

THE STATE CAPITOL.

Important Measures Thoroughly Tongue-Lashed in the Legislature.

Canfield's Militia Bill Robbed of Its Youthful Freshness.

Vigorous Debate on the Bill for the Deposit of County Funds.

A Memorial to Congress Urging the Abolition of Bridge Tolls.

Pearman and Kennard Pool Their Plans for Bogus Claims.

THE SENATE.

Special Correspondence of The Bee.

THE SENATOR'S CERTIFICATE.

LINCOLN, February 8.—Gen. Manderson was at the capitol this morning shaking hands with the members and senators. Mrs. Manderson was also a visitor on the floor.

RESUME OF THE WORK.

In thirteen days from date the eighteenth session of the Nebraska legislature will be dead, or at least all the life left in it is what will remain after the reasons stop.

A brief resume of to-day's session will show satisfactory progress in several important bills.

The joint resolution introduced by Mr. Reynolds, urging our representative in congress to instruct the proper committee to report a bill limiting charges on Missouri river bridged to \$4 per carload for freight and 25 cents each for passengers, was considered in committee of the whole.

The words "instruct" grated upon the delicate nerves of some of the senators and it was changed to "request." Senator Connor moved to amend by striking out the "25 and 25 cents" clause and inserting "that the same be operated as a part of the railroad corporations owning or operating said bridges, and all bridge tolls be abolished. This amendment was supported by Brown, of Lancaster; Brown, of Clay; and others, on the ground that the resolution, as it originally read, might be taken as a concession by this legislature of the right of the Union Pacific company to charge extra toll over their bridge when in reality it is as much a portion of their road as any other mile of their track and rates should be the same.

Senators Reynolds, Sang and Butler opposed the amendment on the ground that in its new form it would amount to nothing but buncombe, while a reduction of rates to the proposed figures would be appreciated by every shipper in Nebraska. The amendment was carried and the resolution reported for passage.

McShane's bill to encourage the discovery and development of coal mines was also favorably reported. This provides that the state may furnish, free of rent, machinery to be used in boring for coal—the prospect or to give bond to go at least to a depth of 1,000 feet, unless a 30 inch vein of coal is reached at less than that depth. The machinery and a full report of the operations are to be returned to the state. An amendment repeals the existing offer of a bounty to the discoverer of coal.

Senator Brown, of Douglas, advocated his bill providing for the deposit of public funds of cities and counties in banks and securing to said cities or counties the interest on the same. He was assisted by McShane and Sowers, the latter senator stating that the county (Adams) had lost \$50,000 which a law like this would have saved. Brown, of Lancaster, opposed this bill, and an exciting debate was followed by a call of the yeas and nays which resulted in 12 votes to indefinitely postpone and 13 in favor of the passage of the bill.

When the committee of the whole tackled Canfield's militia bill, a whole shrewd questions propounded by Brown, of Douglas, caused the seemingly innocent clause, that gives officers and members the same pay that similar grades in the regular army receive, develop into figures which would pay the militia at the rate of \$5,000 a year for generals and sixty cents a day for privates. There are evidently more militia privates than officers in the senate, and they concluded that \$2 a day all round would be a more equitable division of the state militia money, and with that understanding the bill rests until Mr. Canfield calls it up again.

NEW BILLS. Among the bills attracting the most attention to-day is one introduced in the senate regulating voluntary assignments. It is a long document and is being scanned closely by the commercial men of the state.

A bill for the protection of the traveling public, compelling hotel owners and keepers to provide a safe escape for all buildings three stories high or over, was under discussion this morning. Notices are to be posted in each room telling where the ropes or rope ladders are kept. The bill provides that a watchman shall be kept in every hotel having fifty rooms or over, and that an alarm bell shall be kept on each floor of the building. This bill as originally introduced provided for a watchman on each floor. Mr. McShane moved to amend the bill by compelling the proprietor to keep a guard for each room, and on this question the senator from Richardson, Mr. Schoenholtz, took the floor and manner in which he handled the question proved him quite a humorist, notwithstanding he looked as solemn as a judge. He argued that the morals of

the guests and the reputation of all hotels need looking after, and he thought that under the circumstances one guard to each room was none too much, and he thought the guard should be kept on the inside of the room. The bill passed the committee of the whole.

