand at \$17 per month. .

Dr. Swigart is there with his wife, son and daughter, and, until recently, his brother and his wife. Both Swigart and Beltzer have private turnouts at the state's expense. Dr. Swiuntil recently, when he was discharged on account of brutality and dis-

DISSIPATING THE FUNDS. It would take an expert juggler to bills were rendered for drugs express" fund has been drawn on though he is the regular salaried phy-By inquiry it was ascertained that is an abundance of other evidence of this same character.

MATES.

Much complaint is made concerning charge, without any bill being ren- gart's duties at the Home while he the mistreatment of the old soldier inmates. One instance is recited where "Yes, I have been paid part of what an inmate named J. T. Stewart sickis due to me. Dr. Swigart was absent ened and died from a cancer in the public) last July, the silver plank is that Corporal Tanner, of New York, during much of the last half of 1899 mouth. He was let go a whole year reiterated and the country is again has been assigned to this state. He and the early part of this year and I without having his hair cut or his threatened with the dire consequences will make his entry at Warsaw Sept. attended to his duties during that time, beard trimmed, and during his sick- that would attend the enaction of a 15. had been purchased has ever been I usually made out my monthly bill ness he was otherwise shamefully neg- free silver bill by a democratic conand handed it to him and he would lected by the physician and attend- gress and president. Referring to the go into the drug store of Tucker & ants. Finally, the old soldiers underdrawn upwards of \$500 for printing Farnsworth and come out with the took to help him, and upon cutting duce the following from Hon. Carl which has been paid out of the fund different occasions. In all he paid me the flesh in the region of his neck and now, for Bryan and free silver are appropriated for "express, telephone in this way about \$600. I asked no chin was almost one solid mass of again the issue. and supplies" (see voucher B33342, questions, but I had a pretty strong maggots. One of the inmates counted B37532, B40297, B42186, B42598, B43446. This drug firm had the contract at that the sick man's jaws and throat. This consequent placing of our country was with Stewart con 11 days and nights and that all that ties to be thrown upon the market. time Stewart neither received medicine 'Scores of business orders are already ords disclosed the fact that, for some nor medical attention. Dr. Swigart recalled, a large number of manufacunaccountable reason, with the excep- was repeatedly requested to attend tion of one-quarter, this same drug him, but Stewart, in a desperate effort stopped or restricted their operations, committed the unpardonable crime of | nearly paralyzed. Many works of ure that had been recommended to road companies have already been him by a friend, and Swigart therefore ordered off, thousands of workingmen espsed to minister to his wants. The tory of this man's suffering and negect, as related by the inmates, is a terrible one. Many other inmates have been refused medical attention, and the abuse has been carried to that extent that more than 30 per cent of the medicines used at the Home are now being bought by the inmates out of their private funds.

KILLING YOUNG STOCK.

make a better showing in the expense | they will tell you it is because they ecount or to keep that account from eaching enormous proportions, the management is killing off young steers and heifers for meat for the Home. hose in position to know say that this is false economy, as it will result in the destruction of what was until a short time ago a very fine and profitable herd of cattle. The old soldiers say, however, that the young stock is killed for the officials only, and that inmates have to put up with sowbelly, bread and butter. This, they say, is their diet-sick or well.

PET CONTRACTORS COLLAPSE. The contract for constructing a new hospital building at the Home was let o Blake & Company of Lincoln for \$12,500. They are the pet contractors great pain, and, upon examining him, of the State House ring, and in the last two years they have been identifled with the construction of several tured and (what would soon have public buildings. At this point, after absorbing much of the amount named ed. I upbraided him for the blunder in the contract, they threw up the conand he tried to evade responsibility by tract and their bondsmen are now completing the building. At best it will be a poor structure, as a large quantity of second grade material has been used and nearly all the wood work is of inferior material.

I. W. Pomerene, another favorite who has had quite a monopoly of the lumbing in new public buildings the ast two years, has cut off another arge slice of pie at this place. His vouchers call for more than \$2,000, but it is stated that the work of seting the botters and making the necsary changes and repairs, for which e received over \$2,100, could have een done profitably for 33 per cent less. (See Voucher B43946.)

