## LEGISLATIVE WORK.

Bill Turned Into Ridicule.

The Subject of Convict Labor Discussed-Stout Wants to Build Two New Penitentiaries.

THE SENATE.

Special Correspondence of The Bee.

LINCOLN, February 26-The senate frittered

The bill was strongly supported by Senator The bill was strongly supported by Senator Bunn, who displayed a long petition from 1.000 German citizens, asking for the lots. He argued that the state had granted lots to every other church, and should make no invidious distinction.

Objection was made by Senators Sowers and Dolan, who thought the bill unconstitutional, and the former did not think the state wanted

Dolan, who thought the bill unconstitutional, and the former did not think the state wanted to go into partnership with any church.

Senator Paul introduced an amendment to sell the lots for \$50. He knew of no city that needed churches worse than Lincoln, and would like to see one good city, and Lincoln needed praying people.

needed praying people.

Senator Metz said there could not be too many churches,
Senator McShane moved to make the price \$1 instead of \$50.

Stinstead of \$50.

After much wrangling as to legality and constitutionality some one moved that the committee rise, report progress and ask leave to sit again. This was done and another session was held immediately.

Church Howe's gambling bill was brought up, and by the efforts made by Senator Mc-Shane te amend it or get rid of it entirely there are suspicions that he was the Omaha man who played that noted game of poker in which Howe was so badly fleeced the night before this bill was intr-duced. The bill was finally recommended for passage. finally recommended for passage.

Some half dozen other bills were considered and hurrically recommended for passage. None of them elicited any discussion nor are

Afternoon Session.

of particular interest.

Special telegram to THE BEE, LINCOLN, February 26 .- As in the morning session the senate again wrangled much of the afternoon over donating a lot for the Lutheran ered and disposed of.

Senate File 216, Senator Smith, of Fill more, a bill to provide for the election of United States senator was indefinitely postponed, being but a repetition of a statute now

Senator Love's bill for the punishment of adultery. The bill was commendable, but it and the seventh commandment were treated as a huge joke, and the senate facetiously referred the bill to the committee on federal re-lations. During the discussion of the bill the lady spectators left in disgust Another attempt to kill Howe's gambling

bill was not a success. ur the railroad committee bill was called up for third reading and passed only Hastings, Love, McShane, Mills and Sher-

Brown, Day, Hastings, McShane, Meiklejohn and Mills explained their votes, and went on record. Thus does the great railroad anaconda swallow even state senates.

THE HOUSE.

Special Correspondence to THE BEE. LINCOLN, February 26,-The business of the house this morning was of a most uninteresting nature. More than an hour was wasted discussing the advisability of making Senate File 14 a special order for this evening. This, Mr. Nettleton opposed it because, in his opinion, it is unconstitutional. He therefore opinion, it is unconstitutional. He therefore wanted it brought before the committee of the whole to make the bill passable and

Members desirous of making a railroad record opposed this method of procedure and wished the bill engrossed for third reading, the seekers after railroad record being evi dently of opinion that anything called a rail-road bill, good or bad, will do to pacify their constituents. The bill was ordered to be en-

gressed.
On the third reading of bills the following passed the house:
House Roll 25—Compelling railroads to make an annual statement of their account to the state auditor.

House Roll 79 - Making it unlawful to trap

scene soon ended and the bill passed a third reading. Senator McShane now appears on the scene

reading.

Senator McShane now appears on the scene and discovers that there are sections in the bill relating to grading and paving which want samending and unless amended he will try to do so on the passage through the senate.

A meeting of Douglas delegation was called the tight of the discuss charter amen nedy, Ogden, O'Keefe and others, as well as the members of the delegation. Mr. Brumer was appointed chairman and the wrangle be have discovered numerous mater has others. Mr. McArdle was absent. At midnight Mr. Whetmore warned the delegation not to trifle with the bill, and asserted that others in the house would only be too glad to destroy it. He thought this was apparent when Mr. McArdle opposed the bill on Wednesday, and he strongly urged members to become unanimous and show the members of the legislature that the Douglas delegation of Douglas counties.