When the bill came before the senate, Brown, of Douglas, offered an amendment which made the owners of the hotels responsible instead of the keepers. Upon this the yeas and nays were called when the amendment was rejected. The bill was then ordered engrossed for a third reading, and at 12:10 the senate adjourned until 1:30.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Special Correspondence of The Bee.

LINCOLN, February 8.—

The greater part of the session this forenoon was taken up with committee reports, which were, with few exceptions, adopted. Among these are reports recommending bills for the relief of Sheriff Groner, of Lincoln county; Tom Kennard, swamp land commissioner, and J. W. Pearman, chronic bogue claimant. There was also recommended the bill creating a board of health and medical examiners, Mr. Packard's pet, the bill to declare and protect the identity of married women; Mr. Sadelek's bill for minority representation in electing members of the legislature, and Mr. Hall's bill prohibiting the publication of lottery advertisements.

Several bills that had been engrossed for a third reading were passed, among them the memorial to congress, requesting the abolition of the duty on barbed wire; Bierbower's bill, fixing the 15th day of May each year for the general round up of cattle; a bill prohibiting prairie fires under severe penalties; the bill defiling the boundary lines of Brown county, and the bill for the protection of the inmates of the hospital for the insane—removing all consorship over their correspondence.

Texas Stock.

Special Dispatch to The Bee.

GALVESTON, February 8.—The loss to stockmen throughout the state by the recent cold snap will not exceed five per cent.

SAN ANTONIO, February 14.—Advices from various parts of the state show the average loss of sheep through the recent spell of cold weather from 15 to 20 per cent. Cattle of all kinds suffered to a great extent.

Friction in Maine.

Special Dispatch to The Bee.

AUGUSTA, Me., February 8.—The house, 104 to 37, ordered engrossed the prohibitory amendment. The attempt to except cider failed—56 to 80.

The Cape Cod Canal.

Special Dispatch to The Bee.

BOSTON, Mass., February 8.—Two different companies applied for charters to build a ship canal across Cape Cod, and are ready to deposit \$100,000 or \$200,000 as a guarantee before commencing operations.

Races in New Orleans.

Special Dispatch to The Bee.

NEW ORLEANS, February 8.—Track good, attendance light. Five-eighths of a mile, Lucy Johnson won; time 1:04.

One mile, Wedding Day won; time 1:44.

Hurdle race, mile, King Dutchman won; time 1:51.

A Protest from Boston.

Special Dispatch to The Bee.

BOSTON, February 8.—Mayor Palmer presided at a mass meeting of Irish born citizens to-night, who protest against the English policy of enforced emigration, and demand that the government give work to the people instead.

Texas Stock.

Special Dispatch to The Bee.

FORT WORTH, Tex., February 7.—Specialists to the Gazette from about twenty points, embracing Kansas, the Indian Territory and Northwest Texas, report the loss on sheep very heavy during the cold wave. The cattle are suffering, but the losses are few where they were in good condition. The number in bad condition was so few that the loss is insignificant. The weather is moderating.

A Chicago Lunatic.

Special Dispatch to The Bee.

CHICAGO, February 8.—An application has been filed for the appointment of a conservator of the estate of the well-known millionaire and democratic politician Perry H. Smith. The first evidence of failing mental force was observed in London last summer when Mr. Smith was prostrated with a sudden illness. The application was made at the instance of Robert Law, a friend of the family, and it is understood to be with their concurrence.

A Murdered American.

Special Dispatch to The Bee.

