

# THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

THIRTEENTH YEAR.

OMAHA, NEB. WEDESDAY MORNING, JANUARY 16, 1884.

NO 179.

## OVER THE RIVER.

Governor Sherman Strongly Recommends Prohibition.

And Sharply Alludes to the Lost Amendments,

Allison Receives a Unanimous Nomination.

The Hawkeye Legislature Ready for Business.

Various Happenings in the State and Its Capital.

## THE IOWA LEGISLATURE.

RENOMINATION OF ALLISON.

Special Dispatch to the Bee.

DES MOINES, January 15.—At the republican caucus to-night Senator Allison was nominated for United States senator by acclamation. There was great enthusiasm. Merchant, of Cedar Rapids, was nominated for state binder on the fifth ballot; Roberts, of Fort Dodge, for state printer; Colonel Crosby, of Webster City, for warden of the Fort Madison penitentiary, and E. Martin, of Anamosa, was nominated for warden of the Anamosa penitentiary. All the nominations are equivalent to an election.

ANOTHER ACCOUNT.

General Press Dispatches.

DES MOINES, January 15.—At a republican caucus of the legislature to-night Senator Allison was renominated for United States senator by acclamation. Every republican member in the legislature was present and the nomination was made amid great enthusiasm by a rising vote and every one of the ninety-one members rose and voted in the affirmative. Prolonged and repeated cheers greeted the result. Senator Allison was sent for by a committee who soon returned, escorting him to the hall. He was received with great enthusiasm. He was introduced by Governor Carpenter, the chairman, and addressed the convention in a short and eloquent speech.

SENATE PROCEEDINGS.

DES MOINES, Ia., January 15.—The senate met at 10 this morning. The committee on credentials reported, and the senators were sworn in by Lieutenant Governor Manning. A permanent organization was then effected by electing the officers named by the republican caucus last night without opposition. Mr. Smith offered a concurrent resolution fixing the time for canvassing the votes of the late election for state officers at 10 a. m. Wednesday. Adopted. Seats in the new senate chamber are to be assigned by lot. The house concurrent resolution for appointment of a joint committee of advisors for the inauguration was adopted. Senators Smith, Caldwell and Henderson were appointed. An assignment of seats Senators Rothert, Hemenway and Johnson were named. The governor's private secretary appeared with Governor Sherman's biennial message, which was ordered read and referred. Adjourned.

WORK OF THE HOUSE.

In the house no business of great importance was transacted. The remainder of the republican caucus for the election of officers and the members of the new speaker, delivered a fine address in which he returned thanks to the members for the high honor conferred upon him and called attention to the great danger of too much legislation. Change of law, he said, is always attended with inconveniences of administration and any change made by the legislature must be based on evidence that it must be followed by evils commensurate with the magnitude of the change. He made no reference to any of the subjects in which the public mind is at present interested and only pledged himself to do his duty to the best of his ability. Various committees were appointed to act in conjunction with the executive in preparatory to getting the assembly in good working order. The reading of the governor's message came next. Elaborate preparations are being made for the inauguration of Governor Sherman, which will occur Thursday next.

GOVERNOR SHERMAN'S MESSAGE.

Governor Sherman sent in his biennial message to the legislature to-day. It makes eight columns of nonpareil print. It strongly recommends the enactment of prohibitory laws against the sale and consumption of the "supreme court decision overthrowing the amendment, and says it is the moral duty of every legislator to vote for the declared will of the people of the state in favor of prohibition. It discusses the railroad question in a broad and earnest manner, urging that mutual interests of the people should be secured and that the board of railway commissioners be given power to enforce their decisions. It recommends the establishment of a state board of charities and board of county treasury inspectors, who should examine the accounts of all county treasurers at least once a year. It recommends the building of an additional insane asylum, and a reformatory for women, and that the state print the books used in the common schools. Senator Allison left for Washington at ten o'clock.

A MINISTER KILLED.

David Shears, a coal miner of Indiana, was slain this morning. He was descending a shaft when a heavy door fell, striking him on the temple.

THE ORGANIZATION.

THE WORK DONE AND COMING EVENTS.

Special Correspondence of the Bee.

DES MOINES, Iowa, January 15.—The members of the legislature are here on time. The first session was held this afternoon at 2 o'clock. It was one of the most quiet openings this state has seen for some time. The occasion of this was that the question of United States senator, and also the question as to who shall be the next speaker of the house, were both practically settled before the gavel

## RIVER IMPROVEMENT.

The Work Done and to be Done on the Mississippi.

