THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

SEVENTEENTH YEAR. OMAHA, MONDAY, MORNING, JANUARY 30, 1888. NUMBER 226.

MURDERED HIS YOUNG WIFE.

Cold Blooded Crime of Louis Bulling at St. Joseph.

HER HONOR AND THEN HER LIFE.

A Forced Marriage Ended With a Pistol Bullet—Indignant Citizens Determined to Inflict Summary Punishment.

A Sunday Tragedy.

ST. JOSEPH, MO., Jan. 29.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—A parallel of the cold-blooded wife murder of last April in this city, for which a Bohemian named Hronek is now in the Buchanan county jail under death sentence, occurred to-day in the murder of Mrs. Flora Bulling by her husband, Louis Bulling.

Bulling is twenty-five years old and a son of one of St. Joseph's most respected German citizens, who conducts a general store near the foot of Sixteenth street. He has always been a wild fellow and has gained considerable notoriety as a tough. He has spent his time in low dives and saloons and carries upon his person numerous marks of fistic encounters. About three years ago he was compelled to marry a little girl of sixteen years of age named Flora Bloom whom he had seduced, the daughter of a respectable widow. A few months afterward she gave birth to a child which is still alive. So neglectful was her husband that after putting up with him as long as she could she left him three weeks ago and secured employment as a waiter at the Herbert house at Fourth and Charles street.

This afternoon about 2:20 o'clock her husband called at the hotel and asked to see her. The woman sent word that she did not care to see him, when Bulling insisted that she had some things of his in her trunk and that he had come for them. She told the messenger that she would get the things and turn them over to her husband, whom she desired should wait at the door until she had done so. When the word was conveyed to Bulling he pushed his way into the room where his wife was, closing and locking the door behind him. The last that was seen of his wife alive was as the door went to and she was bending over her open trunk with her back to the door. The bolt had not been turned a minute before three shots in quick succession were heard. The door was at once broken open and the woman found lying over the trunk with a bullet hole in her forehead above the right eye. The brains were oozing out upon the floor and she was quite dead. Only one shot took effect. Bulling was standing in the center of the floor with the smoking pistol, a 38-calibre "X. L. Bull Dog," in his right hand. He made a desperate struggle to escape but was captured and taken away by the police.

A howling mob was soon on their heels, discovering which the police secreted Bulling.

There is no question but if he can be found to-night he will be swung to the nearest lamp-post without ceremony.

Bulling has nothing to say about his crime. He is one of the most desperate ruffians in the city, and for several years has terrorized South St. Joseph. While engaged in a fight about two years ago with a country fellow Bulling had his left ear bitten off. This ear he carries in his vest pocket as a "mascot." In shaking dice at saloon counters he frequently pulled the bit of shriveled flesh out of his pocket and put it upon the counter beside him. A couple of weeks ago he tried to force his way into Tootle's opera house on the representation that he was a policeman and it took a half dozen men to remove him. The family to which Bulling belongs is a large and wealthy one. It exerts considerable influence politically and altogether is one of the most prominent in this community, and his father and uncles have held numerous offices in the city and county.

A SHOOTING CITY EDITOR.

He Uses a Pistol Successfully on Three Assailants.

KNOXVILLE, TENN., Jan. 29.—As James Rule, city editor of the Journal, was entering St. John's Episcopal church this morning, accompanied by his wife, he was accosted by John and William West and a friend of theirs named Goodman. They attacked Rule about a communication in the Journal this morning reflecting upon Dr. T. A. West, city physician and father of John and William. Rule refused to make any satisfactory answer to the question and William West struck him and attempted to bear him to the sidewalk. Rule drew a revolver and shot John West through the body. William West immediately fired on Rule the ball passing through his wrist. John West then cut Rule in the back several times. William West attempted to shoot Rule through the head but only inflicted a scalp wound. Rule then fired again, hitting Goodman in the shoulder. A number of men rushed from the church and stopped the bloody fight. William West ran away uninjured. Rule is not dangerously hurt, but John West is dying. The circumstances which called out the newspaper article was the election yesterday of Dr. West to be city physician by the city council. West is not a graduate of a medical college and the council repealed an ordinance to make him elegible. This aroused the indignation of regular physicians and was denounced by the medical society. The entire community sides with Rule.