The superintendent of construction of the new hospital is J. W. Emberson, a fusionist carpenter from Lin-His knowledge of architecture is limited and he has had little experience with brick and stone work, yet he is paid \$5 per day and that, too, out of the money appropriated for the from the exposure and I was called construction of the building proper, Inmates of the Home say that he spends much of his time playing croquet and cards. Since October 1st, 1899 to May 8th, 1900, he has drawn out of this fund \$620. (See Vouchers B37825, B39178, B40090, B40967, B42150, B42654, B43077, B43491 and B43780.) The strange part of the whole mat er is, that not one bill has been audited nor a voucher made out at Grand Island, where the material is being delivered and the work is being done. All the auditing, all the checking and figuring, has been done at Lincoln. In this respect this in the single exception throughout the state, and why it is nobody at Grand Island seems to know, though some people are doing

> thing that was done here the last year, ON STATE GROUNDS. John F. Scott, a fusionist, enjoys the distinction of being about the only left most of his estate, valued at \$30,man in Nebraska who has been set up in business at the state's expenses. Scott has a private store building, owned by himself and situated on the public grounds within 30 feet of the main building, where he deals in to-

ies, pop. soda water, etc. The building was piped and furnished with radiators at the state's expense, and it is lighted and heated now at the state's expense. He also gets ice during the Boom in Politics Begins to Make summer for use in his store from the supplies bought for the state, and pays nothing for it. Scott has been doing business at this stand for about four

One thing is strange about the bills of expense of the members of the Visiting and Examining Board. Though the distance traveled, the work done, and the legitimate expense is the same each time, not a single member in the last two years has presented two bills alike in amount. Each time the amount differs, though why, is a mys-

The last legislature appropriated \$94.870 for the Home, but it is apparent now that there will be a large deficiency at the end of Governor Poynter's term. Upon the whole, the management has not only been extravagant, but it has been that extravagant as to indicate unmistakably downright dishonesty and fraud.

Not long ago an old soldier came to Grand Island direct from Canada. Under the law, before an applicant can be admitted to the Home, he must be a resident of the state at least two years. The County Board of Hall terrupted with cheers and other demcounty refused to entertain his application, but he went back to the Home, told the officials that he was a fusionist and, not only received a suit of, clothes at the expense of the state, to Austria. but was put to work on a salary, an act clearly illegal.

BRYAN SYNONOMOUS OF SILVER. and has since waged an unsuccessful will enter the state Monday, speaking campaign along this line. He misjudged the intelligence of the "great common people," and it would seem that he has not as yet been able to South Bend. A telegram received at get in touch with them, for in the the Republican state committee rooms Kansas City platform made (made last night conveyed the information election of Bryan in 1896 we repro-

"The mere apprehension of a possituring establishments have already are already thrown out of employment, gold is already being hoarded, capital is already being sent out of the country to be invested in Europe for safety. And why all this? Not, as the silver men foolishly pretend, because the existing gold standard has made money scarce, for capital is lying idle in heaps, scores upon scores of millions, fairly yearning for safe employment. No: ask those concerned why For some reason, presumably to all this happens, and with one voice apprehend serious danger in every dollar ventured out through the change of our standard of value in prospect, through the debasement of our currency threatened by the free silver coinage movement. And if these are the effects of a mere apprehension of a possibility, what would be the effect of the event itself? There is scarcely an imaginable limit to the destruction certain to be wrought by the business disturbances that Mr. Bryan's mere

MARRIAGE WAS VERY SECRET.

election would cause."

Wealthy Young Man Takes a Wife Has No "Fure and Feathers." Springfield, Ills., Sept. 5.-A romance culminated here Monday when Alexander T. Bragg, of Tuscola, Ills., and Miss Dortohy Moore, of Washington, were quietly married at the home of Mr. and Mrs. T. C. Connor. Only Mr. and Mrs. Connor and Miss Daisy Compton, whom Miss Moore had been Indianapolis convention, was in the right is independently wealthy. Before leaving home to come to Springfield young Bragg informed his father that he expected to be married, but enjoined

his parent to secrecy.

