THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

FOURTEENTH YEAR. OMAHA, NEB., FRIDAY MORNING, JANUARY 23, 1885. NO. 186

LINCOLN.

The Proceedings of the House and Senate.

Clark's Resolution Will Sleep Till Ressurrection Day.

Morton to be Brought Before the House by Attachment.

Tendency of the House to Pander to the Monopolists.

The Supreme Court Decides an Important Case.

The Session of the School Land Fraud Investigating Committee Brief and Unimportant.

HOUSE

Special Correspondence of THE BEE.

LINCOLN, January 22.—Immediately after the reading of the house Journal this morning Mr. Olmstead, chairman of the school lands investigating committee, presented a report to the house that Mr. J. Sterling Morton had been subpœned as a witness before the committee, but had refused to come until his fees and mileage were paid. The committee asked for an order to compel the witness to attend. Mr. Riley stated that Morton had telegraphed he would be on hand at the proper time.

Mr. Wolbach introduced a resolution that the house exert all its power to bring Morton before the committee.

Holmes opposed the resolution. He declared there was no law to compel anyone to appear on such a subpoena. Sterling, of Fillmore, was of the same opinion. Blain thought this looked very suspicious. The persons who had brought these charges of fraud were now unwilling to say what they knew about the matter to the committee. Lee, of Furnas, suggested that the secretary of state be instructed to pay Morton's mileage and of every witness that might eventually be required to appear before any committee of the house. Olmstead pointed out that Lee's suggestions did not meet the point at issue, since no money can be paid by a state officer unless an appropriation be made by the house.

Johnson, of Lancaster, deemed it expedient to pay fees to any witness before they appear and testify. Morton is the man who started the school land fraud sensation during the recent campaign for political purposes. If he were an honest man he would willingly come and give the facts on which he bases his charges. He advised the house to give no fees to this informer unless he came and substantiated his charges. Miller thought Morton should be brought fees or no fees.

Sterling introduced an amendment, instructing the chairman of the investigating committee to serve an attachment on Morton and bring him before that body.

Nettleton said that Morton was not in contempt of the committee, but of the house, and that the house should act of itself in the matter. Dempster suggested that Morton be given his fees, and he would come immediately. He would, as an excuse to his friends, to be able to say he was obliged to testify.

Sterling then withdrew his previous amendment, and moved as a substitute to Wolbach's, the following: "That the speaker be authorized to issue an attachment for the arrest of J. Sterling Morton, and that he be brought to the bar of the house and explain his conduct.

Kaley thought this a small matter. The republicans have given the democrats a chance of inquiry and they would not accept it. Morton brought the charges and may be said to be plaintiff in this suit and if he does not appear and testify the committee should be dismissed. Morton had stumped the state making these charges of fraud and if he could substantiate what he has said he should come before the committee and do so. He concluded by moving that the resolution be laid upon the table. Kaley's motion not being seconded.

Wright of Lancaster, delivered himself of a bombastic harrangue. He thought Morton was like the gentleman from Omaha, Mr. Rosewater, too modest to testify before anybody but the committee themselves, for when this latter gentleman was called before the commi tee yesterday to give evidence he refused to do so unless the room was cleared and what he said kept from everyone except the committee. Mr. Wright was proceeding when the speaker called him to order. The substitute of Mr. Sterling was adopted.

The house now proceeded to the consideration of the special order for to-day. This was Nichol's resolution to the effect that our senators be instructed to support the Regan inter-state commerce bill.

The clerk was ordered to read the Regan bill as it had passed the lower house of congress.

Mr. Riley moved that the further consideration of this resolution be deferred to the 25th day of the present session. Johnson proceeded to address the house but the speaker put the question and on the roll being called only four members supported Riley's resolution. They were Adams, Neleigh, Riley and Troup.

Peterson now introduced an amendment to he Nichol's resolution, that instead of the house instructing the senators to vote they be told that in the opinion of the house this bill is worthy of their consideration. The railroad going with Troup and Holmes in the lead supported the amendment while Casper, Miller and Nichol opposed it. Peterson also opened his great jaw to expose his ignorance by declaring there was no precedent for a legislature instructing United States senators. As a matter of fact every volume in our session laws since Nebraska became a state contains memorials to congress in which our senators are "instructed" and our congressmen requested to support measures in which Nebraska or some locality in Nebraska has an interest.

After the previous question had been ordered the amendment was carried by 49 to 38. With the exception of two or three, who were confused by the debate, the vote on this amendment is a fair index of the tendency of the members to truckle to the monopolists. The following is the record:

Voting for the amendment: Adams, Aiken, Bailey, Barney, Bassett, Buckley, Blaco, Booth, Cope, Cornelius, Corr, Cox, Crawford, Emerson, Glenn, Hall, Heinrich, Henry, Hocknell, Holmes, Holt, Johnson, Kaley, Kuony, Lee, of Furnas, Leibhardt, Liesvieldt, Neligh, Osgood, Peterson, Rice, Robertson, Robinson, Root, Smith, Stover, Taylor, Thomas, of Cass, Thomas, of Colfax, Thompson, Troup, Turtle, Varner, Waitt, White, Williams, Wright, Mr. Speaker. Voting against the amendment —Blaine, Bruner, Callahan, Casper, Cole, Conger, Crook, Dempster, Eberman, Everett, Gill, Gumaer, Harlan, Hazen, Higgins, Holsworth, Howard, Huff, Irwin, Jindra, King, Lee of Merrick, Luce, Marble, Martin, McArdle, Miller, Nichol, Poynter, Riley, Russell, Stevenson, Sterling, Taggart, Turner, Whitmore, Winspear, Wolbach. The resolution, as amended, was then put and carried unanimously, and the house adjourned until 2 p. m.

