Farmers' Alliance.

"THERE IS NOTHING WHICH IS HUMAN THAT IS ALIEN TO ME."—TERENCE.

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Notice to Subscribers.

EXPIRATIONS.

As the easiest and cheapest means of notifying subscribers of the date of their expirations we will mark this notice with a blue or red pencil, on the date at which their subscription expires. We will send the paper two weeks after expiration. If not renewed by that time it will be discontinued.

Life and Death.

BY W. H. DECH.

O! Why should I envy the man who has riches
Who hungers and tires as easy as I?
Why covet his idols in unsteady nitches
While he like myself can but wrinkle and die?

The mould and the damp of the grave must soon claim him
While lawyers and kin will fight for his gold.
Thus, even in death will his averice shame him
By showing us wolves stead of lambs in his fold.

What joy will men find in glitter and glory,
When naught is of worth, save duty wel done?
Though their names lie on pages till with age they grow hoary,
What glory can live in what ought to've been done?

If mankind's so weak and so few do their duty
Why covet the praise of a weak selfish clan?
They will look for cude flaws, never seeing the beauty,
Where law had more perfectly formed a true man.

Then give me no baubles to lure and beguile me;
To live and to poise when my spirit has fled.
Let me live in the smiles of those who surround me,
And dry up some tears that in misery are shed.

A Cæsar's no more than a poor honest peasant,
Who loved and who fondled his dear ones in life.
The future's reflected in the past and the present,
And the joys I would win, I must give in earth's strife.

Allison Re-elected.

DES MOINES, March 5.—Senator Allison received a majority of votes in both houses today. His opponents were Bestow (dem.) and ex-Governor Larrabee. In the house the vote was: Allison 50, Bestow 41, Larrabee 6. In the senate: Allison 28, Bestow 20, Larrabee 20.

Republican League Convention.

NASHVILLE, Tenn., March 4.—At 12 o'clock today, when A. I. Watson, chairman of the executive committee of the national league of republican clubs, called the convention to order and made an address of welcome, there were nearly six hundred delegates present At least a hundred more are expected before the convention adjourns.

Moonshiners Captured.

CLAYTON, N. M., March 4.—News has been received here of the seizures by United States officers of three large distilleries doing a moonshine business on No Man's land, about forty miles from here. The distilleries did an enormous business, not only supplying the neutral strip and northern New Mexico with whisky, but were also shipping hundreds of barrels into Kansas.

Wholesale Indictments.

CINCINNATI, March 3.—One hundred and sixty-three indictments against saloon-keepers for selling liquor on Sunday, contrary to an old statute of the state, were returned today by the grand jury in Covington, Kentucky. This includes all the saloon-keepers in Covington except two.

Murdered For Money.

OKLAHOMA, I. T., March 2.—News from Shawnee town, thirty miles east of this city, says the dead bodies of a man named Holmes, his wife and two children, were found Thursday. They had returned to their claim, a few miles from this city, where they were killed, it is supposed, for money by the outlaws that infest the Pottowatomie reservation. No clue to the assassins.

Guarding Against Infection.

SPRINGFIELD, Ill., March 2.—Governor Fifer yesterday issued a proclamation, to go into effect March 15, defining the district from which it shall be unlawful to ship cattle into Illinois between March 1 and November 1 of each year, except under the state live stock commissioners' regulations, the object being to prevent the introduction of splenic or Texas fever in Illinois. This prescribed district includes Indian territory, that part of Texas lying south and east of the counties of Palmer, Castro, Swisser, Briscoe, Hall and Childress, and the states of Arkansas, Louisiana, Tennessee, North and South Carolina, Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia and Florida. The proclamation also outlines the character of the regulations under which cattle may be imported into the state and the quarantine period of ninety days under which they may be retained if brought in regardless of the terms of the proclamation.

Saved From Death.

LONDON, March 2.—A dispatch from Brisbane says the steamship Quetta, recently foundered at sea on her voyage from Crooktown, Queensland, for London, had on board 280 persons. Of these 116 were saved including the captain and several other officers of the ship.

Smelters Organize a Trust.

CHICAGO, March 2.—The Herald today says that with the exception of five companies all the refining and smelting companies of the United States have formed a trust, with a capital of $25,000,000 of which $15,000,000 is to be common stock and the remaining $10,000,000 preferred stock. The common stock is to be used for the payment es the fixed properties that go into the new organization and the preferred stock for the purchase of ore and such personal property as it may be necessary to have. The chief object of the smelters, it is said, is to place their interests beyond the absolute control of the lead trust.

Extreme Cold.

