THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

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DISASTERS OF THE DEEP

Graphic Account of Steamship Collisions On the French Coast.

A NUMBER OF LIVES LOST.

Italians the Sufferers—They Yelled Like Wild Animals—Coolness of the Captain and His Officers.

Terrible Marine Accident.

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HAVRE, May 9.—[New York Herald Cable—Special to the BEE.]—Among the saloon passengers of the Champagne were seven United States naval cadets—W. G. Miller, McKay, Dieffenbach, See, Dutton, Wright and Slade—all returning home from the Quinnebang and Pensacola, of the Mediterranean squadron, to pass their examinations. I had long conversations with twenty of the Champagne's passengers to-day, but the following account of the disaster, as told to me by Naval Cadet Miller is the most graphic, and I cable it verbatim:

HOW THE ACCIDENT OCCURRED.

"We were running along in a thick fog with a light breeze. Although going at a reduced speed we must have been making seventeen knots. We breakfasted at half past 10 o'clock and at about 11 I sat down in the smoking room with a friend playing a quiet game of cards. Our steam whistle was blowing every minute. I left the smoking room for a moment at half past 11, when suddenly I heard a strange, shrill whistle that seemed to be just alongside on the port bow. Then came a tremendous crash, then a second crash, then a third, then a tremendous scraping and squeaking as the two vessels seemed to be eating into each other. The noise suddenly ceased and the other steamer seemed to be standing off in the fog, and in a few moments disappeared. Meanwhile everybody rushed on deck.

THE OFFICERS COOL.

Captain Traub and all his officers were as cool as possible and reassured the passengers, saying, 'There's no danger; keep calm.' I could see that we had been struck on the port bow exactly at the intersection of the forward athwart ship bulkhead with the outer hull. I afterward learned that two big holes had been made, one above the water line and the other about a yard below the water line. Captain Traub at once turned the ship round, intending to beach her. We steamed along at ten knots an hour, but in a few minutes the Champagne's bow began to settle steadily, going lower and lower until in about an hour the bow was so low that the propeller began to work badly, being forced high out of the water. Captain Traub at once ordered water to be

PUMPED INTO HER STERN

to keep the vessel on an even keel and the propeller under water. We thus got the speed up to ten knots again. We kept our whistle going and fired guns every minute, and hoisted the international signal for 'great danger,' 'want immediate relief.' There was now a slight fog; no land was visible. At 1:30 we sighted the British steam collier Vulture. The Vulture changed her course and followed in our wake, but could not keep up with us as we were going ten knots and the Vulture could make only nine. A little before 3 o'clock Captain Traub beached the Champagne on a soft mud bank. She settled into it almost without a shock. The cabin passengers kept perfectly cool, but the thousand Italian emigrants became perfectly wild with fear. The emigrants had had no breakfast, as they have their food later than the cabin passengers, so being the whole day without food they howled and

YELLED LIKE WILD ANIMALS.

They fell on their knees and prayed, and hundreds of them, shouting "Santa Marie, Santa Marie," made a regular charge aft. They swarmed like locusts over the second and then over the first cabin decks, and were prevented of getting possession of the first cabin itself only by the sailors who stood by, hatchets in hand. The great thing now was to get this vast mass of humanity into the boats and on board the Vulture. Captain Traub and the officers acted splendidly. The sailors stood at the gangway with hatchets to prevent any rush into the boats. Women with infants in their arms were the first of all to be put in the boats, and that without regard whether they were first or second-class or emigrants. This maneuvre was successfully executed, the officers handing the women into the boats with cool and calm politeness, as if in a ball room. Next the single women and those without protectors were conducted into the boats, and all safely got on board the Vulture. Here I must mention the plucky conduct of all the young American ladies, without exception. Miss Stephenson set an example, and refused to put on a life preserver, saying: 'Some poor girl among the emigrants may need it more than I do,' and all the American young ladies, of whom there were many very pretty and charming on board, refused to go into the boats till all the other women, whether emigrants or not, had been placed in safety on board the Vulture. As soon as the female portion of the cargo had all been rescued, the emigrant

GOT INTO A STAMPEDE.

Twenty of them managed to overpower two sailors who were guarding a boat hanging from the side and jumped pell mell into the boat. The weight of the emigrants was so great as to straighten out the hooks from which the boat swung and the emigrants and the boat went into the water with a tremendous splash. Most of these did not know how to swim and were probably drowned. The other male passengers, emigrants, stewardesses and cabin servants were all put in safety on board the Vulture. Of course no one was allowed to carry with him any baggage or valise of any kind. When we got aboard the Vulture we were packed like sardines. As the Vulture was in ballast the captain was afraid of becoming too heavy with so much weight on deck, so he put all the male emigrants into the hold and into the coal bunkers, where they continued howling, praying and yelling. The mails were also brought on board the Vulture, which started for Havre at twenty minutes to 5. There was literally nothing but standing room on board the Vulture, except on the rail, where men and women were squatting like crows. One Italian passenger enlivened the trip by having a fit, in which he foamed at the mouth, fell down and had to be bled before he came to again. At a quarter to 10 we arrived at Havre, all tired out from standing up so long. We had had no food since 11 in the morning and the emigrants had had none all day. I wish to express my admiration of the perfect discipline maintained by Captain Traub and his officers under such trying circumstances. The sailors and even the cabin servants never for an instant became excited and everything went as calmly and quietly as if merely going through naval maneuvres."

