

THE NATIONAL CAPITAL.

The Senatorial Caucus Held and no Fight Mapped Out.

Plans For Another Expedition to Find the Greeley Party.

Another Chance Given Crow Dog By the Supreme Court.

New Bills to be Offered and Other Matters of Note.

CAPITAL NOTES.

THE SENATE CAUCUSES.

WASHINGTON, December 17.—The republican senators held a caucus this morning, at which it was decided not to proceed to the election of a president pro tempore of the senate until after the holiday recess. It was urged that the precarious condition of Senator Anthony's health made it advisable not to make the contemplated change just before the long recess. It was made known in the caucus that the democrats wished to have time to consider in caucus their line of action in respect to reorganization of the senate, and it was decided to introduce to-day a resolution to proceed to the election of officers but allow it to lie over till to-morrow. A resolution was adopted to retain union soldiers now upon the rolls of the senate.

The democratic senators held a caucus this afternoon and decided to nominate the democratic officers of the senate nominated at the caucus two years ago, as follows: L. Q. Washington secretary, R. J. Bright sergeant-at-arms, Col. Payton executive clerk, F. E. Shaler principal clerk, Dr. Bullock chaplain. It is understood, on democratic authority, that this does not mean a fight against the republican nominees. The democrats will content themselves simply with voting for their own candidates and will not resort to any dilatory tactics to prevent the election of the republicans.

AN ARCTIC EXPEDITION.

The president has appointed a board of officers of the army and navy, to consider the question of sending an expedition for the relief of Lieut. Greely and party and to recommend to the secretary of war and navy jointly the steps the board deem advisable to be taken for the equipment and transportation of a relief expedition, and suggest such plans for its control and conduct and organization of its personnel as seems best adapted to accomplish the purpose. The board is composed of the following officers: Brigadier General W. B. Hazen, chief signal officer; Captain James A. Green, U. S. N., and Captain George W. Davis, U. S. A. The board met in Washington on the 20th inst.

PREPARATORY WORK.

At the late meeting of the republican national committee a resolution was adopted directing the appointment of a committee of seven of which Chairman Sabin and Secretary Martin will be members to make all arrangements for the Chicago convention. To-day Chairman Sabin appointed the following additional members: J. C. New, of Indiana, William C. Cooper, of Ohio, C. L. Magee, of Pennsylvania, John A. Logan, of Illinois, and Powell Clayton, of Arkansas, L. J. Gage, of Chicago, was appointed treasurer of the committee. All funds for expenses in providing a building for the convention and for incidental expenses promised by the people of Chicago, are to be collected and deposited with Gage. The committee of arrangements will hold a meeting in Chicago early in March next to consult with the local committee of that city to perfect arrangements for the meeting of the convention. Capt. Wm. Higgins, of Kansas, was made sergeant-at-arms of the national committee. Chairman Sabin also appointed the following sub-committees to have charge of the preliminary campaign work: O. H. Platt, of Connecticut, William C. Chandler, of New Hampshire, James H. Stone, of Michigan, William P. Frye, of Maine, George W. Peckler, of Vermont, Nathan Coff, of West Virginia, and S. B. Elkins, of New Mexico.

THE WHISKY TAX.

A number of representatives interested in the extension of the bonded whisky period held a conference this morning, and decided not to ask Secretary Folger to stop the collection of taxes pending legislation on the subject, as doubt was expressed whether the secretary had any right to take such action. The propriety of the committee making such a recommendation was also doubted. It was intended to introduce a bill asking merely an extension of the bonded period for two years. The clause referring to leakage will not be inserted. Friends of the proposed bill urge its consideration as soon as possible.

SECRETARY FOLGER IS NOT EXPECTED AT THE TROUSERY TILL THE LATTER PART OF THE WEEK.

The president will leave Washington Thursday next for a visit to Brooklyn and Philadelphia. He will attend the annual banquet of the New England society in Philadelphia Saturday, and will return to Washington by Sunday and spend the Christmas holidays here. Secretary Chandler and probably other members of the cabinet will accompany the president.

A BETTER SYSTEM.

Superintendent Jamison, of the railway mail service, has returned from Portland, Oregon, and points on the Northern Pacific railroad. He succeeded in perfecting the railway mail system of that route so that no delay is now experienced in the distribution of mail matter.

