THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

FOURTEENTH YEAR. OMAHA, NEB., FRIDAY MORNING, FEBRUARY 13, 1885.

LINCOLN.

The Third Edition of the Lincoln Legislative Literature

Of Similar Import and Nature of Those Before Given.

The Three Cent Railroad Bill Settled By the Senate.

They Also Pass a Dozen Other Bills.

Special Correspondence from the House and Senate.

The House Discusses the Bill to Prevent Contagious Diseases Among Animals.

LEGISLATIVE LITERATURE.

A FEW MORE BILLS.

Special Correspondence of The Bee.

LINCOLN, Neb., February 12.—The following bills, in addition to those already published, have been introduced in the house:

RAILROAD CORPORATIONS.

House, 292—Corr, Prohibiting discrimination in rates or facilities by railroads, fixing passenger rates at two cents per mile and freight not more than was charged November 1, 1880.

House, 296—Bailey, Prohibiting discrimination by railroads in rates or facilities; and providing that shippers shall obtain cars on five days' notice; twenty days notice of change of rates must be given, and schedules shall be posted up in all depots; penalty not less than $1,000.

House, 312—Troup, Directing the assessment of railroad and telegraph property, such as depots, shops, buildings, grounds, etc., by counties.

House, 231—Neligh, Prohibiting discrimination by railroads, by secret rebates, drawbacks, etc., and providing that all persons shall receive equal facilities for shipping, loading and unloading goods. A schedule of freight rates, covering 77 pages, is attached.

COUNTY MATTERS.

House, 309—Neligh, Providing for advertisement of sale of property for delinquent taxes.

House, 275—Bassett, Regulating duties of assessors.

House, 279—Troup, County boards may grant liquor for not less than $300 per annum.

House, 273—Russell, Defining the boundaries of Blaine county.

House, 284—Johnston, Regulating collection of taxes by distress.

House, 316—Newcomer, Limiting assessment for county purposes to 1½ per cent, unless authorized by a majority of voters.

House, 300—Irwin, Changing the return of assessments from June to May.

House, 278—Troup, Providing that every county judge, county clerk, county treasurer, and sheriff, whose fees exceed $1500 a year in the first two offices, and $2,000 the last two officers, shall turn into the county treasury the surplus; in counties having 2,500 population or over, county treasurer shall receive $3,000 and necessary help; county clerk $2,500; county judge $2,000.

House, 301—Turner, Requires the listing of personal property between the 1st of March and the 1st of June.

House, 299—Gill, Regulating the filing of mortgages and other instruments.

House, 295—Holmes, Including Dixon and Dakota counties in the act preventing cattle running at large.

STATE INSTITUTIONS.

House, 294—Establishing a normal school at Aurora, Hamilton county, provided a site is donated, and levying a tax of one-sixteenth of a mill for that purpose.

House, 271—Conger, Providing for inspection of illuminating oils and regulating sale of same; inspectors and deputies to be appointed by the governor.

House 310—Troup, Fixing the terms of courts on the 1st day of January and publication of same in districts.

House 373—Special committee. Appropriation of $10,000 for support of Home of the Friendless in Lincoln.

MISCELLANEOUS.

House 307—Crook, Declaring that any person who shall obtain goods by "concealing any facts, past, present or future," shall not be entitled to exemption provided by the law.

House 310—Miller, Appropriating $102 each to pay George W. Bemis, E. M. Coffin, J. W. Bixler and J. C. Roberts for services as district attorneys.

House 294—Olmstead, Making legal interest 8 per cent, but for a less period than a year 1 per cent per month may be charged.

House 306—Hazen, Punishing the selling, giving away or having in possession obscene or indecent books, newspapers, magazines, pictures, etc. Penalty, destruction of article and fine not less than $25 and imprisonment.

House 259—Williams, Authorizing counties, precincts, township, town, village or school district to compromise its indebtedness by scaling or discounting, as may be agreed with holders.

House, 283—Johnson, Amending section 7 of the general election law.

House, 277—Troup, Making memorial day a legal holiday.

House, 299—Newcomer, Regulating collection of costs of trials of felons.

House, 286—Cole, Providing the decent of interment of any union soldier or sailor who may die without leaving sufficient means to defray funeral expenses, the grave to be marked with suitable headstone.

THE SENATE.

Special Correspondence to THE BEE.

LINCOLN, February 12.—Attorney-General Leese submitted an opinion this morning on the liabilities of counties for the cost of caring for their insane, to the effect that such costs could be collected by the usual process. This opinion was in answer to Senator Dolan's resolution introduced several days ago.

A bill was introduced by Senator Mikeljohn to prohibit billiard playing in liquor saloons. Several house bills were read for the first time.

