THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

SIXTEENTH YEAR. OMAHA, FRIDAY MORNING, APRIL 1, 1887. NUMBER 287

A SIXTY-DAY AGONY ENDED.

The Twentieth Session of the State Legislature Winds Up Its Existence.

HOUSE OFFICERS REMEMBERED.

Many Bills Rushed Through During Noisy and Turbulent Scenes—The Closing Hours of the Senate and House.

Senate Proceedings.

LINCOLN, Neb., March 31.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—House bill for the relief of Edgar D. Everett; house bill to provide for selling all unsold lots and lands belonging to the state in Lincoln and the appropriation of the funds arising from the sale; house bill providing for a laundry building and apparatus and one barn for the institution for the feeble-minded youth in Beatrice; house bill relative to public schools in metropolitan cities, passed the senate to-day.

A number of bills were considered in committee of the whole.

Recess.

In the afternoon the house bill providing for the organization of a state military corps came up for passage. Before it came to a vote a call of the house was demanded, and in the absence of the sergeant-at-arms the call was dispensed with. The bill appropriates $30,000 the first year and $20,000 each subsequent year. It was passed.

The following were also passed: House bill appropriating $1,000 for the relief of John Lanham, the contractor; house bill for the relief of Sarah D. Gillespie; house bill preventing the acquiring of title to land by aliens and descent therein to non-residents; house bill providing clerks and assistants for county judges in counties having over 25,000 population; house bill for the establishment and government of the Nebraska industrial home and making appropriation therefor; house bill providing for mutual county insurance companies.

House bill, to provide for a geological survey and appropriating $8,000 therefor, was recommitted.

House bill, relating to executions, amending the code of civil procedure, was passed.

Mr. Robbins offered the report of the joint conference committee on the legislative reapportionment, presenting several amendments, which elicited considerable opposition. The report was adopted.

House bill, appropriating $2,000 for the relief of Maggie Pribble for injuries received, was passed, as were also the following: House bill to prevent employment of children under twelve years of age in workshops; house bill to compel railroads to maintain crossings at roads and streets; house bill to amend the statutes entitled "descendants."

Mr. Snell, chairman of the committee on enrolled bills, reported that the judicial bill had been sent to the governor for signature.

The senate concurred in the house amendment increasing the salary of the state veterinarian to $2,500.

Recess until 8 o'clock.

The senate met at 8 o'clock. The gallery was full and the floor was crowded by visiting ladies and gentlemen. Men having axes to grind were rushing to and fro amid the hum and confusion incident to the closing hours. There were several attempts made to take bills out of the general file and put them on third reading. Mr. Brown called a halt and said that there was danger that many jobs might be run through at the last moment. The bill to appropriate $8,000 for the geological survey was again taken up and a motion to reconsider the vote by which the bill was recommitted, was discussed and finally withdrawn.

The senate resolved itself into a committee of the whole to consider the general appropriation bills.

Mr. Fuller offered an amendment to add 49,000 for two wings to the Norfolk insane asylum. Adopted.

Mr. Robbins offered an amendment to cut off the appropriation for the Fremont normal school. Adopted.

Mr. Sterling offered an amendment to strike out $40,000 for the brick building at the penitentiary. Lost.

Mr. Sterling offered an amendment that an appropriation of $12,000 for wages at the Kearney reform school be cut down one-half, as it was three times the amount necessary the past two years. Lost.

The bill was then recommended to pass.

The salary appropriation bill was then taken up.

Mr. McNamar moved to amend that the appropriation be increased to cover the salaries of nineteen district judges and nineteen stenographers. Carried. The bill was recommended to pass and the committee arose and report was adopted.

Mr. Moore moved to amend the house bill to sell saline land by striking out the appropriation clause and that it be ordered to a third reading. Adopted.

Bills on third reading and passed the house: Bill 461, miscellaneous claims; house bill appropriating $1,30 providing means for preserving the records in the adjutant general's office; house bill to prevent cruelty to animals.

Mr. Colby here, in a very neat speech, presented Walter M. Seeley with a handsome gold watch and chain in recognition of faithful and courteous attention to duty. Mr. Seeley replied gracefully with deep feeling.

Chaplain Tate, on behalf of the clerks of the senate, also presented Mr. Seeley with a beautiful plush album.

The chaplain then proceeded with an eloquent presentation speech and called upon Senator Conger to accept an elegant gold watch an chain on behalf of the G. A. R. members of the senate.

Mr. Conger responded appropriately.

Mr. Schminke then offered a resolution granting the chairs and desks used by them to the reporters.

Mr. Casper in a very happy speech, on behalf of the democratic members of the senate, presented President Pro Tem Meikeljohn with an elegant ebony gold headed cane. The latter feelingly responded.

Mr. Holmes, on behalf of the senate, presented Mr. Vandemark with a gold-headed cane.

Mr. Snell, on behalf of the clerks and employes, presented Mr. Meikiejohn a handsome gold Knight Templar charm. The latter's response was made with deep emotions of gratitude.