On the house being called to order this afternoon Mr. Stevenson at once moved that the vote taken at the morning session concerning J. Sterling Morton be reconsidered. This caused a commotion. Immediately after Mr. Stephenson's resolution was submitted, Mr. Riley, in a very amicable speech, accused Mr. Olmsted, the chairman of the house investigating committee, of wilfully keeping back a letter he had received from Morton with the object of forcibly dragging that gentleman before the house for contempt. Mr. Riley also asserted that at the time Mr. Olmstead brought the subject of the refusal of Mr. Morton to come before the committee of investigation Wednesday, he had Morton's letter in his pocket. This letter was now called for. It was produced by Olmstead and read by the clerk. In this letter, directed to Olmstead as chairman of the committee, Morton says: "Pressing business engagements prevent my coming to Lincoln before Monday, at which time I will appear before the committee." Riley asked to see the envelope which had contained the letter and in proof of his assertion pointed out to the house the fact that it bore the postmark of "Nebraska City," where it was posted on the 19th of January, and the Lincoln postmark of the 20th of January, thus showing that Olmstead had actually received the letter before he had submitted the sergeant-at-arms' report to the committee. Olmstead declared that Riley had misrepresented the facts or had made a mistake, and that he had only received the letter at noon to-day. Troup said that Morton had no excuses for refusing to appear, because he had more railroad passes than any other man in the state and had never lost. Several bills were introduced, among them one by Kaley for the erection of a normal school at Red Cloud, another by Buffington to authorize the construction of a house of correction under the control of the penitentiary contractor. This is a very important bill, likely to cause a great deal of discussion hereafter. Holmes, the chairman of the railroad committee, reported the three cent passenger rate bill agreed on by the committee. This measure will come up in the committee of the whole in a day or so.

THE SENATE.

LINCOLN, January 22.—The morning session of the senate was taken up by routine business, not of general interest. Senator Clark called up his resolution introduced yesterday, which reads as follows:

Whereas, It appears that convicts of the state prison sentenced for a term of hard labor within the said prison are put to work, and are worked outside of the prison wall; and

Whereas, This is contrary to the letter and spirit of the law, to the best interests of free labor, to the best interests of the state, and to the best interest of the convicts, since, in retaining them within the walls as contemplated by law, the temptation to commit crime in carrying out an escape or in attempting to escape, would wisely be withheld from them,

Resolved, That the board of public lands and buildings is hereby directed to issue a ruling directing that in strict compliance with the law, all convicts shall be confined within the prison walls, and that no lessee, contractor, foreman or boss, shall hereafter work any convict outside of the prison walls.

On motion of Hastings the resolution was referred to the committee on penitentiary, where it will probably sleep until resurrection day.

The enormous number of supernumery employes is still the subject of contention in the senate. Day, of Saunders, asked for the reading of the list of employes, which being done showed a larger number of names than the roll of the senate. Mr. Day asked that this list be referred to the committee on miscellaneous business, who are to ascertain whether all were necessary to the transaction of business. The railroad committee being slow to report, a resolution was introduced giving the members four days to report action and progress. A number of bills were passed to the second reading. Among the most important were the bill granting Historical square to Lincoln for market purposes, and the memorial to congress praying that Omaha be made a port of entry.

The bill for allowing counties to go back from township organization to the commissioner system was referred to the judiciary committee for amendment.

Senator Buckworth, of the land fraud investigation committee, reported that J. Sterling Morton refused to testify without his per diem and mileage. Mr. McShane asked for the senate's authority in the matter. Mr. Burr was facetious enough to offer $5.00 towards defraying his expenses. Mr. McShane introduced a resolution to issue an attachment to fetch the gentleman straightway. This met the unanimous approval of the senate.

The Supreme Court.

LINCOLN, January 22.—In the supreme court yesterday a case of some importanc and interest was decided. It was the case of J. R. Webster vs. the Nebraska Telephone company. Mr. Webster brought suit against the company to compel it to admit him as a subscriber. Some time in 1883 the company placed a telephone instrument in the office of the relator, but for some reason failed to furnish a directory or list of subscribers of the circuit, as is customary, and which the relator claimed was necessary for the profitable use of the telephone. Finally the directory was furnished, but upon the first pay day the subscriber refused payment for the time in which no directory was furnished. Neither party yielding, the instrument was removed. Soon afterward the relator made application for an instrument and to be admitted as a subscriber, which was refused.

The opinion as given by Judge Reese was favorable to Mr. Webster, it being held that a corporation or person who assumes or undertakes supply a public demand for an article of public necessity, must supply those demands without discrimination. It was held that the telephone was a carrier of public news and all persons were entitled to its privileges who were convenient to its places of business. There was no good reason assigned by the company for refusal, hence a mandamus issues and the writ is allowed.

The School Land Fraud Investigation.

Special telegram to THE BEE.