CITY OF MEXICO, February 8.—John G. Buchan (Heppburn), son of Sir Thomas Buchan Heppburn, the English baronet, was murdered by miners Sunday in Pinos Altos, Chihuahua. Five of the murderers were shot last Monday.

A Bad Man.

Special Dispatch to The Bee.

WASHINGTON, February 8.—A Washington paper says: Col. Cappinger, who married Miss Blaine, gained an unenviable reputation in California when stationed there in 1868. It charges him with seducing and eloping with Mrs. Cash, wife of the San Francisco representative of The New York Herald at that time.

A Dead Governor.

Special Dispatch to The Bee.

GALVESTON, February 8.—A News-Austin special says ex-Governor Davis died this morning from pneumonia after a short illness.

THE STEAL CHILLED.

A Cold Day for the Gilded Dome of the Caulked State House.

The Capitol Appropriation Knocked Out of Time on the First Round.

A Lively Night in the Lower House, Backed by the Old Lobby.

Half a Million for Ornament With Coal at \$12 a Ton.

Our Own Gray Works and Votes for Additional Taxes.

THE DAY'S WORK.

Special Dispatch to The Bee.

LINCOLN, Neb., February 8.—Another lively day in the legislature. The sum and substance of its labors to-day will, however, fill very little space in the statute books. As yet no measures of relief demanded by the people in the matter of cheaper transportation have been digested and presented to the house. The bill recommended by Mr. Grout and a majority of the railroad committee is nothing more nor less than an audacious scheme to nullify the decision of the supreme court by creating a railroad commission, and to postpone for the next two years any legal regulation of the railroad traffic.

GRAY, OF DOUGLAS,

who is associated with Grout in playing lackey for the monopoly, let the cat out of the bag when he admitted to another member that A. J. Poppleton was the eminent attorney whom he had consulted about the bill. If Poppleton's advice has more weight with the legislature than their oath to obey the constitution, they will pass this bill and earn the everlasting gratitude of Mr. Poppleton's principal client, the Union Pacific.

It creates a commission appointed by the governor with an office, including clerks, amounting to \$15,000 a year. The fifteenth section of the bill prohibits the commission from doing anything that is not done by direction of the GOVERNOR, who is clothed with supreme control over all their actions. Why the state should pay for a commissioner while the governor has absolute control over its government is simply preposterous.

Senator McShane, chairman of the senate committee on drafting and compiling another bill which will be less objectionable, although by no means what the people have a right to expect or demand.

For the first time since the legislature convened the house held a night session, which lasted till after twelve, and gave rise to the liveliest and most exciting debate of the session. It was a field day, or rather a field night. The scrimmage took place in committee of the whole, which had under consideration a number of bills, until the general file. After several unimportant bills had been passed over the clerk reached

THE CAPITOL APPROPRIATION BILL,

which he read section by section, without any material objection from any quarter, until the general file. Behind and inside of the bar, appeared delighted with the seeming indifference exhibited by the house, when Palmer, of Dixon, suddenly moved to strike out all the bill after the preamble that recites the necessity for pulling down the old capitol and makes it the duty of the board of public works to contract for its removal. The motion was seconded and created quite a sensation. Roberts rose to a point of order, that inasmuch as the speaker had ruled that where no objection is made to any part of a bill read by section, no amendment is in order after the whole has been read. The chair, Mr. Nettleton, ruled the point was not well taken. Mr. Frano supported Mr. Palmer's motion in a vigorous and telling speech. He was opposed to levy a tax for a costly structure as long as the state could not meet the just claims of its citizens that remained unpaid for many years. Past legislators had refused to pay honest debts. It was a great comfort and pleasure to the legislature to sit in a great hall with Brussels carpet and costly chandeliers while the creditors of the state who have just claims are compelled to pay 12 per cent interest. Mr. F. I. of Lancaster, appealed to the house whether the preceding legislature who had appropriated money for the two wings had committed

AN ACT OF FOLLY.