The vessel that collided with the Champagne was the Ville de Rio-Janeiro, coming from La Plata. After the collision the Ville de Rio filled with water, and the Ville de Bordeaux, which sailed yesterday from Havre for the Antilles, sighted her and took off all her passengers and crew who are all now safe at Havre. The Ville de Rio sunk this morning. I have just returned from Arromanches beach where I saw the Champagne resting in the muddy sand, the holes in her being covered with canvas. In two days she will be able to steam back to Havre to be repaired.

THE LOSS OF LIFE.

HAVRE, May 9.—It is now stated that reports of loss of life among the emigrants on the French steamer La Champagne were exaggerated. Less than a dozen emigrants were drowned. The steamer La Bretange, which will sail for New York Wednesday, will convey the passengers of La Champagne. It has been ascertained that the bark which the La Bretange collided with and sunk Saturday night was the Norwegian bark Sellus. La Bretange was not injured.

Down on the Drama.

ST. PETERSBURG, May 9.—The Russian government has prohibited the sale of a drama composed by Count Tolstoi for general circulation, and entitled "The Powers of Darkness."

IN THE COMMONS.

Healy Creates Another Sensation in Parliament.

LONDON, May 9.—T. M. Healy, in the commons this afternoon, asked what answer had been returned by the government to the letter of Patrick Egan, treasurer of the old land league, offering to return to Dublin and stand trial for the charges against him provided the venue in his case was not removed from Dublin. Colonel King Harmon, parliamentary secretary for Ireland, replied that no answer had been sent for the reason that no such letter had been received. [Laughter.] Healy requested W. H. Smith, first lord of the treasury, to state if it was the intention of the government to sanction the conduct of Balfour, chief secretary for Ireland, in deliberately abstaining from coming into the house until the questions on paper relating to Ireland are all over. Smith submitted that that sort of a question should not be put. The exegencies required Balfour to attend to the business connected with his department of the government outside of the house and interval replies to questions respecting Irish affairs could be adequately given by the parliamentary under the secretary, Colonel King Harman.

Healy—"If my friends and I are to be left to the mercy of this oarngeman, I shall direct attention to the matter."

Speaker Peel—"Order. This interruption is most unparliamentary."

Arthur O'Connor intimated that in consequence of the attitude of the government on the Times' charges, he refused to continue to serve as a member of the commission of inquiry into civil service. [Parnellite cheers]. The house went into committee and consideration of the Irish crimes act amendment bill was resumed.

After several minor amendments had been disposed of, Mr. Healy moved that any one frivilously summoned or needlessly detained as a witness could hold an action for compensation against the magistrate.

The attorney general opposed the amendment.

Mr. Morley supported the motion. A hubbub ensued ending in a division which resulted in the motion being rejected, 249 to 176, Mr. Healy asked the government to state its views on his amendment.

Mr. Smith replied that their answer had already been given. He then moved cloture. Adopted, 249 to 170. Mr. Healy's amendment was rejected, 250 to 159.

Mr. Labouchere moved to report progress. Rejected, 248 to 170.

Mr. Robert Wallace, home ruler, moved that the chairman leave the chair, Conybeare, radical supporting the motion.

Mr. Smith again proposed cloiture. Carried, 248 to 160. Wallace's motion negatived, 245 to 162.

Mr. Smith moved to put the question on the whole remaining portion of the first section of the bill. The chairman declined to put a cloture because of said amendments, which motion would exclude two that deserve ample discussion. This decision was received with loud and prolonged cheers from the opposition.

Mr. Chamberlain having returned, unionists will not determine what amendments they will propose to the crimes bill, especially in regard to the clause providing for a change of venue to London. Eventually Mr. Smith's cloture motion was put and agreed to, progress was reported amid loud cheers.

Mr. Braplaugh inaugurated a movement in favor of a second reading of the oaths bill. Lord Hartington and a bulk of the unionists have decided to suppsrt the movement.

The Press Not Very Enthusiastic.