The sensible remarks of Mr. Whitmore warned the delegation that others in the house would only be too glad to destroy it. He thought this was apparent when Mr. McArdle opposed the bill on the were of no avail. Nobody would concede a point. Senator McShane sought ever to delegation that it it passed. The meeting for Delegation in the bill cannot be delegation to desire the was absent. At midnight Mr. Whetmore warned the delegation of Joseph Barker arile. Jave of the street railros of the section of Joseph Barker arile. Jave of the street railros of the section of Joseph Barker arile. Jave of the street railros of the section of Joseph Barker arile. Jave of the street railros of the section of Joseph Barker arile. Jave of the street railros of the section of Joseph Barker arile. Jave of the street railros of the section of Joseph Barker arile. Jave of the street railros of the section of Joseph Barker arile. Jave of the street railros of the section of Joseph Barker arile of Joseph Barker arile. Jave of Joseph Barker arile of Joseph Barker ari

stood it would ruin half the small landowners in Omaha. He could not support the bill unless it was amended. At one o'clock the personal abuse began and continued for an hour. Mr. Barker, of the Omaha street car company, now took the floor and condemned the bill, but cuuningly refrained from saying his opposition was because of the powers it seeks to bestow on the municipal council over the street railroads. Outsiders now began to dissemble, and at three others followed. Their example having satisfied themselves that no change had been or would be made. At 4 o'clock, like the fight of the Kilkenney cats, there was nothing left

Lincoln, February 26—The senate frittered away much of its precious time this morning in committee of the whole over House Roll 46, a bill giving the Hebrew society of Lincoln wo lots, owned by the state, for church pur-him and the senator having asserted that "them were his sentiments" towards Mr. Brunner, the meeting adjourned, Brunner had done nothing except exchange of courtesies. Today the Douglas men have framed the folowing resolution and so the matter stands at

WHEREAS, The people of Omaha have requested certain amendments to the charter of said city and by the city attorney of said city Shane of the senate, and
WHEREAS, At this late day the amend
ments suggested will prove fatal to the entire

bill. Now Therefore. Be it resolved that we the Now Therefore, Be it resolved that we the undersigned members of the legislalure, of Douglas couniy, do not concur in any amendment whatever to said bill offered or made by the senate, and that the secretary of the meeting, A. C. Troup, be instructed to notify said Hon, J. A. McShane of the action of said undersigned members. undersigned members.

A. C. TROUP, S. E. RILEY, S. H. WINSPEAR, WILLIAM TUTTLE, T. C. BRUNNER, W. G. WHITMOBE.

Afternoon Session.

Special telegram to the BEE. Lincoln, February 26.—At the atternoon ession Boss Stout's bill, H. R. 235, to enable

him to construct two new penitentiaries and provide for leasing the convict labor, was dis ussed at length.

Before the debate began a resolution was assed, restricting the members to five minute church. The bill was so amended as to sell the lots for \$500, and was recommended for passage. Altogether the senate's afternoon work was good, seventeen bills being consid-hour before, was set aside, and all members speaking in the present debate were allowed

Riley quoted statistics and read letters from several persons, all showing that the states mentioned had been ber efitted by leasng their convict labor to contractors. As the bill stood, he objected to it, but would sup-port it if amended as his labor friends had suggested. He accused Turtle of suppressing the petition from the labor union of Omaha and to the Douglas delegation, and after and hour's speech, finished by urging the mem-

bers to support the bill. Winspear followed with his statistics, and contradicted all Riley had said of the states. Riley had quoted that he never made any contracts. Convicts in New York cost the state twelve and a half cents a day, while Stout's convicts cost the state forty-five. H opposed the bill and objected to having No

brisks made a convict settlement.

Harlan followed and in an animated speech condemned the bill and characterized it as a gigantic plece of jobdery. He wondered at any man having the astounding cheek to preent a bill of this kind to the house. Holmes supported the bill, saying that Stout would build the two refermatories at his own expense. He urged the leasing of the convicts, saying that formerly under the

state management each convict cost a dollar and a half a day, against forty-five conts at Stevenson raid that if Stout wanted to build

utrage.
Builington and Kaley both supported the bill as did Russell, who advised more mod-eration in the discussion in the house. With-out proceeding further the committee rose, asking leave to sit again. In the house a long and disorderly scene occurred. Nettleton first moved the report of the committee be rejected and the bill indefinitely postponed. After considerable wrangling this was carried—49 to 45,

A motion to reconsider this was now pro posed, followed by a motion to table, which was carried, and the house adjourned until The following members voted for an

definite postponement of Stout's convict labor contract bill: Aiken, Bassett, Blaine, Booth,

THE CITY CHARTER, THE RESULT OF THE MEETING OF THE DOUGLAS

DELEGATION IN LINCOLN.