NEW ORLEANS, March 2.—The weather this morning was the coldest or the season throughout Louisiana and Mississippi, the mercury at all points outside of this city going below 32 and doing great damage to cane, corn, vegetables etc.

Fatal Collision.

CHICAGO, March 2.—Engineer Carroll, a fireman and a brakeman were probably fatally injured in a colision of the Milwaukee & St. Paul fast mail train and a freight train at Oakwood, Wis., this morning. The loss to the company will exceed $30,000.

Mexican Cheap Labor.

WASHINGTON, March 3.—Complaint has been filed at the treasury department that "greasers" from Mexico are imported under contract to work on the Texas Pacific railroad in Texas. These Mexican laborers, it is stated, are employed in large numbers on the Texas Pacific railroad in construction work, and avoid a technical violation of the alien contract labor law by coming over under an implied contract, which is entered into formally when they arrive. The treasury department is considering the matter.

Burned to Death.

JOHNSONBURG, Pa., March 2.—Martin O'Malley and Peter Falley were burned to death here last night about 2 o'clock. O'Malley, who is a laborer, did odd jobs about town. He lived in a little shanty which was located near the railroad track. The two men mentioned and a third party, name unknown, were on a spree last night. O'Malley and Falley repaired to the shanty about 9 o'clock in the evening and retired. During the night one of the men, while yet under the influence of liquor, must have turned on more gas. The overpressure set fire to the building and burned it to the ground, together with its occupants.

The Beatrice Bill.

WASHINGTON, Merch 2.—The house committee on public buildings and grounds had agreed to report favorably upon Mr. Connell's bill appropriating $100,000 for a public building at Beatrice. The committee, however has reduced the appropriation to $60,000. The senate passed a bill providing for an appropriation of $100,000, and as it will agree to the reduction by the house, the measure will go to a conference. The conference committee will likely compromise upon an appropriation of $80,000, in which form the measure will become a law. Mr. Connell thinks he can secure an additional appropriation before the building is constructed, making the grand total come up to $100,000.

Hundreds of Cattle Frozen.

ST. LOUIS, March 2.—Reports from northern Texas say that hundreds of range cattle have been frozen to death during the recent cold spell, and that unless the weather speedily moderates the loss of stock will be very severe.

On the Reservation.

CHAMBERLAIN, S. D., March 5.—Parties from this city and Mitchell today located another town site opposite here on the Sioux reservation. It is situated about three miles north of the town from which the boomers were driven by United States troops a short time ago. The stage line from the Missouri river to Rapid City will have headquarters at the latest town, which has been named Lyman. The boomers claim many other advantages that will be sure to make their town a good one, but they will probably never secure a railroad, as the Chicago, Milwaukee & St Paul railway will cross three miles below where the first town was located Considerable rivalry will exist between the friends of the two towns, both claiming that they will have the best town. The boomers who were driven from their town site are still negotiating with the Indians for a relinquishment of the land desired by them for town site purposes, and claim they will yet induce the Indians to vacate. It may take several months of bargaining to do it, but the land will finally be turned over to the boomers.

German Syndicates in Mexico.

NEW YORK, March 5.—Don Luis Hueller, the Mexican Vanderbilt, will sail for Germany on Saturday, where he will conclude negotiations with the German government and several big syndicates whereby immense tracts of land in the state of Chihuahua, Mexico, will be colonized by Germans. In this enterprise the contracting parties have the favor of Bismarck. Prince Hohenholm is at the head of the syndicate on the other side.

"The German government has so much faith in my country," said Hueller yesterday, "that it has offered to loan Mexico $30,000,000 to pay the subsidies given the railroads. Our enterprise has stimulated other German capitalists to look up certain industries in the United States and before long you will be dealing with German as well as English syndicates."

A Dual Life.

LOUISVILLE, March 4.—William H. Pope, teller of the Louisville city national bank, a trusted employe and a frequenter of the best social circles of this city is gone. His absence from the bank yesterday morning excited no comment, as it was supposed he was at his sick sister's bedside or in the country delayed by the flood. When no word had been received from him at 10:30 the officers of the bank became suspicious and opened the vault. A hasty examination showed that between $40,000 and $60,000 in large bills missing, gold and silver coin being left intact. A careful examination will be required to get at the entire amount Pope took with him. It was learned that Pope left at 7:55 o'clock Saturday night for Chicago, where it is supposed he stopped with his brother Samuel over Sunday, leaving in the afternoon for Canada. Pope was 38 years old and had been with the bank since 1881. He had been leading a Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde life for many years, as many of his companions are aware.

Another Brewery Deal.