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LONDON, May 9, 5 a. m.—[New York Herald Cable-Special to the BEE.]—The morning papers are not very enthusiastic over the American exhibition beyond the Buffalo Bill show. This one extract from the Telegraph about echoes the press sentiment: "That it is American, that it is an exhibition, and that all the notable people in London thronged to see its opening ceremonies yesterday; and that there is an entertainment of startling and novel interest attached to it is also about all that can be honestly recorded concerning the great show. In West Brompton there was an enormous crowd, who attended in a somewhat mixed and incongrous fashion to witness the inaugural proceedings and who rushed rapidly over to see Buffalo Bill and his merry men before Colonel Henry S. Russell, the president, had quite finished his cordial invitation to those present to join us in the further development of the new world. The great fountain of life—circus—is the show, and the exhibit, so far at all events as we can judge of them in their present unfinished state, are really of no importance whatever.

British Justice in Ireland.

DUBLIN, May 9.—In the case of Dillon against Police Inspectors O'Brien and Davis for assault and illegal seizure of money and papers at Loughrea, the court of queen's bench has adjudged that the conduct of the police was lawful. It will be remembered that Dilion and other members of the league were closeted in a room in a hotel at Loughrea receiving and receipting for moneys paid them as trustees by tenants under the "plan of campaign. "The police, without warning, broke into the room and by force took from Dillon the money and papers he had in his possession at the time. Dillon at once had the inspectors, who were responsible, arrested, the plaintiff taking the ground that he was not violating any law, and that the action of the police was unwarranted and illegal.

The Times' Slanders.

LONDON, May 9.—Earl Carnavon, conservative, writes to the Times suggesting that as it is intolerable to allow the Dillon-Times question to rest in its present state, that a special tribunal be created outside of parliament, invested with full powers to call and examine witnesses and to which a decision of the matter should be left. While expressing confidence in the impartiality of the proposed tribunal, the Times says it is doubtful whether the Parnellites would consent to submit their case to such a tribunal. But why, it asks, should ingenuity be expended in devising amateur tribunals? Is not the law of the land good enough for Parnell and Dillon?

Hungarian Enterprise.

VIENNA, May 9.—Nordenfeldt is about to sign a contract with the Hungarian government for the establishment of a factory at Pesth for the manufacture of small arms. The capital of the concern will be 4,000,000 florins. Hungary will allot lands on which the factory will be built free of rent and will exempt the property from payment of all taxes for fifteen years. It will also exempt from duty all imported machinery which will be used in the factory, and guarantees orders for four hundred thousand rifles to be delivered in two years.

Emperor Francis Joseph sent $5,000 for the relief of the victims of the fires in Hungary.

French Affairs.

PARIS, May 9.—General Boulanger has drafted a bill for experimental mobilization of the French army next October. The prime minister has sent a letter to the budget committee of the chamber of deputies expressing willingness on the part of the government to examine cojointly with a committee any economies in the administration of affairs of state which the committee may propose as desirable.

Nebraska and Iowa Weather.

For Nebraska: Warmer, fair weather, followed Thursday night by cooler weather and local rains, increasing winds generally southeasterly.

For Iowa: Warmer, fair weather, southeasterly winds.

Canadian Politics.

OTTAWA, Ont., May 9.—Sir John Macdonald denies the report that he is to be raised to the peerage. A prominent member of the cabinet to-day expressed he opinion that the entrance of Newfoundland into the dominion is inevitable.

M'PHERSON MUCH DISGUSTED

One of the Promoters of the Pacific Roads Investigation Kicking On Their Work.

THE ROSSER-SHERIDAN MATTER.

Secretary Lamar Affirms a Land Decision in the Niobrara District—Nothing Definite as to Jordan's Successor.

McPherson Kicking.

WASHINGTON, May 9.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—Senator McPherson, of New Jersey, one of the leading democrats in congress, is here and to-day expressed his disgust at the way in which the Pacific railroad investigating committee, which he was prominent in creating, is conducting its work. He said it was merely skimming over the surface and that the investigation as conducted was childish and unimportant. What congress wanted was facts—bottom facts. Thus far the investigation had not brought out any. He expressed the opinion that after the investigation was over, a special committee of congress would have to be appointed to make an investigation. When asked if he thought that Cleveland would be nominated, he said: "Certainly; he will get the delegation from New Jersey and from every other state. I think Cleveland will have no opposition in the convention. He will be nominated. He is already nominated. I know of no man who will put himself up in the convention against him. I know of no man in the other party who could stand against him with the people. He will get the delegation from New York and New Jersey, and every other state in the convention. The situation, on account of the labor vote, is very uncertain. No one knows what they will do. If they nominate an independent ticket it cannot be predicted what will happen. There is a wonderful shifting of parties going on at present. Men are changing all the time from one party to another. There is a large draft from both parties into the labor party. There is a large draft from both parties into the prohibition party. A great number of republicans they call mugwumps are allying themselves with the democratic party, and discontented democrats who are disappointed because they did not get all the offices are going even to the republicans. There is a general shifting about, a constant change going on. You can't look for men to remain in the same party lines. There is a change, a transformation in progress.

Rosser and Sheridan.