A MASONIC DUEL.

Prominent Mexicans Fight With Pistols Without Fatal Results.

ST. LOUIS, JAN. 29.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—On the plains of Lazaro, near the City of Mexico, a duel took place yesterday between Senor Ermillo G. Carton, a thirty-third degree mason, editor of the Scottish Rite Organ, and General Jesus Toledo, a prominent Templar. The quarrel grew out of a fight between the Scottish Rite Organ and the Cruz Templar, and involved the Templars. A challenge from the editor was declined by Canton on the ground of social position, but the answer in turn suggested that a proper source for the challenge was from a prominent Templar. It came, and General Toledo and Senor Carton met at twenty-five yards distance, and at the command fired simultaneously, without effect, with the general's weapons. Senor Carton's weapons were then used, and the soldier clipped the mouthpiece of a cigar-holder out of the citizen's pocket, grazed the flesh, and honor was satisfied. The Templars have come back into camp, and all is harmonious.

Desperado Redding Acquitted.

ROCKPORT, MO., Jan. 29.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—The jury in the case of C. C. Redding, a member of the Franklin gang of horse thieves which murdered De Long in September last, returned a verdict this morning of not guilty. The Franklin boys have been the boldest outlaws in the northwest since the extermination of the James gang. It was hoped that Redding would be convicted and a confession obtained.

Killed His Wife Then Suicided.

PITTSBURG, Jan. 29.—Christian Felick, this morning, killed his wife then suicided. He had been unable to obtain work for the past six months and it is thought, was temporarily insane. He leaves six children.

More Rowan County Killings.

LOUISVILLE, KY., Jan 29.—A letter received by John Martin, of the Rowen county Martin-Tolliver feud, says that in a row at a party at Mrs. Nellie Walker's near Morehead, on the 4th, three men were fatally wounded.

A CALAMITY AVERTED.

Rescue of the Inmates of a Burning Children's Hospital.

NEW YORK, Jan. 29.—The hospital for the ruptured and crippled at Lexington avenue and Forty-second street, where 163 crippled children were under treatment came near being the scene of a terrible disaster to-night. About 7 o'clock two little girls, going up the stairs to their rooms, found the second floor filled with smoke. Without saying a word they made their way down stairs and gave the alarm to the nurse. Rapidly as possible the children were taken out and safely housed across the street without damage to any of them. When the fire was subdued it was found that Mary Donnelly had been smothered to death in her room on the top floor.

Another Close Call.

NEW YORK, Jan. 29.—Shortly after midnight a fire broke out in the Roman Catholic orphan asylum in Brooklyn, occupied by 400 children. The flames were subdued after some trouble, and no lives lost.

Killed by an Explosion.

UTICA, N. Y., Jan. 29.—The Empire block at Malone, in which is located the Howard house, opera house and several stores, burned this morning. The hydrants were frozen and water had to be pumped from the river. The losses aggregate $20,000, with $75,000 insurance.

By an explosion of gas during the fire Isaac Chester was killed and several others slightly injured.

A Big Blaze at Pittsburg.

PITTSBURG, Jan. 29.—Urling & Sons, dealers in clothing, Heeren Bros., wholesale jewelers, and Haslage & Co., wholesale grocers, were burned out this morning. The losses on stocks and buildings aggregate $300,000. Insurance ample.

Fire at Peoria.

PEORIA, Ill., Jan. 29.—The chamber of commerce building was damaged $40,000 by fire to-night. The Western Union, Postal telegraph and several other offices were damaged by smoke in small amounts.