HALE'S PROPOSED WAR TROOP.

Mr. Hale will introduce a bill in the senate to-day providing for the construction of seven steel vessels, one steam mail, and one cruising torpedo boat and two harbor torpedo boats.

THE BELONG PARTY.

Secretary Chandler has received the following from Minister Hunt, at St. Petersburg:

Harber telegrams from Irkutsk to-day: Arrived from Jatsak in 19 days. Military honors were paid to the bodies of DeLong and party on our departure from Irkutsk. The bodies were received here by the city authorities and the geographical society of Asia Siberia, and are now

lying in a catafalque in a public square. We leave to-day.

THE WOOL TARIFF.

Mr. Dockety will introduce a bill in the house at the first opportunity providing that after June 30, 1884, the present rates of duty on all wools, whatever the grade and classification, to be used in the manufacture of shawls, blankets, flannels, hats, knit goods and wearing apparel, shall, every description, be reduced 25 per cent and on June 30, 1885, it provides for reductions to bring the average duty on wool to about 22 per cent.

CROW DOG'S CASE.

The supreme court of the United States has decided that the district court of Dakota had no jurisdiction in the case of the Indian, Crow Dog, tried and sentenced to death for the murder of Spotted Tail, and that the imprisonment of Crow Dog is illegal. The writs of habeas corpus and certiorari prayed for will be granted.

A BANKRUPTCY LAW.

Promoters of the Lowell bill are preparing modifications of the measure with a design of making it less objectionable to western interests. It is possible, therefore, that a bankruptcy bill will be framed which will meet the views of all sections. There is a better prospect of the passage of a bankruptcy bill by the present congress than at the last session.

EX-GOVERNOR LOWE DYING.

Ex-Governor Ralph P. Lowe, of Iowa, one of the war governors, is lying at the point of death at his residence in this city. Lowe has been the Iowa state agent for the collection of claims against the general government for some years.

THE CHEROKEE APPROPRIATION.

Suit was entered to-day in the name of Charles B. Boudinot, of the Cherokee Nation against William A. Phillips to recover \$22,500. Phillips is the ex-governor to whom was committed the distribution of the Indian awards of \$300,000 made by the last congress, and about which there has been so much talk in connection with alleged misappropriation. The \$22,500 sued for, it is claimed, was turned over to Phillips by counsel for the Cherokee Nation on his assertion that it would be paid to certain high officials for their influence in securing the \$300,000 appropriation. Plaintiffs in this suit allege the amount sued for was paid to Phillips for a corrupt and unlawful purpose by the treasury of the Cherokee nation, it being a portion of the \$300,000 appropriated as above stated. The petition alleges that such payment was unlawful, and without the consent and authority of the Cherokee nation. Plaintiffs ask that the money recovered be paid, one-half for the use of Elias C. Boudinot, and the remainder for the Cherokee nation.

THE FORTY-EIGHTH CONGRESS.

SENATE.

WASHINGTON, December 17.—Mr. Sherman offered a resolution that the senate proceed to the election of officers. A message received from the house announcing the death of Mr. Haskell (Kansas) was immediately taken up. After appropriate remarks by Mr. Ingalls and on his motion the president of the senate appointed Senators Plumb, Cockrell and Dawes as a committee on obsequies of the deceased representative.

HOUSE.

The chaplain, in touching words, this morning referred to the death of Representative D. C. Haskell, of Kansas, and invoked the divine blessing on the bereaved family.

Mr. Anderson (Kansas) said: "With great sorrow I perform the sad duty of announcing to the house the death of my lamented colleague, Hon. Dudley C. Haskell, late representative from Kansas, who died at his residence in the city early yesterday morning. With the earliest obsequies, which were performed this morning, the Christian rest from his labors, his spirit was severed from the jurisdiction of this congress of the United States, and joined to the sublime general assembly of representatives of all nations, continents and countries. As a babe sleeps, so he slept out his life, and awoke to that mortality which he had chosen, and given by the Lord Jesus Christ. Mr. Haskell served during the last three congresses with ever increasing ability, fidelity and efficiency, and had been spared to occupy this seat, dressed with emblems of mourning, he would have taken high and deserved rank in the Forty-eighth congress. Of bright legislative experience and statesmanship, this is not the time to speak, but on a future day this house will be asked to suspend ordinary proceedings to pay a fitting tribute of respect to the life of one whose words and deeds became an inseparable part of history."