WASHINGTON, May 9.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—Quite a stir has been created in official, political and army circles here by the fire of words between General Rosser and General Phil Sheridan. The latter to-day produced the order under which he acted when he rode through the Shenandoah valley burning provisions, etc., and laying to waste that whole country, and it proves that he acted solely on the order of General Grant. The order is dated at Cedar Creek, Va., August 16, 1864, and directs the destruction of wheat, hay and provisions from Millwood to Winchester, and also the capture of all mules, horses and cattle that may be useful to the army. It specifies that "Loyal citizens can bring in their claims against the government for this necessary destruction and that shops will be burned, and officials in charge of this delicate but necessary duty must inform the people that the object is to make this valley uninhabitable for rallying parties of the rebel army." Speaking about the burning of buildings General Sheridan said to-day: "In destroying a barn of hay we naturally did not remove the hay to destroy it, but burned the barn and all. It would have taken too much time to do otherwise." The people are almost unanimous in the opinion that Sheridan has not only whipped Rosser in Virginia, but in his post bellum engagement and controversy has brought the general of the army into not a little prominence. The following from this evening's Critic shows: "The recent malignant letter of General Thomas L. Rosser, ex-confederate brigadier general, denouncing General Sheridan for war devastations in the Shenandoah valley, has rekindled the smothered camp fires of the Grand Army of the Republic all along the line and the veteran boys in blue are firing into Rosser with red hot shot. It has also had the effect of starting a presidential boom for the lieutenant general of the army which may possibly assume important proportions. The ticket talked about in Washington hotel corridors is: For president, General Phil H. Sheridan, of Ohio; for vice president, Chancery M. Depew, of New York. General Rosser's letter is evidently destined to cut something of a figure in the coming presidential campaign."

The United States Treasurership.

WASHINGTON, May 9.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—Ex-Senator Barnum, of Connecticut, and Mr. James W. Hyatt, left Washington at 4 o'clock this afternoon. Up to 10 o'clock to-night the announcement of the appointment of the latter as treasurer of the United States had not been made. It is impossible to learn from any authority whether or not the position has been tendered to him. He called upon the president to-day in company with Mr. Barnum, and this fact, in connection with the knowledge that Mr. Jordan has gone to New York to take charge of the affairs of the new Western National bank, leads to the belief that Mr. Hyatt has been selected as Mr. Jordan's successor, and that he has gone to secure his bondsmen.

The Childs-Drexel Fund.

WASHINGTON, May 9.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—The members of the typographical union of this District say that there will be a great rivalry among the printers east of the Mississippi river in the contributions to be made to the Childs-Drexel fund. The Columbia typographical union has issued a circular calling attention to the birthday of Mr. Childs, which occurs on Thursday next, when each journeyman is to set and contribute 1,000 ems for the Childs-Drexel fund. The chairmen of the various offices are instructed to collect the contributions on the pay day next following the anniversary and pay them over to the secretary of the union. At offices in which there is no chairman the contributions may be paid over by the individual contributors. The union of this District, which includes the large force employed at the government office, is determined to make a vigorous effort to turn in the largest contribution to the fund. Some of the employers have signified a purpose to make a contribution to the fund equal to the aggregate contributed by their employes.

Assignments For the Garfield Parade.

WASHINGTON, May 9.—General Baird, chief marshal of parade at the unveiling of the Gargeld statue on Thursday next, issued a general order to-day, assigning to places the organizations which are to participate. Among them are the Grand Army of the Republic, a battalion of the Third United States artillery, a battalion of United States marines, a detachment of sailors from the United States ship Galena, Society of the Army of the Cumberland, the District militia, consisting of about a dozen companies, and various secret societies.

Military Matters.

WASHINGTON, May 9.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—Hospital Steward J. A. Lesly has been ordered to duty at Fort Thomas, Arizona. First Lieutenant Mason M. Maxon, Tenth cavalry, is sriously ill at Milwaukee, where he went recently from Arizona in charge of the remains of his father.

First Lieutenant F. Beers Taylor, Ninth cavalry, has been obliged to go to the Hot Springs army and navy hospital on account of his long continued rheumatism.

Army furloughs: Hospital Steward Newburn, Fort Schuyler, New York harbor, four months from June 1, to go abroad; First Sergeant Solomon Evans, company A, Twelfth infantry, four months.

On the arrival of General Hatch at Fort Niobrara with the headquarters of the Ninth cavalry General James S. Brisbin, lieutenant colonel of the regiment, will be transferred to the command of Fort McKinney, Wyoming.

Edison's Condition.

WASHINGTON, May 9.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—A gentleman who arrived here this afternoon from New York reports the physical condition of Thomas A. Edison, the well known electrician, to be precarious. Edison has just returned to New York from Florida, whither he went last fall for his health, and where in reality his health suffered. He now ails from abscesses on his skull. So far the operations seem to have relieved him very little, if any. Physicians say they will make another heroic effort to save his life, but they have slight hope. Edison is courageous and is undergoing extreme treatment. It was thought at first that his trouble was bronchital, but it is now in his head.

