THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

SIXTEENTH YEAR. OMAHA, WEDNESDAY MORNING, MAY 11, 1887. NUMBER 327

THE ARRIVAL OF O'BRIEN.

A Novel and Thrilling Scene Outside the New York Harbor.

IRISH AND ENGLISH CHEERS.

The Committee of Reception Gives the Irish Patriot a Hearty Welcome to the United States—A Surly Commander.

O'Brien Treads Free Soil.

NEW YORK, May 10.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—The committee of welcome to the incoming Irish agitator, William O'Brien, remained on the steamer John E. Moore, at quarantine, until 6 o'clock last evening, when they determined to go in search of the Umbria, it being evident she was not coming up. After getting a doctor aboard and securing a permit from the custom officers, they started and after a long and perilous trip through a dense fog and a large fleet of detained vessels, they reached the Umbria, way outside the bar and off the light ship. The big Cunarder was crowded and the coming up of the wee steamboat brought everybody on deck. The first greeting of the visitor was a round of cheers for Mr. O'Brien and this was met by a general cheer of welcome and in an instant three cheers for Lord Lansdowne from hundreds of lusty English throats on the steamer's crowded sides. The cheers came with a will. Cheers were hurled back for O'Brien and all the time it was impossible for the captain of the visiting steamer to make known his wishes about ropes, etc. In a lull of the storm of hurrahs the English national anthem was started, and while hundreds sang "God Save the Queen," scores sang "God Save Ireland." It was a novel sight indeed for such an hour and place. "Take this rope!" was shouted again and again from the lower steamer to the quartermasters on the big Cunarder. Not the least attention was paid the request and instead came back chaffing from the passengers and others. At last Captain McMichen was called for and with a little bull's eye lantern came to the side: "Why do you come and who are ye, anyhow, coming here and shouting, 'take that rope!' as though we were dogs. You can't come on till the doctors come.'

"We have the doctor and the custom officer," was shouted back.

"Then come on with ye."

"Pass down a rope ladder," was the request from those on the wee tender.

"We have no rope ladder for ye," was the surly reponse of the Cunard commodore, and a cheer for William O'Brien was flung back in answer. An ordinary ladder was found on the Moore, and up this the doctor climbed. A stout voice called out: "Are there any friends of mine there who wish me." It was O'Brien's voice, and when a hearty "yes" went back he said: "Then I'll come if only as a compliment to the cowards that control here. He got on the ladder bravely. Just at that moment the hawser parted and he came very near taking a dip into the Atlantic. He got on board however, and with another round of cheers for O'Brien and counter cheers for Lansdowne the two vessels parted company. Down in the cabin the Irish patriot in his traveling suit of frieze was given the address already published. He made a response thanking the committee for this welcome to American seas if not to American lands. He spoke of his mission as a delicate and to some extent a dangerous one. He spoke of Lansdowne as a type and having been selected by the landlords as a sort of figurehead. The question was to be submitted to the Canadian people to arbitrate. He concluded by urging his hearers to put full confidence in Parnell as a leader and predicted the utter failure of the Balfour coercion scheme. It was far into the morning before the committee had their guest safe in the Hoffman house. It is not likely that he will be present at the Cooper Institute meeting on Wednesday evening as he has an engagement to speak in the Dominion on that evening and does not wish to spoil the effect of his Canadian campaign by speaking on American soil.

William O'Brien was seen at the Hoffman house this morning and after alluding to the band of British loyalists who had tried to make it uncomfortable for him on the voyage over, he said: "I cannot wait to speak in New York as much as I would wish to. My mission is to Canada and I must guard all my strength. Besides, they have the first right to hear me. I shall start for Montreal to-night and make my first speech there. I hear my Irish friends have been refused every large hall in Montreal, but that will make no difference, for, if necessary, I shall speak in the public square."

"Have you any fears of trouble?"

"Not the least. I go to Canada on a mission popular alike with Protestant and Catholic, and will set forth the wrongs of the farmers of Ulster as forcibly as those of the toilers of the south. There is no religious question in the matter, for it is purely one of human justice. I appreciate the intended honor of the escort from Irishmen of New York, but I have declined it and shall go to Canada just as a simple traveler on a peaceful errand."

O'Brien emphatically denies that Parnell is sick or suffering from cancer, and says that the great Irish leader was never better in his life. He further says that the coercion bill will pass, but it will react on its promoters and will certainly be repealed when its obnoxious provisions become more so by enforcement. Speaking of the Parnell letter, of which so much has been said and written, O'Brien asserted most emphatically that it was forgery and a very clumsy one at that. He would not say that Piggott was a forger, but he spoke of him as a renegade and said that if he did not write the letter he was fully capable of it. O'Brien said that if he gets back from Canada safely, of which he has no doubt, he will spend a week speaking in New York, Philadelphia and Boston.