Mr. Anderson offered the customary resolutions, which were unanimously adopted, and the house adjourned, respecting to the memory of the deceased, adjourned till Wednesday.

REMAINS OF CONGRESSMAN HASKELL.

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 17.—The remains of Hon. Dudley C. Haskell, in charge of Sergeant-at-Arms Ledford, and accompanied by his family and a congressional committee selected last evening, left this morning in a special car on the Pennsylvania road for Lawrence, Kas. The funeral cortege will arrive at Lawrence Wednesday morning. Short services, conducted by Rev. Rankin, of the Congregational church, were held this evening at the residence of the late Representative. There were present a number of congressmen, including Speaker Canfield. The hall-bearers are ex-Speakers Keifer, Representatives Merrill and Penkas of Kansas, Tucker of Virginia, Keid of Maine, J. D. Taylor of Ohio. At the house of representatives the flag is at half mast and the clock of Haskell is draped in mourning.

THE SCHOONER WENT DOWN.

DEATH, MISS., December 17.—The tug which perished from the north wharf yesterday, brings positive intelligence that the worst of those who imagined the schooner Mary Ann Hubler was lost has been conveyed. She went down during the severe gale last Wednesday night with 20 men on board, all whom were lost, names not known, but most of them were railroad laborers. She was being towed by the tug Kingcardian, and during the storm sprang a leak, and began to fill and having a green crew, who did not know

how to manage her, she began drifting with the wind and turning the tug from its course, when the tug to save itself cut the tow line, and set the schooner afloat, when she almost immediately went down. The schooner was a small one, valued at about \$3,000.

NEBRASKA AT THE CAPITAL.

Additional Two Carriers for Omaha and Two Bridge Bills.

Special Despatch to The Bee.

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 17.—The postoffice department has granted Omaha two additional letter carriers. Weaver will introduce the Omaha bridge bill in the house Wednesday, together with a bill for a bridge at Rulo introduced in the senate by Van Wyck.

DETAILS OF THE DEATH.

A BROTHER'S VOICE.

LONDON, December 17.—O'Donnell's brother occupied the doorway opposite the prison in view of the flag staff upon which all eyes were riveted. He was an object of the deepest interest. The crowd pressed so closely upon him that the police had to interfere for his protection. When the black flag was hoisted he removed his hat and remained some minutes apparently praying, his features working painfully. He stayed in the same spot some time after the execution. To people lounging around he said in a hoarse voice, "My poor brother, he has died as bravely as a man ever died." This was received with cries of "Yes." He then departed and the crowd dispersed.

PREPARING FOR DEATH.

O'Donnell retired at an early hour last evening. This morning he rose promptly and took a good breakfast shortly after 5 o'clock. At 6, Father Fleming arrived. He received the prisoner's last communication, and administered the holy sacrament. A few minutes before 8 o'clock the prisoner was removed from his cell to a large room of the prison, escorted by the wardens. In the large room were stationed Binns, the hangman, the sheriff and under sheriffs, the governor of the jail, Rev. Dr. Duffield, prison chaplain, and Newgate surgeon. The process of pinning the prisoner's limbs was quickly performed by Binns. O'Donnell keeping a resolute silence and occasionally smiling in a half abstracted manner. This work done, the procession moved to the court yard, where the scaffold was. O'Donnell declined any assistance and ascended the scaffold with the wardens, Father Fleming by his side repeated the service of the church for the dying and held the crucifix before O'Donnell's gaze. The prisoner took his place on the drop under the rope, the slack of which was held up over his head by a piece of thread. Binns appeared very calm, and quickly fixed the noose around O'Donnell's neck, carefully placing the knot under the left ear. He at once stepped back and pulled the fatal lever, and O'Donnell fell eight feet. The rope hardly quivered. According to the surgeon,

DEATH WAS INSTANTANEOUS.

there being scarcely any muscular movement in the hanging form.

As the black flag ran up, those in the prison could hear the hushed murmur from the multitude outside. The body hung one hour, when it was cut down and removed for the proper legal inquest.

