THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

FIFTEENTH YEAR. OMAHA, FRIDAY MORNING, AUGUST 14, 1885. NO. 48.

THE PRELLER PLOT.

The Line of Defense of the Alleged Author of the St. Louis Mystery.

Maxwell's Story Completely Befogs the Detectives.

A Plot to Obtain the Insurance on Preller's Life—What Will be Proven on the Trial.

A prominent ex-officer of the United States secret service in San Francisco, interviewed Maxwell, the alleged murderer of Preller in St. Louis, and furnished the Globe-Democrat the following story of the plot, and what the prisoner proposes to prove at his trial. The line of defense is practically that which the insurance companies have adopted in refusing to pay the large policies on Preller's body. The officer, who spent several days in St. Louis immediately after the crime was discovered, and who knew facts about the case which have never seen light, told Maxwell frankly what he knew, and asked him to give him the truth of the matter. In return, Maxwell was evidently surprised at the facts which the secret service officer had discovered. The prisoner talked frankly and freely, giving an outline of his defense, but declining to enter into many details. The story as given by the ex-secret service officer is as follows:

STEALING MAXWELL'S CONFIDENCE.

"I went to the city prison last night," said the officer, "with a certain idea about Maxwell, and, although he disappointed me at first sight, after a short talk I found him even more clever than I anticipated. The detectives say he is a crank, and some astute reporters put him down as a fool, and declare him silly, and conceited and brainless. They are all off the track. The man is exactly what he looks—cunning, fertile in resource, self-reliant, with great control over his features, and motions, a man who has been playing his part ever since he left St. Louis, and who has never once betrayed his secret, even when aroused suddenly from sleep when approaching the harbor of Auckland and brought face to face with the accusation of murdering his friend. When I first entered the prison, Maxwell was talking with a man who was commissioned by a woman, who lives in this city, to find out whether he was a relative of a kinsman of hers in Glasgow.

"Have you ever been in Glasgow?" he asked.

"'Oh, yes,'" Maxwell replied.

"'Well, are you a relative of the Brooks family of Glasgow?'"

"'NO,'" SAID MAXWELL PLAINLY.

"'You might as well understand that my name isn't Brooks, despite what the detectives say. I haven't a relative in Glasgow that I know of, and only a few distant cousins in England.'"

"After him came a pawn-broker, who has detective instincts, and who remarked, after a careful study of the prisoner, that he had the fingers of a strangler. The plain fact is that Maxwell has the hand of a woman, small, thin and delicate, with fingers even shorter than the average. After these and several others had gone I secured what I desired—an undisturbed half hour with Maxwell. When I told him who I was and what I knew of the case, his manner changed at once.

WILL PROVE THAT PRELLER IS ALIVE.

"He seemed to feel relief, and lighting a fresh cigarette, he said: 'You know enough about this case to know there is a mystery in it which has not yet come out. I will tell you frankly that I didn't murder Preller; that Preller is alive to-day, and proof of his existence will be forthcoming by the time of my trial. You can't blame me for lying to these people. Here is a crowd of reporters, some of whom try to wheedle and others to bully my secrets from me. Then comes detectives, and say this thing and that has been discovered, we have all this circumstantial evidence against you, what can you say to it? Knowing every fact in the case as I do, I know that they are lying, or are on an entirely wrong scent, so I simply puzzle them more or stuff them with new inventions. They have all got one theory, and they are trying to fit facts to that theory, instead of making a theory from the facts. They have been in here to-night with certain articles and have said, 'You did this at such a place,' when I know very well that no such occurrence ever happened. They have traced me very well in my first visit to this city, because I made no effort to cover my tracks. I used the same name and the same disguise as a French officer all through from the time I left St. Louis to the time I boarded the Auckland steamer and throughout the voyage. It came into my mind on the train because the people asked me questions, and it was amusement to mystify them and tell them stories. This was the origin of the French captain and all his exploits. It was simply a blind to preserve my identity unexpected, and to allow me to reach the colonies, which, I thought could be done before any of the news of the St. Louis affair could reach them. I didn't know that cable communications was so perfect, or that the news could possibly be sent to Auckland before the steamer reached there."

THE DEFENSE IN DETAIL.

"But what about the St. Louis mystery? Can't you give any details?"