The French Consulate.

WASHINGTON, May 9.—Consul General Walker, of Paris, is in Washington on leave of absence, and it is understood that he does not expect to return to his post. There were over 400 applications for the position at the incoming of the present administration, but Walker, who is a republican, was retained in office, it was said, because of his familiarity with the silver question and the possibility that there might be another international monetary conference. Now that such a conference is no longer considered probable, applicants are again being pushed for the position.

Postal Changes.

WASHINGTON, May 9.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—The following changes have been made in the time schedules of Nebraska star mail routes: Pleasant Ridge to Orleans—Leave Pleasant Ridge Tuesdays and Saturdays at 3 p. m., arrive at Orleans by 4:20 p. m., leave Orleans Tuesdays and Saturdays at 1 p. m., arrive at Pleasant Ridge by 2:20 p. m. Prairie Center to Hazard—Leave Prairie Center Tuesdays and Saturdays at 6 p. m., arrive at Hazard by 12:30 p. m. Leave Hazard Tuesdays and Saturdays at 1:30 p. m., arrive at Prairie Center by 8 p. m.

Personal News of Westerners.

WASHINGTON, May 9.—[Special Telegram to the BEE]—William Henry Bailey, of Iowa City, and Francis A. Hubbard, of Elliott, Ia., were to-day admitted to practice before the interior department.

General Van Wyck, Major Pittenhouse, of the army, and Admirals S. Almy and Jenkins of the navy, will be invited into the Grand Army here on Wednesday night of this week. Preparations are being made for a big time on the occasion.

J. S. Swan and wife, of Lincoln, are here.

Refuse to Sanction the Strike.

READING, Pa., May 9.—A convention of Philadelphia & Reading railroad employes, representing fifty Knights of Labor assemblies between Philadelphia and the coal regions, last night refused to give endorsement to the strike proposed by the miners and Labor Amalgamated association, contending that there must be a union of all bodies before a strike can be inaugurated. This decision will, it is believed, result in a postponement of the threatened strikes in the coal regions, as no other meeting of these assemblies will be held until August.

Storekeeper Appointed—Bank News.

WASHINGTON, May 9.—The secretary of the treasury to-day appointed Edward McCabe to be storekeeper in Peoria county, Illinois.

The national bank examiner for Illinois has reported to the comptroller of the currency that the Will County National Bank of Joliet is not affected by the losses reported to have occurred by the mismanagement of the savings bank in that city. The report to the contrary, the examiner says, probably originated from the fact that the two banks occupy the same building and to some extent have the same officers.

Affirming a Land Decision.

WASHINGTON, May 9.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—Secretary Lamar to-day decided the case of John Barry vs Michael Schumacher, being an appeal of the latter from a decision of the commissioner of the general land office dated July 11, 1885, holding for the cancellation of his homestead entry made August 16, 1881, at the Niobrara land office. The entry was held for cancellation because the testimony showed that the entryman had not acted in good faith. After careful consideration of the whole record it is held that there was no good reason for disturbing the conclusion of the commissioner whose decision is affirmed.

Garfield's Statue.

WASHINGTON, May 9.—President Cleveland has issued an executive order closing the executive offices and departments at the seat of government, including the public printing establishment at noon on Thursday, the 18th instant to enable persons employed therein to attend the exercises at the unveiling of the statue of the late President Garfield.

Manning's Bank.

WASHINGTON, May 9.—The comptroller of the currency to-day authorized the Western National bank, of New York City, to begin business with a capital of $3,500,000. Daniel Manning is president of this bank.

JOHN AND JOSEPH.

A Presidential Combination on Sherman and Hawley.

CINCINNATI, May 9.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—From what has leaked out since the banquet of the Loyal Legion Wednesday night, it is almost certain that the presence of Senator Hawley had an important political significance. Soon after his arrival he was met by Murat Halstead and influential members of the Lincoln club and escorted to its rooms. A quiet conference, informal but earnest, was held on the question of the presidency. The senator was given to understand that Ohio wanted Sherman for the presidency, and would make any combination to effect that end. It was stated that if an agreement could be entered into with some influential eastern leader like Senator Hawley he could get the vice-presidency. A leader would be preferred from Blaine's own section who was not distasteful to the mugwumps. Hawley was given to understand that he would fill the bill exactly. He took kindly to the proposition. It was further intimated that in case Sherman could not be nominated the Ohio men would show their gratitude by helping Hawley to the first place and take a western man for the vice-presidency. One of the prominent gentlemen, who was at the Lincoln club, said: "The ticket to win is Sherman and Hawley, and, mind what I tell you, that's what it is going to be. If by any mischance Sherman cannot make it, then he will want Hawley for the first place and some live western man for vice president." The general's remarks were very politic, it is said. He did not commit himself fully to the arrangement, but took the matter under advisement. Governor Foraker's friends will take kindly to the alliance or in event of Sherman's failure to secure the nomination they want to press Foraker for vice-president and a combination with Hawley for first place could effect such an end.