The crowd in front of Newgate increased rapidly, and shortly before 8 o'clock numbered 20,000 persons. The streets were closely packed, but the thorough observed a quiet and orderly demeanor. The Irish element was not conspicuous. As the moment for the execution approached, the crowd swayed up against the prison wall, and the roadway which had before been kept cleared became blocked. The police, however, moved rapidly through the multitude and easily cleared a way. When the black flag was hoisted announcing the tragedy at an end.

THERE WAS NO DEMONSTRATION.

although suppressed excitement marked many faces. O'Donnell's brother remained to the last, bitterly weeping in the center of a sympathizing group. The clouds began to break as the hour of 8 approached, and when the black flag was run up it was distinctly displayed against the rising sun. The people immediately dispersed after the hoisting of the flag.

The usual inquest upon the body of O'Donnell showed the face bore a calm expression. The head was quite loose from the trunk. The usual verdict was returned. Binns, the hangman, was good humoredly mobbed by a crowd leaving Newgate prison. He afterwards drove away in a government postal van to escape observation.

THE INVINCIBLE SCARE.

The press association denies the Central News' story that the police had information that a body of invincibles sailed from New York on the steamer Asagrian Monarch to attempt the rescue of O'Donnell or avenge his death. The search to-day was in accordance with the regular practice of the police upon the arrival of any steamer.

LATEST FOREIGN NEWS.

TUNG, BROTHERS, SING.

LONDON, December 17.—Maecius Tung says of the Tonguin difficulty, "There is not much time left, and I sincerely trust Ferry will find some diplomatic party willing to act of such nature those concessions which we are not inclined to make directly."

A Blind Pool.

BIRMINGHAM, N. Y., December 17.—D. M. & E. G. Hubert, dry goods merchants, have assigned. Liabilities, nearly \$200,000, assets, probably \$100,000. The failure is wholly due to stock speculation and efforts to recover losses in a "blind pool."

Surprised Comrades.

NEW YORK, December 17.—The hanging of O'Donnell was a surprise to the comrades who somehow thought England would listen to the voice from the United States and commute the sentence.

ROLLING STOCK.

A New Deal and New Men In Villard's Place.

The Iowa Pool to Await the Union Pacific's Action.

Confiding Mr. McHenry Ignored By a Naughty Receiver.

Chicago's Mayor Will Veto, But the Council Will Pass.

RAILROAD MATTERS.

MR. VILLARD RETIRES.

NEW YORK, December 17.—A syndicate has taken a part of the bonds owned by the Oregon Transcontinental company, between nine and ten millions. This will relieve the company of the larger part of its debt, of late so burdensome. A report on the condition of the company will be made in a few days. It is positively asserted, however, that the report will show on hand an aggregate of stocks fully equal to the amount held at this time by the company, and made last June. It is officially announced that Henry Villard has resigned the presidency of the Oregon Transportation and Oregon Railway & Navigation company, that W. Endicott, Jr., of Boston, succeeds him as president of the Oregon & Transcontinental company, and E. Jefferson Coolidge, of Boston, as president of the Oregon Transportation and Oregon Railway & Navigation company. Coolidge also enters the Oregon Transportation board of directors. The reason assigned for the resignation of Villard, it is said, is because he is impressed with the conviction that it would not be proper for him to continue as president of all the companies whose management he has heretofore directed. He has also resigned the Northern Pacific. Villard some weeks ago urged President Coolidge to accept the presidency of the Oregon Transportation.

RESORTING TO VIOLENCE.

WINNEPEG, Manitoba, December 17.—Owing to the first standing of the Canadian Pacific has taken against the engineers, the latter are growing demonstrative. Trouble is feared, and the provincial police are patrolling the yards. A guard has been placed at every switch. This morning a switch in the yard here was found locked tight by a chain, it is supposed with the intention of causing a collision. A bullet was shot through Superintendent's window this morning, but there was no one in the office at the time.

A PLANT COUNCIL.

CHICAGO, December 17.—Owing to the sweeping nature of the franchise granted by the city council to the Chicago & Evanston railroad, and the charges of corruption with it, the mayor to-night sent in a veto message. The most objectionable feature was stricken out and the ordinance passed again. The mayor says he will veto it again, but the ordinance will probably be passed over his veto.

THE IOWA POOL.