"'All I can give you is an outline, and that is more than any one else has got out of me. They brought in here to-night Gen. Clunie, a lawyer of this city, who offered to get out habeas corpus papers for me to-morrow, and who was eager to go on to St. Louis as my counsel. He may be square, but it wouldn't do for me to trust a stranger with my secrets. No, I prefer to wait till I get to St. Louis before engaging counsel. Here is the gist of the St. Louis mystery which has puzzled the country for four months. Preller and I were old friends. We came to Boston together on the steamer Cephalonia. We were constant companions, and made arrangements to meet in St. Louis, at the Southern hotel, and there to carry out a scheme which Preller had devised for getting insurance on his life. We met according to agreement. We were in room 144 in the hotel for about all the time we spent there, but, mind you Preller was at the hotel only three days. He remained in seclusion for the remainder of the mystery at the Southern hotel, and he left St. Louis alive and well on the same day that I started west. That wasn't Preller's body found in the trunk at the hotel. When the case comes up for trial I shall have proof of where the body found in the trunk was procured, who it was bought of, at what hour it was brought to the hotel, and all the details of the plot. I can tell you now that the corpse was brought to the hotel in a trunk in broad daylight and carried up to room 144. Everything was arranged to give color to the theory of sudden murder and hasty flight. Nothing was omitted which I thought would add to this misconception. My design was to get clear out of the country before the body was discovered, and once in Australia I thought it would be easy to bury my identity in the East Indies until things had been forgotten. I will show you how entirely I trusted Preller, and how completely I was his assistant in this scheme, when I tell you that I don't know to-day how large an insurance he carried on his life. I knew it was for a big sum, and gave my help in the enterprise solely because he was an old friend and associate. Where he is, or what arrangements I have for communication with him, of course 'tis out of the question for me to tell, but you can rest assured of the accuracy of these facts I have given you, and they will all be proven on trial.'

THE PRISONER'S VOYAGE.

A special to the St. Louis Republican from San Francisco gives the following account of Preller's ocean trip: After the steamer was docked the waiter who had attended to Maxwell's wants during the trip, and who, besides the officers, was the only one who had any considerable opportunity for seeing and conversing with the prisoner, was interviewed. First the rooms occupied by the party were inspected. These were three staterooms on the starboard side of the saloon. In one Maxwell was kept under the constant surveillance of one or the other of the officers, who kept watch and watch over him during the entire trip day and night. Across a narrow passage was the second stateroom where the detective off duty slept. Adjoining this was a third room, which, for the occasion, was converted into a dining saloon with a small table lashed by ropes to the floor. Here Maxwell took all his meals, inasmuch as the saloon passengers had objected to his presence at the cabin table. While eating the officers sat on either side of the prisoner, and the greatest care was exercised in allowing him to handle implements that might be turned to suicidal account.

"How did Maxwell conduct himself?" was asked the waiter.

"He acted in a careless, seemingly light-hearted manner all through the trip, showing no sign of emotion until just as he was taken over the side of the vessel to be landed here. Then his lower lip quivered, his face was very pale, and he seemed to be exercising a strong effort at self-control."

"Did he talk much?"

"He was ready to converse at any time, although careful to avoid all mention of the crime for which he was arrested."

"Did he acknowledge that his name was Maxwell?"

"No; he claimed that his name was D'Augler; that his father was a Frenchman, and his mother an Irish woman."

"Did he keep up his French accent at all times?"

"Generally yes, though at times, in the midst of conversation, he would seem to forget himself and would lapse into as good English as you or I can speak. Several persons tried to get him to converse with them in French, but he was unable to do so."

"How did he occupy himself through the voyage?"

"In novel-reading and cigarette-smoking. There was a good supply of light reading on board and he was a steady reader. There was hardly a moment when a cigarette was not in his mouth or in process of manufacture, as he made all he consumed, disdaining the ready-made article."

"Did he use any liquor?"

"All that he could get hold of."

"How was his appetite?"

"Good; he ate hearty meals, and seemed to enjoy everything that was furnished him."

"How was his conversation, profane or otherwise?"

"He seemed fond of telling smutty tales, but beyond a frequent ejaculation of 'God bless me,' there was little said by him to me that could be called profane."

"Did he take any exercise in the open air?"

"Not that I know of, although there were many reports that he was seen on deck at night. He seemed to wish to remain as secluded as possible."

"How did he sleep?"

"That was a peculiarity about him. He slept much of the time during the day and lay awake at night. He was often seen when he thought no one was looking carefully examining the bracelets on his wrists, as if studying how they might be removed."

"Could he look any one in the eye when conversing with him?"

"He could stare a dozen men out of countenance without a wink."

"Had Maxwell any money so far as you knew?"

"Not a cent; it was currently reported in New Zealand that he paid all he had (some $125) to his lawyer."

"What is your opinion of the man from what you have seen of him?"

"I think he is a sneak; one who would pretend to be friendly until a good opportunity occurred and then he would stop at nothing, even with his best friend. He has a peculiar way of studying people out of the corner of his eye, when he thinks they are not looking, which is decidedly unpleasant to the one so observed."

"Did he ever express any concern as to the result of his trip?"

"No; he was shown a newspaper with an account of the crime and how it was expected to convict him, but he only gave a slight laugh and said he thought he could explain it all when the time came."

THE WABASH.

THE BONDHOLDERS' PLAN OF REORGANIZATION.

NEW YORK, Aug. 13.—A dispatch received from London at the office of the Wabash company in this city to-day announces that at a meeting of Wabash bondholders to-day the following plan of reorganization was unanimously adopted, with slight modifications:

1—Foreclose and reorganize under both mortgages.