LINCOLN, January 22.—The session of the school land fraud investigating committee this afternoon was brief and rather unimportant. Glen Kendall filed a protest signed by himself against the order excluding him from the committee room, being charged with malfeasance in office. He insisted upon the privilege of being present and also requested the same privilege for other state officers and parties implicated. Senator Metz moved that the committee engage the opera house and invite not only Mr. Kendall but all the citizens of the town to the show. The committee by a tie vote declined to accede to Mr. Kendall's requests. Leander Gerard, of Columbus, was examined at some length. Never had purchased or leased school lands or ever had any interest in their sale; never had any proposals made to him to join a syndicate to speculate in school lands; knew of but one instance where school land had been leased in Madison county, and to the best of his recollection what he had told Rosewater about the school land frauds was merely general. They were made during the Turner-Valentine campaign of 1882. Representative Olmstead, who, during the entire investigation, has acted as an attorney for Kendall and his "pals" put several questions to Mr. Gerard, whereby he sought to to secure the admission that the charges of fraud were simply campaign thunder, and Mr. Gerard, being indisposed to refresh his memory, was allowed to depart without divulging any material facts. Mr. Frank Sheldon, a real estate dealer of Lincoln, who has been a heavy dealer in school lands, was next called. He testified that he had secured leases for about 60,000 acres of school lands in various parts of the state and still held thirty thousand acres. He gave the particulars of how he secured the leases, and how much he paid for the same. Sheldon's memory also failed him, and he could only recollect that the entire profits so far from his school lands deal were six hundred dollars. After cross-examination, which was immaterial, the witness was excused for the present and the committee adjourned.

Deuteronomy XXV.

Special telegram to THE BEE.

LINCOLN, January 22.—Thou shalt not muzzle the ox when he treadeth out the corn. This biblical injunction from the fourth verse of the twenty-fifth chapter of Deuteronomy has been religiously observed by Boss Stout with his horde of legislative cattle. One of these unmuzzled animals with the Bill Stout brand, whose voice has a strong resemblance to the braying of an ass, pranced over the floor of the house to-day like a bull in a china shop. The occasion for this demonstration was the resolution to order the arrest of Sterling Morton for contempt. Instead of charging directly upon the offensive land shark hunter from Otoe, the infuriated animal struck out with his heels against the more offensive Rosewater. This afforded a delightful pastime for the jobbers and railroaders, but even Boss Stout's head cowboy in the speaker's chair was shocked at such disorderly conduct. In other words, when Mr. Wright, of Lancaster, went clean out of his way to assail and misrepresent a witness who had responded to the call of the investigating committee, the speaker was compelled to remind him that he was out of order. This man, Wright, had some of the park himself. He invested in 2500 acres of leased school lands, and it is but natural for him to throw cold water on every effort to expose the nefarious operations of Kendall and his associates. The people of Lancaster county are not very choice in their selection of lawmakers, or else they would not have sent a law-breaker like Wright into the legislature, who only a few years ago was indicted by a grand jury in this county for knowingly and willingly renting his house to notorious prostitutes. This elegant specimen of depravity actually aspires to leadership in Nebraska politics. He even has his eyes on the governors chair. There is likely to be a lively row over Olmstead's disreputable conduct in withholding from the committee and the legislature the contents of Sterling Morton's letter. Such a breach of parliamentary usage has seldom, if ever, been committed in this state. It is not only contemptible spitework, but deliberate deception of his colleagues which cannot be too severely punished. Olmstead certainly has shown himself unfit for the chairmanship of any investigating committee. The railroad lobby does not at all appear alarmed over the zeal exhibited in pushing railroad legislation to the front. They feel confident that the numerous bogus and impracticable regulation bills already introduced will create such confusion as to enable them to defeat what is to them objectionable, and in any way likely to decrease their revenues. There is a great deal more anxiety among the school land speculators and their silent partners at the capital than would appear on the surface. Their only hope of escaping exposure and final indictment, is in making the investigation a farce and sham. If they can keep themselves informed as to the witnesses cited and testimony given, they hope to baffle all efforts to bring them to justice. The attempt to transform this inquiry into a party fight with the republicans as the defenders of the landsharks and swindlers is part of the programme. It is hardly credible that honest republicans would lend themselves to such a suicidal and disreputable course. The Douglas county delegation have so far come to no understanding about the charter amendments. They are still waiting patiently for an expression or definite instructions from leading business men and property owners of Omaha. If anything is to be done at this session it is high time for the city council and board of trade to move in this matter.

FOREIGN NEWS.

ENGLAND ACCEPTS THE FRENCH PROPOSALS.

LONDON, January 22.—The Pall Mall Gazette says the cabinet has accepted the French proposals regarding the Egyptian finances as a basis of the negotiation, provided no multiple control be instituted and the coupons be taxed. Germany and Russia will be admitted to representation, says "Inia Caissedela Delle Publique" England will offer a guarantee loan of nine million pounds, but is willing to discuss the question of international guarantee, if the powers are unanimous on that point.

Gladstone returned to Hawarden to-day, after a long interview with the marquis of Hartington and Earl Granville.

THE EARTHQUAKES.

MADRID, January 22.—Earthquake shocks were felt yesterday at Malaga, Loja, Vetez and Almunecar. Some damage was done at the latter place.

MELBOURNE ADVICES.