The proposed meeting of the Iowa pool to-morrow will probably not be held as it is understood that neither of the roads in the tripartite agreement will be represented. It is not thought that any action concerning the continuation or dissolution of the pool can be secured until after the Union Pacific directors have acted upon the agreement.

HOW McHENRY WAS LEFT.

CLEVELAND, December 17.—The answer of the New York, Ohio & Pennsylvania railroad to the amended bill of complaint of James McHenry et al against the New York, Pennsylvania & Ohio and Erie railroad companies was filed this afternoon in the United States court. The answer says James McHenry is a citizen of Pennsylvania, instead of Great Britain, and says the Atlantic & Great Western railroad was built by McHenry as a contractor, he receiving in payment all the bond shares issued. It further alleges that James McHenry had a secret and fraudulent contract with the engineer, and consolidated divisional companies by which the engineer shared with McHenry the profits of building the road; that McHenry mortgaged the road to the extent of more than \$35,000,000, many millions more than its cost or the value of the road, which never paid its bonds until the company was sold. The answer says that the great mass of foreign creditors were ignorant of the value of the property and were falsely told by McHenry that its failure to earn money was due to mismanagement.

In the same suit James McHenry's deposition was to-day taken. He swore he owns \$20,000,000 of Atlantic & Great Western bonds, and claims the \$15,000,000 of this property. He built the road, raising nearly all the money put in it. McHenry detailed the history of the road, of raising the funds and narrated its financial straits which terminated with the road being thrown into the hands of a receiver. He also gave an account of the losses to the Erie road, subsequent foreclosures and receiverships. McHenry devised a reorganization of the scheme by which the original stock was to be given in exchange for new stock. With his assent the present trustees were appointed to carry out the terms of reorganization. From the time he gave his stock to the trustees until the present he has never been consulted in matters connected with the road. Stock and bonds have been issued without his consent and the terms of reorganization not carried out as he projected. He said he was refused the right to vote at the stockholders meeting in London because he was not registered as a new shareholder. He attributed the origin of the scheme to conspirators against him to Rev. Mr. Bates, whom McHenry said was an impoverished clergyman who sought the privilege of representing McHenry in this country as the latter's financial agent. All of Bates' expenses, \$600, were paid by McHenry. From McHenry's affidavit it appears that Rev. Mr. Bates, with the assistance of Americans, reorganized the Atlantic and Great Western, leaving its real owner out entirely.

WYOMING WOMEN.

VANCOUVER, W. B., December 17.—There was a grand rally last night in honor of the passage of the woman suffrage law. Leading politicians, irrespective of party, are petitioning President Arthur to appoint Mrs. Downey, leader of the woman enfranchisement cause, as governor of the territory.

SENATOR SABIN.

The Tariff Issue—Logan and Arthur.

NEW YORK, Dec. 17.—The chairman of the republican national committee, Senator D. M. Sabin, of Minnesota, who is now in this city, speaking to-day of the recent action of the committee, said he attached no political significance whatever to the selection of Chicago as the city in which to hold the next convention. It was done simply because it was a convenient place for such a gathering. "My own election as chairman," Mr. Sabin continued, "has no more political significance as to the composition of the republican ticket next year than the selection of Chicago as the place for holding the convention. My election was in the interest of peace and harmony, because I have never been actively concerned in the past contentions of the party. I think it is a little early in the day to talk about candidates for next year. I am a friend of Gen. Logan, and if it is judged best to name a western man he would be a strong candidate. I do not think the sectional issues will be revived in the next campaign. Certainly not by the republicans; but the questions at issue will be chiefly confined to tariff reform and the conduct of the two parties in the field. The republican party, in my opinion, is unquestionably a protection party, although there are many consistent republicans in the west who might be classed as moderate tariff men. The republican minority in congress will, I think, act wisely and circumpetely. They will vote in favor of any reform of the tariff laws which will prove beneficial and yet not interfere with the interests of the laboring man. In other words, they will vote in favor of legislation which will result in the greatest good to the greatest number."

Speaking of the chances of the nomination of President Arthur, he said: "He has made a most excellent record, and is very popular throughout the south and west. He would be stronger than any other man from the east, and with Arthur in the first place and a good western man in second place, the republican would have a ticket which would be elected by the larger majority than the ticket of 1880. The democrats will undoubtedly name a western man."

CRIMINAL RECORD.

THE MURDER OF YOUNG BRUCE.