2—New company to issue debenture mortgage bonds entitled to six per cent interest, but dependent upon the income, and not accumulative, of which $3,500,000 are to be preferred bonds, to have voting privileges, the whole amount of bonds to be $30,000,000.

3—Into these bonds convert several mortgage bonds of $16,000,000, and collateral trust bonds of $6,000,000. Collateral trust bonds to be endorsed preferred bonds, $3,500,000. Reserve for use of the new company, $500,000. Reserve for stock and bond subscription, $4,000,000. Total, $30,000,000.

4—Preferred bonds issued for endorsed debt to be redeemable at the option of the company after five years, or at any time within twenty years from date of mortgage.

5—Issue new preferred and common stock, share for share, for old stock, and offer the same to the stockholders, who will subscribe for the new bonds reserved for that purpose, and at the rate of $8.00 per share for preferred and $6.00 for common. The holder of 100 shares of preferred stock would thus receive 100 shares of new preferred stock, by subscribing for $800 of the new bonds, and the holder of 100 shares of common would receive 100 shares of common stock by subscribing for $600 in new bonds.

6—Holders of new bonds to subscribe to the reserved bonds to an amount not exceeding two per cent of the par value of the amount of bonds issued to them, as above indicated. The amount of new bonds to which this subscription would apply is $22,000,000. Two per cent on the amount will produce $510,000.

7—The cash received from stock and bond subscriptions will provide about $4,016,000 as follows: 236,269 shares preferred at $8, $1,842,152; 277,380 shares common at $6, $1,664,280; $25,500,000 new bonds at two per cent per share, $510,000. Total, $4,016,432.

8—New bonds or holders thereof agree to take pro rata all stock in default and pay the subscription thereon, receiving therefor stock and bonds appointed to such defaulting stock.

A Senator on the Stump.

WACO, Tex., August 13.—United States Senator Coke inaugurated the anti-prohibition campaign in McLennon county to-night. He announced himself opposed to prohibition because it was an attack upon personal liberty; declared it could only be enforced by inquisitorial measures, incompatible with personal liberty; that the move was a political one, aimed at and intended to overthrow the democratic party, and, as an enemy, must be met and vanquished by the adherents of the party that has stood in defense of the personal liberty of the people.

Another Railroad Pool.

GALVESTON, Texas, August 13.—The directors of the Gulf, Colorado & Santa Fe railway have ratified the pooling agreement with the other Texas lines entered into yesterday by President Seeley. It is reliably stated here that the term of the pool is five years. The sixty days withdrawing clause was eliminated from the agreement with an understanding that all differences are to be arbitrated by outside railroads.

FRIGHTFUL SCENES.

Daily Witnessed in the Streets of Spanish Cities.

Dying in Daytime and Buried at Night Like Dogs.

More London Lechery—A Batch of Interesting Telegrams from Across the Sea.

THE CHOLERA.

ITS RAVAGES ON THE INCREASE.

PARIS, August 13.—The autumn manœuvers in the South France have been abandoned on account of the prevalence of cholera.

MADRID, August 13.—There were 4,433 new cases of cholera reported throughout Spain yesterday, and 1,638 deaths.

There is great excitement in Seville over the government's purpose to abolish the power of the local authorities during the prevalence of cholera, because of their inefficiency and to itself assume direction of the city local affairs. The populace are hostile to the doctors, and averse to interference in family matters, and strongly support the local authorities. Great crowds assembled in all the public places last evening to discuss the situation, and the civil guard were called upon to disperse them.

PARIS, August 13.—Reports from Marseilles state the cholera received a fresh impetus from the extreme heat. The number of new cases is steadily increased, and the disease is unusually fatal on account of the heat.

MADRID, August 13—The ravages of the cholera in Granada are horrible. Scores of victims drop and die in the streets, where in many cases they remain for hours before they are gathered up at night for a hurried and unceremonious burial in a common trench. Thirty-five new cases of cholera, thirty-one deaths reported in this city to-day. In the province outside of the city, seventy-five new cases, eighteen deaths. The director of public works, and the wife of another government official, succumbed to the disease. The municipal authorities have decided to demolish the slums.

MARSEILLES, Aug. 13.—Thirty-five deaths in this city to-day. Thirteen patients were admitted to the Pharo hospital, five of whom subsequently died.

A QUARANTINE DECLARED AT MALTA.

MALTA, August 13.—A week's quarantine has been decreed against arrivals from Gibraltar, and it has been ordered that no passengers from any Spanish port or from any French Mediterranean port shall be allowed to land here at all.

THE CAROLINE ISLANDS.

MADRID, August 13—Some excitement was created here by the report that Germany has occupied Caroline Islands, which were claimed by Spain.

THE WABASH IN ENGLAND.

LONDON, August 13.—The English Wabash bond holders resolved to-day to institute proceedings under the terms of the general and collateral mortgage and appointed a purchasing committee in which all property after purchase shall be vested. A scheme was then proposed the formation of a new corporation the payment of debenture with new bonds.

ANOTHER ENGLISH SCANDAL.