The state is not insolvent and he did not believe it would repudiate any just debt. If they wanted to vote the bill down let them do so, but he objected to the motion to dispose of it in this way. He urged the house to pass the bill without amendment. Jensen said he hated appropriations, but he hated to see the old hen between the two wings. He was a farmer and in debt, but that he thought the glory of the state demanded the capitol building with its dome should be an ornament to the state. Sessions followed in a similar strain. It was not for Lincoln or Lancaster county he appealed, but for the whole state, which needed better accommodations. The lawyers of Nebraska who attend the supreme court want it. Thomas Burt, in a very sarcastic way, backed Sessions by saying the senate chamber in one of the new wings

HAD TO BE CAULED

to keep the wind out, and the other wing would soon be in the same condition. Mr. Wolf, of Cass, came to the rescue of the Lancaster delegation

by declaring that the taxpayers of the state had not been out a dollar for the old capitol building, the university or any state buildings. Mr. Howard, of Clay, advised the house to go slow before they incurred such an enormous outlay. Some counties, possibly Cass, may not have been taxed for the buildings, but he knew that Clay county was heavily taxed, notably for the insane asylum. The state can afford to wait. A one mill tax in two years would aggregate \$200,000. Mr. Ashby, of Franklin, supported the motion because the bill provided no limit to taxation. The accommodations are ample now for some years. Mr. Dodd, of Howard, was opposed to further taxation. We already had SEVEN MILLS OF STATE TAX.

There are hundreds of farmers living in dugouts and sod houses who find difficulty in providing for their families let alone pay taxes for a grand building. Johnson of Saunders was opposed to any extravagance, but thought the demand reasonable. Gray of Douglas thought it would cost the man with a 100 acre farm only eighty cents a year. Howard retorted, "No matter how small the tax, but when you get a man's nose on the grindstone, an inch is a good deal to him." [Laughter.]

The debate grew hotter as it progressed. Frano and Whedon clinched in an argument. Frano insisted that the legislature had voted away \$400,000 more than its resources. Whedon denied this. When questioned what the proposed building would cost, he said the architect's estimate was ABOUT \$400,000.

Dodd said it would probably cost more than half a million. The vote on Palmer's motion to strike out all after section two was lost by a very small majority. Field moved that the bill be reported back with the recommendation that it be passed. A rising vote resulted in a tie. Frano insisted that the chair declare Field's motion lost. The chair called for another vote and great excitement. The result was again a tie.

Mr. Nettleton then cast his vote in the negative and declared Field's motion recommending the bill, lost, which was greeted with considerable applause. The supporters of the bill then moved an adjournment of the house, which was seconded. The result is regarded as indicating the final defeat of the capitol appropriation.

The Floods.

Special Dispatch to The Bee.

PITTSBURG, February 8.—The flood in the Monongahela reached the highest point, 28 feet, at 3 o'clock this morning, and soon after began to recede, owing to the cold weather which shut off the small streams. The water did not get as high as anticipated by several feet. The damage here is almost wholly from inundation, but the loss from these is considerable. All mills along both rivers are submerged and operations suspended. Many stores in the lower portions of the two cities are under water and hundreds of families on the South Side and in Allegheny have been compelled to leave their homes until the floods subside. Dispatches from towns along the Monongahela report great damage from inundation. The water at these points is subsiding and no more danger is apprehended.

PARKERSBURG, W. Va., February 8.—The present is the highest flood here since 1860, the river being 44 feet above low water. Houses on the Ohio side are inundated, also on the Kanawha side. Three hundred persons are homeless. Every mill in the city is under water. Low fully \$100,000. No lives lost. The Kanawha river is rushing out at a tremendous rate. The water is within a foot of the furnace fires at the post-office.

CINCINNATI, February 8.—The Ohio river is rising along the whole length, an almost unprecedented case. At Wheeling it is 36 feet and still rising. Bate cannot pass under the bridges. The river here is rising three inches an hour.