The Senate Select Committee's Report.

The Effect of the System of Jet-ties.

The Recommendation for Further Work.

A Separate and Distinct Bill for the Appropriations.

## MISSISSIPPI IMPROVEMENT.

REPORT OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE.

WASHINGTON, January 15.—The report of the committee of the senate, appointed by resolution of February 22 last, to examine the improvements in progress on the Mississippi river and methods employed in making them, was presented to the senate to-day. The committee consisted of Senators Logan, Jones, of Nevada, Sawyer, Jonas and Walker. The report recites the meeting in Chicago, October 27th, regarding work at Rock Island and taking testimony there, at Burlington, Keokuk, Quincy, Alton, St. Louis, Cairo, and points below to New Orleans.

The first part of the work treated of by the committee is that begun between St. Paul and the mouth of the Illinois river, a description follows of the obstacles to the navigation in this stretch and the work done toward its improvement, and which has received almost unanimous approval by river men. In regard to the large appropriations recommended, the committee says: "Your committee are persuaded that the work of improvement if worth doing at all is worth doing well, and to secure thoroughness, permanency and economy in its prosecution a uniform system must be adopted and adhered to."

Your committee does not propose to suggest solutions of engineering problems. It intends simply to guard the senate against the habit of legislation which tends to fritter away appropriations in feeble desultory work.

It adds: "The system now in use between the mouth of the Illinois and St. Paul, with modifications suggested by experience, seems to be adequate improvement of navigation and should in the judgment of your committee, be pushed rapidly to completion."

In respect to the improvements of the river from St. Paul to Des Moines the committee reports that from St. Paul to the mouth of the St. Croix, the channel has been deepened nearly two feet. Still further results will be obtained from works already in course of construction. From the mouth of the St. Croix to Chippewa the committee says the worst obstruction is a south bar, which until 1879 impeded navigation for large boats, there being only thirty inches of water, but since the improvement there are six feet at the lowest stages. From Reed's Landing to Alma the depth is increased to not less than four feet anywhere in low water, where formerly it was thirty inches to three feet. Other bars and shoals are treated at length.

The report says: "All completed works have given good results."

The committee further says: "The improvement of Rock Island rapids by rock excavation and Des Moines rapids by means of a canal are too well known to need further mention."

A good deal of space is devoted to the river between the mouth of the Illinois and the mouth of the Ohio river. The width of the river between Cairo and St. Louis is in some cases one and one-half miles, with a channel depth at low water of three and one-half to four feet. A further decrease is made there will be a further weakening of the banks and further deterioration of the navigable capacity of the river. The question therefore, seems to be not simply shall be improved, but whether such a now exists shall be preserved.

Of the works now in progress it says the chief plan of improvement adopted by the engineer department is to protect the banks from erosion and confine all water in the bed of the river to a single waterway of moderate width. This plan involves two classes of works, viz: those required to contract the width of the river where it is now inordinately great, and those required to close secondary arms or chutes.

The object of the first class is to prevent further damage, and the second to deepen the present channel. The programme adopted for carrying out the plan is to first improve that part of the river lying below St. Louis, the reasons given being that this part carries the greatest amount of commerce, that the channel depth above St. Louis compares favorably with that now found in the Missouri or Illinois and upper Mississippi rivers, and it is designed to make the improvement continuous, it being alleged that the greatest economy is thus to be obtained, that the improvement of one section facilitates the improvement of the next, also that it is better that such obstacles as remain be confined to one portion of the river rather than distributed over all portions and it is better to work down the stream, because in this manner the channel becomes fixed as the improvement advances out. Its approach to the works below being fixed, they can be properly designed to receive it, whereas to work up the stream leaves the channel free to approach in some way entirely different and unforeseen.

A further reason why it is designed to make St. Louis the initial point is because it is the base of supplies and because the river beyond it is permanently fixed.

Of the results of jetty work the committee says "according to the interpretation now put on the law there must be maintained a channel 26 feet wide having a center depth of 30 feet, without regard to width, through the jetties and into the gulf, and channel 26 feet in depth. The navigable width must be maintained through the pass from the jetties into the river proper. The channels must be maintained at 20 feet, from July 8,

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## BURNED IN OIL.

A Horrible Calamity on a Pennsylvania Railroad.

A Waste of Oil Fired by an Engine.

The Cars Enveloped in Flames Instantly.