LONDON, August 13.—Mr. Francis, the gentleman who yesterday flogged Mr. Pearce, of the ship building firm of John Elder & Brothers, for the alleged betrayal of the former's daughter, to-day instituted criminal action against Pearce. Yesterday the latter explained the difficulty to a reporter of the Pall Mall Gazette by saying that the charge of seduction was false, and that it was a case of blackmail of a peculiarly bad kind. For this statement Francis brings suit. He says he thought Pearce had done him a wrong sufficiently cruel in betraying his daughter under the guise of friendship, without adding to the insult of describing the family as blackmailers. Pearce is a rich conservative and had been selected by the tories to stand as their candidate for Glasgow in the coming election. Francis is a gentleman of reputable standing in society and is a member of the government civil service, being an inspector of customs.

MAY INDUCE THE SULTAN TO ACCEDE.

ZANZIBAR, August 13.—The sultan of Zanzibar was notified yesterday by Admiral Paschen, commanding the German fleet here, that unless he complied within twenty-four hours with Germany's preliminary demands concerning the possessions claimed in Zanzibar by German subjects, friendly negotiations would be dropped. The sultan making no reply to this demand within the specified time, Paschen moved his squadron up in front of the sultan's palace, and has taken a position there. It is thought that this demonstration will induce the sultan to accede to Germany's demands.

A SEAT IN THE CABINET.

LONDON, August 13—The Duke of Richmond has been appointed secretary of state for Scotland, with a seat in the cabinet. Parliament, it is definitely announced, will be prorogued to-morrow.

RGED MAINTAIN THE RIGHTS OF FRANCE.

PARIS, August 13—The chamber of commerce sent a memorial to the government protesting against the pretension of Germany in assuming possession of the port of Seguro and Little Popo on the west coast of Africa, and urged the government to maintain the rights of France a long that portion of Africa.

IN EXCELLENT HEALTH.

BERLIN, August 13.—Emperor William arrived at Potsdam in excellent health.

GERMAN SPIES IN FRANCE.

PARIS, August 13.—A great number of German spies were discovered recently in different parts of France. It is reported that the government will order the expulsion from French territory of all Germans who can be proven spies, or reasonably suspected to be such.

THE SULTAN ACCEDES.

HAMBURG, August 13.—A private telegram from Zanzibar states that the dispute between the sultan and Germany has been adjusted, and that the sultan admits Germany's supremacy in the disputed territory, and promises to withdraw thence all Zanzibar troops.

TO SYMPATHIZE WITH MRS. GRANT.

CONSANTINOPLE, August 13.—United States Minister S. S. Cox has convened a meeting of the American residents of Constantinople for next Saturday, to express condolence with Mrs. Grant over the death of her husband.

SPAIN HAS HER BACK UP.

MADRID, Aug. 13.—The seizure of the Caroline islands by Germany is protested against by Spain, which has ordered two war vessels to proceed at once to the disputed ground.

BERLIN, Aug, 13—The report that Germany had occupied the Caroline islands is not believed here The Spanish government has addressed a note on the subject to the German government.

WILL NOT SUIT BISMARCK.

BERLIN, August 13.—Count Kalanoky, Austro-Hungarian minister, has submitted to Prince Bismarck a plan of a commercial treaty between Austria-Hungaria and Germany, directed against all foreign countries, but leaving to each of the two countries in the compact independence in its home policy. It is believed the plan will not meet the views of Prince Bismarck.

John Roach and the Government.

NEW YORK, August 13.—Mr. Vanderbilt this morning received from Secretary Whitney an informal letter in which the secretary states that the government ships would be finished in Roach's yards and with men under his superintendence, and with suggestions and supervisions of Messrs. Lowing and Wilson. The latter would meantime complete the inventories and receive the appraisal of Roach's assets from the board of five, who will make the appraisal. The schedule of assets and liabilities made by Roach are in readiness, but may possibly be held until the completion of the government inventories. The two inventories will doubtless be compared, and both will be placed at the disposal of the board of appraisal.

WASHINGTON WAIFS.

OFF FOR A VACATION.

WASHINGTON, August 13.—Postmaster-General Vilas left Washington this morning for the west to take a vacation for three or four weeks. He goes first to Chicago, thence probably home.

ARMY OFFICERS ORDERED TO JOIN THEIR COMPANIES.

WASHINGTON, August 13.—The following is the list of army officers who have been serving on detached duty, and who will be compelled to join their regiments, in obedience to Secretary Endicott's recent order returning officers who have been absent four years to their companies:

Capt. J. F. Gregory, corps of engineers.

Capt. Clarence E. Dutton, ordnance department.

First Lieutenant C. B. Schofield, of Gen. Schofield's staff.

First Lieutenant James Allen, of First cavalry.

First Lieutenant A. W. Greely, of First cavalry.

First Lieutenant Robert T. Emmett, of Ninth artillery.

First Lieutenant H. H. C. Dunwoody, of Fourth artillery.

First Lieutenant Robert Craig, of Fourth artillery.

First Lieutenant Oscar F. Long, of Fifth infantry.