CINCINNATI, February 8.—The Commercial Gazette's special report says that the Ohio river receded two inches at Marietta, but the city is in darkness, the gas works being flooded. The loss in the city is very great, merchants not having time to save goods. Mrs. Groves was found drowned in a house this evening. Railway connection is cut off. The loss in the township to farm property is estimated at \$50,000.

At Pomeroy, Ohio, the flood is greater than any since 1847, and promises to exceed that before morning. Three hundred buildings have from one to fifteen feet of water. In three-fourths of the business houses water is six feet deep. The damage to dwellings and business houses is estimated at \$150,000.

At Ironton there is fifty-five feet of water in the river and rising. The lower part of the city is flooded and all factories are stopped.

At Portsmouth the river is rising three inches an hour. The water works and nearly all factories are stopped. One hundred families have been driven from their houses. The railroads north and east are under water.

FREMONT, O., February 8.—Three thousand dollars have been collected for the relief of the flood sufferers. It will be several days before the dwellings can be occupied.

The Mexican Lobby.

Special Dispatch to The Bee.

NEW YORK, February 8.—Hon. William Henry Forbush, of the New York World, and General Grant, of Peter Cooper, of Philadelphia, were in committee of the whole on the tariff bill, pending amendments being those offered by Messrs. Tucker and Morrison, fixing the duty on steel rails at seven-tenths of one cent per pound and \$15 per ton respectively. Mr. Tucker withdrew his amendment and accepted Mr. Morrison's fixing the rate at \$15 per ton.

Several amendments were offered and rejected, and after a discussion of some length, the committee fixed the

THE NATIONAL CAPITAL.

The Bankers of New York and Boston Get the Best of the Treasury.

The Transfer of Silver Slightly Secured by Means of Certificates.

Teller Demands the Return of a Huge Farm from the State of Iowa.

The Senate Rapidly Approaching the End of the Tariff Bill.

While the House Continues Hammering Iron.

CAPITOL NOTES.

Special Dispatch to The Bee.

THE TRICKS OF BANKERS.

WASHINGTON, February 8.—The treasury regulations governing the distribution of standard silver dollars and the law authorizing the issue of silver certificates are being used by New York and Boston banks to obtain from one city to another without expense to themselves, but with considerable cost to the government for transportation charges. The manner of doing this is to deposit currency in the sub-treasury in one city and obtain orders for standard silver dollars to be sent to the correspondent in other cities from the mint, and the correspondent immediately upon receipt of the order presents it to the sub-treasury in his city and asks for silver certificates. Several million dollars have been transferred in this way recently, costing the government several thousand dollars without lessening the number of silver dollars in the treasury, but in effect completely gutting the vaults of the New York sub-treasury.

A LAND-STEAL IN IOWA.

The secretary of the interior has addressed the governor of Iowa a letter, demanding that the state return to the government \$3,013 acres of land patented to the state on account of the Sioux City and St. Paul railroad. The lands patented were in excess of what was due the road.

CONGRESS.

Special Dispatch to The Bee.

SENATE PROCEEDINGS.

WASHINGTON, February 8.—The senate took up the tariff bill and consideration of the free list began. Senator Slater moved to put in the free list.

Senator Beck asked for division of the question. Senators Sherman, Williams and Logan opposed it. The preceding officer laid before the senate a message from the president transmitting a communication from the secretary of the interior setting forth the urgent necessity of stringent measures for repression of evasions and violations of laws relating to public lands.

The joint discussion was continued by Senators Beck, Allison, George, Morgan, Slater and Jonas. The motion to put in the free list was lost—yeas 31, nays 33. Jute butts were put on the free list. Senator Morgan moved to strike out raw silk as reeled from cocoon and silk cocoons and silk waste so that he might move to put them on the free list at ten per cent, and advanced. The debate which followed the motion was devoted to statements concerning the silk industry in different states, some senators declaring it worthy of special encouragement, while others doubted whether it could be made successful here. The motion was lost—yeas 7, nays 39.