FATAL RAILROAD COLLISION

An Engineer Killed and a Fireman Seriously Injured In Georgia.

JESSUP, GA., Jan. 29.—The second section of a passenger train ran into the first section near Screven, on the Savannah, Florida & Western railroad last evening, killing Engineer Devine and seriously injuring a fireman. Four sleeping cars were burned. No details are yet obtainable.

TORONTO'S BANK TROUBLES.

Officials Tell How a Little Mistake Caused a Suspension.

TORONTO, Ont., Jan. 29.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—The Central bank letters are creating a fund of amusement, mingled with disgust, in Toronto business circles. They uncover a nest of bank wreckers whose existence, long suspected, was never fully proved until the liquidators, Messrs. Howland and Yooderham, forced the fighting and uncovered the glaring facts. The ambiguous way in which the letters are worded and the air of mystery which pervades them show that the authors knew they were engaged in something not altogether above board—something that it was to their interest to conceal as much as possible—and the publication of them increases the suspicions which have long existed that this banking concern, in its latter days, was used by tricksters to further what schemes they chose. Cashier Allen, in conversation with a friend weeks before his flight, stated that D. Mitchell McDonald and another director had offered him a large sum of money to jump the country.

In an interview General Manager Yarker, of the Federal bank, when asked the causes which led to the liquidation, said: "The causes were twofold. The Central bank's crash was the first blow. Had it not been for that we would have in all probability pulled through all right, and even then there was a chance had it not been for those telegrams sent out by the Michigan Central. The Saturday following the Central's collapse the head office of the Michigan Central railroad sent a dispatch to their agents all along the line of their connections not to take the Federal bank bills. Of course, they meant 'Central,' but in mistake used our name. This was the last straw, and, of course, there was no other course left for us but to liquidate."

VICE PRESIDENT POTTER.

Chicago Reports Say He is Still a Very Sick Man.

CHICAGO, Jan. 29.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—Vice President Potter of the Union Pacific, spent to-day very quietly at the Grand Pacific hotel, his physicians refusing to allow him to leave his room. Cards of visitors were returned stating that Mr. Potter required absolute rest and must not be disturbed. From the hotel people it was learned that the reports of Potter's illness have not yet been exaggerated and that he is still a very sick man. He is under constant medical care and part of the regime prescribed is that the patient shall not leave his bed or give the slightest attention to business. With complete rest the physicians hope to have Mr. Potter on his feet again in a few days. The number of personal friends who inquired after the railroad man was very large, and much sympathy was expressed when the seriousness of his illness became known.

Colman on Pleuro-Pneumonia.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 29.—In response to a request from the senate committee on agriculture and forestry, Commissioner Colman has written a long letter setting forth his views with regard to the suppression of pleuro-pneumonia. He reviews at some length the history and method of the work of the bureau of animal industry and says congress should clearly understand that this method of work is absolutely essential to wipe out the disease, and that any law which falls short in any one particular will fail of its purpose and the money expended under it will be thrown away. Commissioner Colman expresses the belief that the plan of state co-operation is preferable to one which relies solely upon the national authority.

Colonel Dan Wants Advancement.

NEW YORK, Jan. 29.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—A special to the World from Warsaw, N. Y., says that Colonel Dan Lamont is laying pipes to secure the democratic nomination for governor of New York state provided the present programme of Cleveland and Hill does not fail to work. The authority for this is a gentleman from Lamont's old home, McGrowville, N. Y., who is an intimate friend of the colonel and whose wife is a friend of the colonel's wife. According to him the majority of the men who will compose the New York state convention next fall have been materially aided in one way or another by Lamont. "Hill being out of the way," says the friend, "Lamont could secure an almost unanimous nomination."

Steamship Arrivals.

NEW YORK, Jan. 29.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—Arrived—The Germanic and the Queen, from Liverpool; the Lydian Monarch, from London; the Albany, from Japan and China.