Mr. O'Brien left for Montreal at 6:30 to-night. In speaking of his proposed trip he said it would be confined to a few principal cities of Canada. "I propose to raise the public opinion of the people to the acts of their governor general, Lord Lansdowne, up to the same level as it is in Ireland, and as it would be were he a landlord in Canada and pursued the same course as he has with his tenants in the old country." Mr. O'Brien said that he would be governed by the wishes of his friends there. He intended to speak of the state of affairs on Lord Lansdowne's Irish estates in very plain terms. He would point out that the governor general of Canada had in a most violent and wanton manner pursued a course of action contrary to that which had been laid down as acceptable to the Canadian government. Canada had helped Ireland with money. He (O'Brien) would show her people how to help Ireland in a more effectual way. He proposed to give Canada the best opportunity she ever had to strike a blow which would effect wholesale clearances. "Lord Lansdowne," said O'Brien, "is the first landlord who has ever evicted tenants since the plan of the campaign was adopted. He has depopulated the districts surrounding his property, proposing reductions in rents smaller by far than the official land commissioners are making on surrounding estates, and then repudiating he very terms he authorized his agent, Denning, to sign, and which had been suggested as a settlement of the difficulties and approved by Lord Lansdowne himself. He was the first landlord to be put forward by the rack renters to test the tenants because he is supposed to be immensely wealthy. Because he is located in Canada he is able to openly defy and ignore public opinion at home. Our only resource left to save nearly 500 people from the destruction of their homes and what little property they possess is to appeal to the Canadian people to protest against their government's action as contrary to the opinion of their own parliament." Speaking of threats of personal violence made, O'Brien said: "There are always threats, I believe, made. In joining the battle in behalf of the Luggacurran tenants, we are now doing work as beneficial to the Ulster farmers as to the other districts. I do not therefore think that any section of Canada will try to disturb me. Neither will they try to prevent me from putting the case before the people. If I should be injured in any way it would be far more damaging to Lord Lansdowne than to me or the cause I plead." Mr. O'Brien intends to speak in several cities in this country upon his return from Canada. He declined to say under whose authority he had started on the trip, saying he was responsible for his cause.

Want to Prohibit Free Speech.

TORONTO, May 10.—A deputation of citizens waited on the mayor to-day and presented a requisition for a public meeting to consider the advisability of prohibiting William O'Brien from speaking in this city.

ON TRIAL FOR MURDER.

Peter Ryan Again in Court For Killing Claus Kleever.

ATLANTIC, Ia., May 10.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—Two years ago Peter Ryan, of Audubon county, was sentenced to twenty years imprisonment in the state penitentiary for murder. He had served part of his time when his attorneys, L. L. Delano and J. J. Dolin, secured for him a new trial and a change of venue from the Audubon to the Cass district court. The trial has just begun before Judge Loofbourow. The particulars of the crime are as follows: In the month of December, 1884, Claus Kleever, residing near Brayton, Audubon county, and his nephew, John Kleever, a boy of fifteen years of age, were sitting in the house by the fire when a man entered and asked the privilege of warming. The stranger had evidently been drinking heavily and when he offered Kleever a portion of the contents of his bottle the latter refused. Then the stranger went out, returned and went out the third time. Then the door was opened and some one fired two shots from a revolver. The first shot entered the throat of Claus Kleever and the second entered the breast, causing almost instant death. Ryan was accused of the murder and the circumstantial evidence was very strong against him. Young Kleever proceeded to shift himself from the upper to the lower side of the bed, on which he was lying when the first shot was fired, and cannot tell who did the shooting. At first he said he did not know the stranger who entered the house, but it is now understood that he will testify on the stand that it was Peter Ryan. A pair of mittens left on the stove hearth by the stranger were also identified as Ryan's. At any rate Ryan was tried before Judge Loofbourow in the Audubon district court in a town where the feeling was so intense against the defendant that lynching was commonly talked of and he was sentenced to twenty years imprisonment. As showing the notoriety of the case it may be stated as a fact that over seventy jurymen stated that their prejudices were too strong to admit of their giving an impartial decision in the case before a jury panel could be obtained. The hearing of the evidence will begin to-morrow.

Iowa Marshals in Session.

DES MOINES, Ia., May 10.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—The city marshals of Iowa met in the city council chambers to-day. Owing to the inter-state commerce bill there was not a large attendance, but there are enough thief-takers to frighten all the crooks out of town. The Aborn is headquarters and the reading room a sort of rendezvous. The table is crowded with dark lanterns, revolvers, police whistles, "come alongs" and bracelets, together with a complete rogues' gallery. The officers of the association are: Marshal Francis, Cedar Rapids, president; Marshal Botkin, Des Moines, first vice president; Marshal Forsee, Clinton, second vice president; Marshal Vantassel, Indianola, recording secretary; Marshal Barry, Lyons, corresponding secretary; Marshal Williams, Ottumwa, treasurer. To-day was given up to sociability and the real business will begin to-morrow. Among the papers to be discussed are: "The Enforcement of Statutory as Well as Municipal Laws," Marshal Forsee, Clinton; "The Use and Abuse of the Pistol and Club," Marshal Allen, Oskaloosa; "The Patrol Wagon and Alarm System," Chief Botkin, Des Moines; "The Detective Force," Johnston, Des Moines; "The Relations of Chief to the Department," Chief Williams, Ottumwa; "The Compensation of Police Officers," Marshals Guanella, Council Bluffs, and Gibe, Waterloo; "The Patrolman—His Duties and Reports, Habits and Qualifications," Edward L. Swen, deputy marshal, Cedar Rapids.

