

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

THE NATIONAL CAPITAL.

Very Brief Proceedings in the Senate Yesterday.

Progress of the Fight for the Possession of the Council Bluffs Postoffice.

How the Chairmanships of the House Committees Will Probably be Distributed.

Formal Occupation of the Renovated White House by President Arthur.

Lengthy Budget of Miscellaneous Notes From the Capital.

Foot of the list of republicans on pensions, patents, and education and labor, his former standing going for naught. At a caucus this morning it was proposed but not generally favored and a committee was appointed to consider the subject, and it is quite probable some voluntary changes will be made on the republican side to accommodate existing circumstances. Another caucus will be held in a few days.

HOUSE COMMITTEES. Speaker Keifer is hard at work on the house committees. The chairmanships are not materially changed since yesterday, though nothing definite can be stated.

Washington special to Cincinnati Commercial. The announcement of standing committees of the house by the speaker will not be made for a week. There are eighty-eight republicans elected, and sixty or seventy who have been members in previous congresses. There are forty-two standing committees, three joint and five select committees, so that only about one-half of the old members can be provided with chairmanships. Reed, of Maine, would probably be assigned to the chairmanship of elections were it not for his own seat in contest by Anderson, democrat. His preference would be judiciary, of which he was a member last session. There are four equally prominent republicans who seek the same honor, Robinson, of Massachusetts; McKinley, of Ohio; Williams, of Wisconsin, and Willis, of Michigan.

The committee on elections will be a very important committee to the republicans of this congress, there being seventeen contested election cases, fifteen of which are from the southern states, and involve the seats of democratic members.

The chairmanships of the ways and means committee will be given, it is said, to W. D. Kelley, of Pennsylvania; appropriations to Frank Hancock, of New York; banking and currency to A. W. Crane, of Massachusetts; Pacific railroads to Benj. Butler, of Ohio; claims, Richard Crowley, of New York; commerce, Mark H. Dunnell, of Minnesota; Dunnell is chairman of the Mississippi river commission; public lands, John H. Ketchum, of New York; post offices and railroads, Joseph G. Cannon, of Illinois; district of Columbia, Henry S. Neal, of Ohio; war claims, C. C. Carpenter, of Iowa; public expenditures, Romuald de Pacheco, of California; agriculture, Edward K. Valentine, of Nebraska; Indian affairs, Russell Errett, of Pennsylvania; military affairs, Anson G. Cook, of New York; naval affairs, George M. Robeson, of New Jersey; foreign affairs, John A. Kasson, of Iowa; unless Kasson should prefer to be named second on the committee on ways and means when W. R. Rice, of Massachusetts, would probably expect the appointment.

Thomas L. Young, of Ohio, has the choice of territories and public buildings and bridges. J. B. Ross, of Tennessee, railroads and canals; James B. Helford, of Colorado, mines and mining; Horace F. Page, of California, education and labor; A. Herr Smith, of Pennsylvania, accounts; George R. Davis, of Illinois, invalid pensions; Jay A. Hubbell, of Michigan, pensions.

Of course the list is subject to change, as members themselves may agree upon positions sought. The joint committee on census will be an important committee this session, having in charge the apportionment bill and will probably be tendered B. F. Harris, of Massachusetts. Orth, of Indiana, is spoken of for the elections committee, and Julius C. Burrows, of Michigan, for private land claims. These are the important committees, but there are still twenty more chairmanships to be provided for.

It is usual for the speaker to consult with the members who are prominent in the party before making his final assignments. The labor of forming the committees will be unusually irksome this session, and most of the republicans will be obliged to serve on three or four different committees.

CAPITAL NOTES. MINOR COMMITTEE CHANGES. WASHINGTON, December 7.—The republican senators held a caucus this morning to determine changes in the committees made necessary by the succession of Mr. Edgerton by Mr. Windom. No important changes were made.

SMALL-POX. Two cases of small-pox have appeared here.

THE WHITTAKER CASE. The decision in the Whittaker case has been completed by Judge Advocate General Swain, after a careful review of the facts, and is now being written out by his clerks for transmission to Secretary Lincoln.

STEEL BLOOM TARIFF. A party of iron and steel manufacturers and importers are before the secretary of the treasury to-day arguing against the old steel bloom case. The controversy grew out of the fact that a rate per pound is charged at the custom house on the steel blooms under 600 pounds, while the rate fixed by the tariff regulations on 600 pound blooms is 45 per cent. ad valorem, making a large discrimination in favor of certain importers. The argument will take all the afternoon.