Fuel Reaches Brown's Valley.

ST. PAUL, Jan. 29.—The Brown's Valley road is now open to Brown's Valley and the first train since December 29 has reached that place with several car loads of fuel.

A Negro Lynched.

AMITE CITY, Jan. 29.—Ben Edwards, a colored rapist, was taken from jail last night and lynched.

MANDERSON'S PENSION BILL.

Senator Davis to Speak in Favor of It.

CLEVELAND TO BE CRITICISED.

Dishonorable Method By Which a Democrat is Trying to Unseat a Republican Representative—Politics at Washington.

Will Probably Pass.

WASHINGTON BUREAU THE OMAHA BEE, 513 FOURTEENTH STREET, WASHINGTON, D. C., Jan. 29.

There is not much legislation of importance for the week in congress. That which will likely interest BEE readers most is the dependent pension bill of Mr. Manderson, which the senate intends to pass. It has been reported favorably from the committee on pensions by Chairman Davis, of Minnesota, and he and Mr. Manderson intend to make speeches in its support while the measure is under consideration. It is expected that they will "rip up the back" President Cleveland's attitude on pensions generally, and his vetoes of general and private pension bills, in particular. Should they have opportunity to speak they will undoubtedly bring out the other side in a hot discussion. Mr Voorhees, of Indiana, has announced that he will justify the president's vetoes and the opposition of his party to further pension legislation, and especially to a dependent or universal pension law.

A UNIQUE CONTESTED ELECTION CASE.

In the house during the week an interesting contest-election case is to be disposed of. It is that of Lowry against White, of the Fort Wayne, Ind., district. White is in the seat now, having received the certificate of election from a democratic governor. The district is about 2,400 democratic. Lowry, who is an old school democrat, was twice elected, but gave such poor satisfaction to his constituents that his party turned on him in the last campaign, and he was defeated by over 2,500 majority. White is a Scotchman and Lowry is an Irishman. Both are over fifty years old. In 1856 the records of Allen county show that White applied for naturalization papers. In 1861 he went into the union army, was an excellent soldier, arose in the ranks and was wounded in battle. Just before he enlisted he took out his naturalization papers, but they were lost in the confusion of the war, and in 1865 he again took out naturalization papers. These were either mislaid or burned in a fire which destroyed his store. Lowry was on the bench a long time, from 1868 and he knew the records. A few days before the election of 1886, when White was elected, Lowry, knowing there was no record proof of White's naturalization, posted notices warning voters against casting their ballots for White, declaring he was not a naturalized citizen. When it became known that White had more than reversed the majority by his great popularity, Lowry announced that he would unseat him, and he contested it. The committee on elections has decided, by a party vote, that White cannot prove his naturalization by parole testimony, that he cannot, as he has done, bring in living witnesses and prove that they were present in court when the first and second papers were issued to him; and that Lowry, not having received a majority of the legal votes cast, is not entitled to his seat. The republicans will fight the majority report in the house. They declare it an outrage that a man who produces the record to show that he made a declaration of citizenship in 1856, served in the union war, proves by reputable citizens that he took out his naturalization papers and has lost them, and that he has lived in the country more than thirty years, held local offices and been recognized as a citizen all the time, should not be allowed to take his seat in the congress because he cannot prove by the court records that he received his naturalization papers, when he proves that no record was made on account of notorious carlessness, no record in that era having been made of many other naturalization papers issued, divorces granted, etc. It is probable that a very lively time will be had over the case in the house about Thursday. The democratic party leaders are cracking the whip over recreant members to-night and driving into line those who declare they will not support the majority report. The republicans have a majority of the states in the house of one. Indiana's delegation standing seven republicans, six democrats. If the presidential election next fall should be in doubt and go to congress for settlement it can be seen how important it is to have a majority. If White can be unseated and the election thrown back to the people the democrats believe they can elect a democratic successor, as White cannot run again, being unseated as ineligible, and they may elect, as they have 2,400 majority normally. This is considered the most interesting case that has come before the house for many years.