A Railroad Reduces Rates.

MARSHALLTOWN, Ia., May 10.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—The Central Iowa road, crossing every trunk line in the state, to-day makes a special Iowa jobbers' and manufacturers' commodity tariff via its Peoria line and eastern connections. The new rate will be lower even than the old pooled rate from Chicago, and of course is a great reduction from the present agreed rates. As goods and material can be brought from eastern points as cheaply comparatively as from Chicago, the effect will be to force the trunk lines to meet the new rates or lose the business. The Central adopted the plan after vainly endeavoring in the usual way to induce the other roads to make rates for its Iowa patrons. The jobbers of Marshalltown are jubilant.

Bound to Boom Big.

SIOUX CITY, Ia., May 10.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—Now that the vote to extend the corporate limits of the city has passed with such an overwhelming majority, there being but fifty-eight votes against, public attention is now centering on the building of the bridge with renewed vigor. The aid asked from the city is $300,000 tax. Everything is being done to give the boom now assured greater backbone and scope. There is no longer any question but what Sioux City is about to see a real estate and business boom beside which nothing in the past can compare.

Hotel Fire at Sioux City.

SIOUX CITY, Ia., May 10.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—The Merchants hotel sustained serious damage this afternoon about 2 o'clock. Flames were discovered in the oil room north of the office, and in a very short time were issuing from the building. The department quickly responded and saved the building, but not without heavy damages. The furniture, etc., was about all removed. It is thought no attempt will be made to repair the building, as it occupies a very valuable corner, and was at best an old frame structure. It will likely be removed to give place to a fine modern structure. The property was fully insured.

The Arizona Shake.

TUCSON, Ariz., May 10.—R. J. Kerr returned from a trip to Tresalamos, on the San Pedro. He reports an earthquake fissure not less than twenty-five miles long. It extends a short distance below Benson, to fifteen miles below Tresalamos. At the surface the fissure varies in width from six to eighteen inches. At places along the crack, water burst forth, but afterward ceased flowing. The crack in many places is still open to a depth of several feet. From Empire ranch, on Strita, seventy miles south of here, the fissure is also reported. Reliable information states that when the earth opened water and mud was thrown to a great height. Springs in that vicinity went dry. Two others doubled their volume of water, but on cessation of the disturbances, the springs resumed their normal state.

Indian Troubles Expected.

FORT BENTON, Mont., May 10.—Indian horse thieves, undoubtedly Canadian Bloods, are operating along Teton river and in the Sein river country. Men in from Birsch Creek say there are several war parties of Canadian Indians on this side of the line and trouble may be expected.

Canadian Fisheries.

OTTAWA, Ont., May 10.—It is reported that instructions have been forwarded to the fisheries cruisers to remain in port until further orders are received.

Death of General Fletcher.

NASHUA, N. H., May 10.—General Aaron Fletcher Stevens died this morning from military difficulty, arising from the wounds received in the battle before Petersburg.

THEY SEE THEIR MISTAKE.

Civil Service Commissioners Themselves Disgusted With the New Rules.

A BAD STATE OF AFFAIRS.

Seven-Eighths of the Employes Expected to Lose Their Positions Under the New Order of Things—Capital News.

Tired of It Themselves.

WASHINGTON, May 10.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—The civil service commissioners are rapidly discovering that they have made a huge blunder when they designed and adopted their recent plan for examining candidates for promotion in the executive departments here. In an interview with a reporter Mr. Oberly declares that the proposed examinations are not to be schoolboy contests nor technical inquests, but are to be confined entirely to the duties of the positions sought for. But, granting they are to be so, the press and public come back at the commissioners with the statement that the clerks have already shown their fitness for those positions by the efficient work they have been doing for years, and why examine those who have already shown their fitness and efficiency? This is a poser to the commission, and up to a late hour this evening no answer has been formulated by the commission to this adamantine conundrum, and while they are laboring at it, the storm of abjurgation and protestations grows louder and hotter, and the two commissioners who devised the precious scheme are now the most vehement in wishing they hadn't been and gone and done it with quite so much enthusiasm. It is estimated by a department official who is said to be in a position to know, that at least seven-eighths of the old government employes will lose their positions under the new rules. Vacancies, vacancies, vacancies, and competitive examinations stretching out to the crack of doom to correspond, the official day will need to have a portion of it set aside, like lunch hour, for the purpose of competitive examination. The uncertainty and apprehension among government employes, the fear of losing their places—not because unfit for duty, but because of this or that politics or because unable to answer miscellaneous questions of a hostile examiner—tend to demoralize the working force, making it shitting, changeable and unreliable. The capital city is injured as well as the government, because the employes will not make permanent homes, any improvements or investments here or become in any way identified with the city if the terror of dismissal on grounds which a most faithful performance of duty will not necessarily avoid is constantly before them.