Lincoln, Neb., February 26,-The legislative delegation of Douglas county met last night to discuss charter amendments proposed by McShane, who suddenly claims to have discovered numerous material errors. He had been in close consultation with representatives of the street railroad, gas and other companies and the tax shirking elements other companies and the tax surking estiments of Joseph Barker atripe. The meeting was attended by James Creighton and Andrew Rosewater and a very long and bitter discussion ensued. McShane sought every subterfuge to cover up the attempt to defeat the charter. The meeting lasted till 3 o'clock this morning. The delegates, including Senator Clark, except McArdle and McShane, signed the agreement McArdle and McShane, signed the agreement to oppose any amendment at this time, recognizing such an attempt certain to kill the bill. Kennedy, in the discussion of the sewer tax question, demanded Rosewater to name any signer of the petition for a sewer on St. Mary's avenue. To the surprise of all, Rosewater produced the name of Kennedy himself, as well as Woolwerth. The secret of the ornestion to the list he reculation of the opposition to the pill is the regulation of atreet railroads and other corporations, and the provision to equalize sewer taxes.

The Illinois Senatorial Prospects, THE DEATH OF JUDGE LOGAN BENDERS IT IM-POSSIBLE TO ELECT A SENATOR FOR ONE

Special telegram to the BEE.

CHICAGO, February 26.-The death of Representative Logan wonderfully complicates with amendments the regular annual naval apthe senatorial situation in a joint session when a United States senator is to be voted for. There is nothing left now for the republicans to do except to refrain from voting. But this has been the situation right along. There must be 103 votes cast in all for the election of a United States senator, for it takes 103 to constitute a constitutional quorum. The must be 103 votes cast in all for the election of a United States senator, for it takes 103 not constitute a constitutional quorum. The death of Logan blocks the game for about a month. Notice must be given by the county clerk of Whiteside county to the governor, of the vacancy, and then the governor must order a special election. The county clerk must then order a special election Notice of this special election must then, under another statute, be nosted for not less in Notice of this special election must then, under another statute, be posted for not less than twenty days. Judge Logan's seat cannot be filled under three weeks. Logan's district is overwhelmingly republican, and has always returned a republican senator, yet with the United States senatorship dependent upon this district, the special election will likely prove a most remarkable contest. It will, perhaps, by the most remarkable contest ever

this district, the special election will likely prove a most remarkable contest. It will, perhaps, be the most remarkable contest ever recorded. More money will probably be spent, more talking done, and more wire. It will be the fiercest and strongest ever known for so small a territory. It holds only two counties, Whiteside and Carroll.

One correspondent telegraphs from Springfield: The death of Judge Logan helps John A. Logan, for it puts any republican out of the question until this doceased member's place is filled. All Senator L gan will need to do now is to keep his party men from voting; he need fear no bolt and no conspiracies on the part of Farwell or his other competitors. Of course this calamity may help Morrison. He can now devote himself to whipping in his party men, and to getting one republican to vote. He need not fear Logan for thirty days.

The Journal's Springfield despatch says, however, on the same subject: "It gives the democrats a majority of two in the house and one in the joint assembly, and deprives Haines of the balance of newer. The staring com-

one in the joint assembly, and deprives Haines of the balance of power. The st ering com-mittees of democrats would not enter into an agreement to adjourn the houses until next week, claiming that the law requires that the two houses shall meet and ballot every day. It was finally agreed between the steering committees of the two parties, that each of them should have a committee present, and that the two houses should hold a nominal session, and take a nominal ballot until next Tuesday, so as to comply with the letter of the law. Nearly all the nembers intend going home, and only the nembers of this committee will remain. Every one agrees that it still takes 103 to make a quorum of a joint session of the two houses, and if the republicans do not vote for thirty days, a republican successor to Logan will be elected. It is not probable that will be done, however. One republican can make a quorum for the democrats, while it will tak two democrats now to make a quorum for the republicans. In brief, the democratic chances of electing a United States senator have not increased, but the republican chances have

The Toledo Election Fraud. TOLEDO, February 26 .- The third day of the Hurd-Romies contest brought forth some interesting testimony. Precinct B, ward 8, where Romeis held 220 majority, is under consideration. The first witness, Louis Johns,

was one of the republican judges. His testimony showed that one of the judges did not live in the precinct, that both the clerks were epublicans and that there was a big mix in The tally sheets did not correspond with the poll box, there being more tickets than names on the book. The clerks and judges attempted to fix things by distributing around the extra tickets. After this was done there were still more, showing very conlusively that somebody was tampering with he box. There were present besides the the box. There were present beaues the judges ten or twelve members of each party. At 1 o'clock the judges got mad and signed the sheets regardless of the consequences. The testimony of James Kelly, democratic judge, taken before another notary, substantiated Johns' throughout.