LONDON, January 22.—Advices from Melbourne show the popular feeling against the home government for allowing the recent German annexations in New Guinea and neighboring islands still continues strong. The municipal authorities of Melbourne adopted a resolution which expresses regret that England did not regard the representations of the colonies in reference to foreign annexations and urges the government to remedy the injury already done and take effective steps to prevent a recurrence in the future.

FAMINE IN RUSSIA.

ST. PETERSBURG, January 22.—Famine is prevailing in the governments of Archangel and Vologda.

A FRIENDLY SHIEKH.

KORTI, Egypt, January 22.—The shiekh of the Kababbish tribe came to Korti to-day. He heard of the British victory and promised Wolseley to provide him with plenty of camels.

ENGLAND AND ITALY'S TREATY.

TURIN, January 22.—The Gazette, of this city, declares that England and Italy have signed a treaty providing that Italy occupy the territory from Massowah south to Obok, a distance of three hundred miles, England also agrees to support Italy's occupation of Tripoli, should the question arise, and will favor the creation of an Italian colony in West Africa. Italy, the same paper says, is giving moral support to England's Egyptian policy.

GERMAN COLONIZATION IN AFRICA.

BERLIN, January 22.—German colonization is making rapid progress on the western coast of Africa. A report of a sensational character comes from the Sierra Leone to the effect that the German flag has been hoisted in the interior of that country which has long been held by England. This news, if confirmed, may lead to serious complications with England.

CONCESSIONS TO THE IRISH.

LONDON, January 22.—Northcote, in a speech at Biddeford this evening, hinted that it was probable there would be an early meeting of parliament to discuss the Egyptian affairs. Sir Thomas Brassey, member of parliament and junior lord of the admiralty, in a speech at Hastings this evening, said he believed the movement in the direction of local self-government for Ireland was imminent and important concessions would be made to the Irish.

AN UNPOPULAR LECTURER.

BELFAST, January 20.—Henry George lectured before the Belfast land restoring society this evening. At the conclusion of the lecture a disturbance was created and great disorder ensued. A motion for a vote of thanks to George was stifled by the uproar. Chairs were thrown about and the gas extinguished. The hall was finally cleared by the police.

THE TERRIBLE AVALANCHE.

ROME, January 22.—An avalanche buried a hamlet of fifteen houses at Chiamonte in Piedmont. The cries of the buried people are distinctly heard. Two thousand soldiers are endeavoring to rescue them. Fifteen houses were destroyed at Frassiciers, and eleven persons are still buried beneath the snow. Most of the telegraph lines on the Italian frontier have ceased working, owing to the avalanches. The winds have been of extreme severity throughout Europe.

THE BALLEROCH SCANDAL.

PARIS, January 22.—The police to day searched the offices and residences of the editors of the Cri du Peuple for documents in connection with the Balleroch scandal.

Business Paralyzed.

GREENVILLD, Pa., January 22.—The closing of the Jamestown savings bank has paralyzed business. It appears now that the failure will amount to more than $50,000. Already three assignments have been made by parties who had connection with the institution. No information of the whereabouts of Cashier yet received.

WASHINGTON NEWS.

Vest and Plumb's Oklahoma Resolutions Before the Senate.

Discussing Measures for Improving the Indians' Condition.

Passage of the Oregon Central Land Forfeiture Bill.

The National Woman Suffragist Association Adjourn.

Discussion of the Nicaraguan Treaty in the Senate.

The Bill to Protect the Public Health Cannot be Reached This Session.

SENATE.

WASHINGTON, January 1.—Manderson, from committee on printing, reported favorably the concurrent resolution providing that the Congressional Record should be an accurate transcript of the actual proceedings and debates of the two houses.

The Oklahoma resolutions of Vest and Plumb were placed before the Senate. Vest withdrew his resolution. In doing so he took occasion to say there could be no doubt whatever that as the laws stood, the Oklahoma lands were not at this time subject to settlement by whites. The president was therefore unable to do otherwise than as he had done by Vest, to obtain a condition of the Oklahoma affairs, and said he was astonished to see the statement made at other places and the capitol to affect the president, in his action in this matter, was violating the laws. The president was compelled to execute the law, and the law was clearly and unquestionably against permitting white settlers to go on these lands.

Vest believed it inevitable that the lands would in time be opened to such settlers, but that time was not now. He expressed the hope that congress would take action on the matter and avert bloodshed. The remaining rights of the Indians to the lands in question should be purchased.

Mr. Dawes said that we had no right to open up these lands for settlement. The United States could not trample on our treaties.

Harrison suggested that the committee on Indians affairs might at once report unfavorably on a petition recently presented to the senate which prayed for the opening up of the Oklahoma country. On the question of adopting such report the yeas and nays might be called and recorded as the sense of the senate. Thus decided.

Maxey, said this was a good opportunity for the government to put its seal of condemnation upon lawlessness. The lands which formed the subject of this debate had never been surveyed, sectionized or subdivided. They were, therefore, in no way open for settlement. Plumb believed that most people that went into the Oklahoma country went there under the conviction that they had a legal right so to do. Maxey did not see how they could entertain such a conviction, since they have been notified every practical means that they had no such right. Plumb said much misunderstanding had been created by a rumor that a United States judge in Kansas decided that these lands were public lands. The United States decision was not to that effect, however. Plumb's opinion was that the lands could be opened to settlement by congress and the president, without the consent of the Indians, if prompt action were taken. Plumb had no doubt an entirely just and peaceful solution of the difficulty could be arrived at with due regard to the rights of the Indians.