Nebraska and Iowa Pensions.

WASHINGTON, May 10.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—Pensions were granted Nebraskans to-day as follows: Patrick Faher, Platte Center; Len E. Weaver, Steele City; John M. Arnold, Pine Glen; William H. Stevens, Omaha; George W. Blevins, Atkinson; Robert Chambers, Osco; James J. Moore, Wayne; Benjamin F. Etyman, Lincoln; Lemuel W. Richards, Warren; John W. Calvin, Arapahoe; Simon R. Hite, Walnut Grove; Charles Berberyok, St. Helena; Isaac Robinson, Lyons; Edward E. Tater, Carlton; William Adams, Brewster; Freeman Servoos, Belvidere; Jacob Emberlin, Indianola; James Mills, Omaha.

Pensions for Iowans: James A. Shepard, Cincinnati; John Carr, Lamont; James B. Brewer, Ottumwa; John Shearer, Gilbert Station; Hezekiah Lippett, Fairfield; Edmond Seals, Olin; Charles E. Schiller, Vielos; Clark Mahannah, North English; John Trent, Abington; John B. Baker, Logan; Peter Helpherry, Newton; James J. Galloway, Eldon; Wolf Miller, Yorktown; Benjamin F. Rice, Creston; Chauncey C. Phillips, Livermore; George W. Moore, Essex; Josiah Hughes, Union; John M. Bonner, Keosauqua; Elias Reamy, Greencastle; John V. Rector, Bloomfield; Anton Tuhring, Livermore; Thomas C. Schooley, Abingdon; Lewis H. Rankin, Allerton; Benjamin Workman, Sidney; Charley Smith, Franklin Centre; Ashland C. Henderson, Centerville; Amos M. Jearberry, Miltonville; Henry M. Brown, Waterloo; Robert M. Quinn, Greenfield; Joseph O. Eastman, Essex; George W. Husted, Marengo; Frank M. Hampson, Richland; William Smith, Mount Vernon; Jacob H. Guenther, Sabula; William H. Romesha, Greenfield; John Puntney, Fontanelle; Jacob L. Englebert, Des Moines; Henry D. McCoy, Knoxville; William Farnham, Chariton; Michael K. Harned, Colfax; Henry J. Sharp, Promise City; William C. Steinmetz, Burlington; Thomas R. Phillips, Newton; John H. Williams, Cedar Rapids; William T. Burge, Mount Pleasant; John Childers, McGregor; Andrew J. Chenoweth, Newton; D. G. Ellis, Raymond; John Stephany, Quincy.

Army News.

WASHINGTON, May 10.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—Second Lieutenant John J. Shaw, Sixth infantry, has been dropped from the rolls of the army for desertion.

Major Henry Cassell, First cavalry, has been transferred from duty at Fort Custer to the command of Fort Assinaboine, Montana, succeeding Lieutenant Colonel George G. Hunt, who has just been promoted to the Tenth cavalry.

The refusal of congress at the last session to include an available appropriation for transportation has obliged the secretary of war to issue an instruction to division and department commanders that they shall not issue orders during the rest of the fiscal year which may carry mileage.

Army leaves: Colonel Albert E. Brackett, Third cavalry, six months; Colonel Charles T. Alexander, surgeon, four months; Major John M. Hamilton, First cavalry, two months extension; Colonel Alex Chambers, Seventeenth infantry, one month sick leave; Captain Clarence A. Stedman, Ninth cavalry, one month from June 12; Captain William A. Miller, Eighteenth infantry, fifteen days from June 1; Captain Greenleaf A. Goodale, Twenty-third infantry, twelve days from May 18; First Lieutenant Harry L. Ripley, Third cavalry, one month from May 15.

Patents Granted Westerners.

WASHINGTON, May 10.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—The following patents were granted Nebraska and Iowa inventors to-day: Samuel W. Decker, Verdon, cultivator; Peter Penner, McCook, harness check-hook; William Sexauer, Omaha, carpet stretcher; Jacob Courtleyow, assignor of one-half to D. Wormley, Chariton, Ia., pipe wrench; John W. Monarch, assignor of one-half to A. Mathias, Des Moines, Ia., equalizer for horse powers; James B. O'Connor and J. Janggen, Dubuque, Ia., seal; Isaac Roraback, Davenport, Ia., harness buckle; Cornelius C. Wood, Sibley, Ia., bunk for railway cars; Gilman P. Woodworth, Colfax, Ia., carpet stretcher.