The reading of the free list was completed. Senator Allison offered an amendment to the free list, providing for refunding 10 per cent of the duty paid on imported salt used in curing meats exported. The senate went to the paragraph passed over informally yesterday, laying a duty of \$1 on stones, unmanufactured or undressed, except marble, not specially enumerated. The paragraph was modified by striking out stones unmanufactured or undressed, and leaving it apply to free stone, sand, granite and all building or monumental stone, except marble not dressed nor specially enumerated. An amendment was added fixing the duty upon stones as above, heavy, dressed or polished, at \$1.50 per ton. Agreed to—yeas 31, nays 21.

Asphaltum and bitumen were added to the free list. Senator Ingalls moved to add books, pamphlets, bound or unbound, and all printed matter not specially enumerated or provided for in this act; engravings, bound or unbound; etchings, illustrated books, maps and charts. Agreed to—yeas 29, nays 25.

Senator Bayard moved to add "natural mineral water" in the free list. The words "together with bottles on which they are contained" were offered as an amendment, pending which the senate adjourned.

HOUSE PROCEEDINGS.

A joint bill was passed to admit free of duty a monument to George Washington, to be imported by the Philadelphia society of the Cincinnati. The house then went into committee of the whole on the tariff bill, pending amendments being those offered by Messrs. Tucker and Morrison, fixing the duty on steel rails at seven-tenths of one cent per pound and \$15 per ton respectively. Mr. Tucker withdrew his amendment and accepted Mr. Morrison's fixing the rate at \$15 per ton.

Several amendments were offered and rejected, and after a discussion of some length, the committee fixed the

duty per ton on steel rails, may bars and railing bars, made in part of steel, weighing more than twenty-five pounds to the yard, at \$15 per ton, by a vote of 110 to 90.

By a vote of 91 to 95 the clause relative to bar iron was amended, making the duty on bars less than one inch or more than six wide, 9 1/2 of one cent per pound; more than two inches thick or less than one or more than six wide, etc., 12 1/2 of one cent per pound; but all iron in slabs, blooms, loops or other forms, less finished than pig iron, except castings, shall be rated as iron in bars and pay a duty accordingly, which shall not be at less rate than 35 per cent ad valorem (before amended at 35 per cent, the clause applying to the whole paragraph).

Mr. Curtin offered a proviso that all iron bars, sizes and shapes of any kind, on the manufacture of which charcoal is used as a fuel, shall be subject to a duty of \$22 per ton. Agreed to—65 to 14.

On motion of Mr. Haskell the duty on bars of rolled iron, not specially enumerated, was changed from 1 3/10 cents to 1 2/10 cents per pound, and the duty on the second classification of bar iron from 1 2/10 to 1 1/10 cent per pound.

On motion of Mr. Mills, the clause imposing a duty of 2 1/2 cents per pound on armor or other plate was struck from the bill.

Mr. Haskell moved to reduce the duty on sheet iron thinner than 12 1/2 of an inch and not thinner than No. 20 wire gauge from 13 1/10 to 12 1/10 cents per pound. After debate the committee rose.

Mr. Kelly made an attempt to limit the discussion on the pending paragraph to five minutes. This was opposed by the democratic side. After roll call a compromise was agreed to, limiting the time to thirty minutes. The house again went into committee, and without acting on the pending amendment, the committee rose and the house took a recess.

Upon reassembling the house went into committee of the whole on the legislature appropriation bill. After brief explanation of the measure by Mr. Cannon, Mr. Flower took advantage of the general debate to discuss the pending tariff bill and concluded a long speech upon the subject with a statement that there is no probability of any reduction of revenue by this congress. The legislature bill was then read by sections for amendment. The item appropriating \$11,700 for maintenance of a botany garden in Washington having been reached, Lefever moved to strike it out, stating it was his intention when the sundry civil bill was before the house to move to consolidate that garden with the agricultural department garden. After quite a long discussion a vote was taken and resulted yeas 33, nays 33. No quorum. The roll call followed, the committee rose and house adjourned.