CHICAGO, Feb. 28.—Negetiations are said to be in progress here which will undoubtedly result in the purchase of of the three breweries in Peoria by an English syndicate. The breweries are at present owned by the Gipps Brewing company, the Union Brewing company and Gus Leisy & Co. As compared with many preceding deals the Peoria transfer will be a small affair, although about $1,000,000 will change hands

The compensation for census enumerators is, for each name, 2 cents; for each death within a year, 2 cents; for each farm 15 cents; for each establishment of productive industry, 20 cents; for each soldier, sailor or marine, or the widow of any, 5 cents. The census superintendent may designate per diem for sparsely settled sub-divisions, but in no case shall the payment be less than $2 or more than $5 a day of ten hours. Each enumerator has a sub-district of not more than 4,000 inhabitants, according to last census. They begin work on the first of June. The whole work is to be completed in ninety days.

There is a beaver dam within a mile of Madison, and a beaver was trapped there recently.

Pan-American Congress.

WASHINGTON, March 4.—The Pan American conference has adopted the report of the committee on international law. The committee on customs union made a majority and minority report today. The majority report says to establish a customs union as generally understood would require not only a partial sacrifice of national sovereignty of the American nations, but more radical changes in their respective constituencies than they are willing to accept. The majority believes the principle of unrestricted reciprocity is acceptable and that its adoption would bring about as favorable results as those obtained by free trade among the different states of the union. A customs union based on this, however, the majority deems impracticable as a continental system at present. Unrestricted reciprocity might be obtained gradually. The first step is the negotiation of partial reciprocity treaties whereby each nation may agree to remove or diminish their respective import duties on some of the natural or manufactured products of one or more nations in exchange for similar and equivalent advantages. If good results should follow as expected the number of articles might be enlarged from time to time until they attain, through the developments of the natural elements of wealth, other sources of revenue or the increase of existing ones which would allow the contracting nations to reach unrestricted reciprocity—free trade among some or all the American nations.

The minority, Alfonso of Chili and Pina of Argentine, state that differences of opinion in regard to the form of the report and recommendations led the minority to reject the whole subject. These delegates, it is said, felt that as long as the United States lays a tariff on wool, the principal articles produced in their countries, reciprocity would not benefit them,

Deceptive Ballot Boxes.

WASHINGTON, March 2.—Up in the room of the house committe on elections stands the ballot box that will figure in the debate on the Featherstone-Cate election case next week. The box is made of tin and looks like an ordinary cheap ballot box. But there is something about it that appears only upon close inspection. The orifice wherein the ballots were placed is double, so that if a ballot is placed on one side it slips into the box. If plaed on the other side it slips unperceived down into a waste basket or upon the floor. The contestant, Featherstone, asserts that twenty-one of these boxes were used in one county at an election in Arkansas and as the republican ballots were marked in blue to distinguish them, it was an easy matter for the democratic election managers to see that they did not go into the boxes and were not counted. The double lip around the orifice can readily be taken off, leaving the box absolutely honest in appearance.

Outrageous Proceedings.

GUTHRIE, I. T., March 4.—The reports concerning the alleged scheme to colonize Oklahoma and make it a negro state have aroused the settlers to a high pitch of excitement. At Downs, twenty-three miles west of here, a secret organization was formed and it was decided to drive out the few negroes and allow no more to become settlers. A negro named Hawkins was suspected of firing prairie grass a short time ago and the feeling against him became bitter. Early this morning a party of ten marked men broke into Hawkin's house, took him from bed and severely whipped him. During the whipping Buck, Hawkins' son, ran and aroused the Burgess family. Abe Clark and Sam Burgess, armed with shotguns, returned with young Hawkins and fired at the masked party from ambush. H. Chambers was badly wounded and may die. The negroes were pursued and captured and promised to leave the country. A few negro settlers in the vicinity of Guthrie became greatly alarmed at the feeling against the colored people and are getting ready to go to Kansas.

Terrible Mortality.

LONDON, March 4.—A dispatch from Calcutta gives sickening details of the sufferings of the British troops engaged in the Chin Lusai expedition. Notwithstanding the stringent orders telegraphed from the India office respecting sanitary precautions the health of the troops shows no improvement. Of 1,000 Punjaub coolies sent from Calcutta to reinforce the Chin column, 800 men were either dead or in the hospital before the Chin column had been forty-eight hours in the hills. It is charged that this mortality is due to the cruel action of the military authorities at Calcutta, who sent these men to the front without tents or covering, leaving them exposed to the heavy rains.