On the passage of bills to a third reading, Senator McAllister moved that Senate File 14, the somewhat famous 3 cent mileage bill, be referred back to the committee on the whole. He gave as his reason for so moving that he considered the bill unconstitutional in limiting the law to that part of the state east of the 101st principal meridian. He said the railroad members knew this to be true and had favored its passage.

Senator Snell said that he had at first been in doubt as to its constitutionality, but he was convinced that it was all right, and he wanted to see the bill go through. "The bill has been cut up till it is now a mangled mass of humanity," said Mr. Snell, "but I want some railroad legislation, and don't want to see this deferred longer." He accused the anti-monopolists of fighting everything that was not exactly as they wanted it.

Mr. Day moved an amendment to refer to the judiciary committee. He said the bill, as it stood, was detrimental to the new settlers, "the bone and sinew of the new west."

Mr. Einsel could not see why the newly-settled portion of the state should be favored the same as the old. He did not think it discrimination.

Senator McShane said that the bill had been urged and pushed forward for consideration for a year, yet nothing had been accomplished, and now, when it was up for passage, the very friends of the bill wanted it postponed.

Senator Paul thought the judiciary committee should examine the bill; that it had never been before any committee except the railroad. He thought there was danger of too much talk.

Senator McShane was of the opinion that the bill had already been talked to death.

Mr. Burr said the constitution permitted the legislature to pass any bill not forbidden therein.

Mr. Durland was surprised that the anti-monopoly members should so suddenly turn from their course and favor postponing a railroad bill. He wondered if they had experienced a change of heart.

To which slur Mr. Day replied that he did not have a railroad attorney at his elbow to coach him through his speeches.

Senator Mikeljohn believed the passenger bill had been forced along to impede the freight bill. He thought it looked like a railroad scheme.

Mr. Burr said he had introduced the amendment which had caused so much discussion. He represented the people of Lancaster county who wanted railroad legislation and he had come intending to vote for such laws. He had accepted as true the statements of the railroad men who talked the other day and he believed it gross injustice to make railroads carry passengers at such low rates where there were only fifteen people to the mile as is the case beyond the 101st meridian.

Mr. Brown thought that it was injustice to tax some people more than others because they lived "thin," and that it "was a thunderin' thin law."

The amendment to report to the judiciary committee was lost, and the vote on referring back to the committee of the whole was as follows:

Those favoring such action: Brown, Day, Dollan, Lewis, McAllister, Meikeljohn, Mills, Paul, Putnam, Smith of Fillmore, and Smith of Lancaster—11. Nays: Buckworth, Burr, Cherry, Clark, Durland, Einsel, Filson, Goehner, Hoebel, Howe, Howell, Hyers, Love, McShane, Metz, Norris, Shervin, Skinner, Snell, Sowers and Spencer—21. On the bill and its amendments being read they were found to have been incorrectly engrossed, and on motion of Senator Howe were ordered back to the engrossing committee.

The quiet manner in which this amendment slipped through the senate yesterday was mentioned in these dispatches, and it is now apparent that the members having sowed the wind are about to reap a whirlwind.

Of the nine members of the senate railroad committee, it is said that six will vote against the freight bill as discussed by the committee of the whole yesterday. Senators Paul, Meikeljohn, Metz and Sowers are four of the six. The only reason for recommending the bill to the senate for consideration was to prevent a minority report.

The scheme now brewing is a commission bill. Senate File 177, which also bears Senator Snell's name, is the proposed bill.

Afternoon Session.

Special Telegram to THE BEE.

LINCOLN, February 12.—The three-cent bill was settled by the senate this afternoon. It was reported, correctly engrossed, read and the vote taken. Senator Brown's was the only opposing voice, and he had his reasons entered on the records.

Twelve other bills were passed, none of them calling for extensive mention.

The senate then went into a committee of the whole.

Senator Day then moved to take up the freight bill, Senate File 171.

Dr. Sowers moved to amend, by substituting the commission bill, file 187. The next two hours were spent in arguing this substitute, the committee finally rising without voting on it.

Church Howe lead off in the first speech in favor of Sowers' motion, followed of course by Brown, who said he was opposed to the tactics employed to bring this commission bill before the senate. It was a railroad measure. The supreme court sat down on it last fall and the supreme court had declared it unconstitutional. He did not believe the house would pass it.

Day and Howe had a little squabble for the floor, Chairman Burr deciding for Howe, but he yielded to Day, who explained his motion.

Howe explained that his idea was to take up the commission bill and incorporate the freight bill with it. He believed a law against railroad discrimination was needed more than one fixing a rate.