The father was pleased with the idea, and immediately offered the son a place in the bank as cashier and a large interest in the concern. After a wedding trip Mr. and Mrs. Bragg will go to Tuscola to reside. The trip will include Chicago, a tour of the lakes, New York, and an extended stay in Paris. Washington will be carefully avoided by the young couple. Mrs. Bragg formerly resided at Danville, but went to Washington with her paents when her father secured a posi-

GEN. M'CLERNAND VERY ILL.

Old Soldier's Last Illness Left Him Very Feeble-Cannot Fat Springfield, Ills., Sept. 5.—General

John McClernand is again dangerously ill. He is suffering with malarial fever and dysentery, and his friends are considerably alarmed over his condition. General McClernand has been in a feeble state since his last illness. The attending physician, Dr. C. M. Bowcock, says the greatest danger is due to the fact that he can take no proper nourishment. The veteran soldier's temperature has reached 102. He has been unable to sleep and has continued throughout the day in a restless

Mysterious Death of Frank Ambrose. Evansville, Ind., Sept. 5. - Frank Ambrose, who died Sunday night at a the Democratic gain 15 per cent. local hospital, was picked up unconscious in the street a week ago, and he said, as he was being taken to the window." When he recovered unconhis death he made a will in which he 000, to W. B. Bigsby, of Springfield,

a Great Noise.

years and the state is paying the fid- ZEPUBLICAN OPENING IN INDIANA

Bryan Swinging Round in the Alle ghenies-New National Party Ticket Is Named.

Indianapolis, Sept. 6 .- The Republican campaign in this city was opened last night with a street demonstration by the Marion club and a meeting at English's Opera House. The theatre was crowded and the audience enthusiastic. John L. Griffiths, candidate for the nomination for governor before the last state convention, presided. George G. Tanner, of this city, the first speaker, was a gold Democrat in 1896. At the conclusion of his address Griffiths introduced Senator Fairbanks, who delivered the address of the evening. He was repeatedly inonstrations. An overflow meeting was held in Monument place opposite the theatre. This was addressed by Addison C. Harris, United States minister

Republican Boom Next Week. The meeting last night, the Republleans say, is only preliminary to a much greater effect about the middle In 1896 when Bryan got control of of the month, when a series of mass the democratic party he made free meetings will be held throughout the colnage of silver the paramount issue state. Senator Burrows, of Michigan. alive the wave of enthusiasm Roose velt is expected to create Saturday at

Democratic Leader's Day.
Deer Park, Md., Sept. 6,—Bryan doubled upon his tracks yesterday and last night found him again enjoymoney. He did this on eight or ten off his beard it was discovered that all Schurz. What it meant then it means ing the refreshing breezes of the summit of the Alleghanies. He began the day in Jefferson county, the eastermost county of West Virginia, and aftopinion how the deal was worked. 200 maggots which he removed from bility of Mr. Bryan's election and the er leaving the tri-state gathering at Morgan's grove in that county, worked B44329, B44915, B45654, B46425, B47050.) time for furnishing drugs to the Home, same individual said that at one time upon the silver basis has already constantly westward. He made only at Morgan's grove, near Shepherdstown, and the second at Keyser. At both places the crowds greeted the national candidate with enthusiasm and both speeches were vigorously apfirm (Farnsworth & Tucker) has had to conquer the dread malady, had enterprise is already discouraged and plauded. There were large audiences at both meetings, but that of the grove buying a bottle of some patent cancer public utility by industrial or rail- was exceptional in size. Deer Park was reached late in the afternoon but no meeting was held here. Bryan is the guest of Colonel McGraw and the understanding before his coming was that he should have entire quiet and rest while here.

GATHERING OF POLITICIANS.