DENVER, Col., December 17.—The excitement in Durango over the killing of Bruce Hunt, son of ex-Governor Hunt, by the negro, who will be burglarizing the bank of Durango, last night is unabated. A corrected account of the killing is as follows: Suspecting an attempt to rob the bank, a party composed of two bank officials, Hunt, and the town marshal, had for three nights kept watch from the law office of Government. At midnight the watchers saw a man approach the side door, pick the lock and enter. After waiting some time for accomplices, if any, to appear and the burglar got well to work the party approached the front door, and pushed it open and ordered the robber to throw up his hands, but he fired five shots in rapid succession, and jumped through the side door. One ball took effect in Hunt's breast, and he fell and instantly expired. As the burglar left the building he was recognized as the negro, "Big Ike," the most desperate character of that region. Though hotly pursued he made his escape and has not yet been taken although a large number of citizens are scouring the country in every direction. Hunt was one of the most exemplary young men of southern Colorado.

ONLY HOUSTON HELD.

NEW ORLEANS, December 17.—The preliminary examination of Sheriff Breunler, John Dominic, A. M. Ancon, J. D. Houston, Mike Early, Dan Hughes and Dan Donovan, accused of murder at Tombstone, Delaney and Doud have gone to Sonora. These with "Texas" and "Red," captured to-day, completes the principals of both the Geige station train robbers and Bisbee, Arizona, raiders and murders. The entire population turned out to greet the sheriff and posse. The men were heavily guarded and ironed. "Red" is wounded in the back.

A CONFESSED LETTER THEIF.

DES MOINES, December 17.—Frank Liddell, arrested Friday night at Lincoln, Nebraska, for stealing registered letters from the Ames, Iowa postoffice while deputy postmaster, was arraigned here before the United States commissioner this morning and confessed stealing four letters containing nearly \$400.

A Sad Message.

ST. LOUIS, December 17.—The Southern hotel of this city has been requested by parties in Durango, Colorado, to telegraph ex-Governor A. A. Hunt that his son Bruce Hunt was killed at Durango last night, and that the body will be brought to Denver to-morrow. Governor Hunt passed through St. Louis ten days ago for the east, and has been telegraphed at Boston, where he is supposed to be. Hunt is ex-governor of Arizona, and was formerly president of the Denver & Rio Grande railway.

Lost with all on Board.

CHICAGO, December 17.—A large three-master schooner was in view off Evanston, a short distance north of the city, two hours to-day drifting helplessly. Several tons sent from here have been searching for her without success the entire afternoon and it is believed she has gone down with all on board. She is supposed to be the schooner North Cape, lumber laden, from Muskegon for this port where she is owned. She has a crew of eight men, shipped at Milwaukee.

GONE UP IN FLAMES.

Rat Portage, Manitoba, Destroyed and the People Homeless.

A Blaze and a Panic In a Milwaukee Hotel.

A Serious Blow to Candelaria, Nev., by a Conflagration.

Other Losses of More or Less Severity.

THE FIRE RECORD.

A SERIOUS CONFLAGRATION.

WINNEPEG, Manitoba, December 17.—What was left of the town of Rat Portage by the recent conflagration was almost totally destroyed by the recurrence of a similar disaster early this morning. The town possesses no appliances to protect them against fire, and the flames having full sway consumed all the buildings within reach. One store was saved by blowing up buildings. This, with a few isolated dwellings, are all of the town remaining. The stocks of merchants are a total loss. The loss on buildings and stocks aggregates about \$100,000. Owing to the want of fire protection, the inflammable nature of the buildings, and the unsettled, lawless state of the town, insurance companies did not take risks there. The principal losers are: McKinnon Bros., general store, \$40,000, insurance \$35,000; Baker & Co., general merchandise, \$16,000, insurance \$2,000; Chadwick & McLennan, hardware, \$10,000, insurance \$1,500. The rest are uninsured: McCarthy, general store, \$19,500; Woodvine hotel, \$4,000; other losses \$2,000 and smaller amounts. Many people are homeless and in destitute circumstances. A relief committee will be organized here. No one was seriously hurt, but there were several slight casualties.

A LOSS OF \$80,000.