Senator Sowers said he never had been in favor of a freight bill, and had never promised his constituents to vote for one. He believed the commission was the only way to handle it.

Meiklejohn thought it useless to substitute when it was possible to amend.

Snell wanted a bill that would be satisfactory to the people, and he believed in a commission bill.

McAllister did not believe in a commission without a law fixing a rate.

Attorney Durland, of the Sioux City road, gave some figures on how great the cut would be on his road if the freight bill passed.

McShane opposed on the grounds that the supreme court had declared it unconstitutional, and the people declared they did not want it.

Hastings said he had been much edified by the discussion but would move that the committee rise and consider the question again.

After the committee had reported Meiklejohn offered a resolution to make 171 the special order for Friday and each day thereafter until the bill was disposed of.

The railroad satellites declare to-night that they will substitute the commission bill to-morrow. They claim to have counted noses and have the votes to do it.

THE HOUSE.

Special Correspondence to the BEE.

LINCOLN, February 12.—The members of the railroad fraternity are in high glee this morning. Mr. Church Howe is also jubilant, for the supreme court has decided that the constitutional amendment has not carried, and the legislative session cannot be prolonged beyond forty days. This decision was arrived at by Judges Maxwell and Reese. Judge Cobb, dissenting, has filed a contrary opinion. This decision, more than anything else, settles the question of railroad law-making for this session. It will be utterly impossible for both houses to pass a law in the time now left which would afford relief to and check railroad extortion. Nearly two-thirds of the session gone and nothing done so far. At the present state of things the session will end and Nebraska will remain the serf of monopoly for two years longer. The railroads know this, hence their joy. Until to-day a smile has not been seen pass over their countenances since the session commenced. But now they are delighted with themselves, and really speak of fulfilling engagements away from Lincoln. Nothing like this was remembered before the decision of the supreme court was made known.

The report from the committee appointed to test the question was the first business of the day this morning. The house then went into committee of the whole, Mr. Riley in the chair. Of late the speaker has a fancy for selecting Douglas men to occupy the chair during committee of the whole. It may be said that the three—Whitmore, Winspear and Riley—have made good chairmen, and have shown that they had some idea of what a chairman's duties were.

The first bill in committee was house roll 157, a bill to enable employes on railways to obtain damages if injured while in the employ of the railroad.

Mr. Stevenson, who explained the bill, said it was to remedy a defect in the present law, and was to provide that an employe injured on the railroad should be allowed damages, although the injury was caused by the negligence of another employe. Mr. Caspar strongly supported the bill and Mr. Troup and Mr. Kisley opposed it. The bill was eventually ordered to be reported to the house with the recommendation that it do pass.

House roll 125, by Mr. Johnston to provide that all fire insurance companies should pay persons whose property was insured the exact sum stated in the policy. This was opposed by Rice and others, and was eventually ordered to be reported for indefinite postponement. This committee considered house roll 113 for fifteen seconds, and condemned it. House roll 115, however, a bill to provide double-decked cattle cars on the railroads, was ordered for passage. The committee rose, and the house adjourned until 2:30.

Afternoon Session.

Special telegram to the BEE.

LINCOLN, February 11.—The only business in the house this afternoon was the consideration of house bill No. 144 in the committee of the whole, introduced by Adams.

It was put through in grand style by Field and Riley, with Johnston in the reserve. The object of the bill is to prevent contagious diseases among animals, and it provides for a state veterinarian, who shall visit stock farms, inspect cattle and in his opinion if they are suffering from any infectious disease he shall have the power to order their destruction, and allow compensation to their owner. The veterinarian is to receive a salary of $2,500 a year, and is to be assisted by assessors, who are also to be well paid. By the action of this bill the state will be compelled to compensate farmers for the destruction of their cattle by disease although it may arise from circumstances over which the state has no control. The state becomes an insurance company compensating one class at the expense of another; the householder might as reasonably demand damages from the state for the destruction of his property by hurricane, providing he got a bill passed to allow it.

The bill consists of thirty-two sections which were read and passed without a remark from anyone only the above named gentlemen voting when asked after the bill had been passed.

Mr. King thought it time to object, and moved it be reported to the house with the recommendation that it do not pass. He said "the bill was unconstitutional," and strongly objected to paying damages under the conditions. It was in his opinion as beneficial to the farmer as to the state to have animals suffering from disease destroyed. How could such animals be valued? They were worth nothing, and he objected to paying for nothing besides, it would be unfair and unjust to the people of the state. He thought diseased animals would be smuggled into the state to get the compensation. If persons must suffer, persons who owned the animals were the proper persons. He objected to the bill as it stood, and wanted it amended.