A Colored Cadaver. ATLANTA, Ga., December 7.—When the Georgia railroad train arrived to-night, a trunk was opened and found to contain the body of a negro woman. The trunk was for the Southern Medical college at this place.

The President's Brother. CHICAGO, December 7.—Major Arthur, of the United States army, brother of President Arthur, arrived in the city this afternoon from San Francisco. He and party are en route for New York.

Indications. WASHINGTON, December 8.—For the upper Mississippi and lower Missouri valleys: Partly cloudy weather, local rains, followed by clearing weather, warmer, south veering to colder, north winds, rising, preceded in the east district by falling barometer.

NOT SO VERY CRAZY.

Testimony in Rebuttal to Show the Fallacy of the Claim.

A Number of Freeprot Witnesses Who Never Saw it in the Family.

How Guiteau is Treated by the Crowds Through Which He Daily Passes.

Solution of That Conspiracy Sensation Discovers in Chicago.

GUITEAU.

WASHINGTON, December 7.—The court room was packed at the opening this morning. The jury were early in their seats. Guiteau was escorted in shortly after 10 o'clock. His hands were full of papers and he settled down to their perusal after the handcuffs had been removed. As soon as Judge Cox took his seat, Guiteau became excited and said: "The American people do not desire that this case should be tried again. Now, I am not satisfied with the political situation as developed in this case. The president of the United States would have been shot if it had not been for the political situation. I ask your honor to subpoena Grant, C. Conkling and Platt. They were so down on Garfield last spring that they would not speak to him. I have a right to show that if your honor does not permit me to do this, I think the court in banc will grant a new trial. I also desire to say I will make the closing speech for the defense after Scoville has had his say. Scoville says he has submitted six written questions to President Arthur but has received no answer up to the present time. I don't want President Arthur dragged into this case in this way. I think a great deal of President Arthur. I made him president and he knows it. He is president of the United States, and I made him so, and I think I should have something to say in this matter." It was arranged between the counsel that the president's answers should be put in as evidence at any stage of the trial.

Gen. W. T. Sherman was the next witness. He solemnly recited the orders he had issued for the disposition of troops at the time of the assassination.

Dr. Spitzka, of New York, and Nettie G. Rade, of Chicago, were called but did not answer. Scoville requested that attachments be issued for them. The defense here rested.

In rebuttal General Sherman was the first witness placed on the stand. He testified that the letter was sent him at the time of his arrest on the shooting of Garfield. A military force was ordered out immediately.

"Why was that done?" asked Corkhill.

"Well," added the witness, "the shooting of Garfield under the circumstances reported gave reason to apprehend it was part and parcel of a conspiracy pervading the country. Of course the military was bound to act promptly to be ready for any contingency that might possibly arise."

The Southwestern Railway Association. CHICAGO, December 7.—At the meeting of the southwestern railway association to-day, it was agreed with the Missouri Pacific to leave a settlement of the new business to be adjudicated between that company and Secretary Midgely within ninety days, at the expiration of which time thirty days notice must be given to withdraw from the agreement.

The association re-elected the old executive committee—J. C. McMillen of the Chicago & Alton, R. H. Cable of the Rock Island, F. Potter of the Burlington and J. C. Gault of the Washburn, and the executive committee appointed Mr. C. C. Church general agent at Kansas City.

National Base Ball League. CHICAGO, December 7.—The annual meeting of the national league of professional base ball clubs convened this morning at the Tremont house, President W. A. Hulbert in the chair. The following delegates were present: A. H. Soden, Harry Wright, Boston; W. A. Hulbert, A. G. Mills, Chicago; J. F. Eva, Cleveland; H. B. Winstead, Providence; Freeman Brown, Worcester; Hon. W. G. Thompson, Detroit; J. S. Smith, Buffalo. After the meeting was called to order by President Hulbert, a number of communications were read and the usual committees appointed.

Adjourned till afternoon.

The Horticulturists. CHICAGO, December 7.—At the second day's session of the annual meeting of the State Horticultural societies of Illinois and Wisconsin, H. M. Smith, of Green Bay, submitted a report on the crop of strawberries and other small fruit, making a favorable showing.

C. L. Watson, president of the Iowa State society, followed in an encouraging report.

Dr. J. A. Warder, of Ohio, read an exhaustive paper on some evergreens.