Capt. W. M. Wherry, of Twenty-fourth Infantry.

First Lieutenant Guy Howard, of Twelfth infantry.

Capt. George W. Davis, of Fourteenth infantry.

First Lieutenant Joseph A. Snowden, of Fourteenth infantry.

Capt. Cyrus S. Roberts, of Seventeenth infantry.

Capt. J. S. Wharton, of Ninth infantry.

Capt G. S. L. Ward, of Twenty-second infantry.

Chaplain George G. Mullins, of Twenty-fifth infantry.

RECEIVED AN APPOINTMENT.

The postmaster general has appointed Wm. Duff Haynie, of Bloomington Ill., chief clerk to First Assistant Postmaster General Stevenson, in place of James H. Marr, transferred to another position. Mr. Haynie is a lawyer, and is an intimate friend of Mr. Stevenson.

AUTHORIZED TO COMMENCE BUSINESS.

The acting comptroller of currency to-day authorized the First National bank of Abingdon, Ill., to commence business with a capital of $50,000.

A PENSION DECISION.

The attorney general has decided that pension agents are not entitled to a fee for paying pension attorneys their dues. The law passed last winter fixing the compensation of pension agents repeals the laws previously in force, which allowed them a fee of thirty cents in such cases.

WILL NOT PAY THE BILL.

Second Comptroller Maynard has disallowed an item of $316 in the accounts of Pay Director Wallace for the purchase of one years' supply of stationery for the use of the navy yard at Norfolk, on the ground that every safeguard provided by statute and by the navy regulations relating to the purchase of supplies in open market and in the event of public exigencies, appeared to have been disregarded in this particular transaction.

ON THE RETIRED LIST.

Commodore Oscar C. Badger, recently released from the command of the Boston navy yard, has been placed on the retired list.

DESCRIPTION OF THE NEW RAPID DELIVERY STAMP.

The following is a technical description of the new immediate delivery stamp: A line engraved on steel, oblong in form, dimensions one and three-sixteenths by one and seven-sixteenths inches; color dark blue; design on left, an arched panel, bearing the figure of a mail messenger boy, on the run, and surmounted by the words, "United States;" on the right an oblong tablet, ornamented with a wreath of oak and laurel, surrounding the words, "Secures immediate delivery at a special delivery office." Across the top of the tablet is a legend, "Special post delivery;" and at the bottom the words, "Ten cents," separated by a small shield, bearing the numeral ten.

A STRANGE CASE,

INVOLVING THE RIGHT TO A VALUABLE NEBRASKA ESTATE.

MONTREAL, Aug. 13.—Mr. Frank, a leading lawyer of Nebraska, is expected here in a few days to examine witnesses in a case involving the right to an estate in Iowa and Nebraska valued at half a million dollars. Stephen Des Noyes, of this city, emigrated to the western states some years ago with his wife and boy about five years old. His son, now a young man, became dissatisfied with a farmer's life, and went to New Mexico. Des Noyes died, leaving a will, and his next of kin applied for and received letters of administration. Another relation, however, who in the event of young Des Noyes' death or the illegality of his heirship, would be entitled to all the property, commenced suit setting forth that the young man known as Des Noyes was not a son of the deceased; that while a baby in the cradle here another child was substituted for Des Noyes by a woman who was a near neighbor, and who had adopted the rightful son, and that after some years the boy who was the stolen child died, and was buried in the east, while the child who was put in the place of the true son grew up without the Des Noyes family ever noticing the difference between the children, as their ages and complexions were the same. It is said that witnesses here have come forward and confessed the crime.

Shot the Wrong Man.

ST. LOUIS, August 13.—This evening Mrs. Michael Karlin, living at 820 south Second street, had a wordy altercation with Charles Herber, a laborer, and a bricklayer named Eyermann, regarding the removal of some brick and other material in her yard. Her son, Joseph, aged 18, took her part, and is said to have been slapped and knocked down by Herber. Mrs. Karlin told her boy to go into the house and get a revolver. He did so and returning fired it, presumably at Herber, but missed his aim and shot John Braendal, an innocent spectator, through the heart, killing him instantly Mrs. Karlin and her son were arrested, and the body of Braendal was taken to the morgue. The woman is married, and has eight children.

Guarding Against Yellow Fever.

AUSTIN, Tex., August 13.—Governor Ireland to-day issued a proclamation reciting that it has come to his knowledge that persons from Vera Cruz, and possibly other places in Mexico, inflicted with yellow fever, are entering this state by way of El Paso, Laredo, and other points, by railroad and private conveyance, in violation of his quarantine proclamation. He declares that quarantine shall be enforced on the Rio Grande against infected places in Mexico. Quarantine stations will at once be established at Laredo and El Paso, and an inspection made of all incoming trains.

The Weather.

WASHINGTON, August 13.—For the upper Mississippi valley: Generally fair weather, variable winds, slight fall in temperature.

For the Missouri valley: Generally fair weather, higher temperature, variable winds.