TO AMEND MANDERSON'S INFANTRY BILL.

A writer on military affairs in to-day's New York Herald says: "To the Manderson bill in the senate and its equivalent in the house will be offered an important amendment. It will amend line 15, section 1, by a provision that of the fifty majors of infantry created by the act, six shall be taken from civil life. The number was twelve but it was thought best to reduce to the number stated. The purpose of this amendment is to give some former officers of the army, who resigned and went into business enterprises that have proved barren and whose records are exceptionally good, a chance to get back into the service. That it will bring some very powerful influence to the aid of the measure is certain. I think it is mainly in the interest of three or four gentlemen whose services have been of the most disinguished character, who would be glad to return to the army and whom the army would be glad to have. If I mistake not one of these gentlemen was a distinguished member of the staff of Sergeant General Grant. What the house may think of the amendment I, of course, cannot say but I merely trust it may succeed."

PERRY S. HEATH.

A Committee Demanding Recognition.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 29.—The house committee on the alcoholic liquor traffic has instructed its chairman, Representative Campbell, of Ohio, to call the speaker's attention to the fact that bills relating to the liquor business have been referred to the committees on judiciary, ways and means, and the District of Columbia, instead of the committee on the alcoholic liquor traffic, which, it contends, properly has jurisdiction over all bills affecting the liquor question. On the 9th of February the committee will give a hearing to a delegation from the National Temperance alliance on the bill to create a commission to inquire into the liquor traffic. Representative Campbell said to-night, while he could not speak for the full committee, he personally was not in favor of prohibition. A strict license law, he thought, would prove effective.

This Week of Congress.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 29.—The education bill remains the unfinished business of the senate for to-morrow. It is likely it will give place temporarily to the house bill making appropriations for agricultural experiment stations. If brought to vote before the end of the week it will probably be succeeded by the undervaluation or dependent pension bills. The urgent deficiency bill will be reported to the house in the beginning of the week and will probably occupy attention for a day or two. The Wilkins national bank bill stands first in the order of unfinished business, but if Wilkin's remains ill, it will probably give way to a resolution assigning an unlimited period of time for the consideration of a large number of bills for the erection of public buildings.

PUGILISTIC POINTS.

More Paper Fighting About the Several Champions in England.

[Copyright 1888 by James Gordon Bennett.]

LONDON, Jan. 29.—[New York Herald Cable—Special to the BEE.]—The Herald's interviews with Harding, Johnson, Wakeley, etc., have been seized upon by the London press and especially by the sporting papers. Their statements have been extensively copied and commented upon. Into this ring this morning pony Moore shies his cap with a challenge, addressed to the secretary of the Sporting Life. In the course of this Moore says:

"I challenge any Englishman or American to prove I had one penny bet on Smith. My sympathy and whatever else I had been enabled to offer have been given to Jake Kilrain, who was my friend from the first time I met him in America and ever since. When Kilrain is in London my house is his home. As regards Mr. Johnson's statement about my hedging, he does not speak the truth. Every penny I had on the fight was bet on Kilrain. As regards the bet between Mr. Sage and myself, that is another untruth, and I take this opportunity of denying it in toto, and Mr. Lynch and Mr. Wakeley's statements of the affair. Now as regards the four Americans that were left, I would here state it was entirely their own fault, and judging from their behavior when they were met by us in Paris it was, I think, quite as well for the sake of order and fair play that they were not present at the fight, for their behavior was simply that of bullies, threatening to make it warm for us whenever we arrive in America, instead of thanking and being proud of Kilrain for his gallant, courageous conduct. As regards their threats to me, I wish them to thoroughly understand, although now old in years, I am not afraid of any such as made the threats. The only truth in Johnson's statement is where he makes mention of Charlie Mitchell as my son-in-law. Never was father prouder of a son, and I am sure every true American must honor and respect both him and Charley Rowell for the kind, brotherly manner in which they looked after the interest of my friend, the champion of America, Jake Kilrain."