Old Jeff's Return. CHICAGO, December 7.—Jefferson Davis, accompanied by his wife and daughter, arrived in the steamship Neckar, of the Bremen line, this afternoon. Davis was found on board the ship conversing with Mrs. Davis. He looks better than when he left for Europe several weeks ago. "I do not care to express my opinions in the newspapers," said he to a reporter. "We have had a very unpleasant time at sea. I feel much better than when I left Southampton. I will leave this afternoon for Louisiana, where I shall be able to enjoy quiet life." The object of his trip was to bring home his daughter, who had just graduated. It has been charged against him that his object in visiting England was to draw the money from the fund that was deposited there by the confederate government.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

Excitement in St. Petersburg Over the Nihilist Trials.

The Czar Strongly Urged to at Once Renew the War With Turkey.

Miscellaneous Foreign News of the Day.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

RUSSIAN MATTERS.

ST. PETERSBURG, December 7.—More than ordinary excitement was produced by the developments made in the state trials here to-day. The government broadly charged that Gen. Movinsky and State Counsellors Fursell and Tyseloff were partly chargeable with contributing to the assassination of Alexander II. by their negligence in the performances of certain duties.

The czar has been conferring with a number of prominent Pan-Slavists who have been urging upon him the importance of renewing the war with Turkey and refusing to consent to diplomatic arrangements which did not provide for the domination of Russians at Constantinople.

The position of Ignatieff daily becomes more insecure. He appears to have wholly lost the confidence of the emperor.

Absolute control of the telegraph and postal service of the empire will shortly be transferred to the minister of police. It is proposed to institute a thorough surveillance over all postal and telegraphic communications.

The prince of Montenegro has sent a letter to the czar complaining of the movements of Austrian fleets in the Adriatic sea. The remonstrances are written in very earnest language.

Five nihilists were arrested here to-day. They wore officers' uniforms and had crosses of the Order of St. George. Their intention was to attack Gen. Ignatieff and the czar on St. George's day.

VIENNA, December 7.—M. Batubosno, Roumanian minister at the Austrian court, in a conference held to-day with Von Kalloy, stated that he was particularly instructed by his government to express its regret that the Austrian interpretation put upon the king's speech that he uttered an unfriendly sentiment towards Austria. He begged to state officially that such interpretation did not reflect upon the friendly relations towards Austria.

ROME, December 7.—In the Italian chamber of deputies to-day, Signor Mancini, foreign minister, held a speech charged France with acting most unjustly to Italy and that Germany and Austria had interfered to preserve peace as they had common objects with Italy which were leading to closer relations. The government, he said, had refused all recognition of all acts consummated at Tunis. [Cheers.] France had said that the occupation of Tunis was not permanent, but she would not state how long it would last. Respecting Egypt, Signor Mancini said that the policy of Italy agreed with that of England.

BERLIN, December 7.—Bismarck suggested to deputies to take a short holiday, as he meant to summon a session of parliament to meet January 15.

LONDON, December 8.—The government has decided to largely increase the police in Ireland and form night patrols.

The Cotton Producers. ATLANTA, Ga., December 7.—The national cotton planters' association continued in session to-day. The old officers were re-elected as follows: President, F. C. Morehead; treasurer, George M. Kline; secretary, James S. Giddens.

Hon. Geo. B. Loring, United States commissioner of agriculture, delivered an able address before the association on "The Mutual Relations of American Industries."

Fire Record. NEW YORK, December 7.—A fire broke out in the vault room of the Gaylord-Watson map publishing company, top floor, No. 61 Beekman street, this morning, caused by the explosion of a vanish vat, and caused a loss to Watson, John Wetz (printers) materials and other tenants of \$25,000, and on the building \$3,000.

Baracks Sold. ATLANTA, Ga., December 7.—McPherson barracks, the property of the government, sold here to-day for \$16,000.

Obituary. TORONTO, Ont., December 7.—The Bishop of Algona died in this city to-day.

Postoffice Changes. Postoffice changes in Nebraska during the week ending December 5, 1881, furnished by Wm. Van Vleck, of the postoffice department:

Established—Burr Oak, Otos county; Mrs. Jane Cowles, Postmistress. Discontinued—Wentfield, Holt county.

Name Changed—Avon, Hamilton county, to Marquette, and O. H. Wisig, appointed postmaster.