ON 'CHANCE.

Prices Ruinously Low, and a Nervous Feeling of Weakness.

The East Saginaw Strikers Return to Work.

A Troy Wife Murderer Launched to His Long Home—A $50,000 Fire at Jersey City.

CHICAGO STOCK.

CATTLE.

Special Telegram to the BEE.

CHICAGO, August 13.—There were at least 6,000 natives among the fresh arrivals. Sales show no particular change, especially on best heavy corn fed natives. Low grade natives were equally as well as yesterday. Texans were quoted 10@15c higher, and prices are nearly back again to where they were on Monday. There was a train or two of Montana rangers on the market, and so far this class of stock is bringing satisfactory prices. Stockers and feeders are more inquired for the past day or two, yet the general market remains dull, and prices are ruinously low. Shipping steers, 1,350 to 1,500 lbs, $5.25@5.9; 1,200 to 1,350 lbs, $4.90@5.40, 950 to 1,250 lbs, $4.40@5.10. Through Texas cattle 10@15c higher; 950 lbs, $3.80@4.10; 750 to 900 lbs, $3.40@3.80; 600 to 700 lbs, $2.90@3.40 Western rangers scarce; only one sale of 280 Montana Texans, 1,118 lbs, at $4.35.

HOGS.

From first to last the trade was dull, and there was an unsettled and weak feeling. Low grade and grassy packers dropped 15@20c, and sold at a range of $4.00@4.25. Fair to good mixed sold at $4.40@4.50, and best heavy at $4.55@4.60, with a few fancy assorted at $4.70@4.75. Packing and shipping, 250 to 300 lbs, $4.25@4.60; light weights, 130 to 170 lbs, $4.50@4.75; 180 to 210 lbs, $4.00@4.40.

THE GRAIN PIT.

WHEAT.

Special Telegram to The BEE.

CHICAGO, Aug. 13.—On 'change to-day there was more or less depression, and an unsettled feeling in pretty much all speculative lists, with nervousness coming from rumors affecting the condition of No. 2 spring wheat in elevators, and from private French cables containing the cholera news. The close was easy at declines noted. Wheat was a shade higher at the opening, due to stronger foreign cables and an advance of 6d in wheat at Liverpool. The opening on September was 88½c against 88⅛c as the closing figures yesterday, and from there it advanced to 88⅞c. About this time another of those groundless rumors of hot wheat was started, and the market fell rapidly off to 87⅞c. A little nervousness was contributed from New York, where it was reported that margins were very generally being called on August contracts. No one here had the slightest fear of any wheat being posted. No. 2 spring sold early at 86⅞c but closed nominally lower.

CORN

felt the influence depressing other markets, and ranged irregularly downward within 1c. A fair local business was transacted, though the market failed to show any particular feature. No 2 cash sold at 46½c, and No. 3 at 45⅞c. The close was easy.

OATS

showed very little features, only fluctuating ⅛@¼c. The near deliveries were quite liberally traded in, but deferred futures were lightly called for.

PROVISIONS

were fairly steady early, nearly the whole list holding up to yesterday's latest prices, but an easier feeling soon set in. The drop on the morning session aggregated 20c in pork, the close being weak in sympathy with wheat. Local traders did a moderate business, but outside orders were scarce.

The Saw Mill Strike at East Saginaw Ended.

EAST SAGINAW, Mich., Aug. 13.—The great strike inaugurated at this end of the Saginaw river five weeks ago to-morrow, practically ended in the action of the employes yesterday in agreeing to accept the conditions of the mill owners, who were willing to concede at first, viz: Ten hours and a proportionate reduction of wages. This shows they were tired of idleness and willing to go to work. The mill of Bliss Bros. & Co. started this morning with a full crew at eleven hours, and Sanborn & Hill started this morning on the same conditions, making in all sixteen mills running at eleven hours. The matter will resolve itself into the following shape: Many men will prefer the eleven hours and the extra pay, and the mills will be so run; others will be content to work ten hours, and accept reduced pay. Only four of the ten hour mills are running. A warrant was issued this morning for the arrest of Representative Barry for inciting the riot. He is out of the city, but will be placed in custody immediately upon his return.

Wife Murderer Hung.

TROY, N. Y., August 13.—James Horace Jones was hanged in the county jail at 10:39 this morning for wife murder July 3d, 1884.

Jones passed most of the night in prayer. This morning he refused to take breakfast until after he had recived holy communion. Last night in his cell Jones made the following will: "I give and bequeath to Rev. Peter Havermans, my spiritual adviser, my body. I hope and trust that he will see it is buried decently, and protected from mutilation. I also give and bequeath my heart to Rome and my soul to heaven. I appoint Father Havermans executor of my will."

Jones walked to the scaffold with steady step, and was wonderfully cool while the final preparations for his execution were being made. He refused to say anything, and appeared anxious that there should be no delay. After hanging twelve minutes he was pronounced dead.

Burning Barrels.