Passengers Burned to a Crisp Trying to Escape.

The Terrible Struggle for Life by the Frantic Passengers.

## AN OIL FIRE.

THE TERRIBLE DEATHS IT CAUSED.

BRADFORD, Pa., January 15.—A terrible affair occurred on the Bradford, Kendall & Kinross road, this morning, resulting in the death of several passengers and horrible injuries to others. A stream of waste oil was floating from a tank across the track when a passenger train from Wellville for Bradford ran into it setting it on fire. The train was immediately enveloped in flames, the track for a distance of 100 yards being covered with oil. It is believed that gas from the oil coming in contact with the fire of the engine exploded, firing the oil, which spread on the hurricane winds and enveloped the doomed train, which in an instant was a mass of flames. So intense was the heat that the windows cracked and fell in. In less than ten minutes the train was a mass of fire and flames. Great stress and interior were present. Great stress was laid upon the beneficial effect the provisional treaty with America will have upon Spanish trade.

FRANCE AND CHINA.

PARIS, January 15.—Two attaches of the Chinese legation in Spain and the United States are visiting England and France, and The Figaro infers the visit is connected with the offer of the United States to mediate between France and China.

TURKISH CONTINGENTS.

CAIRO, January 15.—It is decided to raise Turkish contingents principally in Albania, which still form the third brigade of the Egyptian army. The officers are English.

MACHINE GUNS.

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MADE TO ORDER.

ST. PETERSBURG, January 15.—It is stated officials have obtained possession of the letter in cipher found in the lodgings of a nihilist in London, who had been closely communicating with the Irish malcontents. The letter, it is believed, advised simultaneous attack upon the emperor of Germany and the czar of Russia.

DISASTROUS FIRES.

ST. LOUIS, January 15.—Eight business houses, including some of the largest in the town, also several offices, were burned at No. 200, Saturday afternoon. The loss is estimated at over \$50,000; insured for \$25,000.

A FIRE AT SELIGMAN, MO., ON THE SAME DAY DESTROYED \$25,000 WORTH OF PROPERTY.

THE WAR IS OVER.

CHICAGO, January 15.—The trouble between the western lines and eastern trunk lines on passenger business to the Missouri river, has been settled on the basis of the proposition of the western roads fixing the maximum commissions. Rates will be restored to-morrow. The Burlington road, however, persists in a withdrawal from the Chicago and Kansas City agreements.

A NEW TELEGRAPH COMPANY.

NEW YORK, January 15.—A certificate of incorporation of the Standard Multiple Telegraph company was filed to-day. The lines of the company will run from Boston to Portland, Me., Florida, Buffalo, Chicago and the Pacific coast. Capital stock, \$2,500,000.

A TERRIBLE TEMPERANCE LESSON.

PITTSBURG, January 14.—In attempting to lift a pot of hot soup from the stove last night, Mrs. Patrick Hannahann, who was intoxicated, upset the contents of the vessel over her two children, aged two and four years, scalding both so badly that they died.

TWO CHILDREN SUFFOCATED.

NEW YORK, January 15.—Mrs. McDonald, of Hamilton avenue, locked two children up while she took a third to school, and returning home found the two children dead. They had lighted a fire on the floor and been suffocated.

A PAINFUL JOB.

COLUMBUS, Ohio, January 15.—Henry B. Payne was elected United States senator to-day without opposition, the republicans of both houses voting blank.

A GENEROUS WOMAN DIED.

MALDEN, Mass., January 15.—Mrs. Valeria Stone died this morning from the effects of a fall four weeks ago. During the past few years she has given colleges and schools for girls over \$400,000.

TUNNELING ST. CLAIR RIVER.

OTTAWA, January 15.—Application will be made to parliament for an act to incorporate a company to construct a tunnel under the St. Clair river for railroad purposes from Sarnia to Pt. Huron.

A LOSS OF \$150,000.

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A PARADE IN SNOW.

TRENTON, N. J., January 15.—Governor Abbott was inaugurated to-day. A snow storm interfered a little with the parade.

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LONDON, January 15.—Minister Lowell has accepted the presidency of the Birmingham and Midland institute.

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## THE NATIONAL CAPITAL.

Mr. Van Wyck's Railroad Rates Regulator.

The Senate Discusses the Meat Question.

The House Talk of Improving the Mississippi.

A Flood of Pertinent Inquiries Poured In.

Bills Presented Covering a Multitude of Important Subjects.