Plumb's resolution calling on the president for his views of the present status of the Oklahoma lands was then agreed to. Vest then re-offered his resolution directing the secretary of the treasury to ascertain and report upon what terms the Creek and Seminole Indians would surrender their remaining rights to the lands in question. He requested the resolution lie over till to-morrow when he would make it more comprehensive.

The resolution laid over accordingly.

The senate then went into executive session with reference, it is understood, to the Nicragua treaty.

When the doors o repened the senate adjourned.

HOUSE.

WASHINGTON, January 22.—On motion of Lanham the senate amendments were concurred in to the house bill authorizing the appointment of a commissioner to run and mark the boundary lines between a portion of Indian Territory and Texas, in connection with a similar commissioner appointed by the state of Texas.

Cobb presented the conference report on the Oregon Central forfeiture bill. Agreed to.

The house recodes from its disagreements to all the senate amendments.

The house then went into committee of the whole on the Indian appropriation bill.

The House committee on public health decided that by reason of the late stage of the session and the crowded condition of the calendars, it would be impossible to pass this session the bill to protect public health recently proposed by delegates from various state boards of health. The committee, however, decided to recommend an appropriation of $25,000 for a national board of health and $500,000 to be used at the discretion of the president in preventing the spread of cholera, should it appear in this country before the next congress assembles.]

Chance then spoke in support of an increase of the appropriation for the Indians at Fort Peck agency. Maginnis attributed the starving condition of those Indians to the inefficiency of the Indian department. Reagan said that it struck him as a curious fact that the government could always find means for appropriating money to feed a lot of vagabond and lazy Indians, but could never find means for putting them to work.

Hewitt, N. Y., read a letter he had received from Bishop Whipple, of Minnesota, who is dying on the banks of the Mediterranean, imploring his good offices for the Indians and asking him to request the president-elect to be careful in the selection of a commissioner on Indian affairs. No position, says the bishop, in the gift of the president can bring to his party greater honor or greater fame. On motion the Manzanares amendment was adopted appropriating $26,000 for the erection of an Indian industrial school at Santa Fe. Cutcheon offered an amendment providing that any Indian committing against the person or property of another Indian or other person any of the following crimes: Murder, manslaughter, rape, assault with intent to kill, arson, burglary and larceny, shall be subject to the laws of the territory in which such crime is committed, and shall be tried therefor in same courts and in the same manner and shall be subject to the same penalty as are other persons charged with the commission of said crimes, and permitting the Indians to prosecute, in any court, any civil action at law and equity. Adopted.

On motion of Throckmorton an amendment was adopted giving the United States district court for the western district of Arkansas civil jurisdiction over five civilized tribes of the Indian Territory.

Ryan offered an amendment authorizing the president to open negotiations with the Creeks, Seminoles and Cherokees for the purpose of opening to settlement, under the homestead laws, the unassigned lands in the Indian Territory ceded by them to the United States. (These are the Oklahoma lands. Adopted.

The committee then rose and reported the bill to the house.

The previous question was ordered, the bill passed and the house adjourned.

WASHINGTON NOTES.

LAND FORFEITURES.

WASHINGTON, January 22.—The Oregon Central land forfeiture bill, the senate amendments to which were concurred in by the house to-day, is the first forfeiture bill passed by both houses of the present congress. It is substantially the same as the bill originally prepared by the Astoria chamber of commerce with the addition of an amendment offered in the house by George for the purpose of protecting settlers. It is the forfeiture of all unearned lands between Forest Grove and Astoria.

CONFORMATIONS.

Carroll Dwight, Boston, commissioner of labor. Pension agent, Jacob Rich, Des Moines, Iowa. Postmasters—D. A. Leahy, Lasalle, Ill.; James Lynn, Carrollton, Ill.; H. C. Coolbaugh, Hamburg, Iowa.

The senate remained two hours in secret session this afternoon discussing the Nicaraguan treaty. Senator Morgan finished his speech and Senotor Edmunds consumed the remainder of the session. Both gentlemen are in favor of the treaty.

The committee on rivers and harbors decided to consider to-morrow the proposition of Captain Eads to improve Galveston harbor at a cost of $7,750,000 with the view whether or not it may not be added to the regular river and harbor appropriation bill. The proposition which was presented in the committee to-day by Represedtative Bayne that the works should be let to the highest bidder, was defeated.

The secretary of war refused the request of Lieutenant Frederick Schwatka to be allowed to withdraw his resignation which had been accepted, to take effect the 31st inst.

At a secret session of the

WOMAN'S SUFFRAGE ASSOCIATION

to-day Mrs. Blake, chairman of the committee on plan of work, made a report, which was adopted, recommending that the women of the several states labor with their legislatures for the passage of suffrage laws, and to mark every member antagonizing the measures in favor of women in order to oppose them. The work before congress for the passage of the 16th amendment is to be continued by the women in the several states. They are also requested to oppose the re-election of senators and representatives voting against woman suffrage. The vice-presidents were requested to obtain, if possible, the passage of resolutions by their respective state legislatures recommending to congress the adoption of the 16th amendment. The question of municipal suffrage was discussed at some length. It was stated that school suffrage had been granted in twelve states. At a public meeting this afternoon addresses were made by Mrs. Diggs, Kansas; Clara B. Colby, Nebraska, and Dr. Alice B. Stockham, Chicago. In the evening session addresses were made by Laura Deforce Gordon, California; Matilda Joslyn Gage and Susan B. Anthony. The association closed its annual session by an able speech by Elizabeth Cady Stanton.