FROZEN TO DEATH.

Fatal Effects of the Storm on the Plains.

Special Dispatch to The Bee.

RAWLINS, Wyo., February 8.—The coach which left Pacific Springs, Sweetwater stage line, last week, was caught in the storm of Friday. The coach was abandoned and the party started back on foot. The stage driver, W. J. Stewart, was found frozen to death, standing in the snow, and Thomas Scott, superintendent, was found standing straight up in the snow, frozen so that he could not move. He lost his hands and feet. W. V. Stark, a passenger, had not yet been found. They were out three days and nights. Another stage driver was badly frozen. He reports two feet of snow on the level and east from Green River, on the Union Pacific, to Washakie, Wyo., through the South Pass of the Rocky mountains.

The Thumpers' Exhibition.

Special Dispatch to The Bee.

NEW YORK, February 8.—Mace and Slade gave their sparring exhibition in Madison Square garden to-night. Notwithstanding the great amount of free advertising it received the attendance was small. The spectators at no time numbered over 2,000. The performance was of the thinnest nature and failed to awaken the semblance of enthusiasm. A very large force of police, under command of Captain Williams, were present. Mace and Slade appeared in full ring costume—Mace in blue and Slade in white. Slade's pose was easy, movements easy and reach long. In their rounds given he showed himself active in getting away, quick in return and a good stopper. Mace assumed his old scientific form, hands well up, and firm on his legs. His whole object seemed to be to exhibit the good points of his proteges. In the final round, the Maori got in the upper cut, that almost floored the ex-champion. During the evening Mace was presented with a gold headed cane by Boston admirers.

Richard K. Fox, of The Police Gazette, has given \$1,000 security to repeat the offence of promoting a prize fight within twelve months.

A Falling Politician.

Special Dispatch to The Bee.

CHICAGO, February 8.—An application has been filed for the appointment of conservator of the estate of the well-known millionaire and democratic politician, Perry H. Smith. The first evidence of failing mental force was observed in London last summer, when Mr. Smith was prostrated with sudden illness. The application made at the instance of Robert Law, a friend of the family, and understood to be with their concurrence.

A Standard Barrel.

Special Dispatch to The Bee.

NEW YORK, February 8.—The domestic fruit trade ask the legislature to enact a standard barrel for apples, to be 17 1/2 inches diameter, 63 inches bulge, length of staves 28 1/2 inches.

THE ASYLUM SLUGGERS.

Mathewson's Mob of Brutal Thugs at Their Favorite Pastime.

The Insane Patients Kicked, Choked and Otherwise Horribly Punished.

Testimony of Eye Witnesses Given Before the Investigating Committee.

The Sicker the Lion the More Thorough the Whaling.

THE INSANE.

Special Correspondence of The Bee.

INVESTIGATING THE ASYLUM.

LINCOLN, February 8.—The special committee in the senate appointed to investigate the alleged cruelties and abuses at the hospital for the insane has been in session two half days and one evening. Twelve witnesses have been examined. They were all workmen employed in building the new wings of the institution. Dr. Mathewson is present during the taking of the testimony, and also has Judge Mason there to cross question the witnesses.

The following is a brief synopsis of the testimony taken thus far. Anton Hosar testified that on several occasions he saw the guards throw patients into the gangway. On one occasion he saw three attendants beat and choke a patient cruelly, the blood came out of his nose and his throat was bloody when they choked him. The patient was doing nothing out of the way.

Alfred Brastron said that he once saw two attendants leave a patient on the ground in the yard. They kicked, pounded and choked him violently. They helped him up and pushed him towards the asylum but got him down again near the door and again jumped onto him, pounding and choking him. Christ Kurl testified that he was a mortar mixer at the building