An inquiry has been instituted by the marquis of Lansdowne, viceroy of India, who has also sent a corps of physicians to the front to see whether the extraordinary mortality among the troops forming the Chin field force is due merely to the malarious nature of the climate or to neglect of sanitary precautions on the part of the military authorities. These two causes of decimation of troops sent to the front as reinforcements, are in no way more sickening in detail than that which befell several smaller bodies of men numbering from 100 to 800 each, which were previously sent to the front.

The main force of the expedition is now being so rapidly reduced in numbers by disease that there is serious talk of recalling the expedition and allowing the marauders to go unpunished until more favorable weather sets in. The latter event, however, would greatly increase the strength of the rebellious element throughout the whole of the Chin district and might lead to serious difficulties as the natives would look upon a backward movement as a defeat of the British and join the rebels in large numbers.

An Indian Outrage.

WILCOX, Ariz., March 3.—A freighter was murdered by Indians yesterday nine miles from Fort Thomas. The Indians stole the horses, burned the wagon and cut the telegraph lines between the military posts. A carrier brought the news. Troops are in pursuit.

Tired of the Lion's Supremacy.

NEW YORK, March 2.—A Montreal special says: A league has been formed here to bring about the independence of Canada by 1892. All the American powers are to be asked to exert their moral influence and, if needs be, their concerted action to free the country from the last vestige of European rule on the continent. The league will have united with it all the liberal clubs in the country. The American universities are to be invited to co-operate, as well as all political bodies who have for their object the bringing about of the final triumph of democratic institutions throughout the world. The league will be under the control of a supreme council, whose actions will be kept secret. This new departure, coming after the recent actions of the liberal clubs in declaring independence, causes much comment here.

CONGRESSIONAL

The Senate.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 27.—The following bills were taken from the calendar and passed: For the erection and location of a bronze statue of Christopher Columbus and the removal of the naval monument to the site. To authorize the construction of a railroad bridge across the Missouri river at Marion county, Iowa, and Burt county, Nebraska. To amend the timber culture act.

The senate then proceeded to the consideration of the bill to declare unlawful trusts and combinations in restraint of trade or production.

Sherman, who reported the bill from the committee on finance, said he had been instructed by the committee to move to strike out the third section, which fixes penalties for the offense of entering into trusts or combinations.

George opposed the bill, both on the ground of its inefficiency and on the ground that congress had not constitutional power to enact it. His arguments were mainly of a legal and technical character, designed to prove that it would be impossible ever to get a conviction under the bill, and as to the civil suits provided for by it, he said few of such events would ever be instituted and not one would be successful.

Reagan gave notice of an amendment which he intended to offer to the bill, it being the bill offered by him in December last. The bill went over without action.

Adjourned.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 28.—In the senate this morning Senator Ingalls was elected vice-president pro tem and will officiate during the absence of Vice-President Morton in Florida.

Blair took the floor and said he had received a letter, one of many such, complaining that the Associated press and the newspapers of the country failed to give such reports of important matters of debate in the senate as would properly inform the people touching affairs in progress. The letter in question referred to his educational bill. "This," said Blair, "is but a specimen of the general complaint throughout the country that the press, to which the senate furnishes privileges, and the Associated press, whose reporter has the privilege of the floor, fail to discharge their important duty in connection with the legislation.

Senators Hawley, Hale and Hoar defended the Associated press.

The matter was then dropped and the senate then proceeded to the consideration of the bill reported from the committee on pensions on the 15th of January granting pensions to ex-soldiers and sailors incapacitated for the performance of manual labor and providing for pensions to the dependent relatives of deceased soldiers and sailors.

Davis, chairman of the committee on pensions, addressed the senate, explaining the bill. The annual expense under the bill will be $35,908,000, divided among invalid persons, increase of existing pensions, widows of unpensioned soldiers, widows who are pensioners, widows whose claims are pending or have been rejected, the children of widows and the children pending bills.

Plumb offered a substitute for the second section, under which no pensioner would receive less than $6 per month.

Moody spoke against the substitute and Vest opposed the bill. One of its inconsistencies was that a parent who could not support himself by manual labor, but who might by mental or clerical work earn $5,000, $10,000, or $20,000 a year, would be entitled to a pension under it. He also spoke of the unreliability of the estimates and said no man could tell within millions and millions of how much this bill would cost.

It went over without action.

The house bill for the appointment of two persons to represent the United States in the national conference with reference to industrial property was passed.

Adjourned till Monday.

WASHINGTON, March 3.—In the senate today Voorhees offered a preamble and concurrent resolution reciting that in the recent lease of the seal islands of Alaska to the American company certain provisions of the law were not complied with, and directing that the secretary of the treasury be restrained from executing or delivering the lease to the company until the subject be inquired into by the senate. Referred to the finance committee.