## FOURTY-EIGHTH CONGRESS.

SENATE.

WASHINGTON, January 15.—In the senate of the morning, petitions of citizens of Kansas were presented asking constitutional amendment granting woman suffrage; also a petition of citizens of Minnesota, praying that colonies of families be allowed to lay out villages on public lands, in order to establish co-operative industrial societies.

Mr. Logan (rep. Ill.) from the select committee on improvement of the Mississippi river presented its report. Ordered printed.

Mr. Van Wyck (reb. Neb.) introduced a bill providing that rates on the Union and Central Pacific roads be reduced to one-half the average rates existing in 1882 and 1883 without regard to classification.

Mr. Anthony's (rep. R. I.) resolution concerning the prohibition of the importation of healthful American meats was then considered.

Mr. Logan stated that for nearly four years our meats have been excluded from France and Germany and yet an examination by experts of all meats of the different countries, ours proved the best. He did not wish to counsel any course inconsistent with a proper line of policy, but his own judgment was that after the failure of four years of diplomacy to set the matter right, the only way to meet the difficulty was by excluding from the United States certain importations coming higher than the countries in question and thus giving our consumers the advantage that while certain sound products of this country are excluded from their ports certain products of theirs will not be permitted to enter our ports.

Mr. Vest (dem. Mo.) thought the spirit of international comity would dictate an organization thorough, system of inspection so as to establish beyond a doubt the soundness of meats before leaving this country.

Mr. Ingalls (rep. Ind.) said the prohibition was on the theory that the meats were unhealthy and if proven to those governments that no such cause existed the prohibition would doubtless be removed. What is needed is authoritative declarations that the meats are sound.

All knew that the herds of this country were afflicted with pleuro pneumonitis and it is impossible to tell by inspection of the preserved product whether it came from cured or diseased animals. If, as claimed, there are well authenticated cases in which injury has resulted from the use of our exported meats, Mr. Ingalls thought the people of foreign countries had a right to protect themselves.

Mr. Logan stated that four years have elapsed since the exclusion began and if in that period we have not been able to convince those foreign countries that we are able to send sound meat, he would like to know how many years would be necessary to produce that conviction.

Mr. McPherson (dem., N. J.), said in order to give the highest attainable evidence of the health of our cattle, under the men of the United States had followed their animals with successive bills of health all the way through the United States to parts of Great Britain, but in vain.

Mr. Logan, why should we hesitate to take from these countries while they refuse to take from us meats perfectly sound, we shall refuse to take from them adulterated wines and liquors which do more harm than sound meat? It is because we have not the nerve to do it? He did not see why we should be so very mild-mannered. For his part while they exclude our sound meats, he would exclude their adulterated wines and other adulterated articles. There would be nothing unfair, improper or contrary to sound policy in that.

Mr. Maxey (dem. Tex.) thought if the assertion made by Germany and France that the meat is unhealthy be true, their position was impregnable. If we have a system of official inspection reports, our inspectors asserting the soundness of meats would be something upon which to base retaliatory measures.

The morning hour expired and the matter went over. An executive session followed and the senate adjourned.

These confirmations were made: Postmasters: P. O. Babcock, Monticello, Ia.; Benj. J. Kinsey, Harlan, Ia.; Jonathan Maxson, West Liberty, Ia.; Jas. DeWolf, Val, Ia.; Wm. Hooper, Walnut, Ia.; John R. Stebbins, Laporte, Ga.; J. Thos. L. Stephens, Glenwood, Ia.; Geo. W. Cox, Virden, Ill.

The senate in executive session considered the Mexican treaty. No action was taken.

HOUSE.

Mr. Morrison (dem. Ill.) from the ways and means committee, reported back a resolution requesting the secretary of the treasury to furnish the house copies of the letters of collectors of internal revenue suspending the collection of taxes on whiskey listed in September, October, November and December, 1880. Also to inform the house whether the time for collecting the tax due on whiskey listed in October, 1880, in the Allegheny district, Pennsylvania, was suspended, and if so, by what authority.

Mr. Cobb (dem. Ind.) of the committee on public lands, reported a bill declaring forfeited certain grants of land made to certain states in aid of the construction of railroads. Referred to the committee of the whole.

Mr. Bayne, (rep. Penn.), from the committee on military affairs, reported a bill authorizing the president to appoint and retire private pensioners as major general. Private calendar.

[CONTINUED ON FIFTH PAGE.]