The following bills were passed: House bill providing for registry, sale or lease of all lands set apart for educational purposes; house bill making appropriations for the current expenses of the state government for the years ending March 31, 1885, and March 31, 1885, and to pay miscellaneous items; house bill authorizing the incorporation of union depot companies; house bills as amended providing for the sale and lease of the saline lands; house bill refunding $62.50 to Columbus; house bill providing a better means of assessment and amending the statute entitled "Revenue;" house bill to compel parents to send children of school age to school at least twelve weeks in a year; house bill for the appointment of a deputy attorney general; the salary appropriation bill; house bill to amend election laws of metropolitan cities; house bill to locate a road in Pierce county; house bill fixing salaries of county officers and providing payment of all fees in excess to the county treasurers; house bill to provide for the registry of bonds; house bill 80, amending the code of civil procedure; house bill to memorialize congress to pass a law giving every veteran of the war a silver medal; house bill allowing county judges fees in certain cases; house bill providing that action for libel may be brought in any county where libel is circulated; house bill providing for farmers' institutes and making appropriations therefor.

The senate and house adjourned at midnight.

Doings in the House.

LINCOLN, Neb., March 31.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—Mr. Sterling's senate file 251 was brought up for third reading in the house by Mr. Smyth. The sergeant-at-arms was instructed to clear the floor of all who had not a right there, yet the din was sufficient to render it almost impossible for the most vociferous orator to be heard. This bill provides that the number of miles of main roads and wires of each railway and telegraph company, including the right of way and side tracks within fifty feet of the main track, rolling stock and personal property for the construction, repairs or successful operation of such railroad or telegraph lines, shall be listed with the state auditor for assessment, while all machine shops and repair shops, depots, tool houses, section houses, headquarters, store houses and sidetrack and depot grounds more than fifty feet from the main track shall be listed with the local assessor. Mr. Smyth explained the bill and moved it be advanced to third reading.

Mr. Miller opposed the bill.

Mr. Agee said that the bill ought to be entitled "an act to amend an act for the benefit of Omaha." It simply was taking away property from the state assessments for Omaha's benefit.

Mr. Raymond wanted to know whether the house was willing to have railroad property assessed as the property of the members was assessed. There was merit in the bill and it ought to be passed.

Mr. Cole did not think it was a bill which was wanted in the country districts.

The previous question was ordered and the motion for a third reading was lost.

Senate file 55 regarding fees for county clerks was amended to exclude counties of 70,000 and over from paying 4 cents per line to the clerk for making tax lists. This will cut off $3,000 fees from the clerk of Douglas county.

The following were passed: Senate file 1, prohibiting non resident aliens from acquiring or holding real estate in Nebraska; defining the boundaries of Thurston county.

Senate file 23, providing for attorneys' fees in cases of foreclosures was killed.

The house concurred in the senate amendment to 251, relating to the manner of expending money for the erection of the capitol.

Senate file 20, amending the code of civil procedure, was passed.

The house concurred in the senate amendments to Andres' metropolitan city school law, requiring members of the board of education to be elected at large, striking out the salary and holding the election in June.

Senate file 90, regulating the form of acknowledgement was passed; repealing the law allowing the sale of tax certificates at fifty cents on the dollar, was indefinitely postponed. 105, defining the counties of Arthur and Hook, was passed. Recess.

The recommitment of the saline land sale bill the evening before last has soured many of the Lancaster county people and caused an absence of their lobbyists from the floor ever since. One of the delegation told me to-day that the defeat was occasioned by a split among the projectors and another said that no more packing houses were expected because it would be impossible to get them to locate upon leased lands.

Representative Slater retured this morning from attendance at the obsequies of his mother-in-law.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The noise of the morning attended the opening of the house this afternoon, and the next indication of a probable carnival in the evening was the appearance on the floor of Mr. Gillmore of Cass in a large, white, paper hat. A number of committees reported favoring the postponement of several bills and the passage of senate files 277, authorizing the transfer of $7,172.83 from the permanent school fund to the general fund; 128, requiring trains to stop before crossing junctions; 265, compelling railroads to issue thousand-mile tickets, and 129, refunding money paid by counties for care of insane.

Senate file 55, providing fees for county clerks, was passed with the amendment excluding the fee of 4 cents per line for tax lists from all county clerks in counties of more than 70,000 inhabitants; also 105 and 109, defining the limits of McPherson and Grant counties.

Mr. Watson, from the committee on claims, reported one in favor of Mr. Roper to the amount of $199, expenses incurred in the Truesdell-Roper contested case. The same was adopted.

Senate file 259, exempting from attachment property bought by soldiers' pension, was passed, though a great deal of button-holding had to be done to secure the small majority.

Senate file 294, providing for the intervention of third persons claiming interest in pending suits was also passed.