Commenting on the raw war of words which has set in on both sides the Atlantic, the current number of the Country Gentleman newspaper says: "If some person of power does not exercise a peaceful influence, the fighting men will fight, and what would come of that I do not care to contemplate. Your Smiths and Kilrains, and your Sullivans and your Mitchells, your Ashtons and your Davis, have talked themselves into a fever, and assuredly they will fight one fine day. I would, for my part, much sooner hear these gentlemen banter one another than see them spar or fight. From the former one night I learned much that is novel in the way of phrase and fable."

This morning's Sportsman offers an apology to Moore for having copied the New York statement.

Pat Sheedy sailed Saturday on the Umbria. He said on leaving Queenstown: "I feel confident that Sullivan, who aches for a go at Mitchell, will knock him out before the fifth round is completed. However, in justice to Mitchell, it is only fair to state that he possesses far more science than his professional brothers, Smith and Kilrain. It is very injudicious on the part of the American champion to condescend even to meet Mitchell, as he has nothing to gain by it."

A Princely Betrothal.

STOCKHOLM, Jan. 29.—Prince Oscar was formally betrothed to Miss Munck in the royal palace to-day. The ceremony was a brilliant one and was witnessed by all the members of the royal family and cabinet ministers.

Requiem Service Forbidden.

LONDON, Jan. 29.—Cardinal Manning has forbidden the proposed requiem services in memory of Prince Charles Edward Stuart.

The Austrian Loan Consummated.

PESTH, Jan. 29.—The negotiations with the Rothschild syndicate for the issue of a 4 per cent rentes to the amount of $15,000,000, have been concluded.

Requested to Evacuate.

CONSTANTINOPLE, Jan. 29.—The Porte has requested England to evacuate Zeilah.

POTATOES ARE SCARCE.

A Shortage in the Crop Causes Heavy Importation.

CHICAGO, Jan. 29.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—Since the potato failure of 1881 potatoes have not been dearer or scarcer over the country than they now are. The crop last year in Michigan, southern Wisconsin and New York—the three greatest potato producing states—was a total failure. The Illinois and Indiana crop was far below the average, and Missouri, Iowa and Ohio did not fare much better. During the early fall and winter the scarcity was not felt so badly, but since the railroads have been blocked by storms in the northwest the scarcity has grown daily and prices have gone up. Since about January 1 foreign consignments of potatoes direct from Scotland, Germany and Denmark have been made to this city. Other great distributing points—St. Louis and Kansas City—have been in a measure supplied with Utah and Colorado potatoes, but the supply has now given out, and calls are being made upon this city which it will be difficult to fill, until at least the weather moderates. The largest consignment made direct from Europe to any firm in this city was that which arrived Thursday to a commission house. It consisted of 8,000 bushels from Rotterdam. The head of the firm said to a reporter to-day that until the recent blizzard set in Manitoba had shipped large quantities to this country, but since then the supply from there had been shut off and they were compelled to send to Europe. The potatoes cost in Europe 10 to 15 cents a bushel. In Chicago they are now bringing 90 cents, with a prospect of going higher. Chicago consumers use between nine and ten thousand bushels a day, and very little of the importations have been shipped away.

INDIGNATION IN MANITOBA.

The Proposition For a Compromise Causes Indignation.

WINNIPEG, Jan. 29.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—A storm of indignation has been created among the independent members of the conservative party over the proposition for a compromise with the Dominion government and the Canadian Pacific outlined in the conservative meeting at Brandon. This proposition condemns the selection of Norquay as the conservative leader and declares that all agitation over the completion of the Red River Valley railroad should be abandoned, if the Canadian Pacific makes certain concessions, among them that its monopoly shall be abandoned in 1891. J. B. McKillingan, one of the most prominent conservatives, sends in his resignation as a member of the Conservative association, and declares that as between the Dominion government and the province no compromise can be made that does not give an immediate cessation of the disallowance policy. "And if agitation is necessary to accomplish our ends, it will be the Dominion government that is to olame for the consequences." Manitoba is on the eve of an agitation far greater than any previous one.