Postmasters Appointed—Cheleva, Holt county, Frank Ellis; Geneva, Filmore county, Sherwood Barry; Leonard, Hamilton county, Charles Betts; Morningside, Filmore county, W. Price; O'Neil City, Holt county, W. D. Matthews; Pierce, Pierce county, Jacob H. Shurtz; Prairie Centre, Buffalo county, Worman Newburg.

CRIME.

CRIMINAL MALPRACTICE.

Philadelphia, December 7.—The mystery surrounding the death of the young woman whose body was found on Monday night in a house on Trotter street under circumstances which indicated criminal malpractice, was not cleared up by the coroner's inquest to-day. One witness said the deceased, whose name is believed to have been Kate Higgins, arrived here from Wurtemberg, Germany, about six months ago, while another witness stated the woman came to this city from Ohio or Chicago. The inquiry is not concluded.

CRIMINAL NOTES. RICHMOND, Ky., December 7.—James Smith was found guilty at Booneville, Ky., of wife murder, and the jury fixed the punishment as death. He was removed to jail, and an hour later was found hanging by the neck, dead.

Virginia Legislature. RICHMOND, December 7.—The legislature convened here to-day, the offices of both houses being filled by the election of readjuster nominees. Governor Holliday sent his message, dealing for the most part with the state debt. He claims the debt can be paid in full and says: "Virginia has been accused of attempting the mean crime of repudiation. It has been charged the federal government or the party directing its dealings has used its patronage and money to hurry her along to that dire and terrible way. If this be true, then if there be any stigma it has been taken from our commonwealth and fastened on the republic and will bloom out sooner or later in unspeakable disaster." General Mahone is in the city.

The Life-Saving Service. SARATOGA, N. Y., December 7.—At a meeting of eleven keepers of life saving stations, being held at Sandy Hook and Barnegat, at the Central hotel to-day, a resolution was drawn up petitioning congress to increase the compensation of keepers and crews. The keepers stated that most of their crews are on the point of resigning and their only retention in the service was the expectation that congress would enact a law giving them increased pay. Already five station keepers have resigned and a rebellion is threatened which will break up the service.

Killed His Wife. FALL RIVER, Mass., December 7.—Frank Charon, 29 years old, this morning shot his wife who was sleeping in bed, instantly killing her. The couple have three children, the oldest aged 4 years. The murderer gave himself up and is in jail awaiting the action of the grand jury. Rum and domestic infelicity were the causes of the crime. Charon exhibits no remorse.

Passenger Conductors' Association. NEW ORLEANS, Dec 7.—The Railroad Passenger Conductors' Life Insurance association meets here to-day. A large number of delegates are present from all parts of the country. All railroads have tendered the courtesy of travel and arrangements have been made for several excursions from the city after business is over.

Comment on the Message.

NEW YORK, December 7.—The Times, in two columns, approves all but the part referring to the star route frauds. The Times says: "The president makes somewhat gingerly allusions to the star route frauds. It might have been worth while to point out that the great reductions which have recently been made in the expense of the star route service can only be justified on the theory that the system which rendered necessary these reductions was both extravagant and corrupt."

The Herald has a column and a half, and says: "The message of President Arthur is admirably written, calm and dignified in style and tone, and advises congress as it is his constitutional duty to do so on many important subjects with a wisdom and sound judgment which will win for him the public confidence and for his recommendation the attentive consideration of both houses."

The Tribune says: "The message is strongest on foreign relations and finance, but is not weak anywhere, and will be generally accepted by the country as a judicious, moderate and in most respects a satisfactory document. On the civil service question, it shows a disposition to submit as little as possible to the programme of the civil service reformers."

Truth says: "The message speaks too well for itself to need any editorial comment."

The Star says: "The first message of President Arthur will be a great disappointment to the country, which has expected so much and will receive in this message so little of practical value and interest."

The Graphic says: "It is a magnificent product of the pen. The sentences are clear, cogent and concise, the production of a scholar, a statesman, a man of affairs and a patriot. The message is full of subjects worthy of thought and discussion."

The Post says: "The message is, on the whole, a very creditable paper. The president has contrived to say something of value on a great many topics and dismisses others without expressing an opinion on them but also without great waste of words."

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INCIDENTS.

When Guiteau leaves the court house in the eve each day there is more or less hissing and yelling by the crowd, and frequently on the way down crowds of colored people and