The bill fixing the salaries of the several judges of the United States district courts at $5,000 per annum was taken up and passed.

The senate then resumed consideration of the Blair educational bill and was addressed by Spooner. He had voted once in favor of the bill, not without some misgivings as to its policy. When it came again before the senate he had felt constrained to vote against it.

He asserted his belief that since the bill was introduced in 1880 there had come over the country a great change of feeling as to its expediency. One strong evidence of that was the attitude of the newspaper press of the country during the discussion. In the northwest several leading republican papers bitterly opposed the measure. Several of the southern states opposed to it through their senators. The leading papers of the south were no longer in favor of it. Adjourned.

The House.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 27.—In the house the contested election case of Atkinson vs. Pendleton was called up and the floor was accorded to Contestee Pendleton.

A vote was then taken on the minority resolution declaring Pendleton entitled to the seat and it was defeated by a strict party vote.

The vote then recurred on the majority resolution seating Atkinson. The democrats refrained from voting, their object being to have the contestant seated by less than a quorum, so that the question of the right of the speaker to count a quorum may be taken before the courts. The vote resulted—yeas 162, nays nothing, the speaker counting the quorum.

O'Ferrall of Virginia raised the point of no quorum, but the speaker ignored him and the newly elected member appeared at the bar of the house and took the oath of office amid applause on the republican side.

The house then proceeded, in committee of the whole, to the consideration of the urgent deficiency bill, and after some discussion adjourned without action.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 28.—After the reading of the journal Henderson of Iowa moved that the house go into committee of the whole on the urgeney appropriation bill. Agreed to.

After three hours and a half consumed in the discussion of points of order the committee rose and the bill passed. It appropriates $23,650,000, the largest item being the appropriation of $21,600,000 for the payment of pensioners of the war of 1812 and the Mexican war. The remainder of the afternoon was devoted to the consideration of the private calendar, but no bills were passed. The house then took a recess before the evening session for the consideration of private pension bills.

The house at its evening session passed forty-five private pension bills and at 10:30 adjourned until tomorrow.

WASHINGTON, March 1.—After the passage of a few private pension bills the senate bill providing for an assistant secretary of war was passed—Yeas 126, nays 100.

Mr. Houk of Tennessee called up the contested election case of Featherstone vs. Cate from the First district of Arkansas.

Mr. Crisp raised the question of consideration. The house decided—yeas 133, nays 122—to consider the case.

The opening speech in favor of the claims of the contestant was made by Mr. Haugen of Wisconsin.

At the conclusion of Mr. Haugen's speech Mr. Outhwaite of Ohio took the floor, but in view of the small attendance moved an adjournment, which motion was agreed to—yeas 114, nays 107.

WASHINGTON, March 3.—O'Donnell of Michigan, at the request of the Seventh Day Adventists of the United States, presented a petition bearing 253,000 names protesting against the passage of any bill in regard to the observance of the Sabbath. Referred.

The joint resolution was passed authorizing the appointment of thirty additional medical examiners for the pension bureau.

Perkins moved to suspend the rules and put upon its passage the senate bill for the organization of the territory of Oklahoma, with the house substitute. The motion was lost—yeas 156, nays 96; not the necessary two-thirds in the affirmative.

Houk called up the contested election case of Featherstone vs. Cate.

Outhwaite advocated the case of the contestee.

Pending further debate the house adjourned.

WASHINGTON, March 4.—In the house this morning a resolution requesting the president to send to the house copies of all the correspondence between the United States and Mexico relating to the seizure at Tampico of the schooner Rebecca in February, 1884, was referred.

The following committee appointments were announced by the speaker: Messrs. Tarsney of Missouri and Reyburn of Pennsylvania on claims; Brickner of Wisconsin on Mississippi river levees, and Cheadle of Indiana on post-offices and post-roads.

Consideration of the Arkansas contested election case of Featherstone vs. Cate was then resumed and Dalzell of Pennsylvania took the floor.

Springer thought the case had not been thoroughly investigated and favored a resolution, which he said he would offer at the proper time, appropriating $100,000 to enable a sub-committee on elections to proceed to the First district of Arkansas and investigate the election.

Grosvenor said he would move to amend this resolution by doubling the appropriation and by having the investigation extended to other Arkansas districts.

Springer—I accept that.

Pending further debate the house adjourned.

A Blow at Bucket Shops.

CHICAGO, March 2.—A new blow was struck at the bucket shops today by the board of trade. The directors of the board this afternoon at a meeting decided to abolish the gathering and dissemination of quotations. The destruction of the elaborate system now in vogue is to begin March 31. What, if anything, will be done for a substitute can only be surmised. Most people believe the cessation will be only temporary and that after having broken up the advantages now enjoyed by the benefit shops by reason of various injunctions the board will resume the service.