Wool Growers in Session.

ST. LOUIS, May 9.—The second annual convention of the Wool Growers and International Sheep Shearing association will meet at the Cotton exchange here on Wednesday It is expected that between 500 and 600 representatives will be present, as well as a considerable number of woolen manufacturers, who will presen some new views to sheep raisers.

LITTLE LESS THAN DEVILS

An Attempt at a Fiendish Outrage On a Girl in Des Moines.

DEATHS IN FLOOD AND IN FIRE.

Big Money For Educational Medals—A Distinguished Citizen's Demise—Found in the River—Hawkeye Happenings.

The Work of Villains.

DES MOINES, Ia., May 9.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—Last night a young woman living between the "Q" and Rock Island tracks on East Second street went to the home of Iowa McVay, the fifteen-year-old daughter of Mrs. McVay, a widow living near by, and asked her to take a stroll. The girl assented and the two crossed the river and were soon joined by two young men. When they had reached an unfrequented part of the west side below the railroads the men began to insult the girl and she became frightened and wanted to go home, but they would not let her. They then, grapping her, tried to throw her down, but she fought to protect herself. Her companion came to the aid of the men and seizing the girl pushed her down among a lot of barb wire, the points lacerating her person and disfiguring her face. The men again tried to accomplish their villainous purpose, aided by the other girl, but the victim shrieked for aid and aroused the neighborhood A woman rushed to her assistance and the other girl and one of the villains fled. The other remained and told the woman he would see the girl home. He walked a portion of the distance, begging her not to say anything about it, but to tell her mother that she fell down and scratched herself. This morning the girl was taken before Justice Eggleston and told her story substantially as above, and warrants have been issued for the arrest of the outragers, but up to a late hour to-night they had not been found.

United States District Court.

SIOUX CITY, May 9.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—The next regular session of the United States district court convenes here to-morrow with Judge Shiras on the bench. No jury has been summoned because the appropriation of the general government is inadequate to meet the expense. The cases brought before the court will not occupy its time for more than two or three days. District Attorney Murphy says that about twenty-five new criminal cases are now awaiting the action of the grand jury. Festal the absconding Storm Lake postmaster, indicted one year ago for embezzling $1,000 of Uncle Sam's money, who was afterwards apprehended and gave bail in San Francisco, has been trying to get his case dismissed, but Mr. Murphy has received instructions from the solicitor of the treasury to press the case to a hearing.

A Bad Record.

SIOUX CITY, Ia., May 9.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—It now turns up that Lattimer, the ambitious fellow who attempted to establish a new democratic daily here recently and failed so completely, has a bad record in Colorado, having been an embezzler, a highwayman and robber, a penitentiary bird, and once an inmate of the insane asylum at Pueblo. This is regarded as proof positive that he was never murdered or foully dealt with, as Colonel Keatley, his editor, has all the while believed. He managed to get away with the booty here and his whereabouts since leaving so mysteriously have never been learned. It is said he has a brother in Minneapolis and that Lattimer is not his right name.

Money in Medals.

DAVENPORT, Ia., May 9.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—A prominent citizen here has given $1,000 to be invested, the proceeds to be expended annually for three medals to be used as prizes for the best record in politeness and good behavior in the grammar schools, including progress in the two requisites. These prizes are to be awarded annually at the close of the school year. The first medal is to be gold, and the two others may be of silver or other precious material as may be decided upon. It is believed that the investment can be so placed as to yield at least $100 a year for the purpose. The gentleman made his will some time ago and inserted a bequest of $1,000 for the purpose named, but thinking of it lately he concluded it might be just as well to have his idea carried out now as he is just as likely to become an octogenarian as not.

Enterprising Medical Students.

DAVENPORT, Ia., May 9.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—The coroner of Rock Island county, who was summoned to an island in the Mississippi ten miles above here to-day, reported finding a medical student of Le Claire, Ia., and an assistant engaged in boiling the remains of a human body. They had found a "floater" and their purpose was to boil the flesh off the bones and sell the skeleton to a Chicago medical college. The affair created a sensation in the towns along the river.

Burned in a Barn.

IOWA CITY, Ia., May 9.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—The little five-year-old son of Hon. H. S. Fairall, editor of the Republican, was burned to death in his father's barn this afternoon. The boy with another boy of the same age were playing with matches and set the hay on fire. One boy escaped with slight burns, but the other perished in the barn, which was entirely consumed.

A Prominent Man's Death.