End of the New York Convention-Nation al Party Meets and Nominates. Saratoga, N. Y., Sept. 6.-The Re publican convention, which adjourned at 12:32 yesterday, was so far as yesterday's session was concerned simply a ratification of what had already been accomplished. The announced appearance upon the platform of such men as former Governor Black, Depew and Governor Roosevelt, insured such a feast of oratory that every available seat in the great convention hall was occupied when Chairman Stranahan's gavel fell yesterday morning. The ticket printed in these dispatches yesterday was duly nominated, the oratory heard and the convention adjourned Hardly was the convention adjourned when the exodus of delegates began. Governor Roosevelt left early in the afternoon on his private car to resume his western speaking tour. Odell went to his home in Newburg, and all have made way for the influx of Democratle leaders which will begin in a day or two in anticipation of the Demo-

cratic state convention of next week. New York, Sept. 6 .- The National, otherwise known as the third party ticket, assembled in Carnegie Lyceum vesterday to nominate a national ticket. T. M. Osborne, who presided at the visiting, witnessed the ceremony. The chair. There were delegates present groom is the son of A. W. Bragg, a from Kentucky, Indiana, North Carobanker at Tuscola, and in his own lina, Louisiana, Missouri, Connecticut, Massachusetts, New York, Iowa and Pennsylvania. The platform of the party has four planks, favoring antiimperialism, the gold standard, civil service reform, and opposing all special privielges. The convention nominated a national ticket as follows: For president, Donaldson Caffery, of Louisiana; for vice president, Archibald Murray Howe, of Cambridge, Mass. There were no other candidates for the positions and the nominations

were received with hearty applause. It was decided that the party be known as a National party and that its emblem be the statue of liberty on the Capitol dome at Washington. A resolution was passed instructing the campaign committee when it shall be appointed to provide pasters for voters who wish to cross out any name on the Democratic or Republican electoral ticket.

New Haven, Conn., Sept. 6 .- The Republicans of Connecticut met in con vention here and nominated George P. McLean, of Simsburg, for governor.

Later Returns from Vermont. White River Junction, Vt., Sept. 6. -Returns from 232 cities and towns out of 246 cities and towns in the state give the vote for governor as follows: Stickney (Rep.), 46,934; Senter (Dem.), 15,494; all others, 1,268, The same towns in 1896 gave Grout (Rep.), 52,029; Jackson (Dem.), 14,556; all others, 1,589. The returns from these towns give a Republican plurallty of 31,440, and a majority of 30,172. The Republican loss is 9 per cent. and

Hanna Not to Go on the Stump. Chicago, Sept. 6.—Senator Hanna hospital: "They threw me from the will not take the stump. This was finally settled yesterday by a telegram sciousness he refused to talk. Before which Secretary Heath received from Senator Hanna. The message read: "It is out of the question for me to accept any invitations to speak." The Mo. When Ambrose came here he said manager of the Republican national he was a bookkeeper from St. Louis, campaign has received scores of inand in search of work. Why he st-tempted to conceal his identity is a throughout the west. A few days ago it was reported that Senator Hanna

would make a few speeches at great centers of population. Senator Hanna may make one or two informal speeches in his own state, but outside of these possible addresses, Secretary Heath wishes it finally understood that he will make no speeches.

Lincoln, Alax Seldegel state capital

> Nominated by Referendum. Springfield, Ills., Sept. 6.-R. S. Thompson, of this city, chairman of the National Union Reform party com-

mittee, has received word from A. G. Eichelbarger, of Baltimore, chairman of the national canvassing board, that | As to What Shall Be Done in the Chithe official count of the referendum vote was completed Monday night at Baltimore, resulting in the nomination of Hon. Seth Ellis, of Ohio, for president, and Samuel T. Nicholson, of Pennsylvania, for vice president on the National Union Reform ticket.

Wharton Barker to Begin a Tour. Cincinnati, Sept. 6.-Hon. Wharton Barker, nominee of the People's party for president, will next week begin a tour for the purpose of meeting and conferring with leading Populists and These give the general nature of the addressing the public. The following is the itinerary as far as announced: Detroit, Sept. 10; Chicago, Sept. 11; Indianapolis, Sept. 11 from 6 p. m. until the next day; St. Louis, Sept. 12 (night); Butler, Mo., Sept. 13; Nevada, Mo., Sept. 14.

STEELE HOME FROM EUROPE. People Over There Grudge Any Praise to

Uncle Sam's Troops. Marion, Ind., Sept. 6.-Representative Steele and wife have returned home from their two months' sojourn abroad, in company with Representative Payne, of New York, and Dalzell, of Pennsylvania. During the party's trip abroad their time was spent mostly in London and in Ireland and France. They were pleasantly entertained wherever visited. When the party sailed from New York the Chinese had begun war but a short time before, and the representatives were eager for news relating to it.