The governor announced that he had signed the following: 115, relating to the new asylum for the blind at Nebraska City; 30, erecting buildings at feeble minded institute at Beatrice; Andres' 36, providing for a bureau of labor and industrial statistics; 195, providing for the disposition of unclaimed moneys in the county treasuries from delinquent taxes; 280, for the relief of George M. Price; 323, providing stenographers for the supreme judges.

Senate file 75, relating to warehouse men, was passed.

Senate file 272, providing for the abolition of the grand jury except upon the call of the judges of the district court, was killed.

The following were then passed: 272, abolishing imprisonment in civil actions for debt; senate file 13, providing that in counties of more than 70,000 inhabitants there shall be five commissioners.

Senate file 132, paying commissioners in counties of 70,000 and over $1,800 per year, was called. It was shown that this did away with all commissioners, mileage. A motion to indefinitely postpone was lost and the bill was passed.

Senate file 133, was indefinitely postponed.

Senate file 182, providing for a reduction of the school levy in the country districts, was indefinitely postponed.

Senate file 51, authorizing religious or charitable associations to change their names, was passed.

Senate file 130, authorizing the governor to appoint four live stock agents to act with one veterinary surgeon to stamp out contagious diseases, was passed.

The house did not concur in the senate amendment to the militia bill raising the adjutant's salary to $1,400.

Mr. Watson moved that a committee on conference be appointed.

Mr. Caldwell moved that the senate be requested to recede from its amendment.

The motion prevailed and the request was complied with.

The committee on conference on the senatorial and representative districts reported several amendments and the same were concurred in.

The following senate files were passed: 26, providing that the property owned by a woman at her marriage shall remain hers notwithstanding marriage, and 126, empowering county commissioners to issue bonds to erect county buildings.

The governor announced that he had signed house roll 46, providing for the relief of Beatrice; 222, for the erection of the Grant memorial hall at Lincoln; 429, for the relief of E. D. Everett; 141, regarding the issue of school district bonds; 118, for buildings at the institute for the blind at Beatrice; 210, relating to the right of way of railroads through educational lands, and 25, for the selling of all unsold state lots in Lincoln.

Mr. Watson moved that the postmaster and engineer be allowed pay for work done at night. Carried.

A number of members who had their statutes stolen from their desks were allowed to make application for other copies.

Mr. McConaughy offered a resolution that a committee of four take an inventory of all the property in the house, turn the same over to the sergeant-at-arms, and compel him to turn the same over to the secretary of state. Members desiring to purchase their chairs and desks may do so for $5. The resolution was adopted.

The joint conference committee on senatorial and representative districts reported the following changes, which were concurred in:

Senatorial—Eighth: Dixon, Dakota, Knox, Cedar and Thurston. Tenth: Washington and Dodge. Thirteenth: Holt, Garfield, Wheeler and the unorganized territory north of Holt and Keya Paha. Fifteenth: Custer, Valley, Loup and Blaine. Sixteenth: Buffalo and Sherman. Twenty-seventh: Adams. Twenty-eighth: Harlan, Kearney and Phelps. Twenty-ninth: Furnas, Red Willow, Hitchcock, Dundy, Gosper, Frontier, Chase and Hayes. Thirtieth: Dawson, Lincoln, Keith, Cheyenne, Logan and the unorganized territory west of Blaine and Logan.

Representative—First: Richardson and two representatives. Second: Pawnee and two representatives. The old third district and twenty-ninth district are abolished. Cass is allowed two representatives. The eighth district consists of Cass and Otoe. Cuming, Dakota and Thurston constitute the fifteenth district. The forty-fourth district consists of Adams county and has but one representative. The fifty-third district consists of Lincoln, Cheyenne, Keith and the unorganized territory west of Logan. District 54 consists of Valley, and 55 of Custer and Logan and each is entitled to two representatives.

Recess was taken, and at the suggestion of the chair nearly all the members carted off the loose papers which have long laid on their desks by way of getting ready to return home.

EVENING SESSION.

The house was called to order for the last time by Speaker Harlan. The attendance of members was large. All the gas jets of the hall, including sixty in the central chandelier, as also the two electric lights, illuminated the scene. The settees were well filled with young ladies and wives of the members, while the gallery was packed with a motley collection of last nighters. The clock, as if tired of lying about the time as it had done during the three months' session, appeared paralyzed and steadily maintained that the hour was 7:40 throughout the night.

The following senate files were passed: 38, providing that a wife living with her husband at the time of his death, and without a suitable residence of her own, may reside in the dwelling of her late husband so long as she remains a widow, without being charged with rent, and shall have sustenance out of his estate for three years; 39, amending the code of civil procedure; 195, providing security to the public against omissions and defects in abstracts; 220, prescribing how executors may secure their license; 25, donating two acres to district 51, Lancaster county; 252, granting to Hastings College a set of supreme court reports; 76, forbidding the sale of obscene literature (this vote containing one negative); 275, amending the code of civil procedure; 274, enabling the supreme court to reduce sentence of criminals during appeal, and 20, for the prosecution of appeals.