MONTICELLO, Ia., May 9.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—Hon. A. H. Marvin died here to-day at the age of seventy-nine. He represented Jones county in the constitutional convention in 1857 that framed the present state constitution. He had been prominent in educational work of the state and was the author of the constitutional basis of Iowa's present school system.

Death Through Drink.

KEOKUK, Ia., May 9.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—The body of John D. Phelan, of this city, who disappeared Sunday morning, April 24, was found in the river at Alexandria, Mo., a few miles below Keokuk to-day. It is supposed that he jumped into the river while under aberation of mind. He had been drinking greatly and stopped suddenly.

Car Brake Competition.

BURLINGTON, Ia., May 9.—The competitive tests of freight car brakes was begun in this city to-day, under the auspices of the Master Car Builders' association, and will be continued daily except Sunday for a month or six weeks. Five car brake companies—Westinghouse, the Eames, American, Hanscom, and Carpenter, the latter from Germany have entered the contest.

Drowned While Sailing.

DES MOINES, Ia., May 9.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—Vincent Robinson, aged sixteen, the son of a prominent citizen of Algona, was drowned while sailing on the river at that place yesterday. A squall of wind capsized his boat and he could not swim to shore.

Improvements at Seward.

SEWARD, Neb., May 9.—[Special to the BEE.]—The work of grading on the Fremont, Elkhorn & Missouri Valley railroad in the city has begun. Teams, men and utensils are coming at all times and every indication points to its completion to this place by July 1, although they have until October according to proposition. A number of public meetings have been held lately in reference to water works but nothing accomplished until the last, when it seemed to be the general sense that the city should issue a call for a special election to vote on a proposition to bond the city. Our little city is now bonded for only $17,000, and according to the ideas of some of our citizens $25,000 or $30,000 more would not be a great burden.

An effort is being made to raise funds for a Congregational church building, which at this time seems to be entirely successful. The "solid" men are coming down with such sums that indicates a desire to see at least one respectable church edifice in Seward.

Farmers are getting very uneasy about crops. Dry weather has not injured the crop prospects yet, but if rain does not soon come there certainly will be a shortage in this county.

There were twenty-one cars of cattle shipped from Seward one day recently, J. N. Edwards has two car loads that would have been sent out but sickness prevented.

Seward's four saloons pay $500 each to the school fund and a like amount to the city general fund, which latter will be used for grading and draining the streets.

Tried to Steal a Ride.

COLUMBUS, Neb., May 9.—[Special to the BEE.]—Yesterday as section three of freight train No. 19 was going west a young man named Cordes Gustav, aged seventeen, tried to board the train as it was passing Duncan but fell between the cars, the wheels of the forward trucks passing over his right leg and foot. He was brought to Columbus and taken to St. Mary's hospital and put under the care of Dr. J. Charles Wilby, county physician who says it is a remarkable escape from death and hopes that the injuries may soon be overcome, as Gustav is a young man of a vigorous constitution and build. His home is in Howard county, nine miles from St. Paul, where he was trying to go on a cheap trip by using a voluntary pass.

A boy ten yeas of age was fished out from the trucks of passenger No. 4 who claimed he had ridden from North Platte undisturbed until he got here, when the lynx eyed yardmaster, Terrence Brady saw the youngster curled up, literally covered with sand and cinders. He said he was carrying real estate to Council Bluffs to help on their boom.

The Pigott Letters.

LINCOLN, Neb., May 9.—The agent of the associated press has learned that Hon. John Fitzgerald is having photographs taken of the letters and documents in the handwriting of Pigott, which were submitted to the expert committee on Saturday for comparison with the London Times' fac-simile letter, and will forward copies to Mr. Parnell and his friends and also to the leading members of the Gladstone party so that they may compare the handwriting for themselves with that of the Times' forgery. In the associated press report of yesterday, a telegraphic error occurred in making tue amount which Piggott alleged has been offered him by the Dublin castle agent for publishing the fictitious accounts 500 shillings. It should have been £500.

A Continuance Granted.

BENKLEMAN, Neb., May 9.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—Charles Richards, the slayer of George McFarland, was arraigned before Judge Gasten to-day, plead not guilty and a continuance was granted to June 30. He is the first murderer ever brought to trial in Dundy county.

The First On Record.

RAPID CITY, Dak., May 9.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—The grocery store of Hattenbark brothers at Deadwood was broken into Sunday night. The combination on the safe was blown off. The burglars secured $60 in money, some mining stocks and county warrants, amount not known. No clue. It is the first instance of safe burglary on record in the history of the Black Hills.

President Adams' Tour of Inspection.

CHEYENNE, Wyo., May 9.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—President Adams and his party of Union Pacific officials spent Sunday night on the Cheyenne & Northern, the new branch of the Union Pacific north from Cheyenne. Several hours were spent this forenoon in examining the new depot, the site of the burned Pacific hotel, and in viewing the town. Mr. Adams declined to state anything regarding his impressions.