Redpath Stricken With Paralysis.

NEW YORK, Jan. 29.—James Redpath, the journalist, was stricken with paralysis yesterday and is very low.

THE SCHOOL BOOK MONOPOLY.

Two Bills On the Subject Before Iowa's Legislature.

CONCERNING PUBLIC PRINTING.

A Proposition For the State to Open an Establishment of Its Own—Farmers Unable to Ship Their Grain.

Getting Down to Business.

DES MOINES, IA., Jan. 29.—[Special to the BEE.]—The legislature has had nearly a week of preliminary work, and will soon settle down to business. So many members seemed to feel that they would not be earning their salary if they did not introduce a number of bills, that it has taken some time for them to unload and get ready for work instead of buncombe. The committees have been organized long enough for them to size up the task before them and begin to dispose of some of it. This coming week there will probably be a number of bills reported back to the house in which they originated, ready for action of some kind.

FREE SCHOOL BOOKS.

The school book question is one of the prominent ones before the legislature. So far there has been no well-defined policy in the minds of a majority of its members as to what should be done. There is a general feeling that some relief from the monopoly must be afforded, but it is not so clear what that relief should be. The bill most discussed so far is that of Senator Finn, chairman of the senate committee on schools. His bill is quite broad and elastic in its provisions, and provides for using the executive council as a special school commission, without extra expense. This commission is to have authority to purchase books for the state at the lowest contract price, and if satisfactory terms are not offered then the commission can publish a series of text books themselves. The feature of having the state, under any contingency, go into the business of publishing books is regarded by many as the unfortunate part of this bill. There is very general opposition to a move of this kind.

Senator Harsh, another new member, has also prepared a school book bill. His bill provides for submitting the question of free text books to the voters of any school district or district township at the time of the school election. If they vote for free text books, then the district, at public expense, must furnish all the text books needed for a period of not less than three years. If so ordered, the school board, in consultation with the county superintendent of schools, and city superintendent when such officer exists, shall select a series of books and the necessary paper, slates and pencils and furnish them to pupils free of charge. The board, however, is not compelled to be bound by the advice of the county superintendent, thus leaving it free to act in case he shall seem to be unduly influenced by any publisher. The advantage claimed for this bill is that it secures uniformity in the district and furnishes the books of pupils free. Then if they move from one district to another it will make no pecuniary difference to them should another set of books be used, for they would be supplied without charge. Senator Harsh's bill meets with considerable favor, and it is thought that this or something like it will pass.

THE STATE PRINTING.

One of the reforms that is being discussed relates to saving in the matter of the state printing and binding. At present the state printer and the state binder are elected by the legislature and are permitted to charge for their work according to an established schedule of prices. The bills for this work amount to a large sum every year, and some think it would be more economical if the state were to furnish a printing and binding office of its own and do its own work. Senator Weber has introduced a bill for that purpose, which provides that the executive council shall set apart rooms in either the old or new capitol, where the printing shall be done under the direction of a foreman, whose salary shall not exceed $1,800 per year. The foreman is to employ the necessary printers and binders, and they shall do all the printing and binding required by the state upon the order of the secretary of state. The fact that the old capitol is about empty and being put to no service by the state, suggests to many the advisability of turning it into a state printing and binding office. It is hardly likely that Senator Weber's bill will pass, though some changes in the present methods may be made.

MORE CARS NEEDED.