CHICAGO, February 26.-The Wabash officials here state they have no knowledge as yet of any strike among the employes of the railway in this city. Notices, however, have been posted up in the shops and in the yards make an annual statement of their accounts to the state auditor.

House Roll 79—Making it unlawful to trap certain wild animals at prescribed times.

House Roll 194—A bill regulating the pay of the militia.

House Roll 273—A bill to organize Blaine as the pay of the militia.

House Roll 273—A bill to organize Blaine postnorment of Stock. Emerson, Everett, Gill, Gunaer, Hale, Harlae, Heimrich, Higgins, Holt, Howard, Huff, Jendra, Kehoe, Kilmer, Holt, Howard, Huff, Jendra, Kehoe, Kilmer, Kroney, Lee of Merrick, Liebold, Marble, Martin, Miller, Mulvahill, Munn, Nettleton, Neumeyer, Paynter, Robertson, Root, Scowick So, 600 for a new boiler.

After I louse Roll 256, a bill to prevent the digzing of altches within fifteen feet of the public highway, had been posted up in the shops and in the yards been posted up in the shops and in the yards here; and the employes state they are awaiting the action which may be taken by those been posted up in the shops and in the yards here; and the employes state they are awaiting the pay of the road at Springfield, Ill. Structure, Hale, Harlae, Heimrich, Higgins, Holt, Howard, Huff, Jendra, Kehoe, Kilmer, Kehoe, Kilmer, Holt, Howard, Huff, Jendra, Holt, Howard, Huff, Jendra, Kehoe, Kilmer, Holt, Howard, Huff, Jendra, Kehoe, Kilmer, Holt, Holt, Howard, Huff, Jendra, Kehoe, Kilmer, Holt, Howard, Huff, Jendra, Holt, Howard, Huff, Jendra, Holt, Holt, Howard, Huff, Jendra, Holt, Holt, Howard, Huff, Jendra, Holt, Holt, Holt, Huff, Jendra, Huff, Jendra, Huff, Jendra, Huff, Jendra, Huff, Jendra, here, and the employes state they are await-ing the action which may be taken by those

## CONCRESSIONAL.

OMAHA, NEB., FRIDAY MORNING, FEBRUARY 27, 1885.

The Senate Takes Up The Silver Coinage Bill.

And The Trade Dollar Engages Their Attention.

Relief for The New Orleans Exposition is Mentioned.

The Pacific Railroad Funding Bill is Discussed.

the Fiery Element.

There Will Be No Increase of Annual Clerks to the Senate Committees.

SENATE. WASHINGTON, February 26.-Hale, from the committee on appropriations, reported propriation bill. Placed on the calendar. Hale said he would endeavor to call up the

bill to-morrow.

y. Calendar. Hoar introduced the Pacific railroad funding bill, containing the provisions of the bill already reported from the judiciary committee, but with amendments suggested, he said, by experienced senators, while that bill was on the calendar. It was unlikely the said bill could be considered this session. The subject deserved serious attention and might in-volve considerable discussion. He thought it useless, therefore, to refer to the judiciary committee the bill now introduced, but he introduced it for the information of the public. He toped that before the next session the He toped that before the next session the matter would receive the careful attention of the business men of the country so that congress might receive the benefit of their surgestions as to the justice or injustice of the measure. He moved the bill be printed and lie on the table. Agreed to.

Ingalls said a short executive session was desirable, and moved the senata proceed to

lesirable, and moved the senate proceed to consideration of executive business. Two democrats opposed the motion, but it passed, 31 to 23. The senate then went into execu-tive session. When the doors reopened the senate resumed consideration of the legisla-

All amendments yesterday proposed by the senators to increase the number of annual clerks to the senate committees were voted

down by a vote of 33 nays to 15 yeas.

The senate agreed to the senate amendment striking out the house section providing for a striking out the house section providing for a new apportionment and election in the territory of Wyoming. The bill was read the third time and passed substantially as reported from the senate committee of appropriations.