At this juncture Mr. Whitmore advanced to the front and remarked that when the late lamented Samuel J. Tilden complained that we were a nation of blackguards, it was Bob Ingersoll who responded if that were true Mr. Tilden ought to be president. Mr. Whitmore said that he had been selected to be spokesman on this occasion, being in the house the biggest fool of all. He spoke of the depreciatng estimation in which the present legislature had been had and instanced a couple of happy incidents to signify that Providence had permitted it to come to a close before it had became a vacuum. He then addressed Mr. Harlan and said that, as a token of the esteem in which the officers and members of this house held him, in their behalf he asked to be allowed to present him with an elegant watch and chain which he held in his hand. He hoped the chain would be a chain of friendship and the watch be as good a watch to him as he had been a watch to the interests of this state.

Mr. Harlan said: "Gentlemen of the house of representatives: I feel utterly incapacitated on account of my physical condition this evening to respond to the very flattering words which have been uttered by our friends and fellow-members. I feel unable to do this occasion justice, but allow me to say that in the deepest and most sincere sense I return you my sincere thanks for this elegant and beautiful gift. I accept it as a token of your regard and esteem. I shall treasure it as an evidence of the friendly feelings which have existed between us, and as we move down the stream of time I shall look upon this as one of the many pleasant recollections and events of our work together. From the time you elevated me to the position of your presiding officer it has been my desire to treat you individually and collectively in a fair and impartial manner. There have been many questions coming before this body upon which we entertained different views and different opinions, and many heated discussions have been carried on. We have fought valiantly for the ideas which we entertained. These discussions have been warm, but when the question was settled according to the laws of parliamentary practice you, as honest and fair-dealing men, have accepted the situation and good feeling again prevailed. My greatest source of gratification has been the uniform kindness and courtesy which you have extended to me. I cannot call to mind at any time when any member of this body treated me unkindly. The members of this house well know that the presiding officer, as a member of the body, is expected to have ideas and opinions on all questions and is requested to cast his vote the same as you are. Under these circumstances he may be expected to but ought not to be controlled by either prejudice or passion. So far as I have been able to discern there has been no conflict growing out of these differences. If any offense has been taken by any member, I desire to ask that gentleman's pardon. I desire to thank the officers and members of this house for the kindness I have experienced at their hands, and especially to the chief clerk for the assistance he has given me during this session, which has resulted in making my work as easy as possible to me. I wish to thank the employes for the pleasant manner in which they have always received me. If I have had any degree of success it has been largely due to the chief clerk, his assistants and these men. They have without an exception done all in their power to make my work easy. Again I desire to thank you for the courtesies extended and the elegant present you have bestowed upon me." [Loud applause.]

Mr. Watson then, in a short and eloquent speech, presented Chief Clerk Slaughter with a magnificent diamond stud.

Mr. Bowman then presented Assistant Clerk Cook with an excellent gold watch.

Business was resumed, but progressed slowly. Everybody commenced to throw papers and books, and for a time it was dangerous to be found among the members.

Mr. Kenney, who was in the chair, said the work of the house would stop unless order was restored and threatened to clear the gallery if the crowd there took any more part in the riotous proceedings. Four colored men were then shut into the front of the gallery and sang excellently, and for a time soothed the savage breasts beneath.

On motion it was decided that all bills not advanced to a third reading would be indefinitely postponed.

House roll 458, relating to the leasing of saline lands for the developments of saline interests, was returned to the senate by request.

The house concurred in the senate amendments to roll 461, the claims bill, which increased the amount by a few hundred dollars.

The governor announced that he had signed rolls 2.6, allowing clerks to county judges, and 67, requiring tax lists to be delivered to the county treasurer before December 1.

The appropriation bill was reported from the senate. Six hundred dollars were added to the allowance for employes of the board of public lands and buildings and concurred in.

Maynard on Trial.

FALLS CITY, Neb., March 31.—[Special to the BEE.]—The district court room has been crowded to overflowing for the last three days with spectators to witness the trial of John Marvin for the killing of Frank Nebergall here on the 19th inst., a large portion of the audience consisting of ladies. Marvin's mother and wife have been in attendance at the trial nearly all the time, and occupy seats near his attorneys. His mother, being well along in years, seems nearly heart-broken, and watches the witnesses and jury very closely. His brother, G. P. Marvin, of the Beatrice Democrat, is also in attendance. The witnesses for the state have all been examined and at present the defense is on the stand. Some strong (?) testimony in behalf of the prosecution has been offered by witnesses who were over a block away from the place where the murder was committed. One witness positively swore that Nebergall was coming down the street with his hands in his side pants' pockets when he saw Marvin attack him. The attorney asked him if he was positive and he said he was. It was proven afterwards that Nebergall had no pockets in his pants at all. The impression here is that the defense could safely rest their case with the jury without introducing any testimony in their behalf. It looks as though the crime which the grand jury charged Marvin of (murder in the first degree) is entirely unfounded. County Attorney E. Falcon and E. W. Thomas are prosecuting and Hon. A. J. Weaver, Judge Reavis and Frank Martin are defending. Marvin appears cool and apparently does not fear the result. Public sympathy is somewhat divided. The better class, including the leading business men, are inclined to believe that Marvin did the right thing in shooting Nebergall, even if it is proven it was not accidental, for the simple reason Nebergall made his threats to a number of witnesses that he would shoot both Marvin and his brother. The jury consists of farmers, and all are young men, apparently not over twenty-five years of age. It is the youngest jury that was ever empanneled in Richardson county. To-morrow the case will be given to the jury, which will no doubt render a verdict of not guilty.