Shell Out Gentlemen.

WASHINGTON, March 2.—The supervising architect of the treasury says it will likely be necessary for the citizens of Omaha to go down in their pockets and make good a deficiency amounting to between $2,000 and $3,000 on account of the purchase for the site for the new public building at Omaha. It is found that the awards under the appraisement aggregate $390,281. Besides there are many expenses incurred in the way of special agents, interest on the appraisement once the awards were made, etc. The appropriation for the purchase of the site was $400,000. The officials at the treasury and the department of justice believe that the aggregate to be paid for the site will amount to somewhere in the neighborhood of $400 and $2,000 or $3,000. The supervising architect will not proceed with his plans until this deficit is made good, the title vested in the government and everything is clear.

The Commercial Situation.

NEW YORK, Feb. 28.—The unreasonable weather and the growing doubts about the monetary future do not help business, and reports this week are less encouraging. Yet it must be remembered that the reports of dealers everywhere are liable to be much influenced by the disappointment of past hopes, so that they consider trade unsatisfactory because it is not up to their expectations, because distribution does not suffice to clear away the stocks purchased, though the amount of transaction may be larger than a year ago. To the trader who bought 20 per cent more than any previous season, but has only sold 5 per cent more, business is unsatisfactory. The enormous traffic during the latter part of last year showed that exceptionally heavy purchases were made and the clearings indicate that settlements are in a larger amount than a year ago, last week showing an increase of 4 per cent at New York, 5 per cent at Boston, Philadelphia and Chicago and 10 per cent at all other places. But the prevailing tone just now is one of discouragement.

The movement of breadstuffs is still heavy, and exports both of wheat and corn greatly exceed last year's. After a drop of about a cent in each, wheat recovered to an eighth above last week's price, and corn to five-eighths above, with fair transactions in each.

In the stock market the tendency has been toward further depression as is natural with money working more closely, and the average has declined 81 cents per share for the week, not including trust or industrial stocks which have been especially depressed.

The desired monetary relief through larger treasury disbursements has not come, and the government receipts exceed its payments for the week by $2,900,000.

On the other hand foreign markets are relieved. The Bank of England has again gained largely. Exchange on London has fallen from $4.86 to $4.75½ for actual business.

The interior money markets also are rather easier on the whole and are well supplied with generally firm rates, but with no indication of a large available surplus for shipment hither.

Until April the New York market is liable to work more closely, with an opportunity for manipulation.

The business failures occurring throughout the country were 2 1 as compared with a total of 271 last week.

A Bold Bank Robbery.

VALLEY FALLS, Kan., March 2.—A bold bank robbery occurred here this evening. Masked men entered Hicks & Gebhart's bank about 5 o'clock, held up the cashier with two revolvers and robbed the bank. President Gebhart is absent. The robbers escaped, though the town turned out five minutes after in pursuit.

Will Last Till August.

WASHINGTON, March 3.—"Yes I know it is the ambition of Speaker Reed to see this session of congress adjourn before the middle of July and he has had a thought at times that the season might close by the end of June, but I do not expect to get away, nor do the majoritg of the leading committees, before the end of July or early in August," said Mr. McComas of Maryland tonight. Mr. McComas is one of the oldest members of the house committee on appropriations and one of the leaders on the republican side. He continued: "Here we are in March already. We have made a splendid record so far, but see what we have to do. We started out with seventeen contested elections, at least fourteen of which must be judicially heard and disposed of in the house as well as in committee. Three are determined; the eleven remaining will consume over three weeks of time in debate, say twenty-five legislative days. The appropriations are well advanced, the District of Columbia and two deficiency bills having been passed and the pensions placed upon the calendar. But fifty days more will be consumed by the appropriations on original consideration after they come from the senate and also from conferences. Fifty days will be consumed with the tariff bill. Three bills, you see, will take up 125 legislative days, or twenty-one weeks. These alone would take us to August 1. Then there will be pensions, public buildings, shipping immigration and many other bills which must be considered and adopted before we can adjourn. Night sessions and long hours of work will of course help us out, but I do not see how we can hope to get away under the early days of August."

Irrigation of Arid Lands.