The silver bill was then taken up, Sherman said he was willing to vote for the bill as it came from the senate committee, he maintained that there was no obligation of any kind to give the trade dollar any preference over the bullion purchased in open market. This dollar is like silver bars and had been issued for bullion purposes and trade only—not for circle trade dollar. Sherman showed that the bill the fact the trade dollar showed that the bill that there was no obligation of any kind to give the trade dollar showed that the bill the provision authorizing and directing the trade dollar on the territory of the treasury to require the companies to pay out any balances of net incompanies to pay trade dollar, Sherman showed that the bill taking away its legal tender quality has been passed without objection being raised.

McPherson asked why the government should have taken away the legal tender qual-

ty of the trade dollar without providing for s retirement. Sherman replied that to have talked of prolegal tender quality would have been folly because that dollar was at home worth thireen cents on the dollar more than United States money. Perhaps it would have been better if the arrangement had at that time

been made, permitting holders of trade dollars to convert them into greenbacks, but it would have been simply considered ludicrous and McPherson thought that the fact that the United States paper money was worth less than gold at that time was no reason why the

trade dollar should have been robbed of its value as a circulating medium. What notice had congress given to the holders of that coin that the legal tender quality was to be taken Sherman said that the law was a notice to

everybody. Owing to the appreciation of paper money in 1877, the trade dollar became of less value than paper, and while Sherman sympathized with those who may hold trade dollars, still he could not see that they had any right to call on the government to repair their losses, any more than if they had in-sisted on wheat or corn. Although there was no obligation on the part of the government, yet if congress chose to pay \$50,000,000 to redeem those coins, Sherman would not ob-ject. It would make good some bad bargains of the bullion dealers. If the bill stood as the house had passed it, Sherman would have opposed it, but as amended by the senate committee he would vote for it. All commercial transactions in the United States, Sherman continued, were based, and had been since 1847 on the gold dollar, 25 8-10 grains solid gold. The market value of silver bullion had been steadily declining since the passage authorizing the coinage of standard silver dollars. If this should lead to large ex-portation and the hoarding of gold, the standard value would in time be based on the mar-ket value of the standard silver dollar, the ef fect would be the contraction of currency \* sharp as to send a shock to every village it country. The volume of paper money being insufficient for the demands of business, it would be used for labor, but its purchasing power would gradually decline, until it reached a level market value, measured by reached a level market value, measured by gold. This depreciated currency would then take the place of hoarded gold and the laborer would receive his pay in depreciated money, while the capitalist would stipulate for gold. Then we should hear the cry for the redemption of the standard dollar in gold, and rightly hear because we had provided that it was to be received and paid in all respects like gold coin. It was objected. we had provided that it was to be received and paid in all respects like gold coin. It was true that the interests of all classes was to maintain the circulation of both metals, but this must be done on a base according, as nearly as possible, with their relative market values and that alone by the constitution on bi-metalism. Any demonstizing of either metal would be a wide reaching calamity.

Sherman's idea of the remedy for the threat-Sherman's idea of the remedy for the threat-ened evil would be either, first, by an inter-national agreement to maintain the free coin-age of silver and fix its ratio, or second, by suspending the coinage of silver until de-manded by the wants of business, or third, by the adoption of the American bi-metalic policy of a free coinage of silver and gold according to their market value. The senate committee of finance did not seem preserved.

committee of finance did not seem prepared Sherman said to adopt so broad an economi-

Sherman said to adopt so broad an economical policy, and so he would support the pending bills but his own idea was boldly to proclaim the purpose of the United States to maintain the bitmetalic money even if we stood alone among the nations on earth.

We were better able to establish such fiscal policy than any other nation, but the policy intended was, perhaps, in advance of the sentiment of the country, and Sherman would not press it and would be content to deal with the provision that gave us some safe guard against what he regarded a great threatened evil, the demonetization and hoarding of gold. Sherman approved the idea of endeavoring to secure an international agreement as to the secure an international agreement as to the ratio of value between silver and gold, but had

The National Theatre a Prey to reached.

Beck read from the report of Ex-secretary Folger to controvert the position assumed, by Sherman on the trade dollar. As to the by Sherman on the trade dellar. As to the suspension of silver coinage. Beck said we should not in the last hours of congress attempt to strike down silver. Neither should we give any president power in his discretion to strike down the coin of the country. Beck would as lief give the president power to declare war. He was glad to be able to say there was no danger that any president would get and power.

not much faith that an agreement could be

get such power.