In order to obtain a clear title to certain property here, T. J. Fisher, a real estate dealer, filed a bill against William Sharon, Sarah Althea Hill, otherwise Sharon, asking a decree, establishing that by the conveyance from John B. Alley and wife, Sharon acquired no beneficial interest in certain lots of ground, and that no dower accrued to the said Sarah Althea, and that she be enjoined from settling up a right of dower in the lots, the title of which was in John B. Alley, and was conveyed to Sharon, and by him to plaintiff.

COLLECTIONS OF INTERNAL REVENUE

for the first six months of the fiscal year were as follows: Spirits, $340,000,000; tobacco, $127,000, fermented liquors, $95,000,000; miscellaneous sources, $150,000; total, $565,000,000, being $4,300,000 less than the receipts for the same period last year.

Iowa State Temperance Convention.

DES MOINES, January 22.—The state temperance convention, called by the state temperance alliance, assembled at Foster's opera house at 10 o'clock a. m. and was called to order by the Hon. Aaron Kimball, president of the alliance. The delegates joined in singing "Nearer My God to Thee," and a prayer was offered by Rev. J. H. Lozier. On motion of the alliance committee Senator T. E. Clark, of Page county, was made temporary president. On taking the chair Senator Clark made a stirring and effective speech. After the appointment of committees on resolutions, credentials, permanent organization and business, Francis Murphy, the great temperance apostle, being present, was called upon and spoke for a few minutes. He also addressed the convention this evening. At the afternoon session the committee reported that they found sixty-seven of the ninety-nine counties of the state represented. The temporary organization was made permanent.

dropped from the window. The first resolution states that the duty of the state is to suppress and not to legalize crime, and claims that the manufacture and sale of intoxicating liquors is a crime.

Second, that the verdict of the people of Iowa has been four times given for prohibition

Third, conscious of right and duty, and strengthened by these repeated declarations of the will of the people, we will stand by the present law of the state and will claim at the hands of the next general assembly such amendment as will cure any defects or inefficiency that may be discovered and make it more easily and universally enforced.

Fourth, that the saloon is an evil, and a dangerous social and political agency, and should array all good citizens against it, irrespective of party, for its destruction.

Fifth, that the education of the people as to the nature of alcoholic beverages and their effects are of prime importance.

Sixth, that in our social and political action on the subject we

Hon. Aaron Kimball read and interesting report entitled, "Notes from the Field." It was a comprehensive review of the work that has been done in the temperance field and the statement of the situation in which the cause stands to-day. He traced the steps that have been taken preliminary to the enactment of the present liquor code. The paper called forth a spirited discussion and eloquent words of endorsement were spoken. The afternoon trains brought many more delegates and probably five hundred or more were present. The name of St. John was mentioned but once during the convention then it was received with disapprobation and "pooh, poohs." One delegate said that if the name of the Saint was mentioned again the person uttering it should be will take no backward step, nor will we be turned aside by any temporary expediency, and we shall expect of any organizations of any kind that look to the prohibitionists for support that there be no retreat or equivocation as to supporting the law.

Seventh, That it is the duty of all citizens to obey the law and assist its enforcement; that no citizen has the moral right to enjoy the protection of the law that secures his life and property and family from violence and at the same time condemn the authority that enacted it, as well as all other laws of the state; that such conduct is simply moral treason against the state and the principles of free government, and he is not entitled to be regarded as a good citizen who is guilty there f

Eighth, That as the prohibitory law make it the especial duty of police officers to see to the arrest and prosecution of the offenders against its provisions; that the mayors of our cities and towns who have their appointment and removal when they fail to perform the duties of their offices are largely responsible for the failure to enforce the law in places where it is disregarded; and that the public officers thus failing to perform their official duties and regard their oaths are especially deserving of our condemnation and censure.

Ninth, That whereas the United States courts have fully recognized the police power of the several states to regulate and prohibit the manufacture and sale of intoxicating liquors within their state boundaries, that it is the duty of congress to conform to the revenue laws of the United States and the laws regulating the inter-state commerce in regard to prohibitory legislation of the several states in lieu thereof; and to that end ask that congress shall provide that no license shall be issued by the United States government for the manufacture or sale of intoxicating liquors within states except for such purposes as the laws of said states permit, and to such persons only as have authority by and under the state law to manufacture and sell such liquors, and that persons who manufacture and sell without such authority be subject to the proper penalties of the United States laws; also, that no person shall be permitted to import into states having such prohibitory statutes any intoxicating liquors for purposes made unlawful by the state statutes. That we also earnestly urge upon our delegation in congress to do all in their power to secure congressional action in prohibiting the sale of intoxicants in the District of Columbia and in all other places over which it has jurisdiction. That we endorse the plan of organization and the work of the state temperance alliance for the enforcement of the law and to urge temperance workers throughout the state to co-operate therewith. The resolutions were adopted and the session adjourned. In the evening Francis Murphy addressed the convention. Adjourned sine die.