WASHINGTON, March 4.—"While I do not expect to see a general appropriation made for the purpose of beginning the irrigation of the arid plains, I am confident that besides an appropriation for the purpose of making surveys and final plans to begin irrigation that an appropriation of about $150,000 will be made to locate the artesian basins in North and South Dakota," said Representative Hansbrough of North Dakota to your correspondent today. "Irrigation is very important to the people in the great northwest. I am sure in my mind that we can easily and cheaply secure all the irrigation we want by simply boring artesian wells and that the appropriation of $150,000 will be for actual wells to be used in irrigation which will be practical experiments and not theoretical investigation. Major Powell of the geological survey believes that the source of our artesian power lies in the Black Hills, but I think that it is the Missouri river as that stream is six or seven hundred feet above the sub-humid belt of the Dakotas.

Leavenworth Looses the Headquarters.

LEAVENWORTH, Kan., March 4.—It is definitely announced here that orders have been received from Washington that the headquarters of the department of the Missouri are to be removed from Fort Leavenworth. As the selection of the new location is left with General Wesley Merritt, commanding the department, that officer has selected St. Louis. This is a matter in which the utmost secrecy is maintained until all arrangements have been made, but this announcement is authentic. Several cities have been anxious to secure the department headquarters.

A School Boook Trust.

NEW YORK, March 3.—The report that an English syndicate representing $25,000,000 is making a effort to form a school book trust in this country is of peculiar interest. The syndicate has been given the option of the purchase of six of the largest school book publishing houses in America. The firms which offer to dispose of their establishments are Ivison, Blakeman & Co., D. Appleton & Co., A. S. Barnes & Co., of New York; Van Antwerp, Bragg & Co. of Cincinnati, and two other firms which are believed to be Cowperthwait & Co. of Philadelphia, and Tainter Bros. & Co. of New York. These firms are said to have put the selling price of their plants at from 30 to 50 per cent above their value at present rates of profit and expense. It is expected that prices can be increased and expenses greatly decreased should one firm control the entire market.

The English capitalists hesitate about closing the bargain for two reasons. One is that Harper Bros. cannot be bought and that firm threatens to be to the schoolbook trust what Spreckles is to the sugar trust. The other reason is that the educators all over the country look with dismay upon the possibility of one concern controlling the publication of schoolbooks, because they consider that active competition in the publication of schoolbooks helped materially in bringing the educational system up to its present standard, as the best brains of the country are sought by different houses, who must hold or increase their business by putting on the market better and more thorough books than those sold by competitors.

Sunk At Sea.

LONDON, March 2.—A dispatch received here this morning states that the British steamer, Quetta, 2,254 tons burden, which sailed from Australian ports for London, has been lost at sea. The number of persons drowned is not definitely known, but the dispatch states that a large number perished. The Quetta had twenty-seven first-class passengers and a crew numbering 112. She also had the mails for England. The managers of the line to which the steamer belonged say they do not believe the report that the steamer is lost.

Later the loss was confirmed at Lloyds. Advices received there state that 200 lives were lost. The steamer struck a rock, not shown in the chart, near Somerset in Torres straights at the northern extremity of Australia and sunk in three minutes.

Trouble Among Cattlemen.

CHICAGO, Feb. 28.—A war has broken out at the stock yards between the shippers and producers of cattle on the one hand and the commission men on the other, which culminated this afternoon in the shippers, represented by the American live stock commission company, suing out an injunction before Judge Tuley against the commission merchants, represented by the Chicago live stock exchange. The exchange had adopted a by-law which denies membership to any corporation which pays dividends or rebates or makes discrimination in rates to stockholders or customers. It is charged that this is directed at the Shippers' association and is purposely done to exclude it from the exchange and all members thereof are to be prohibited from buying stock from the shippers' association after March 4 under penalty of suspension and expulsion. The complainant says that its business will be ruined by the acts of the exchange unless the injunction is issued. A temporary restraining order was made by Judge Tuley.

Compound Lard Protest.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 28.—The house committee on agriculture gave a hearing this morning to the opponents of the Conger and Butterworth lard compound bills which was very interesting and important. N. K. Fairbanks & Co. were represented by J. M. Oliver of Chicago, W. J. Curtis of New York and D. E. Fox of Washington. These gentlemen directed attention to the fact that the lard compounders were distinctly branding their product as "lard compound" and there was no deception of the public in their brands or labels. The Conger bill would simply require them to reverse the words they now adopt and brand their goods "compound lard." They further claimed the goods were healthful, and in support of this proposition presented the reports of the state boards of health of New York and New Hampshire commending lard compounds and cotton seed oil as good and nutritious edible fats. A further objection to the legislation was the great injury caused to our foreign commerce by unfavorable agitation. The result has been to stimulate lard refining in foreign countries, the growth of this business in Hamburg alone being at least 40 per cent in the last three years. Letters and statements were read from merchants, manufacturers and experters pretesting against the proposed laws on these grounds. It was claimed by the opponents of the bills that the present advocates of the measures outside of congress were seeking a trade advantage and were urging these bills to stifle competition; that if any measure should be passed it should be a general pure food or a general lard bill compelling packers and refiners as well as lard compounders to brand their products so that the consumer will know what part of the hog he is eating in his lard. No good argument has yet been presented showing why but one food article should be selected from a thousand for legislation. Such a bill has been introduced by Mr. McClammy of North Carolina. The committee also have before them several pure food bills. Further hearings will be given and much time is likely to be occupied in the consideration of the subject of pure food as well as lard and "lard compound."