Rothacker Pulling the Wires.

LINCOLN, Neb., March 31.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—Rothacker is here concocting a scheme to get men appointed on the police commission who are pledged to make Moynihan chief of police.

FAIRCHILD TO BE PROMOTED.

His Appointment Already Decided Upon For the Treasury Portfolio.

MAYNARD AS HIS ASSISTANT.

A Successor to Mr. Jordan Not Expected to Be Named For Some Time Yet—National Capital News.

Secretary Manning's Successor.

WASHINGTON, March 31.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—The resignation of Secretary Manning takes effect to-morrow and the vacancy will be filled immediately by the promotion of Mr. Fairchild. The appointment of Mr. Fairchild has been made out for several days and he was notified of his preference by the president two weeks ago. For nearly a year Mr. Fairchild has been equally responsible for the administration of the treasury department, and during this period has had absolute and unquestioned authority as he will have to-morrow when installed as secretary. His conduct of the department has shown marked ability and his unpretentious manners have made him one of the most popular chiefs in the department. In assuming the vacant chair Mr. Fairchild will not be introduced to new duties. He will remove from the room he has been occupying to that assigned the secretary and will drop the word "assistant" from all papers hereafter bearing his signature. These are the only changes that are involved in the appointment of Mr. Fairchild to succeed Secretary Manning. The business and policy of the department will move forward without any deviation from the path pursued since its control was passed over to Mr. Manning. It is reported on good authority that Second Comptroller Mayard will be appointed assistant secretary to succeed Mr. Fairchild. It is not expected that a treasurer will be appointed to-morrow to succeed Mr. Jordan. Mr. Jordan's resignation is to take effect on the appointment of his successor, and it is probable no appointment will be made until Mr. Jordan returns from Europe.

There is considerable doubt as to the president's intentions in regard to the treasurership. One gentleman holding an important position in the department claims to have had a direct intimation from the president of his intention to appoint Mr. Theodore Cook, of Cincinnati, to this place, while another asserts positively that the president has determined not to appoint Mr. Cook. It is understood that Mr. Fairchild's candidate for this place is Mr. Graves, while the same authority says that if any present official of the treasury is to be selected the president's choice is Mr. Whelpley, at present assistant treasurer.

PACIFIC ROADS INVESTIGATION.

Congressman Springer, of Illinois, called at the white house this morning for the purpose of finding out if possible something in relation to the president's intention in regard to the appointment of a commission to investigate Pacific railroad accounts. Mr. Springer said to your correspondent: "I am convinced by my talk with the president that he has not selected either of the democratic members of the commission."

"Is there to be a political division in this instance."

"Oh, there will be two democrats and one republican."

"Then you think a republican has been selected?"

"I can't say as to that, but I think David Littler, of Springfield, Ill., will be the republican member. Littler is a close political friend of Senator Cullom. He was Cullom's candidate for a position on the inter-state commerce board and would probably have been appointed if Mr. Morrison had been out of the way. Senator Cullom has recommended him for this place and I are confident that he will get it, provided, of cause, that he will accept, and I think he will." Littler is a member of the Illinois legislature, and brother-in-law of Dick Oglesby, and although a republican is very much opposed to the political aspirations of his relative. He is said to have been instrumental in securing the election of Mr. Farwell to the senate, and on that account he has Cullom's warm friendship, as with one senator from Chicago Cullom will have a better chance of re-election than he would if both senators were from the southern part of the state.

THE INTER-STATE COMMISSION.