The Piute Indians Starving.

SAN FRANCISCO, January 23.—The Piute Indians are said to be starving on their barren reservation in Nevada. Notice of the congressional appropriation of seven thousand dollars secured by Senator Dawes of Massachussetts, has reached them

SAN FRANCISCO, January 22.—The winter in Nevada has been very a severe one. The reservation is so barren that nothing could be grown on the land to provide against it. The Indians number 7,000. Almost their sole means of subsistence has been pine nuts, fish from Pyramid lake and rabbits, the latter being the only game on the reservation. Sarah Winnemucca, a member of the tribe, who lectured in the east on the condition of the Piutes and who is now spending a few days in this city, says: "My people are utterly destitute, numbers of them are famishing in the snow." She attributes their misery to the negligence of the reservation officials.

Arizona Bandits Captured.

YUMA, Arizona, January 22.—Troop M of the Fourth cavalry arrived last night with twelve bandit prisoners. Four others were left on the field dead. Troop E is after others and expect to make them all prisoners to-day. Lieut. Jenkins is the only one who received an injury and that was slight. The bandits captured are supposed to be those Mexican soldiers who muniteed at Encenada, Mex., the 12th inst., and killed their commander.

Lieutenant Jenkins returned to-day bringing two more Mexican bandit prisoners, making fourteen captured and four killed. It is believed that Lopez, leader of the band, is among the killed. The prisoners say they were compelled to take the life of Commandant Rico, as he had defrauded them out of two years pay. They refused to explain why they murdered the commandant's wife, or give any information about the remainder of the gang.

Mercurial Mutations.

CHICAGO, January 22.—Early this morning the mercury fell to 17 below zero in this city, according to the report of the signal service. In the extreme northwest, however, the cold has moderated somewhat, Fargo and Jamestown quoting 5 below. The mercury had risen to 5 degrees here at noon to-day.

MOUNT WASHINGTON, N. H., January 22.—The thermometer this morning was 50 degrees below zero one degree lower than the lowest teperature ever recorded here before, which was in March, 1872. Probably no rougher weather was ever experienced than at the present moment (9 a. m). A northwest hurricane has been blawing 100 miles an hour for the last twelve hours. Sleep was impossible during the night. The chimney of the signal station was blown off, filling the house with gas and smoke. Two men are on the summit—P. J. Cahill and Alphonse Laundey.

Oliver Brothers & Phillips' Creditors Accept Their Proposal.

PITTSBURG, January 22.—At the meeting of the creditors of Oliver Brothers & Phillips and Oliver & Roberts wire company, limited, to-day the committees reported in favor of accepting the proposition of the firms with some slight modifications.

AN EXPLOSION OF NATURAL GAS

near the work-house, eight miles from this city this afternoon, seriously injured five men who had gone down a ditch to repair a leak in the maines. The explosion was caused by one of the workmen striking a match to light his pipe. No farther particulars.

The Whisky Pool.

PEORIA, January 23.—The auditing committee of the whisky pool met here to-day for the purpose of auditing the claims against the last years pool, preparatory to the meeting of the association at Cincinnati next Tuesday. The committee deny that there is any danger of a disruption of the pool. They say one firm in Cincinnati is making all the trouble, and that the firm wants its claim paid before it has been audited. They say as soon as the amounts of outstanding indebtedness are ascertained they will be paid in full. All st tes are now in by mail and messenger.

Election Judges to be Indicted.

CHICAGO, January 22.—It is learned tonight that the county special grand jury has voted to indict 255 judges of the recent election for permitting carelessness and frauds, through which hundreds of thousands of dollars of appropriations for additianal police was made to appear correct by a majority of 14,000, when in reality the proposition was defeated by several hundred votes. The number of judges to be indicted include about three-quarters of all who served. County Clerk Ryan and Justices Scully and Kersten, who compoied the canvassing board, are also to be Indicted.

Starving out the Boomers.

EMPORIA, Kan., January 22.—The Republican's Arkansas City, Kan., special says: Gen. Hatch has surrounded the boomers at Stillwater with the intention of starving them out. He allows no one to approach them, but lets any leave who desire. A courier just in reports several leaving already, as the provisions are running short. The Oklahomaites have been trying to raise money here for their relief, but without success. There was no firing done.

Ex-Mayor A. Oakey Hall.

NEW YORK, January 22.—A. Oakey Hall, formerly mayor of New York, now resident in London, England, has been appointed commissioner to take the testimony of the Viscount and Viscountess Mandeville in a suit for false imprisonment brought by the maid of the viscountess, charged one year ago with having stolen gloves, jewelry, etc., from her mistress.

Death of Mrs. Stanley Matthews.

WASHINGTON, January 22.—Mrs. Mary W. A. Matthews, wife of Stanley Matthews, associate justice of the supreme court of the United States, died this morning. The funeral will be on Saturday. The remains will be taken to Glendale, Ohio, and interred in Spring Grove cemetery.

The Jury Disagrees.

NEW YORK, January 22—The jury in the suit of Mrs. Elizabeth Patton vs C. P. Huntington started in court to-day they were unable to agree upon a verdict and were discharged from further consideration of the case.

THE MARKETS.

The General Market About the Same as Yesterday.