Adams who followed characterized King as a constitutional kicker. He said the stock raisers were an important people in the state and deserved some legislation of this kind.

Riley and the speaker followed with the same arguments in favor of the bill they being supported by Blair.

Nichol objected to the bill but it was ordered to be reported to the house for passage. No other business of importance was transacted and the house adjourned.

GOSSIP AND GRAB.

CHARITY APPROPRIATIONS.

Special correspondence of the BEE.

LINCOLN, February 11—The house assembled this afternoon at 2:30 and proceeded to express its verbal power. A few days ago the consideration of the bill to appropriate $10,000 for the use of the home for the friendless was made a special order for this afternoon. But yesterday another special order was made for this evening at 7:30 to take into consideration the appropriation of $15,000 for the Woman's associate charities. The first of these is an old and well tried establishment which has proved its merit and worth and is most deserving of every consideration and help. But the latter is a new institution of which nobody knows but little. To a disinterested observer it would appear as being an attempt to establish a charitable state institution, having for its object the flattering of the petty beauty of a few ladies. They would undertake to care and provide

AT THE STATE'S EXPENSE

for the old and the young, the indigent, the orphan and the fallen woman.

Hitherto it has been thought a difficult task, for any one society to undertake the case of one branch of charity but these ladies without any previous experience or practical knowledge as far as is known are willing to undertake the whole lot and will gather from the four corners of the state under one roof the aged, the infirm, the helpless and the orphan, the pure child and the debased females. Is is no wonder that the legislators hesitated to place such a responsibility in the hands of these ladies and it is to be hoped that for the sake of the subjects they would have to deal with members will continue to hesitate and never consent to such an absurd proposition. What good could possibly come of associating these different recipients of charity? The thought of the simple and innocent infant being made a companion or associate of the debauched and shameless female is in itself enough to make one object to such an absurd and senseless proposal. Every member of the legislature has already shown his desire to further and help charitable institutions. It remains for him and the use of his discretionary powers in sifting the chaff from the wheat before he appropriates the money of the state to support a society which would not only be useless, but injurious to those it was intended to relieve. The ladies of the Woman's Christian Charities have been lobbying for the last ten days or more, and right well have they done their work. They may be found on the floor daily, soliciting the patronage and support of members by

SMILES AND ENTREATIES,

such as women only know how to make. They doubtless fancy they are working in a good cause, and have evidently persuaded several gentlemen into the same way of thinking. The smiles and entreating glances of women are very flattering, but members should not forget that they are dealing with the people's money; that they have a duty to the people, and that they should consider well before they make an appropriation for the encouragement of such an association as the Woman's Christian charities.

THE DEBATE.

Mr. Russell made a very powerful and telling speech on behalf of the Home of the Friendless. It was his maiden speech in the house and many will regret that he does not not speak more often. We then might have some sense instilled into things which are now enshrouded with jabber and jaw. Mr. Casper followed and forcibly showed the needs of this old tried and deserving charity. Mr. Blain also spoke in favor of the institution as also did Mr. Stevenson who is always in the front in the subject of philanthropy. Mr. Sterling made a few remarks on the advisability of allowing the grant.

Mr. Whitmore followed, and like Mr. Russell should be more often heard. He strongly advised the appropriation, and said the state ought rather to take care of its friendless than its prisoners.

The speeches of these gentlemen, all of which were above the average, seemed to be enough for the committee, for it passed the bill appropriating $10,000 for the Home, and immediately rose and reported to the house.

The speaker having taken the chair, bills from the senate were read for the first time and the committee on finance reported unfavorably on senate file 27, bill to provide for the payment of back 5 per cent on taxes. An effort was made to have the bill placed on the general file and several members jumped up, said a word and sat down again. This continued until Mr. Scoville spoke in favor of placing the bill on the general file. He was followed by the great and only Nebraskan in the house, who got up, stretched his legs, dropped his jaw and the bill was placed on the general file.

This custom of having every bill that is rejected by the standing committee placed on the general file is becoming monotinous.

It is a system that should be put down. It is disrespectful, amounting to a vote of want of confidence in the committee who have reported the bill. The committees

SHOULD BE DISCHARGED

if it were thought they are not competent to consider and report honestly on bills. Besides this it loads the general file with rubbish that may prevent due consideration being given to important measures. Members should not forget that the session of the legislature does not last a century. Neither should they forget that they will have quite enough to do to pass the bills that are reported favorably, even if the session is extended to sixty days.

THE EVENING SESSION.

The house met again at 7:30 p. m., and at once went into committee of the whole on house roll 253, a bill to appropriate $15,000 for the Woman's Christian charities.