Very little was done by the inter-state commerce commissioners to-day. As anticipated by a BEE special last night, they met this morning, called upon the president, went to the interior department and took the oath of office, and then visited their temporary rooms in the Hoe building, where the geological survey is located. No formal move was made towards an organization for the reason that some of the commissioners, principally Judge Cooley, held that the commission cannot organize till April 5, when the law goes into effect. Judge Cooley is quite emphatic on this point. He says the law authorizes the appointment of the commission and the administation of the oath at the time this was done, but inasmuch as the railroads will not be amenable till the 5th, any action the commissioners may take before that date will be void. It is not believed that any organization will be perfected and a secretary elected before the latter part of next week. The intervening time will be occupied by informal meetings each day for the purpose of becoming better acquainted and agreeing upon a general interpretation of the law. The law is to be gone over formally, then taken up by clauses, paragraphs and finally sections and a perfect agreement reached on all important points. It is understood that the work of the commission, when fairly under way, will be like that of the supreme court, each commissioner taking assignments of a case, making examinations or conducting hearings, and then submitting to the full commission the result of findings. The work of the commission will be voluminous. Some who are familiar with the character and volume of the matter which will be submitted are predicting that this will be one of the most extensive bureaus in the whole government service, and that within a year hundreds of clerks will be required to do routine work. One reason assigned for the enormous amount of business which will accumulate is that seldom will a decision on a question apply to any other than the one case which brought it up. Corporations interested in this body cannot safely expect any opinions from it under two or three weeks. It is generally believed that Judge Cooley will be chosen president of the commission. A report is in circulation that Mr. Cleveland had this understanding before he appointed the other four commissioners.

AN ENJOYABLE LUNCHEON.

Society ladies of Washington are very enthusiastic over a luncheon given yesterday afternoon and evening by Senator and Mrs. Van Wyck. About 100 ladies and gentlemen were present. Senator and Mrs. Van Wyck received their guests in the salon. Luncheon was served in the dining room, the table being ornamented with white callas and ferns. The library was also open and Miss Rogers favored the company with a number of charming songs. Among those present were Countess Esterhazy, Mrs. Broadhead, Miss Pinson, Mrs. Senator Vance, Rev. Dr. Barrett, Mrs. Senator Cockrell, Mrs. ex-Secretary Teller, Miss Carrie L. Ransom, Mrs. A. F. Childs, Miss Richards, Mrs. Charles Nordhoff, Mrs. Francis Hodgson Burnett Little, Lord Faunthleroy, Mrs. Cephlane, Mrs. Dr. Wordsworth, Dr. Freer, Mrs. Dale, Mrs. T. B. Buxton, Mrs. Colonel Wilson, Mrs. J. H. Soule, Mrs. S. T. Suit, William Birnley, Dr. Stearns, Mrs. Cobell, and others.

BLAINE AND THE PRESIDENT.

The announcement that Blaine will visit Europe and remain till after the presidential nominations are made next year, is interpreted here to mean that he expects his name to be used as a candidate for renomination. His friends say he intends to place himself in the hands of his party; that if he is nominated in his absence from this country very well. If there is a disposition to choose another republican the party will not be hampered by his presence.

PROSPECTIVE TREASURY APPOINTMENTS.

An official high in the treasury department said this afternoon that he had received an intimation from the president that he had determined to appoint Theodore Cook, of Cincinnati, United States treasurer. This appointment, it is said, will not be made at the time the secretary and assistant secretary are designated. The latter appointments are anticipated to-morrow.

NEBRASKA AND IOWA PENSIONS.

Pensions were issued to-day for Nebraskans as follows: Nancy R., mother of Samuel R. Boyce, Ortello; Stephen H. Kenney, Arnold; John E. Poland, Taylor; Thomas P. Coulter, Hastings.

Pensions for Iowans: Marie, mother of Enos Kern, Toledo; John W. Scott, Atlantic; Edward Manning, Marengo; August Krance, Charles City; George W. Hamilton, Elliott; George W. Fox, Illyria; Benjamin Renyon, Centerville; Hiram A. Desbrow, Atlante; Joseph Zenkula, Iowa City; John Potts, Oelwein; John M. Walker, Newburgh; Joseph Johnson, Lamoile; Gordon B. West, Calliope; Melton R. Davis, Newton; William Jarvis, Griswold; Calvin Weeks, Sigourney; Michael Craft, Germanville; John B. Tarr, Winfield; Jefferson Gow, Ottumwa; Renshear Allen, Cooper; John Wilson, Atlantic; Allen D. Wilkinson, Centerville; James Godby, Fairfield; William Whiteworth, Macksburg; Fred Schoeff, Los Nation; Anthony Arle, What Cheer.

ARMY NEWS.

Major Joseph W. Wham, paymaster, has been ordered to West Point on public business.

The leave of First Lieutenant William Crozier, ordnance department, has been extended to November 1, with permission to go abroad on account of sickness.

Twenty-five colored recruits have been ordered to the Department of Arizona for the Tenth cavalry.

Sergeant William D. Stanfield, light battery C, Third artillery, has declined to appear before General Gibson's board at the arsenal here for examination for promotion to lieutenant, and Major General Schofield has revoked the order for such examination.

Lieutenant General Sheridan has returned from the west, where he has been inspecting Forts Riley and Russell. At Denver he selected the site for the new western military post. The site selected is within seven miles of the city, and the citizens committee will proceed to complete the purchase and forward the papers to the department for approval. General Sheridan believes that the establishment of the new post, which will be a regimental post, will result in considerable economy in expenditures, as the purpose is to consolidate under one administration at Denver at least three and probably four of the smaller posts.

POSTAL CHANGES.