Steele says the foreign papers spoke little of the United States troops' action in China, and what little credit was givn our forces was in a grudging manner. He was much elated when he learned of the Fourteenth United States being the first to enter Peking. It was with that regiment that Mafor Steele served ten years, with the rank of first lieutenant. He does not believe an extra session of congress will be necessary in settling the Chinese difficulties.

SEWALL JOINS THE MAJORITY. Democratic Candidate for Vice President

in 1896 Passes Away. Bath, Me., Sept. 6 .- Arthur Sewall fied at 8:30 a. m. yesterday at his summer home, Smallpoint, near this city. His death was due to a stroke of apoplexy which he suffered last Sunday. Sewall had been ill several weeks, but until a few days ago his condition was not thought to be serious. Last June his physician advised him to take rest, and he attended the Democratic national convention against the advice of his closest friends. The journey did not seem to weaken him, and he was resting comfortably at his summer place when he was stricken suddenly. He had been unconscious three days when death came.

He was born in this city in 1836, and was engaged in various successful business enterprises until 1888 when he became active in politics, but be was little known nationally when he was nominated for vice president at Chicago in 1896. He did not know it himself, until he heard a street car passenger say he had been nominated. He had left the convention some time before the balloting commenced.

He leaves two sons, Harold M. and William. Harold M. Sewall left the party of his father in 1890 and joined the Republican party. He was minister to Samoa and to Hawaii under President Harrison and was appointed special commissioner to Hawaii by President McKinley in 1898, and prom.nent in Republican politics in Maine. Arthur Sewall's fortune is estimated at \$5,000,000.

WHOLE VILLAGE STRUCK.

Fatality-Ac ident Aboard Ship. Coloma, Mich., Sept. 6 .- One of the most peculiar freaks of exploding electricity ever experienced occurred here, the entire village being struck by lightning at the same instant. A wire clothes line post at Maple Point farm on the south was shattered to atoms, a number of persons and animals at various points in the village were thrown to the ground and the residence of E. A. to Lord George Hamilton, secretary Hill in the south end was struck, the bolt leaping to the pump and going down the well, the water of which was rendered muddy and is still unfit for use. Escanaba, Mich., Sept. 6.-Martin Dempsey, a brakeman on the Chicago and Northwestern railroad, whose home is in this city, fell from an engine at Iron Mountain, the wheels of the locomotive passing over his body

and causing instant death. Dempsey was a single man, aged about 30 years. Escanaba, Mich., Sept. 6.-Charles J. Olson, employed on ore dock No. 5, slipped and fell down a chute into the hold of a vessel. His right leg was

Standing of the Western League. Sandwich, Ills., Sept. 6 .- President T. J. Hickey gives out the following official standing of the clubs in the Western League at the close of the season: Denver won 61 and lost 44, percentage 581; Des Moines won, 59 and lost 45, percentage 567; Sioux City won 50 and lost 50, percentage 500; Omaha won 53 and lost 56, percentage 486; St. Joe won 52 and lost 57, per centage 477; Pueblo won 42 and lost

Iowa Miners Called Out.

65, percentage 392.

Des Moines, Ia., Sept. 6.-The union miners, members of the United Mine Workers, have been called out of the Saylroville mine and the mines of the Consolidated Coal company at Mud-Saylorville mine and the mines of the the only ones in Iowa that have not signed the union scale. John P. Reese, president of the United Mine Workers, Into bankruptcy. sent out a long notice in which he explains the grievances against the in question.

Epidemie of Diphtheria. Menasha, Wis., Sept. 6.—Residents of Menasha are becoming somewhat exercised over what promises to become an epidemic of diphtheria. Four or five cases have developed within the past two weeks, and although the board of health has used all due pre-

cautions, it is feared that a number

of persons have been exposed.

ington People Could Desire.

QUESTION UNDER CALM DISCUSSION

nese Difficulty - Russian Inspired Editorial Views.