Mrs. Dinsmore was allowed to address the committee on behalf of the society. She ascended the platform in front of the speaker's chair and spoke for almost an hour on the subject of charity. Nothing was said of the workings or management of the proposed institution except that patients would be gathered from all parts of the state. After the lady had concluded the committee took up the bill for amendment. About a hundred amendments were made until the workings of the committee became a farce, or as Mr Dempster called the action of school boys. The bill was eventually set aside for future consideration and at 10:30 p. m. the house adjourned.

THE COUNTY CLERK'S GRAB.

More than half the officials of Douglas county are down here and after the house had adjourned a meeting of the Douglas delegation was held in the corner of the house to arbitrate between the county commissioners and the county clerk on a bill which the latter has introduced and which the commissioners object to. After an hour's argument nothing was done and the meeting broke up. The bill in question provides that the county clerk shall get four cents a line for making out the county tax list. This is in addition to his present salary. The bill is not likely to pass even if the Douglas commissioners do not object.

FORTY DAYS ONLY.

A DECISION BY THE SUPREME COURT.

Special telegram to the BEE.

LINCOLN, Neb., February 12.—The supreme court rendered a decision this morning declaring the constitutional amendment to extend the legislative session to sixty days not carried. Judge Cobb dissents in the opinion.

The Three Cent Bill.

Special telegram to the BEE.

LINCOLN, February 12—Another effort was made in the senate this morning to amend the three cent mileage bill and strike out the clause making the law affective only east of the 101st principal meridan. So many amendments have been added to the bill that it was not correctly engrossed and was recommitted to the engrossing committee.

ALL FOR LOGAN.

A SICK SENATOR TRAVELING TO SPRINGFIELD ON A BED.

CHICAGO, February 12.—The Daily News Albion, Ills., special says: This afternoon fifteen men went out to the residence of State Senator Brown, republican, who is very ill, and carried him into Grayville, a distance of 6 or 7 miles, on a stretcher. He will remain in Grayville to-morrow, and to-morrow morning will leave for Springfield in a special car. He is very weak, but his friends think he will stand the trip. He is paired with Senator Bridges till to-morrow, and upon his presence in or absence from the capital the election of United States senator may depend and without him the republicans are one in minority on joint ballot.

A DREADFUL NIGHT.

The Fire Fiend Envelops and Consumes the

Insane Department of the West Philadelphia Almshouse.

Nineteen Insane People are Roasted in Their Cells.

Some of the Horrors of the Dreadful Night.

The Loss Roughly Estimated at $150,000.

Nothing but Wild Theorizing as to the Origin of the Fire.

ALMSHOUSE FIRE.

PHILADELPHIA, February 12.—A fire broke out in the insane department of the county almshouse, in West Philadelphia to-night. The flames spread rapidly, and before the 200 inmates could be released nineteen of them were burned to death. Others were let roam around the grounds at will, and many of them were picked up by the police throughout the city. The building is still burning at 11 to-night, and the other departments are in great danger.

The fire originated in the wing of the old building, which fronts toward the Schuylkill river, and directly east of the main building of the almshouse. The wing is 145 feet front and 60 feet deep. Connected on the south with the main building of the old structures is the insane department, which runs south 400 feet to a similar wing to the one in which the disaster occurred. In this north building, where the fire broke out, there were sixty separate cells for violent patients, twenty on each floor. In addition to this there was a large room on each three in which cots for twelve men were placed, all of which were occupied when the fire broke out. On the second floor opposite the central cell of the row, separate cells on the north side of the corridor, which runs from east to west, was the dry room, heated by steam. This room, which was about ten feet square, was directly along side of the middle stairway leading to the floors above and below. Here the flames originated, but from what cause is not known. At the time there were insane patients in each of the twenty cells on these three floors, ten in the large room on the first floor, and twelve in each of the larger ones on the second and third floors.

From all accounts to be obtained it appears pretty certain that the first alarm was given by an insane patient on the first floor. This man, Joseph Nadine, occupied a room adjoining the stairway and drying room, with about twenty other quiet patients. About ten minutes to 8 o'clock he saw smoke issuing from above the door which opened into the wing in which the cells were situated. He ran to a big iron gated door fronting on the main corridor of the building and cried out "Fire!" This reached ears of Jos. Shroeder, an attendent of the ground floor, who was in his room directly opposite the one from which Nadine had given the alarm.

Mrs. Umpstead who has general charge at night says it was about 8 o'clock when the alarm reached her. She was in her office about 200 feet from the dry room, and at once hurried to the scene. She says that an attempt was made to put out the flames with buckets of water, and at first it was supposed the flames were only burning from the ground floor near the stairway, but almost instantly it was found that the real point from which the danger came, was the second floor at the top and above the dry room. She then hastened to get all the patients from the main building extending back from the east wing.