NO VOLCANOES.

But a Rather Full Crop of Genuine Earthquakes.

BENSON, A. T., May 9.—All other reports to the contrary notwithstanding no volcanic eruptions have occurred in southern Arizona on the 3d instant. Simultaneously with the severe earthquake shocks experienced here, great clouds of smoke appeared over the peaks of the Whetstone mountains, south of this point, and at night the horizon was brilliantly illuminated by what was supposed to be volcanic fires, but the phenomenon continued during the days following the earthquake and on the 5th instant an exploring party under the leadership of General Forsyth, commanding Fort Huachuca, started to Whetstone mountains for the purpose of investigating the seismic eruption. They returned on the 7th and reported that there was no volcanic eruption though signs of upheavals and mountain slides from Thursday's earthquake were abundantly visible and that the brilliant illumination of the sky and the clouds of smoke which hovered over the mountain peaks were caused by forest fires which they had traced to the carelessness of some Mexican campers who had camped on the mountain Monday night. This report effectually explodes the volcano sensation among the people of Benson. Another severe shock of earthquake was experienced here at 1:14 this afternoon. No damage was done, but it created great consternation among the people.

The Earthquake's Path.

SAN FRANCISCO, May 9.—The Cala's Yuaymas, Mexico, special to-night says: Shocks continue at Ures. Many buildings were cracked and rendered unsafe. Nobody was hurt but the inhabitants are leaving as fast as possible. A large slice of mountain near Towa fell down with a terrible crash. The friction of the rocks ignited the woods, causing the belief that a volcano had broken out. At the Delicias Santa-Elena mine the earthquake caused a great panic. Whole hills fell down, scattering rocks amongst 150 persons. Fortunately nobody was hurt. The districts beyond telegraphic communication have not been heard from and the authorities are awaiting couriers.

Canada and the United States.

OTTAWA, Ont., May 9.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—There is considerable talk among members of the house of commons on the question of a commercial union with the United States. In course of a few days the matter will be brought before the dominion parliament as a substantive resolution and a division will be asked for. The entire liberal party, with a solid phalanx from the maritime provinces and Manitoba, are in favor of the measure.

The Assassins of Dr. Northrup.

PORTSMOUTH, O., May 9.—The grand jury investigating the killing of Dr. Northrup at Haverhill by the McCoys of that place, this morning ended their labors by indicting all four of the McCoys for murder in the first degree. The shooting is said to have grown out of a whisky selling case in which Dr. Northrup appeared as one of the prosecuting witnesses and for doing which Haverhill people say McCoy swore vengeance on him.

The Work of a Mob.

NEW ORLEANS, May 9.—A special from West Carroll parish says: Last Thursday a mob at Floyd seized Richard Goodwin and Grace Blanton, both colored, and hanged them to a tree, for robbing the store of Mr. Bean.

Russians on the Frontier.

CALCUTTA, May 9.—It is rumored that the Russians are collecting supplies at Chard Jui, about two hundred miles from the Afghan frontier preparatory to advance on Khamiab.

Lawmakers Adjourn.

CHARLESTON, W. Va., May 9.—The legislature adjourned this morning sine die.

A RUMORED BASE BALL DEAL

The Philadelphia League Club Said to Have Been Bought By a Syndicate.

A GENERAL DENIAL MADE.

Negotiations Also Reported to Be in Progress For the Sale of the Metropolitan Team—Other Sporting News.

Base Ball Deals.

NEW YORK, May 9.—It was asserted on excellent authority that the Atlantic base ball club of Philadelphia has been sold to a syndicate composed of Philadelphia lawyers. The terms of the sale are not known, but the arrangements for the transfer have been completed. The cause assigned is lack of support. It was asserted last night also that negotiations were going on for the sale of the Metropolitan team, as Wyman was tired of paying out for the support of the club and that the sale may take place any day. Another startling base ball rumor last night was that one of the biggest deals known was being made between the league and the American association whereby the Cincinnati club was to be transferred to the league, and the Indianapolis club to take its place in the American association. The excitement of base ball men in this city in consequence was very great, inasmuch as the story of the latter deal came from a well known Cincinnati man. This deal it is said has been forming for some days, but just when it is to be sprung is not known. Dispatches from Cincinnati last night said nothing of such deal is known there.

DETROIT, May 9.—President Sterns denies the truth of the report that the Cincinnati base ball club would probably take the place of the Indianapolis club in the league. He says it is impossible for any club to leave the league before November.

A GENERAL DENIAL.

PHILADELPHIA, May 9.—Lew Simmons, one of the three proprietors of the Athletic base ball club, to-day emphatically denied the statements contained in an article published here and in other cities this morning, stating that the proprietors were negotiating for the sale of the club to a syndicate. The article, he said, was a malicious lie from beginning to end. As to the statement that the club was not making money, he said his one-third interest could not be bought for less than $50,000, and ne