The Washington Monument.

WASHINGTON, May 10.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—One of the sins of omission of the last congress, due either to "cheese paring" or blunders of the rush of a closing session, was the failure to make provision for lighting the Washington monument and running the elevator therein. As a result only visitors who were bold or strong enough to grope to the top with candles have enjoyed the wonderful view from its summits. Thieves, protected by the darkness, have chipped and marred the ornamentations, and now, owing to this vandalism, and the failure of congress to provide means of protection, the monument will be closed to visitors entirely.

An Argument For Beer.

WASHINGTON, May 10.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—C. P. Jacobs, of Indianapolis, is here and argued the great brewing fermentation case in the United States supreme court to-day on behalf of the appellees, who are supported by the National Brewing association. The case involves the validity of the patents on the bunging apparatus in the manufacture of beer, and all the brewers of the country are interested in the decision.

Postal Changes.

WASHINGTON, May 10.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—The following Nebraska postmasters were appointed to-day: Isaac L. Huff, Columbus, Platte county, vice Daniel P. Davis, resigned; Philip H. Nelson, Kennard, Washington county, vice Harry Bowerman, resigned; Eugene H. Sage, Laird, Frontier county, vice Joe Norwood, resigned; Jas. H. Booker, Mahila, Buffalo county, vice Lizzie C. Bass, resigned; W. D. Hinton, Stephenson, Keya Paha county, vice Wm. J. Stevenson, resigned; Milton Runyon, Stockville, Frontier county, vice Jerome H. Donohy, resigned.

Capital Notes.

WASHINGTON, May 10.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—Joseph Swan, of Lincoln, Neb., was to-day elected a vice president of the Hotel Men's National association in the convention here.

A dividend of 50 per cent was declared to-day for the creditors of the First National bank of Blair, Neb.

BARB WIRE BURSTS.

Two Chicago Failures Attributed to the Inter-State Law.

CHICAGO, May 10.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—Two barb wire fence manufacturing firms failed in this city to-day. Sherman & Marsh, 51 Dearborn street, made an assignment to Noble B. Judah. The liabilities are estimated at $448,000 and the assets at $256,000. The firm is composed of Francis T. Sherman and Eben J. Marsh. The firm of Schnabel & Co., 53 Dearborn street, next door to Sherman & Marsh also made an assignment to Mr. Judah. The liabilities are $303,000 and the assets $183,000. The members of the firm are Eben J. Schnabel and Eben J. Marsh, (the same Marsh that is in the firm of Sherman & Marsh.)

"All I can say about it," said Mr. Marsh, "is that we were relying upon certain remittances with which to meet obligations and these remittances were not forthcoming. There was nothing left for us to do but to give up, so we made an assignment."

"Can you state, Mr. Marsh, what are the causes of your failure?"

"Well, I suppose the immediate cause of the failure is the operation of the inter-state commerce act. That bill has had the effect of simply shutting us out. We could not go out of Chicago with our products and hope to do business on anything like a paying basis. This is the immediate cause of the present trouble, but the truth is the business has been anything but profitable for the last three years. There has been too much overproduction in barb wire fencing."

"We have made no preferences of creditors," said General Sherman, "and we have decided on no plans yet. Nor have we given any judgment notes. We shall await the action of our creditors, before whom the state of affairs will be presented, and shall then act according to their wishes and for the best interest of all concerned."

Mr. Marsh, in answer to a question, said the firm had been doing business for nine years, and are licensed under the Washburne-Moen manufacturing company. They had entertained good hopes of doing a fine business this spring, but these hopes are now effectually blighted. The Schnabel & Co. failure is due to the same causes as the other. Both firms are connected together in business and are virtually the same concern. Much sympathy is expressed on all hands for the misfortune which has overtaken General Frank Sherman, Mr. Marsh and their associates.

Heavy Cattle Owner Fails.

WINNEMUCCA, Nev., May 10.—W. B. Todhunter, a cattle owner of Sacramento, Cal., who owns 170,000 acres in Oregon and 50,000 in this state, has assigned to Hayes, Carrack & Co., Oakland, Cal. His liabilities are said to be $400,000.

Iron Men Collapse.

MONTREAL, May 10.—Copeland & McLaren, importers of pig iron, etc., have suspended payment. No statement has yet been prepared, but their firm placed their liabilities, direct and indirect, at about $235,000.

OFFICIAL CROP REPORT.

The Condition of Winter Wheat and Progress of Spring Plowing.