Attendant Shroeder takes up the third story at this point and relates some of the horrors of that dreadful night: "I do not know who sounded the alarm. As soon as I heard Nadine cry I rushed to the foot of the stairs and after a short attempt to check the fire at once set to work to get out the patients. First I unlocked the door of the room in which Nadine and his companions were. They ran out at once. By this time the flames were gathering in fury, and dense volumes of smoke ascending into the upper story. I succeeded in unlocking the doors of all the cells on the first floor, and although with difficulty in some cases succeeded in getting the inmates out. I had no time to look after them further than run them in the yard. While I was getting the men out below, Attendant Wm. Strain was doing the same for inmates on the second floor. I met Hanna, night watchman, who was also helping, and we went up to the third story, but were driven back by the flames, which had forced their way through and were creeping along to the cells of the doomed inmates. We ran around to the other stairway, near the new buildings, on the west, and by that time some firmen arrived. All the inmates had been gotten out of the second story, so there remained about 38 on the third—20 in the cells and 8 in the large common room at the west end."

The following are the names and ages of the occupants of nineteen cells in ward M, near where the fire first started, all of whom are supposed to have been suffocated or burned to death, with the exception of 3, who were rescued by firemen: Frank D. Dechaon, 35; Jas. McCoy, 40; John Lyden, 50; Isaac O'Neill, 35; Charles Scott, (colored) 32; John Dwyer, 40; Jas. Burke, 37 (this man killed three of the inmates of the institution during the twenty-two years he was confined there; for twenty years his hands were chained to his body); Thomas Rusk, 50; Michael Wroth, 36; Robert Cunningham, 45; Charles Nolenberger 60; Thomas Jones, 34; John Herriges, 48 (Herriges is the man who was discovered in 1870 in a shanty at Fourth and Lombard street, where he had been confined in chains by his parents for twenty years); John Koehler, 60; Thomas Smith, 38; Edward Murphy, 48; Chas. O'Brien, 36; Philip Newberger, 60, Jacob Glossman rescued by the watchman. The bodies of Dechaon, Wroth, Jones, Burk, Koehler, Herringer and Noledbeiger have been taken from the ruins and removed to the dead house by midnight. There were four of the inmates in the ward who were rescued by the police, but one of them was so badly burned about the feet, that he died soon after being brought out. The names of the three taken out by the firemen could not be learned to-night, owing to the confusion prevailing among the attendants the unfortunate occupants of the cells were being smothered to death by the smoke and perhaps blistered and burned by the flames. Their cries were heartrending. Some of them cursed and swore, others laughed hideously, and others yelled with pain, with such awful cries as would have appalled the hardest heart. The firemen, myself and a patient named Rafferty crawled on our hands and knees to such of the men as we could reach, and dragged out fourteen. Eight of them were alive, four suffocated to death, and two so horribly burned that they died before we could get them out of the building. We could not see any of the men in the cells of course, but could hear their horrible cries above the roaring of the flames as they came to realize the horrible fate that was in store for them.

While Shroeder was going through this terrible experience the flames were extending to the main building department. The wing in which the victims were being burned alive was wrapped in flames, which were shooting many feet into the air, and illuminating the city for many squares. At half past 8 the alarm had been struck and in half an hour the general alarm was sounded.

When the firemen arrived fire was enveloping about one-third of the main building and burning fiercely. Two plugs in the yard gave but an indifferent supply of water. Truck F arrived on the scene soon after the first alarm, and its ladder was run up to the third floor to the windows of the cells in which the maniacs were fastened. With ax and hook the firemen attacked the iron gratings of the cells and succeeded in taking out seven men. Four of them were suffocated to death and three were still alive. The last man thus rescued was notorious Jim Burke, who has been in the institution over thirty years. He was brought from the Easton prison, where he was undergoing a life sentence for murder. He has killed since he has been in the insane department the cook and two attendants. The firemen who rescued him state that he died while being taken to the ground.

All of the inmates in the insane department were rescued safely except those in the third story of the wing in which the fire originated. Total loss of life, eighteen.

Dr. Alice Avery was the only physician in the building when the fire occurred. Dr Richardson, physician in chief, arrived from his home a short time after the first alarm was given.

There is nothing except wild theorizing as to the facts of the fire, no facts are known which would justify any statement whatever. At 1 o'clock this (Friday) morning the entire group of buildings making up the insane department are in flames. There is no prospect of saving any of them, although the firemen then had the fire well in hand, and all the other department buildings were safe. The loss to property will amount to nearly $150,000.