CANDELARIA, Nevada, December 17.—A fire yesterday destroyed 16 buildings. Loss, \$80,000; insurance, \$50,000. The fire will add greatly to the depression caused by the closing of the Northern Belle mine.

A VILLAGE HALF DESTROYED.

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich., December 17.—About half the business portion of the village of Uskoket, twelve miles north of this city, was burned yesterday. The fire originated in the hardware store of H. Colby & Co., and spread to adjoining buildings, burning all buildings on both sides of Main street for a block, except one brick block. The postoffice and six general stores were consumed. Loss on buildings about \$15,000, on stocks about \$30,000; total insurance \$18,000.

A HOTEL FIRE AND A PANIC.

MILWAUKEE, December 17.—Fire was discovered in the laundry of the Plankinton house this evening and created a panic among 200 guests who remembered the Newhall holocaust and rushed into the streets. The female servants, mostly on the upper floors, made a rush for the fire escape and about twenty of them with the assistance of the firemen landed safely on the sidewalk. Owing to the breaking of a gaspipe and ignition of the gas the firemen had considerable difficulty in mastering the flames and eight of them were almost suffocated by the mingled gas and smoke but were rescued. The damage amounted to \$5,000. The house and contents are fully insured. Order was restored after a couple of hours and the guests returned to their rooms.

Wise Workmen.

PITTSBURGH, Pa., December 17.—The workmen in the Edgar Thomson Steel Co., having accepted a reduction of 13 per cent. of wages in preference to remaining idle until trade improves, they are charged as usual to-day and steady work is promised 3,000 men through the winter. To steel men this reduction means a cut in all steel rail mills in the country.

STANDARD BUILDINGS.

What Constitutes a Standard Building for Insurance Men—A Guide for Local Disputes.

Friday the New York board of underwriters adopted the following description of a standard building for the purpose of insurance: Standard building—First—Walls of bricks, of the thickness required by the present building law, (Sec. 6), with projections to receive the beams and eoped, or charge for deficiencies. If of stone or iron, or if the walls be of less than the standard thickness, 5 cents per \$100 of insurance; if without projections, unless the walls are of sufficient thickness to admit of twelve inches of brick between the ends of the beams on each story, 5 cents.

Second—Roof of iron or copper upon iron rafters, and without skylights, or brick or the patent roofs approved by the board. Charge for deficiencies: If metal, slate or tile on wooden rafters, or of composition approved by committee on surveys, 5 cents. If composition not approved, 10 cents; if skylight through roof only, unless said skylight is of heavy glass, at least half an inch in thickness, in iron frame or with iron shutters, 5 cents.

Third—Area: there shall not be more than 5,000 square feet of ground covered by the building, unless it be subdivided by one or more party walls extending from the foundation to and through the roof, and eoped. Charges for deficiencies: For every additional 2,000 square feet, or fraction of 2,000 square feet, of space between walls, 5 cents.

Fourth—Shutters of iron or other fire-proof material, approved by the committee on surveys, having suitable iron frames to all windows, except the first floor front, to be placed either inside or outside, at least four inches from any woodwork and from the window frame two, unless they be of metal. The center row of shutters on the front, above first story, to be so arranged as to be opened from the outside. All shutters must be closed at night. Charges for deficiencies: If without approved shutters to rearward windows, not opening on the street, 10 cents; if without approved shutters to front windows, 5 cents; if without approved shutters to side win-

dows, 5 cents; rolling iron shutters to door, and windows, unless they can be opened from the outside, 5 cents. No charge is to be made for the absence of warehouses having a space of 125 feet in front. Storage stores are to have double shutters on front, rear and sides; storage stores not having double shutters will be charged in addition to the schedule rate 5 cents. Single shutters only will be required in storage spaces of 125 feet in front.

Fifth—Parapet walls to be at least four feet high above the roof, twelve inches thick and eoped, and to have openings above the roof suitable for fire defense. If without four feet of parapet walls separating the building from adjoining buildings, a charge of 10 cents will be made for the deficiency. It was moved to limit the height of the standard parapet to five feet, but the motion was lost by a vote of 13 to 20.

Sixth—Cornices and gutters of brick or metal, if secured to the building by metal fastenings only and without backing of wood; if gutters or cornices are of wood, a charge of 10 cents will be made for the deficiency.

Standard building Rule 7 requires the floors to be without skylight elevators, or hatchway