JERSEY CITY, Aug. 13.—A fire broke out early this morning in a barrel factory on Warren street, spread to an adjoining tenement house, thence to a two-story storehouse. These buildings were totally destroyed. The flames then spread to a row of six three-story double tenement houses, occupied in all by seventy families. The tenants were driven into the streets in their night clothes and many narrowly escaped with their lives. Total loss estimated at $50,000. The origin of the fire is unknown.

BIG BUNG STAVES.

BELIEF THAT THEY ARE IN EXTENSIVE USE.

NEW YORK, August 13.—The Post, Washington special says: The internal revenue authorities have reason to suspect that there has been an extensive system of whisky fraud by means of bogus barrels made of staves thickened about the bunghole, some of which, as stated in these dispatches, have recently been discovered in use in one of the largest distilleries in Cincinnati. Experienced revenue agents are investigating the subject in New York, Philadelphia, St. Louis and Chicago. Partial reports received from some of these places tend to increase the apprehension of the department.

Special agent Sommerville, who is investigating the distilleries at Pekin, Ill., has not found any of these barrels on the premises, but it is believed he has discovered that some of them have been shipped from one of the distilleries to New York. It does not seem to be the intention of the distillers, however, to permit these fraudulent barrels to go into the trade, since they would, of course, be

READILY DETECTED IF OPENED,

to general inspection. These barrels are evidently designed to be used for the purpose only of what is called "dumping" the whisky, or carrying it from the distillery to the rectifying establishment. On being "dumped," or left at the rectifying establishment, the whisky is gauged, and by use of these barrels, returned empty to be used again. One hundred of these barrels would be sufficient for the use of a large distillery, and it would be possible, by means of them, to defraud the government of perhaps $175 daily.

A BATCH SEIZED AT PHILADELPHIA.

PHILADELPHIA, Aug. 13.—Another seizure of Peoria whisky was made yesterday at the railroad depot in this city. The cargo numbered about 150 packages and was composed of "funny" barrels of the same pattern as those recently found in certain wholesale liquor establishments. It is stated this fraud upon the revenue is confined, so far as known, to several large concerns in Peoria. Three men have already been detected, it is alleged, in using barrels, and shipping them far and wide. To just what extent the fraud is practiced cannot yet be told, because the matter is still under investigation, but the scheme is regarded as one of the most gigantic swindles ever perpetrated upon the government. It is said the entire country has been flooded with crooked barrels. They are so constructed that the gaugers' rods and callipers do not give a true register of the package. When the liquor has been poured out into buckets, it has been found it measured a greater quantity than the gangers' rods showed. This led to an investigation and seizure.

The Mexican Government and the Railroads.

CITY MEXICO, (via Galveston), August 13.—The cabinet, after a protracted discussion, has decided on the nature of a reply to be made to the representatives of the railway companies on the question of whether the railways were to be exempted from the operation of the decree of June 22d. The government has decided that no exception shall be made in favor of the railroads, and that the law of June 27 shall be enforced to the letter. Subsidies will not be paid, and not one cent of customs revenue will be appropriated to the railroads. The government maintains that it owes the railroads nothing, except a small amount of subsidies, which would have accrued to them since the publication of the decree, and that this amount, and that falling due in future months, will be included in the government's floating debt.

The government will not even deliver up the subsidy certificates to the railroads, claiming that the roads have no right to them, and that even if the certificates were still receivable for customs duties, the government would not be obliged to deliver up more than enough to keep the railroads supplied with the amount required to cover their monthly subsidies. It is a matter of common report that the government is looking to England for financial aid, and that on the return of Minister St. John, a new treaty with Great Britain will be arranged. The government is very favorably inclined to the investment of British capital in the northern tier of states as a counterpoise to American influence.

A Right Royal Welcome.

Special Telegram to the BEE.

SIDNEY, Neb., August 13.—Gen. Thayer, returning from Wyoming, met with a hearty reception here to-night in the parlors of Hon. J. J. Clarkson, at the Railroad house. Among those present were Gen. Morrow and the full staff of officers of the Twenty-first infantry. The brass band of Fort Sidney discoursed excellent music for the occasion.

Speeches were made by J. J. Clarkson Gen. Henry A. Morrow and Gen Thayer, eliciting great applause. A large number of business men were assembled. The happiest feeling prevailed. Gen. Thayer expressed much surprise at the agricultural development of the country. He intends to write up the country, and speak of the glorious results achieved in so short a time.

"Samee Like Melican Man."

SAN FRANCISCO, Aug. 13.—Hop Kee & Co., the largest wholesale Chinese manufacturers of boots and shoes on the coast, have failed. Liabilities $110,000; assets unknown. The firm has a prosperous branch house in Victoria, B. C. When the San Francisco house got into financial trouble the Victoria house repudiated all connection with it, and dishonored its draft. This was the immediate cause of the failure. Members of the firm are said to be worth over half a million. The question is whether the creditors can succeed in reaching them. The principal creditors are believed to be among the white leather dealers and tanners of this city, but who they are Hop Kee refuses to say. This is the first Chinese failure of any importance that has occurred here.