The ward in which the unfortunates met their deaths was in charge of Wm. Strain, a young man, who had his face singed before he could make his escape. Strain tells a terrible story.

He says: "The rules of the institution require all the inmates to retire at 8 o'clock. I had just succeeded in getting 87 men under my care to bed, and sat down to make out the usual report when somebody rushed into my apartment and shouted 'fire.' In an instant the utmost confusion prevailed. The smoke came rolling upstairs in volumes and before we could hardly realize our position the flames burst upon us. Sixty one occupants of the bedrooms all managed to make their escape down stairs. I believe the rooms were not locked, and nothing to prevent escaping. The flames spread with terrible rapidity. I tried to reach the cells where there were 19 of the most violent patients confined, I knew they would be roasted to death if the doors were not unlocked to let them out. My only thoughts was the liberation of those poor fellows. The smoke and flames poured into the ward and before I advanced far I was driven back by the flames. It was impossible for me to go another step forward and so I had to fly to save my life. I barely got out alive. The right side of my face and moustache were singed by the flames. I could hear the poor fellows in the cells haloing and cursing like demons, for the fire was upon them. I thought their being slowly roasted alive, coupled with curses and jeering cries, was terrible. Oh, God! I never lived through such frightful torture of mind as that I experienced during the few moments I tried to grop my way out of the building. I could hear their kicking and pounding, but they might as well have tried to get through a stone wall as the cells were constructed with an especial view of confining desperate and violent patients therein. When I reached the ground the other attendants and myself organized the inmates into a fire brigade, the astonishing thing was the way in which the inmates worked in carrying water and trying to save some of the goods in the building. They shouted and encouraged one another and were of valuable assistance in trying to fight the flames during the early stages of the conflagration. But my thoughts were all the time on the poor creatures whom I knew were being consumed on the third floor. As soon as the firemen arrived I told the men of the truck about the occupants of the cells, and they raised their ladders to the windows and tore off the iron bars and rescued four of them. I do not know who they were, or where they are except one John Burke, who had his feet so badly burned that he died afterwards. Watchman Hanna said he drove six inmates who were abed out of ward M. "I drove them out," he says "and then ran to cell 16 and unlocked the door. Jacob Glassman occupied it and he wanted me to leave him alone. I knew it was useless to talk to him, so I grabbed him and hurried him out. When I was passing through the bedroom, from which I had driven the six men out only a moment before, I found some of them had returned to their beds, though the fire was dropping down on them from the ceiling. I compelled them to leave, and then helped to get about thirty feeble men out out of the infirmary."

Rumors prevailed at the almshouse grounds late to night that some forty of the most violent patients were confined on the upper floor and all perished. This rumor could not be traced to any authentic source, and it is believed by the attendants that the patients on the upper floor were all rescued, and can be accounted for in the morning, or as soon as the prevailing excitement and confusion subsides.

Several Men Killed at a Dance in Chickasaw Nation.

FORT SMITH, Ark., February 12.—Ned Bounds gave a dance at his home in the Chickasaw nation a few nights ago. Every body got drunk and a general fight ensued. E. F. Craig and several strangers were killed outright, and a number of others were badly wounded.

The David City Forger Will Be Extradited.

ST. THOMAS, Ont., February 12.—In the case of Jas. R. Williams, of David City, Neb., forger arrested here, the evidence declared today is sufficient to hold the accused for extradition.

ON 'CHANGE.

Quite a Scramble for the Thousand Cars of Cattle.

Hogs Were No Higher Than on Tuesday.

Only Three Cars of Wheat and Thirteen of Corn.

Wheat Opened a Little "Groggy" and Closed at 83 1-4.

And May Corn Stood Around Forty Cents.

The Reports of Wheat and Corn Were the Most Remarkable Ever Posted.

CHICAGO MARKETS.

Special telegram to the BEE.

CHICAGO, February 12.—The reports of wheat and corn posted to-day were as remarkable as ever posted. There were 3 cars of wheat 13 of corn, and 2 of oats. Of course everybody knew that there was plenty of grain en route, and that it was simply snow bound, and would all be in here in a bunch some clear warm day, when the railroads get their tracks cleared up. They did not at all affect the market.

WHEAT

Opened a litle groggy and got down to 88⅞ for May.

CORN

May corn stood around 40c. Pork was let off to 13 12½ for May, and lard to 7 17½ for the same month.