WASHINGTON, May 10.—The report of the department of agriculture for May relates to the condition of winter grain, the progress of spring plowing and the proportion of proposed cotton area already planted. It indicates a decline in the coudition of wheat of two points since April 1. The general average on the whole country being 86 against 95, the same rate in 1886, 70 in 1885, and 94 in 1884. The change in the condition has not been uniform throughout the winter district, some states showing an increase and a majority a slight decline and a few a heavy falling off. The drought has reduced the acreage somewhat in eastern gulf states, and wrought very serious damage in Texas and Arkansas. The lowering condition during the month 19 and 10 points respectively. Favorable temperature and seasonable rains have improved the prospect in Tennessee, West Virginia and Kentucky. The most serious reduction of the month is in Ohio where there is a falling off of eight points since April 1st due to the continuing evil effects of alternate freezing and thawing noted in the last report and a small crop is now inevitable. Michigan and Indiana show a slight decline while in Illinois and Missouri there is a gain of one point. The unfavoralle weather in Kansas and California has caused slight falling off, while in Oregon the prospect has advanced, it being the only state in which the condition reaches 100. The average condition by states is: New York 86, Pennsylvania 72, Indiana 84, Virginia 80, North Carolina 90, Texas 60, Arkansas 93, Tennessee 96, West Virginia 89, Kentucky 95, Ohio 71, Michigan 90, Indiana 87, Illinois 93, Missouri 96, Kansas 81, California 89 and Oregon 101. Rice has suffered from the same conditions, which have injuriously affected the wheat, but on account of its hardier nature the general average is 90.8. The condition of barley is low, the average being 77.7. The season has been more generally advanced in all points of the country than usual, spring plowing being seriously behind only on the Atlantic coast south to Pennsylvania, and on the Pacific slope. In these sections it has been delayed by cold and excess of moisture, elsewhere the work is ahead of the average year—the season, especially during April, having been generally favorable, with the temperature above normal, and the rainfall at a minimum. The proportion already done May 1 is estimated at 80 per cent of the whole, while the amount usually completed at that date is about 78 per cent.

An Old Woman Choked to Death.

NEW HAVEN, Conn., May 10.—Mrs. Margaret Ernst, an old lady, aged seventy-four, was found early this morning in front of her house, with her hands and feet bound with ropes and a rope around her neck. She had been choked to death during the night and had been robbed. She made a will about two years ago, and had notified her attorney that she desired to change it. The coroner and police see in this fact a motive for the crime.

A Banker's Engagements.

SCRANTON, Pa., May 10.—Franklin Howell, a wealthy banker of this city, was sued to-day by a Pittsburg lady for breach of promise, the damages asked being $75,000. About a year ago he was sued by a well known lady, who laid her damages at $45,000, which was settled. It is thought Howell is not sane, and application will be made to the court for the appointment of a committee to take charge of his estate.

Hotel Men in Convention.

WASHINGTON, May 10.—The members of the Hotel Men's Mutual Benefit association met this morning and elected Jewitt Wilcox, of Chicago, president for the ensuing year.

THERE WAS A GREAT CRUSH

The Queen's Third Jubilee Drawing-Room the Largest of Her Reign.

THE AMERICANS PRESENTED.

Victoria to Visit the Wild West To-Day and Privately View Buffalo Bill and His Indians—Foreign News.

A Royal Jam.

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LONDON, May 10.—[New York Herald Cable—Special to the BEE.]—The queen's third jubilee drawing-room to-day did not in general differ from the two preceding ones recently minutely described in these dispatches except as to number. The lord chamberlain's book showed cards issued for 511 new presentations. Among these were several American ladies. The additional number of chaperones and privileged guests and gentlemen escorts swelled the total so as to make it illustrate a reception larger than any during the present reign, as veterans assure me. Several of those held in past years have been unmanageable from over crowding, but the unprecedented crush to-day, with its inevitable accompaniment of weary waiting, dismantled attire, unmannerly elbowing, loss of temper and final disappointments were all that the most cynical could wish. The presentations went through at the rate of 100 in an hour, allowing thirty-six seconds for each. It must not be supposed that the queen herself sustained the burden. After an hour the Princess of Wales took her place. A good majority were disappointed of even a single glance of queenly approval, or a single hurried touch of the royal hand. The trials and tortures the victims of this inhuman ceremony go through before arriving at the ecstatic half-minute is known only to themselves, but as they voluntarily undergo it all for the sake of the reward, in their case, as in that of the fakir's, there is no room for argument.

AMERICANS PRESENTED.

Mrs. Phelps, wife of the American minister, wore a petticoat bodice of white and black striped velvet, and a train of black velvet. She presented the following ladies well known in New York: Miss Van Wert, Miss Louise Morgan, Mrs. Arthur Post, Mrs. Horton—wife of the well known New York banker, Henry L. Horton, who was also present in an anteroom in velvet court dress and sword. The latter seemed to attract attention. Even many English dowagers envied the sumptuousness of her costume The material of the dress was white satin silver brocade, the front of the suit trimmed with a pearl pattern of antique silver point lace. The corsage, which was "V" shaped, and stomacher, were embroidered the same. The train was of silver brocade on poult de sole, was trimmed with white ostrich tips. At the bottom the train was blue satin lining and was fastened at the right shoulder with plume feathers. In the hair were the traditional court feathers, tipped with diamond augrettes. Her ornaments were diamonds in necklace and earrings. Miss Van Wert wore gold brocade satin. Miss Morgan wore a tulle skirt with train fay francaise, trimmed with white acacies.