The following third class postoffices will become presidential offices after April 1, with a salary of $1,000 and upwards: Loup City, Neb., Ogallala, Neb., and Eagle Grove, Ia.

The readjustment of postmasters' salaries and gradation of postoffices in all states is going on at the postoffice department daily.

The president to-day made the following appointments as postmasters: At Blue Earth City: Minn., Otto Kaupp, vice John H. Sprout, removed; Hebron, Neb., Oliver H. Scott, vice John M. Fitzpatrick, removed, and at Grand Island, Neb., Layfayette Myers, vice C. L. Howell, removed.

SMALL CAPITALS.

Brad B. Hopkins, of Dubuque county, was to-day appointed a gauger in the Second Iowa internal revenue district.

Senator Allison is in New York.

Colonel Akers, of Nashville, special agent of the land office, has returned after a years absence on work in Iowa.

J. D. Bell, of Omaha, is in the city.

HOWARD RECAPTURED.

The Des Moines Forger Imitates Jim Cummings and Is Caught.

DES MOINES, Ia., March 31.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—Frank Howard, the forger who was arrested at Council Bluffs by Constable Blyler, and escaped by jumping through a car window at Atlantic Tuesday night, was recaptured this morning by the police. Like "Jim Cummings" and other humorous criminals, he is fond of letter writing, and while at Atlantic sent Marshal Botkin the following:

I write you a few lines to let you know that I will be in Des Moines in a day or two. I came down with Mr. Blyler last night from the Bluffs. I stopped off at Atlantic to see a friend and the train left me. I was awful sorry for it, but I guess Frank got through all right, as he had another prisoner to take on at Stuart, so I thought he would have enough to attend to. I can't tell just where I will go to, but will let you know in my next letter—in a hog's eye. Well, I will close. You needn't spend time in answering this letter, as I don't know where you could send it to. I am innocent of the crime. I bought and paid for all the fees I got honestly, but I know some of the people want to down me. If they will let me alone I won't do them any harm, and if I have bought some other man's fees I am willing to pay it back. I got it honestly. I don't want to harm any one if I know it. Farewell.

[Signed.] FRANK HOWARD.

The police kept a sharp lookout for him. He was on the night train from the west, and when it reached the city got off on the south side and, taking unfrequented streets, made for his home on East Scott street, between Ninth and Tenth. The conductor informed Captain Jarvis that Howard had been on the train and probably sneaked off unobserved. The patrol was summoned and he was found at home in the act of retiring and was taken to jail. This morning he waived examination and was held to appear before the grand jury. The crime with which he is charged is that of uttering a forged order. A case in which there were several witnesses from Monroe came before Justice Eggleston and the fees and mileage amounted to quite a sum. When the trial closed it is alleged that Howard appeared with orders purporting that the fees of the Monroe witnesses had been signed over to him and he drew the money. In one of the Mahar cases it is said he did the same, and when the witnesses applied for their fees it was found that they had been paid to Howard. This aroused the ire of several, and information was filed against him.

Prominent Iowa Men Arrested.

DES MOINES, Ia., March 31.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—Information was filed in this city to-day by M. H. Porter, of Atlantic, charging B. F. Allen and Fred M. Hubbell, prominent and wealthy citizens of this city, with misappropriating the funds of the lately defunct Monarch Insurance company by voting a donation of $12,000 to Allen, thus reducing the assets of the company so that they were insufficient to meet its liabilities. Warrants were immediately issued for their arrest, and at 11:30 they were arrested, but gave bonds to await a preliminary examination. Mr. Allen was at one time president of the Cook County (Ills.) National bank, and Mr. Hubbell is one of the wealthiest men in Des Moines.

Doings at Dubuque.

DUBUQUE, Ia., March 31.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—The democrats this afternoon nominated for mayor Percy Preston, a popular young member of the Peaslee Brewing company.

Judge Couch this morning overruled the saloon-keeper demurrer. The whisky cases will be tried on their merits in May.

The Illinois Central surrendered its lease of the Dubuque & Sioux City road yesterday, but will probably buy the road.

A Strange Floater Found.

DAVENPORT, Ia., March 31.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—While removing a raft from the river to-day, workmen found the disfigured body of a man. It is thought the floater got under the raft some distance above and came down with it. The description compares with that of Chris Lames, who mysteriously disappeared from Le Claire in January.

Enjoining a Railroad Tax.

MASON CITY, Ia., March 31.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—A movement is on foot to enjoin all further collecting of the tax voted in aid of the Mason City & Fort Dodge railroad. It is alleged the company has not complied with the terms of the contract on which the tax was voted. The amount of tax yet due is $43,000.

Made the Purchase.

CEDAR RAPIDS, Ia., March 31.—The Illinois Central has purchased the Iowa Falls & Sioux City railroad, paying $50 per share for the stock. The deeds were made out and signed here to-day. The lease of the road has expired, hence the purchase.

No New Trial For Porter.