An Independent Newspaper.

PANAMA, August 13.—The Star and Herald was notified a few days ago by the government that under the existing martial law it is not permitted to publish any news relating to the government affairs except that furnished by the government. The editor published the notification and announced concurrently that unless allowed to handle the government news in its own way, it would not handle it at all, official or unofficial, and that all mention of the government would be excluded from its columns. It is understood the suppression of the paper was contemplated, but it was abandoned when informed the publication was the property of an American company.

Fire in Cleveland.

CLEVELAND, August 13.—A fire in the Sturtevant planing mill and adjoining buildings was under control of the firemen about three o'clock this morning after destroying property, including the mill, all valued at about $90,000. The insurance covers about two-thirds of the loss.

TELEGRAPH NOTES.

The democratic county convention met yesterday afternoon at Burlington, Iowa, and chose twelve delegates to the state convention at Cedar Rapids, and passed a resolution opposing prohibition and favoring a license of $500; also against placing any prohibitionist on the state ticket.

A general reunion of ex-soldiers began at Caldwell, Ohio, to-day with a large attendance. Ex Governor Noyes, Hon. Joseph B. Foraker, and many others will arrive Saturday.

A dispatch from Saratoga says: To-day's storm, including rain, wind, thunder and lightning, exceeded anything felt here in fifteen years, and over four inches of rain fell in three and one-half hours. A teamster named Chatterton was struck by lightning and instantly killed.

At Hoboken, N. J., George and Henry Martells, aged twenty-one and twelve, driving a wagon, were run down by the express train and both killed.

At Ithaca, N. Y., four laborers on the Lehigh Valley railroad, during a heavy rain storm yesterday, sought shelter under a bluff. A landslide buried Michael McManus, Patrick Mahon and Michael Fahey, all of whom were killed. The fourth man escaped. McManus was unmarried, but the others leave large families.

WILKES WON.

Beating Phallas With Apparent Ease at Philadelphia.

A Day of Sport on the Diamond, Water and Track.

A Budget of News From the National Capital—The Wabash Reorganization—A New York Flood.

SPORT AND PLEASURE

PHALLAS BEATEN.

PHILADELPHIA, Pa., August 13.—In the trotting race to-day between Phallas and Harry Wilkes, the first heat was won by Wilkes in 2:16; the second heat was won by Wilkes in 2:20; Phallas won the third heat in 1:21½; Wilkes won the fourth heat and race in 2:18¾.

About 5,000 people visited Belmont park to-day to witness the match trotting race between J. I. Case's brown stallion Phallas, and W. C. Francis' bay gelding Harry Wilkes, for a special purse of $4,000, of which $1,000 went to the second horse, best three in five heats. Phallas was driven as usual by Edwin D. Bither, while Frank Vanness held the reins over Wilkes. The track was in perfect order. Betting was brisk, Phallas ruling a big favorite before the start at $100 to $28, and some odds on the stallion were forthcoming in any amount even after the first heat had fallen to Wilkes. The race was eventually won by Wilkes, who took the first, second and fourth heats,

DETAILS OF WHICH FOLLOW:

First heat—After three false scores, in which Wilkes broke just before reaching the wire, a fair start was effected, Wilkes securing a half length lead and holding it all the way round to the stretch, where Phallas left his feet, and the gelding won by two open lengths in 2:16.

Second heat—The word "go" was given at the second trial, and Wilkes broke badly before he was a dozen yards past the wire, Phallas having six lengths the best of it at the quarter, and almost as much at the half. As the pair approached the three-quarter post, Wilkes went up with surprising ease, Phallas coming back as if anchored, and, on the turn into the stretch, the gelding went by him like a streak, holding his lead to the wire, when he was two lengths to the good in 2:20.

Third heat—Wilkes having won the preceding heat with such apparent ease, the

BETTING WAS COMPLETELY CHANGED,

and after a few pools had been sold at $100 to $80 in his favor, odds increased as high as $115 to $30. They were sent away at the second trial, Wilkes breaking so badly in the first hundred yards, that he lost all chances, and was a distance behind at the half mile. At three quarters Phallas made a momentary break, and Wilkes shut up a fraction of the gap, but although he trotted a very strong race in the stretch, Phallas got the verdict by a dozen lengths, and loud cheering. Time, 2:21½.

Fourth heat—Pools now averaged $35 to $16 in favor of Wilkes, and layers of odds were rewarded by seeing their choice win handily by ten lengths. After being apparently beaten at the half mile, Phallas broke badly just before reaching the three-quarter pole, and Wilkes going up, passed him on the turn into the stretch. Bither, seeing that Phallas was beaten, pulled him up in the last 100 yards. Time, 2:18¾.

NATIONAL AMATEUR REGATTA.

In the national amateur regatta on the Charles river, this afternoon, the final heat in the senior single shells was won by D. J. Murphy, of Boston, time 9:42; Mulcahey, of Albany, second; and Scholes, of Toronto, third.

The race for senior four-oared shells was won by the N