VICTORIA AND BUFFALO BILL.

To-morrow afternoon the queen holds a very private drawing room at the Buffalo Bill bazaar to view the costumes and undress Indian show. The doors and grounds for the time being will be closed to the public.

Belgium's Cattle Bill Passed.

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BRUSSELS, May 10.—[New York Herald Cable—Special to the BEE.]—The cattle debate ended to-day. The amendment authorizing the government to exempt from duty cattle sent to Belgium in transit for re-exportation was agreed to. Another amendment limiting the duration of the bill, making it merely experimental, was rejected by a large majority, and the bill was passed. Its effect will be to increase the duty on bullocks, calves, sheep, lambs, heifers and all fresh meat from 50 to 60 per cent. This carried by a vote of 69 to 54. It is expected it will give eventually rise to great popular discontent, raising the price of meats, and bring about the fall of the present government at next year's elections.

The Commons and Coercion.

LONDON, May 10.—In the house of commons to-day, in committee on the coercion bill, Healy moved an amendment that a person committed for contempt of court be treated as a first class misdemeanor. He argued that witnesses committed for refusing to answer questions ought not to be subjected to the same punishment as criminals. When the last coercion act was in effect the mere detention of many persons shortened their lives ten years. [Cries of "Hear, Hear."] Balfour, chief secretary for Ireland, said persons committed could avoid punishment by answering the questions. There was no difference between the cases under the clause and cases of contempt under ordinary law. John O'Connor, nationalist, said if the government imprisoned witnesses as common criminals for refusing to answer questions, it would be a disgrace to civilization. Why did not they propose to apply the old fashioned implements of torture, including the thumb screw and rack? Healy's amendment was finally rejected—195 to 144. Healy moved to limit the penalty for contempt in the case of witnesses to seven days' imprisonment. Healy's amendment limiting the penalty for contempt was defeated—138 to 111. Another motion referring to witnesses was negatived. Adjourned.

The Government's Coercion Plans.

LONDON, May 10.—An informal meeting of the cabinet was held to-night to discuss plans for expediting the passage of the coercion bill. It was decided to abandon the attempt to effect a wholesale application of cloture at a fixed date. Russell, chairman of the committee, will put cloture until each clause has been fully discussed, and compel the ministers to adopt a plan asking for cloture after bona fide amendments had been heard. The ministerialists now calculate that the discussion in committee will last three weeks longer. The committee leading the conservatives made unofficial overtures to Gladstone and Morley with a view of finding out whether they will assent to the appointment of a commission consisting of two English judges and one Scotch judge to inquire into the charges against the Parnellites. The Gladstonians opposed troubling themselves any further with the question unless the government takes definite action, while the government is not disposed to make a move until the coercion bill is passed.

The unionist members of the Eighty club have been summoned to attend a meeting for the purpose of declaring the position of the club on the home rule question. The Gladstonians, being in the majority, will outvote the opponents and compel the withdrawal of the unionists from the club.

British Affairs.

LONDON, May 10.—The Times announces that the government has sanctioned the Newfoundland bait bill. It will go into operation in 1888.

The commons sat until 5:30 this morning. On motion being put during the night by Deilsle, conservative and unionist, for adjournment, Bradlaugh said he desired a division on the motion to see who was opposed to his motion for second reading of the oaths bill.

Deilsle's motion was rejected by a vote of 185 to 104. After several ineffectual attempts to adjourn, Bradlaugh said he was satisfied that a large majority of those present were against adjourning, and agreed to withdraw the motion.

A Leipsic Indictment of France.

LONDON, May 10.—A dispatch to the Times from Paris says the Leipsic supreme court has prepared an indictment, covering 500 pages, against persons arrested for connection with the case in which the French commissary, Schnaebeles, was implicated, and the trial of which will begin a fortnight hence. The indictment covers the details collected during several months past regarding barracks elections, Derulede's trip, Schnaebeles and his emissaries, the Patriotic league and its newspapers and letters, and, in short, says the correspondent, it is an indictment as much against France as the prisoners.

Against Coercion.

LONDON, May 10.—The Congregationalist ministers of London held a meeting to-day and adopted almost unanimously a resolution offered by Dr. Parker of City temple, protesting against the Irish coercion bill now before parliament, demanding that the Irish people shall be treated with justice, and urging the government to adopt the policy of conciliation in dealing with the Irish question.

The Pall Mall Gazette publishes a rumor that the government has ordered prepared sixty first class cells in Milbank prison for the accommodation of the Parnellite members of parliament whose arrest they may deem necessary.

Cuban Home Rulers.