Hill maintained the time was an indefinite Hill maintained the time was an indefinite remove when the gold would be in demand for export. He criticised the position of Sherman, Morrill and Bayard on the silver question, also the attitude assumed by the finance committee. He insisted it was ill advised to attempt to dispose of such an important measure in the closing hours of the session. He thought that the late period in the session at which the bill was introduced, was calculated to favor a plan that may have been formed in certain quarters to secure a snap judgment in concress, and sound a false alarm through the country to the enemies gain in certain classes.

Cook said the suspension of silver coinage would itself be a contraction of \$50,000,000 a year in currency. This closed the silver debate for the day and without action the matter went over.

went over.

Van Wyck offered an amendment to the this morning, submitted by Hear. The amendment provides first, that no dividends shall be declared until the interest upon the bonds shall have been paid. Second, That the consolidation of the Union Pacific with the Kansas & Denver Pacific shall not be legalized, and third, That no stock shall be considered legal for which no money was paid,

executive session adjourned. HOUSE.

Washington, February 26 .- Forney sub mitted a conference report on the army appropriation bill. Adopted. An agreement was reported on all amendments except that relative to the hours during which courts martial may hold their sessions. A further conference was ordered.

A concurrent resolution was agreed to, ten-dering the thanks of congress to Col. Casey and his assistants and workmen for the admirble manner in which he and they performed

their respective duties in the completion of the Washington monument.

Thomas moved to reconsider the vote by

The motion to reconsider was agreed to and the resolution laid on the table. Cobbimoved to suspend the rules and take from the speaker's table for reference to the committee on public lands the house bill repealing the pre-emption, timber culture and desert land laws with senate amendments Sherman replied that to have talked of providing for the retirement of the trade dollar no greater evil had been done to the future of when the law was passed taking away its the country than had been done through fraud and perjury under the laws which it was pro-

posed to repeal. Converse asserted that more fraud had been committed under the homestead than under the pre-emption laws, and instanced the case of Estes Park, Colorado, which had all been taken up by Lord Dunham under the home-

Payson controverted this statement, stated Estes Park was taken up under the

Valentine thought he voiced the sentiment of the people of the west in protesting against the repeal of these laws. The demand for repeal came from two sources -railroad corporations and cattle kings. The former, be-cause they could not raise the price of their ands when the homestead laws were in force. and the latter wanted the timber culture act repealed in order that their herds might roam ver the prairies undisturbed by settlers

oke in the same strain. In the senate the legislative appropriation bill was passed and the silver bill taken up.

Perkins, Converse, Maginnis and Holman

the committee of the whole Randall moved to suspend the rules, so that the sundry civil appropriation till might be considered for four hours, which time shall be occupied in debate on the clauses relating to the suspension of silver coinage and the world's industrial and cotton exposition, three hours to be devoted to debate on the first named item and one hour on the latter. The bill shall be subject to amendment, to strike out or amend clauses, after which the previous question shall be considered as ordered.

Bland demanded a second to the motion. The motion was seconded—105 to 89. The half hour's debate under the rules was not asked for, and the house proceeded immediately to vote on the motion. Randall's motion to suspend the rules for the consideration of the sundry civil bill was

until it lost-yeas 118, nays 149. The result was received with applaus a so as to take up the sundry civil bill and con-sider for one hour the clause relating to the erable headway before it was discovered. It

begun.

Among those speaking against the exposition appropriation were Hoar and Potter.

The latter said that to make such an appropriation would be to charge the government into one of patronaga.

O'Neil (Pa.) said his constituents would not indorse his action if he did not vote to give news this \$300,000.

away this \$300,000.

Cannon, Keifer and Russell spoke in favor of the appropriation.

The debate having ceased, the bill went over until to-morrow and the house ad-

WASHINGTON NOTES. Washington, February 26.—The senate committee of appropriations increased the naval appropriation bill as follows: Two millions for continuing the work on doubleturreted monitors, \$500,000 for the armament of the new cruisers and gunboats, \$1,150,000

for the construction of steel cruisers and gun-boats, \$500,000 for the general maintenance of the bureau, yards and docks. of the bureau, yards and docks.

Negotiations have been in progress between the United States and Spain for an extension until May 18, 1886, of the time within which the Spanish reciprocity treaty will be ratified by the United States senate and put into effect by congressional legislation. The present limitation is six months from November 18, 1884. It is understood that the negotiations have been practically concluded, with the effect above indicated.