Later the figures on wheat, corn and pork were the lowest of the day. Pork led the way to-day as it has done for a fortnight and as it is likely to do for some fortnights to come. From $13 12½ May went to 13 17½, and from this latter figure to 13 12½ again. It closed at 13 32½. "Speculation in pork from this on" said a packer, "is a dead open and shut for Mr. Armour and his fellow packers. They have made their pork, they know just how much they have made. They hold it themselves and propose to hold it. Outsiders who are selling the product haven't any pork to sell and won't get any to deliver. They will find packers accommodating, however, and ready to take what money they have in lieu of pork, which they haven't got. I've talked $15 pork for March for a long while. I'm talking it yet. The flurry just now is in May, but the squeeze will be in March."

Wheat was uneasy after the first hour's trade. It would not stay at 83¼ and would not go under it. Sellers saw this and took water, and at the same time took on some wheat too. This sent May up to 83⅞, where it closed. On call everything was steady and firm.

CATTLE

There was a scramble this morning for the one thousand cars or more of fresh receipts and they made extraordinary high prices which cannot be accepted as anything like a market under an ordinary supply. A big lot of coarse "horsey" steers that averaged about 1,600 pounds, sold for $6 50 and light, little things, not averaging 1,000, sold at $5. These prices cannot be sustained later than another day or so, as there is plenty of stock on the way and an abundant supply will be here by tha last of the week. Shippers were the principal buyers, as dressed beef dealers claimed they could not pay the prices asked, which are 40@50c higher than before the storm. Canning stock is scarce but not much in demand as all the leading canning houses are running short handed and Armour's department closed last night.

Butchers stock is also scarce and selling at high prices. There were a few loads of stockers among the receipts that were easily disposed of at good prices. Sales, shipping 1300 @1500 lbs, $5 50@6 00; 1100@1200 lbs $4 90@5 40; common, 1000@1100 lbs, $4 40@4 80; cows, $2 50@4 75; bulls $3 00@400; stockers and feeders $3 25@4 60; Texans $3 95@4 90.

HOGS.

There were only two packing firms on the market and they bought 1000. The course of the market on common to fair hogs may be illustrated by changes of a bunch of 250 that sold on Monday at $4 70, on Tuesday at $4 85 and to-day at $4 90. The advance since the storm is mainly on common, and medium heavy sorts are not appreciating in proportion to light and medium, in fact no higher than on Tuesday. The prime cause is that there are no shippers buying as they cannot yet get transport. Roads that usually take hogs refused to take hogs to-day. Prime heavy hogs may be quoted at $5 00@5 15; packing and shipping 275@400 lbs., $4 85@5 20; light, 160@210 lbs., $4 60@5 10.

The Canadian Contingent.

OTTAWA, February 12.—The offer of Lieut. Col. Williams and Tyrhitt, M. P., Col. Von Straubenzie and other Canadian officers to raise Canadian regiments for service in Egypt has been declined, but the Canadians will be employed to do garrison duty in England if they desire to do so. This proposal is not likely to be accepted, as it is extremely doubtful if a thousand Canadians could be raised for garrison purposes.

Big Fire at Princeton, Mo.

PRINCETON, Mo., February 15.—Early this morning a fire destroyed the entire west side of the public square, including six brick buildings and five frames. Loss about $75,000. Insurance one-half.

Down in Alabama.

MONTGOMERY, Ala., February 12.—The snow fall began here this morning at 5 o'clock and is still at it. The depth of snow is greater than known in many years.

Jewelry Firm Assigned.

NEW YORK, February 12.—Joseph Bachman and Alexander Bachman, jewelers, assigned. Liabilities, $70,000; actual assets, $18,000.

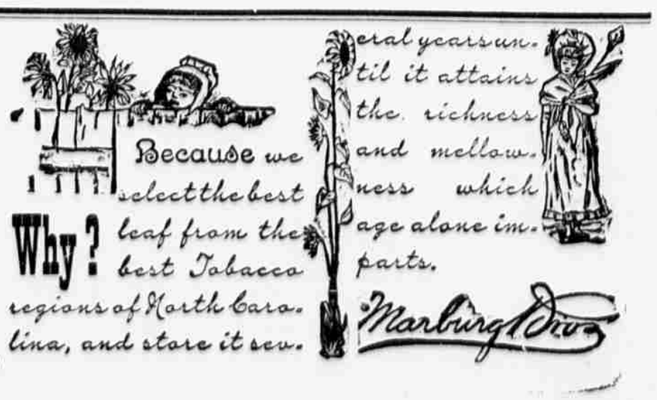
Hung for Wife Murder.

HOLIDAYSBURG, February 12.—Beach was hung here to-day for the murder of his wife on April 7, 1884.

Seal of North Carolina

Smoking Tobacco.

Seen everywhere, because everywhere recognized as indispensible to Dealer and Consumer.



Why? Because we select the best leaf from the best Tobacco regions of North Carolina, and store it several years until it attains the richness and mellowness which age alone imparts.

Marburg Bros.