Full 25 per cent, Lower on Cattle Than Monday.

There was More Life in the Hog Trade.

Wheat Closed at an Advance of 1-8c.

Corn was Fully up to Yesterday in Prices.

Oats Were Quiet—Rye Ruled Dull—The Provision Market was Very Quiet.

CHICAGO MARKET.

CATTLE.

Special telegram to the BEE.

CHICAGO, January 22.—The general market was in much the same condition as noted yesterday, and values remain strong at 25c per 100 lbs. on all classes lower than on Monday. The only change to-day was that there may have been a few more buyers, a more active demand for heavy shipping cattle, and that in a few instances these sorts sold a shade stronger. With the fresh receipts there were nearly 10,000 on the market, and under this supply there was not much of a chance for any great advance. Yet there will be a good many more cattle sold to-day than yesterday. The trouble in the trade just now is the great numbers of medium and unfinished steers, and they drag down everything above them. Butchers' stock, either cows or bulls, continue to sell at good prices, and canners' stock is making good prices. Sales are confined mainly to speculators, and they are carrying about all they care. Good to choice, 1300 to 1450 lbs., $5.40@5.00; 1200 to 1300 lbs., $5.00@5.40; common to fair, $4.00@4.90; cows, $2.50@4.50; bulls, $2.50@4.25; stockers, $3.50@4.00; feeders, $3.75@4.60; corn-fed Texans, $4.00@4.85.

HOGS.

There was more life in trade, and values ruled strong and 5c higher than at the close yesterday. The advance was mainly on the best medium and middle weight packing sorts. Rough and common and the very best shipping shorts underwent little or no change. There was fair shipping demand for light sorts, with prices around about the same as yesterday. There is little or no packing demand for light sorts at present. Packing and shipping, 260@400 lbs, $4 55@4 75; light, 160@210 lbs, $4 25@4 55. The day's markets were characterized by very few features. The opening was inclined to steadiness on light receipts both locally and at outside points. The firmness was later changed by large local purchases, making the market quotably firm. The early decline in wheat was overcome. Values were about steady but outside orders were very scarce.

WHEAT

Opened steady and a shade higher all around on light receipts and a fair prospect of a still further falling off in this direction. The market, however, received early but little support from any source, and fell off ½c. At this decline there were liberal purchases here and on New York market by local parties which firmed values perceptibly and made the close of the morning session steady at ⅛@¼c advance over the opening point. Very few features of any character entered into the day's dealings, while only moderate attention was given to the market by local scalpers. No. 2 spring was quoted at 80@80½c.

CORN

opened full up to yesterday's closing figures, ruling very quiet within fluctuations of ⅛c, the main course of the market was about the same as in wheat. No. 2 cash was quoted nominally at 38½c.

OATS

were quiet in sympathy with the general depression, with rather less doing than usual. Favorite options in May only fluctuated ⅛c and closed easy.

RYE

ruled dull, with little or nothing doing in a speculative way or in store. Options were quotably 62c cash and January, 62½c February, 63c March, 64c April, and 68c May. Track stuff ranged from 58c to 64c for No. 3 to No. 2.

PROVISIONS

in a general way were very quiet and dull, scalpers taking hold very moderately and packers being practically out of the market. Prices throughout the whole hog product list were very steady and the market barren of interesting features. Cash quotations were nominally: Pork, $11.95; lard, $6.65@6.67½; short ribs, $6.05. The close of the morning session was quiet and dull.

RAILROAD RACKET.

PHILADELPHIA, January 22.—It is admitted at the main office of the Pennsylvania railroad that the company is cutting west-bound freight rates, but the officials say that the company is merely meeting the prices quoted by other lines.

CHICAGO, January 22.—At a meeting of the freight representatives of east bound lines today, it was agreed to maintain 20 cent rates on grain to New York. Another meeting will be held to-morrow.

Coal Steamer and Barges Sunk.

HENDERSON, Ky., January 22.—The towboat Harry Brown, of Pittsburg, with 22 barges of coal, struck the pier of the Henderson bridge this afternoon and sunk eight barges and with them was lost two of the boats' crews. After striking the pier she flanked around on another pier, breaking the tow in two, which was the cause of the loss of most of the barges.

LATER.

EVANSVILLE, Ind., January 22.—Seven barges of coal lost by the tow boat Harry Brown, at Henderson bridge to-day, contained eighty-four thousand bushels, owned by a Pittsburg firm, bound for New Orleans. No lives were lost as at first reported.

The Dakota Capital Bill.

BISMARCK, D. T., January 22.—The capital removal bill in both houses was amended so as to give the capitol property to the persons subscribing money, material and labor used in its construction and made the special order in the council at 11 o'clock and the house at 2 o'clock. The bill will undoubtedly pass the amendment was adopted, requiring all the territorial officers to remove to Pierre within ten days after the approval of the bill and an adjournment of the legislature for seven days to recommence at Pierre.

Boat Building Failure.

NEWBURGH, N. Y., January 22.—A statement of the liabilities and assets of the boat-building firm of Ward, Stanton & Co. shows total nominal assets of $93,395; total liabilities, $228,323.

Mill Burned.

OTTUMWA, Ia., January 22.—Wapello mills, J. M. Louak, proprietor, burned last night. Loss on building and stock, $94,000; insurance, $40,000.