MADRID, May 10.—In congress to-day the Cuban home rulers declared that unless the government promptly found means to improve the prospects of the Spanish West Indies by granting the liberties demanded by the creoles, it would find itself unable to check the Cuban movement favoring annexation to America. The minister of foreign affairs, replying for the government, opposed home rule, but promised early political and tariff reforms.

A Knock-Out For Coercion.

DUBLIN, May 10.—At a meeting of the Irish National league to-night Dillon said he had a line of policy for the people of Ireland which he would produce at the proper moment and knock the bottom out of the coercion bill. When the coercion bill was passed the landlords would find the plan of campaign would continue without the slightest interruption. His policy would neither crime nor violent resistance of law.

France and England Agree.

PARIS, May 10.—The Temps says an agreement has been made between Salisbury and Flourins concerning the sphere of action of England and France in East Africa. England recognized the rights of France over the Obock territory and the Gulf of Tadjourah, and cedes the island of Mashab to France. The frontier of the French territory extends from Cape D'Jiboujeh to Harrar. France admits the authority of England over the territories east of Cape D'Jiboujeh.

German and Czech Fights.

VIENNA, May 10.—The fights between Germans and Czech continue. A violent scene occurred to-day in the Unterhans, between German and Czech deputies. Fierce street fights have taken place at Prague between German students and a Czech's mob.

The French Exhibition.

VIENNA, May 10.—Count Zichy writes in favor of Hungary entering the French exhibition as an expression of thanks of the nation for the sense of liberty which originated in France and which has largely benefitted Hungary.

Stay at Home, Bill.

BERLIN, May 10.—Emperor William's physicians have advised him not to go to Gastein this year.

HORRIBLE ACCIDENT.

Five Men Buried Under a Mass of Molten Metal.

PITTSBURG, May 10.—A terrible accident occurred at the Edgar Thompson steel works at Braddock about 10 o'clock to-night which will probably cost five lives. Furnace E was blown out a few days ago and to-day a gang of men were put to work clearing it out. An arch had formed, composed of coke, limestone and other materials, which was still at red heat, and part of the men were working beneath this mass. Shortly after 10 o'clock to-night, without warning, the arch gave way. The red hot matter was thrown in all directions, knocking men down and in some instances almost burying them. A few of the men in the vicinity escaped uninjured. In a short time the debris was removed and five men were taken out in a horrible condition, their clothing burned from their bodies and the flesh literally cooked. The names of the victims are John Zawloskey, John Gearsift, John Gedard, John Lawatte and Charles Ledonofki. Physicians who are attending them entertain no hopes of their recovery.

BEAUTY AND BEAST.

A Wealthy Philadelphia Girl Marries a Repulsive Fortune Teller.

PHILADELPHIA, May 10.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—Miss Josephine M. Mallison, daughter of George Mallison, a wealthy manufacturer of West Philadelphia, disappeared from her home three weeks ago. About a week since her father found her living with Prof. James, a trance medium and fortune teller, at 209 North Tenth street, who had married her. The husband was offered $10,000 to release the girl, but refused the offer. The young lady is very beautiful and has always been remarkable for her proud and exclusive disposition. The wedding occurred on the third visit to the medium, who took her to Canada to have the marriage ceremony performed. Nine ministers were applied to before one could be found willing to marry them because of the great contrast in appearance of the couple. The husband is repulsive to hideousness, has no hair, is weak-eyed, and has no roof to his mouth and is unable to articulate intelligbly. The parents of the girl are almost crazed with grief at her strange infatuation.

Colonel Bolton's Inglorious Trip.

CHICAGO, May 10.—Colonel W. H. Bolton, who did gallant service as commander of Bolton's battery, in the civil war, was finally removed from the city this evening to Joliet penitentiary. He has for some time been under sentence for two years for embezzling large sums collected by him as chief of the mailing division in the Chicago postoffice, but was kept in Chicago on one pretext or another. To-day his physicians certified that he was temporarily insane, but United States Marshal Marsh would brook no further postponement. When Colonel Bolton was placed on the train for Joliet he broke down completely and wept.

Brought the Road to Terms.

CHICAGO, May 10.—The action of the Chicago & Grand Trunk in sticking to second-class rates forced the Central Traffic association to-day to continue them in operation, although two weeks ago the association formally abolished and took off sale all second-class tickets. It was also agreed that round-trip tourist tickets should be placed on sale June 1 at practically the rates as made last year. The meeting discussed the advisability of making a 2 cent per mile rate to parties of ten traveling on a sold ticket open to the public the same as has been recently done by the Pennsylvania lines. The subject will be further considered to-morrow.

Weather Indications.

For Nebraska: Threatening weather and local rains, brisk to high southerly winds, shifting to cooler northwesterly.

For Iowa: Fair weather, followed by local rains, warmer southerly winds, increasing brisk to higher, shifting to cooler westerly winds Thursday.

IN THE FIELD OF SPORTS

The National Trotting Association's Board of Review Holds an Important Meeting.

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