THE PACIFIC BAILROAD FUNDING BILL introduced in the senate by Hoar, differs from the bill of the same subject reported from the senate committee on judiciary, as amended in the house bill, in several important particu-lars. These differences are substantially as follows: It fixes the date for the ascertainment off the indebtedness of the companies on April 1886 instead of 1887, and provides that in computing the indebtedness and deducting therefrom the amounts in the sinking fund, the value of any bonds in such sinking funds shall be computed at their market values, and

it provides bonds of redemption to be delivered to thesecretary of thetreasary by the companies shall mature at the expiration of each six months, beginning with October 1, 1886. The committee's bill provides that the bonds of redemption shall bear interest at the rate of three per cent per annum for the time each bond has to run (interest on each to be payable semi-annually), and that each bond shall be for an equal one hundred and twentieth part of the balance of the debt, and interest com-

of the balance of the debt, and interest computed thereon—computed as due the United States at the time the bond was issued.

Hoar's bill provides that each of the bonds shall be for the same sum, which sum shall be ascertained by adding to the balance the indebtedees, computed to the time the bonds are issued, interest at three per cent per annum from that date to the average date of the maturity of the bonds, and dividing such aggregate amount by 120. It contains also, in addition to the provisions of the judiciary committee's bill, a clause providing that every disposition of any stocks or bonds, or other securities of other corporations, now owned by the companies, whether by sale, pledge or otherwise, shall be reported to the secretary of the interior within thirty to the secretary of the interior within thirty days, and the clause authorizing each com-pany to expend in each year whatever sums necessary to maintain its railroad, rolling stock, equipments and operating property of every description, in as good condition as the same now are, and in all respects in a proper condition to do the business of such company.

NOMINATION. Post chaplain, Rev. B. C Hammond, Ia.

RIVERS AND HABBORS. Washington, February 26,-Represents tive Willis submitted a proposition to the members of the committee on rivers and har-bors, individually, to abandon the river and harbor bill now before the house, and to report a measure recommending an appropria tion of \$5,000,000 to be expended under the direction of the secretary of war in completing or preserving the unfinishhd works of improvement. No conclusion was reached.

If the proposition is favorably received, Willis will endeavor to pass the proposed bill

inder suspension of the rules. Representative King Intends to introduce a joint resolution providing an appropriation of \$1,000,000 to be expended under the direction of the president in the prosecution of such works of improvement on rivers and harbors

as are now in progress.

Senator Gibson introduced a bill to-day providing for the appropriation of \$2,800,000 for the improvement of the Mississippi river, to be expended under the direction of the secretary of war, in secondance with the plans, specification, estimates and recommendation of the Mississippi river and harbor commis-

bill was passed and the silver bill taken uo.

Cobb's motion was lost—yeas 166, nays 93, not being the necessary two-thirds in the affirmative.

The postoffice appropriation bill, with the senate amendments, was taken from the table.

Was in session four nours to-day, consult ing the participation of this government in the Congo conference. A conclusion was practically reached that the resolution prepared by Representative Phillips would harmonize with the views of the committee.

The resolution provides that no prospect was in session four hours to-day, consider

The resolution provides that no prospect of commercial advantage warrants a depart ure from the traditional policy of this gov ernment which forbids all entangling alliances with the nations of the old world. That the participation of delegates from the United States in the so-called Congo conference while, as your committee believes is carefully guarded in the purpose to confine their pow ers, to the consideration of the commercia interest exclusively, is unfortunate if it should be anywhere recognized as a departure from the policy which forbids the government of the United States to participate in any, po-litical combination on movements outside of the American continent

THE NATIONAL THEATRE BURNED. Washington, February 27-1:40 a.m. The National theatre was discovered to be on lighting up all the contral and western por evidently started in the rear of the stage and was first observed by two police officers on their beat in the neighborhood as it burst through the roof just over the center of the stage. They aroused the engineer of the theatre, who was asleep in the second story of the building. So rapidly had the flames of the building. So rapidly had the flames spread that they were compelled to put a ladder up to his window, and he only escaped

in his night clothes. Andy Wyman, of Civil Bend, dropped hi

## lengthy discussion Randall's motion was BULLS AND BEARS.

Absurd Reports Used to Affect The Wheat Market.

Corn Sympathizes With Wheat, and Drops 3-8c. The Cattle Market is Lower Than

Last Week. Hogs Were Plenty and the Market Closed Weak.

Provisions Drop 10c, in Sympathy With the Bear Movement

in Wheat.

CHICAGO MARKIETS.