Abandoned Military Lands.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 28.—The secretary of the interior, in response to the senate resolution of December 19, transmitted to the senate today a list of abandoned military reservations relinquished to the interior deartment by the war department, together with a statement of area, improvements upon them, etc. As to the reason ask "why the lands in such reservations are not surveyed, sub-divided, appraised and sold, and what appropriation is needed to survey said lands, that the same may be disposed of as provided by law," the commissioner of the general land office writes to the secretary that the only reason why these lands have not been surveyed, etc., is a lack of funds. The commissioner thinks it advisable to make an appropriation of $20,000 for this purpose.

A Race With Fire.

OGDEN, Utah, Feb. 28.—There was an interesting and exciting race on the Central Pacific this morning near Blue Creek, west of Ogden twenty-five miles. It was a race against time with a burning train and the goal ahead was the water tank. It was a race the trainmen and passengers will long remember, while the excitement itself lost much of its attraction on account of the impending danger that threatened. When the west-bound fast mail reached a point six miles east of Blue Creek, the engineer discovered that a mail car filled with through mail was on fire. An effort was made to put it out, but there being no water near the engineer threw open the throttle and resolved the reach the water tank if possible in time to save his valuable cargo. Each minute the burning train was a mile nearer the promised rescue. In six minutes he landed the chariot of fire under the spout of the water tank, but it was too late. The interior was a mass of flames and 158 sacks of through mail were almost totally consumed. Word soon spread though the coaches that the train was on fire. The greatest excitement prevailed. Only the lightning speed prevented the ladies from jumping from the train. As the flames had not made their way through the sides of the coach no danger threatened the other cars. Thomas Ozenard, chief clerk of the railway mail service at Ogden was on the train. He says that he is unable to give even a theory of the firing of the train, as it seems impossible that it should have caught from flying sparks.

A Great Big Bluff.

WASHINGTON, March 4.—For five hours this afternoon behind closed doors the senate discussed the subject of executive sessions.

Dolph, from the special committee, submitted a series of resolutions directing the committee to again question A. J. Halford and G. G. Bain, representatives of the press associations, and Guthrie of the New York Herald, Seekendorf of the Tribune, and Depuy of the Times, as to their sources of information, and upon a second refusal to answer to proceed against them for contempt. The resolution was supported by Dolph, Wilson of Iowa and Harris, who argued it was incumbent upon the senate to vindicate its authority and dignity by this course.

Moody, Pettigrew, and others took strong grounds against the resolution.

Teller offered as a substitute his resolution proposed last spring for the consideration of executive nominations in open session. In this he was supported by Platt. No conclusion was reached. The discussion will be resumed tomorrow. In the course of the debate it was developed that some supporters of the resolutions held the opinion that recalcitrant witnesses were guilty of sedition in defying one branch of the legislative department of the government.

THE MARKETS.

LINCOLN, NEB.	
CATTLE—Butchers' steers	$2 00 a 3 00
Cows	1 50 a 1 75
HOGS—Fat	3 00 a 3 25
Stockers	3 00 a 3 25
SHEEP	3 00 a 3 05
WHEAT—No. 2 spring	60 a 65
OATS—No. 2	12 a 16
RYE—No. 2	25 a 27
CORN—No. 2, new	17 a 18
FLAXSEED	1 00 a 1 02
POTATOES	18 a 20
APPLES—Per bbl	1 75 a 2 15
HAY—Prairie, bulk	3 50 a 4 50

OMAHA, NEB.	
CATTLE	$3 20 a 4 40
Cows	1 50 a 2
HOGS—Fair to heavy	3 50 a
Mixed	3 25 a

CHICAGO, ILL.	
CATTLE—Prime steers	$3 30 a 4 80
Stockers and feeders	1 90 a 3 15
HOGS—Packing	1 50 a 3 75
SHEEP—Natives	3 60 a 5 80
WHEAT	79¾
CORN	31¾

KANSAS CITY, MO.	
CATTLE—Corn fed	$2 30 a 3 00
Feeders	1 60 a 2 80
HOGS—Good to choice	65 a 3 75
Mixed	3 55 a 60