Washington, Sept. 6 .- Within the last twenty-four hours the United States government has received from its representatives at foreign capital much material information in regard to the attitude of the powers on the Russian proposal to evacuate Peking responses made to Russia by certain of the powers. It is stated authorita tively that if there was at any time a prospect of a serious internationa: clash this has been very largely, it not entirely, removed by the har monious character of the communica tions the several governments are making. The exact nature of the responses is not made public by the state department, for there are yesome replies to be transmitted, and until all of them are in the negotiations are considered in such an incomplete form that they will not be mad

Nature of the Received Replies. It is said, however, that the answer go much beyond the tentative charac ter of those heretofore referred, t and are of a conclusive nature so faas showing the purposes of the govern ments, although they may not be re garded as conclusive in accepting o rejecting the particular proposition ad vanced by Russia. The responses arunderstood to be rather long ansomewhat argumentative, similar in this respect to the American response This very fact is a cause for congratu lation among officials, as they poin out that there is no disposition t treat the proposal with terseness or i: any manner to give offense, but rathe

to bring the powers together on a con-

mon basis.

Military Situation Unchanged. If there is any change in the mil: tary situation since General Chaffee' dispatch, supposed to be of the 30th ultimo., no word of it has reache Washington. It is understood that th disturbances and outrages upon mitricts outside of Peking. It is be lieved here, possibly because of thes reports, that the foreign ministers i Peking probably will enter an earn est objection to any withdrawal ci troops if their respective government delay action upon the Russian propos tion until they have had a chance t express their views.

ONLY DESIGN OF THE CZAR, As Stated by the Official Journal de S.

Petersbourg, Is Peace in China. St. Petersburg, Sept. 6.-The officia Journal de St. Petersbourg, reiteratin the statement that Russia's only d sire is to end the disturbances in Chin to which the re-establishment of the Chinese government is necessary," contends that "military action beyond Pe king would only arouse fresh complica-

tions." The paper adds: "Nothing but the action of the lawful government c. China can accomplish lasting, salutar results. Therefore it is necessary t re-establish its authority at Pekin and the withdrawal of the represent: tives of the powers to Tien-Tsin wi be hopeful in this direction, as would be regarded in China as prothat the powers have remained true : the spirit which inspired the origin: programme."

The Journal de St. Petersbourg co: cludes: "However great may be the just indignation which events in Chir have provoked in all civilized cou tries, the Russian government, while examining with necessary calmness a the questions raised by the recent o currences, adheres unalterably to ti principle forming the basis of her poicy, namely, the maintenance of peace with all the powers who are solid united for the common good."

March Through the Forbidden City. London, Sept. 6.-General Sir Alfr. Gaselee, commander of the British 1 dian troops at the Chinese capita wires as follows from Peking, Aug. 2 state for India: "The allies march through the Forbidden City yesterda The British had third place in the pr cession, the Russians and Japanese ! ing in greater strength."

Leiter Looking at Coal Mines. Carbondale, Ills., Sept. 6.-Jose;

Leiter, of Chicago, has been in cosultation for two days with Sam Brush, president of the Big Mud-Coal company, whose mines are sit ated near Cartersville. The min have been the scene of a long at sanguinary strike, and are operated ! negroes and non-union miners. It rumored that Leiter contemplates t purchase of several shafts.

Two Plants to Resume. Joliet, Ills., Sept. 6 .- After an a summer shut-down, it is announce that the Phoenix Horse Shoe worl employing between 200 and 300 m will resume Monday. It is expect that the great Western Tin Plate co. pany plant, closed during the adju ment of the amalgamated scale, w also start next week.

His Wife Located His Heart. Evansville, Ind., Sept. 6.-Jo Koob, a wealthy farmer, aged 45 yea. who lived near here, committed suici Tuesday by shooting himself in the heart. He asked his wife if she cou tell him the exact location of his hear He then went to the stable in the re of the house and killed himself. Ken had to pay a note for a friend a few days ago and brooded over the m ter, fearing the loss would force h .

Tried to Rob a Church. Adrian, Mich., Sept: 6.-Burgl entered St. Joseph's Roman Cathchurch and made an unsuccessful tempt to break into the steel chest which the silver service is kept.

Took Everything in Sight. Houghton, Mich., Sept. 6 .- The por office at South Lake Linden wasrobl early Tuesday morning of \$600 stamps and the entire supply of mon order blanks.