FORT DODGE, Ia., March 31.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—Judge Miracle overrules the motion for a new trial in the case of John L. Porter, convicted of manslaughter last week. The case now goes to the supreme court on exceptions.

Senator Robinson Appointed.

DES MOINES, Ia., March 31.—Senator G. S. Robinson, of Storm Lake, was to-day appointed railroad commissioner to succeed Judge McDill, whose term expired. The executive council confirmed the appointment.

MORE BOODLERS INDICTED.

Twenty-Two True Bills Found By the Chicago Grand Jury.

CHICAGO, March 31.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—Twenty-two true bills charging conspiracies and other offenses against the county, were returned by the grand jury this afternoon. The indictments were handed to Sheriff Matson, who proceeded to have the necessary papers made out for bringing in the accused parties. It is rumored that about thirty persons have been caught in the dragnet drawn out to-day. The presentments created a genuine sensation. Judge Anthony said that the sheriff could not accept the bail which was fixed and it must be given in open court. Up to 11 o'clock to-night no arrests had been made, and at that hour Sheriff Matson said unless there was danger of some of the indicted men taking "leg bail," none would be made until morning, when all will be taken into court and have an opportunity to give bail. He admitted that every one of the men was under surveillance, but would give no names. From another source it was learned, however, that the list includes six of the present commissioners, five ex-commissioners, two wardens, a coal dealer, two contractors and Architect Faber, this last named gentleman being the accommodating person who "OK'd" all bills that were presented to him. There is reason to believe that the suspected parties are keeping themselves fairly well informed about what is going on in the jury room. They have not hesitated to send their emissaries to the houses of jurors of evenings or to approach them on the streets or at their places of business and ask for information, and although these efforts have been unsuccessful, they have had better luck with witnesses after they have been discharged by the jury. Mike McDonald, who has been very closely identified with all the men so far indicted, and who has had immense influence with the members of the board for some years past, now says confidently that he will not be indicted, and a good many people who know more about what is going on than is printed in the newspapers believe he has no reason to be alarmed. He also says he will be able to save his brother Ed. already indicted. Judge Anthony said this evening that nothing had yet been done looking toward extending the life of the grand jury to enable it to complete its investigation. "It may be done on Saturday," said he. "The order can be made and executed on the spot."

At midnight the grand jury was still working with every indication of an all night session. This looks as if there would be another bunch of indictments to-morrow.

The Investigating Commission.

NEW YORK, March 31.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—The Tribune's Washington special says: It was stated by a member of the cabinet who would be likely to know in case any selection had been made, that he did not think that the appointment of Governor Abbett, General Bragg or David Little; as commissioners to investigate the Pacific roads had been determined on. The opposition of Abbett to Cleveland's nomination and his half support of the ticket in 1884, have been talked about a good deal in Washington this week. This has been followed to-day by two assertions calculated to injure the ex-governor's prospect. One is that he has not tried to conceal his contempt for the president's so-called policy of civil service reform; the other is to the effect that Abbett has been and is on intimate and friendly terms with certain prominent speculators in stocks who are doing all they can to bear the market so far as the Pacific railroad securities are concerned. Among the republicans who have been strongly recommended for a place on the commission is Representative Hepburn, of Iowa.

An Important Discovery.

PAWNEE CITY, Neb., March 31.—[Special to the BEE.]—A new method of gold plating has been discovered or invented by Mr. R. C. Anderson, a jeweller of this city. He has been working upon it for over a year and has made a successful discovery at last. He has applied for a patent. The search of the records in the patent office at Washington revealed the fact that nothing similar to his invention has ever been patented in this country. His invention consists of a method and means of gold plating any kind of metal, and to lay the plating on in any proportion desired, of pure gold and of alloy. The plate can be made any proportion desired, and any shade desired, from bright pure gold color, to the darkest shade of the alloy—from the light straw color, to the richest California gold color. The gold and alloy are laid on at one and the same time—the proportion being regulated by the operator. Specimens of Mr. Anderson's work, with his new process of gold plating, are now quite common on our streets. Any one can verify these facts by calling upon Mr. Anderson, at his place of business in this place.

Quarantine Against Cholera.

EL PASO, Tex., March 31.—Quarantine has been instituted here to-day against cholera. The cholera has traveled northward in South America until it has reached the isthmus of Panama, and it is feared that the Mexican Central trains may bring it into the United States. All persons, baggage and freight from infected ports will be denied admittance to the state. All mails from cholera-infected ports will be disinfected before being received into the state.

The National Commission.

WASHINGTON, March 31.—Cooley, Morrison, Schoonmaker and Walker, of the inter-state commerce commission, called at the white house to-day and had a conference with the president. Later, with Mr. Bragg, they took the oath of office at the interior department.

The democratic members of the inter-state commerce commission have decided to make Judge Cooley chairman.

Steamship Arrivals.

NEW YORK, March 31.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—Arrived, the steamer Ethiopa, from Glasgow, and Illinois, from Antwerp.

NEW YORK, March 31.—The steam