Special telegram to the BEE. CHICAGO, February 26,-The bears were elentless again to-day, they put the price of May wheat down to 80 and then, as if not satisfied with that, sold a few lots at

79% just for the sake of getting the price below 80. At one time during the forenoon a number of small shorts who were obstinate yesterday swearing they would not cover a cent above 79 became suddenly uneasy in their minds from some cause or another and buying minds from some cause or another and buying all at once, put the price up to 80% which was the highest point of the day. The close at 1 o'clock was weak at 80%. The extreme decline of the day was parily effected through the most absurd reports. Yesterday everybody interested in grain heard of the alleged action of the French government in placing a duty of 15c abushel on American wheat, so this morning when it was reported that the French were selling wheat here, quite a splurge on the bear side, and a general selling movement among the scalpers ensued. Wheat went down to 80 and about that time it leaked went down to 80 and about that time it leaked went down to 80 and about that time it leaked out that the only Frenchman selling wheat on the Chicago market to-day was a gentleman who put out perhaps 200,000 bushels and that he did so to accommodate some long-headed shorts who thought 80 would be a good point to realize. Then came the purchases by other shorts, which trought about a reaction to 80%. Elsewhere there was not much to attract the attention of speculators. Elucations of only the in corn ulators. Fluctuations of only ic in corn made opportunities for scalpers there very meager, and pork, too, was comparatively steady at \$12 824@12 95. DTaken altogether, steady at \$12 \$24@12 95. B Takes altegether, the market was only interesting in view of the complications in the wheat pit. On the call there was renewed excitement and activity, wheat closing at 79% for May and 81% for June. In fact, there was another bear raid. Wheat was depressed from the opening &c for buyers, showing a total fall for twenty-four hours of 1%c. Corn sympathized &c and provisions 10c.

current receipts are making \$4 80@4 90 and fair to medium \$4 60@4 75, with common around about \$4 25@4 50. Fat cows and neifers are making equally as good prices as at any time, but medium to common sorts are more plentiful and generally quoted lower, while canning was quoted 15@20c lower. Bulls in good demand and steady. Stockers' and feeders' in active demand and firm: 1,050 to 1,250 lbs., \$4 00@4 75; 1,250 to 1,350 lbs., \$4 90@5 35; 1,300 to 1,500 lbs., \$5 50@6 06; cows and mixed common, \$2 00@2 75; medium, \$3 00@3 50; good, \$3 75@4 25; stockers', \$3 40@4 10; feeders', \$4 25@4 70; Tex-

ans, 83 7c@4 75. With the fresh receipts and the number left last night there were at least 50,000 on sale. The general market epened rather active and about 10c higher than lowest of yesterday, but about steady with closing of ast night. The advance however was not sustained, as toward the close the market be-came dull and weak and so closed. The prime cause of this weakness at the close was the absence of the class of buyers that ship to New England and want choice heavy sorts, They refused to follow the advance of the morning. New York shippers and miscella-neous tuyers of light sorts bought freely. Packing and shipping, 275 to 400 pounds, \$4.70@5.50; light, 140 to 210pounds, \$4.00@

TELEGRAPH NOTES.

A church at Pontiac, Ills., erected in 1866, vas burned last night. Loss, \$25,000; insur-

ance, \$5,000. The greenbackers of Michigan have fused, and the prohibitionists and republicans have coalesced, and all is quite in the peninsula. The grand lodge of the Ancient order of Workmen is in session in Peoria chicago has been chosen as the place for holdthe next annual meeting.

The convention of persons interested in the electric light concluded its session at Chicago to-day, after effecting a permanent organiza-tion with the same officers chosen for the convention.

About seventy-five machinists in the Wabash shops at Fortieth street and Stewart avenue, Chicago, struck this afternoon a short time before the close of working hours.

O. C. Titts and J. Osman have been convicted in the U. S. court at Springfield, Ill., for obtaining a bogus pension claim of \$1,200. The alleged father of the girl for whom the pension was obtained was killed in the war

three years before the girl was born.

Dong Tong, a Chinese painter in Chicago living with his wife in respectable quarters of the city in a civilized sort of way, applied to the county court for the privilege of adopting Phillip Brown, a white child, four months old, now in the custody of the foundling's home. The court refused to grant the privilege on the ground that the child was born under one civilization and could not, owing to its infancy, assent or object to its adoption into another civilization. If the court should give consent no earthly power could prevent the child being taken to Chins to grow up



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