The scarcity of freight cars in northwestern Iowa is proving a great embarrassment and often hardships to the people of that section. Complaints are received by the governor or railway commissioners on this subject nearly every day. In one county in western Iowa there is not a grain elevator open to farmers. The owners are unable to get cars to ship away their grain, and so they refuse to take any more till some can be moveed out of the way. The farmers who have been looking to the sale of their grain for money to pay interest and taxes are seriously embarrassed at the delay. They cannot get their crops to market, and so cannot get any money. About all the commissioners can do is to urge the railroads to furnish all the cars they possibly can, but the railroads do not seem to be equal to the occasion. The large crops in parts of the northwest appear to have swamped the roads, or at least temporarily "rattled" them.

THE MARSHALLTOWN SOLDIERS' HOME.

The legislative committee which visited the soldiers' home at Marshalltown, brought back very flattering reports of its conditions and the good work it is doing. This is the first experience Iowa has had with such an institution, and its success far surpasses expectation. The building which is handsomely, as well as substantially, built, contains accommodations for 300 old soldiers, and by crowding some, 400 might be taken care of. The veterans have plenty of good food to eat. Their quarters are lighted by electricity and heated by steam. They have games for amusement, reading for entertainment, and find the time pass very pleasantly. Their is some talk of having the legislature pass a bill tendering the property to the government for a national soldiers' home, on condition that it will be kept up for this purpose.

The Board of Pharmacy Commissioners have just issued their biennial report, in which they seek to set themselves right with the public, and incline public opinion favorably to their work. During the last few days they have received several raps. The supreme court overruled them in two or three decisions, which they had tenaciously held. The house of representatives pounced upon them with both feet, and repealed their ruling that only drug stores can sell concentrated lye, so that the commissioners have been having much grief. However, they are doing good work in some directions, and have done much to prevent violations of the liquor law by drug store saloons.

What the Legislature is Doing.

DES MOINES, IA., Jan. 29.—[Special to the BEE.]—A copy of last Monday's BEE, containing my predictions of the probable action of each senator on the bills for regulating railroads, strayed into the senate chamber in the early part of the week and created no small commotion. The senators classed as anti-monopolists were extremely happy and made no attempt to deny the statement, but the sixteen classed as opposed to railroad legislation were sorely troubled and quite out of humor over the matter.

The railroad committee have held several meetings since and my prediction has been verified in every case so far as these are concerned. Several of the eleven who were put in the doubtful list have made haste to either introduce anti-monopoly bills or to declare themselves in sympathy with the present spirit of the people on these questions. So it looks now extremely favorable for advanced railroad legislation. The railroads took another tack last week, but with what result remains to be seen. Hon. A. B. Cummins, of this city, a well known attorney for the Rock Island, who was elected to the lower house ostensibly as an anti-prohibitionist, but really by the confederated monopolies—railroads and insurance companies—to represent their interests, has introduced a long, cumbersome and complicated bill granting power to the railroad commissioners to fix rates for both freight and passengers, and the whole power of the corporations will be exerted to pass this bill.

A few days ago there was a meeting in this city, of shippers made up to some extent of men who desire special rates, and the railroad problem was the chief topic of the discussion. This convention endorsed, some say unanimously, the Cummins bill, and the corporation organs are industriously circulating this fact to influence the actions of the legislators and bring them over to its support. However, the anti-monopolists are not to be caught by this chaff, and will, almost to a man support the bill prepared by Messrs. Berryhill, Feale, Custer, Tipton and other anti-monopoly leaders and approved by President Kennedy, of the Farmers' alliance. This bill provides for the election of railroad commissioners, fixes maximum freight charges, and grants power to the commissioners to modify the rates, but in no case shall they exceed the highest rate fixed by law.

The first contest in the railroad committee of the senate has resulted in a victory for the people, that body after a sharp contest having agreed to report back the bill requiring railroads to fence their lines, with a recommendation that it do pass.

NO OIL ROOM

has yet been opened in this city but Hon. John S. Russnells, formerly of Des Moines but now of Chicago, and J. E. Blythe, of Burlington, attorneys for the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy, are on the ground viewing the situation and hobnobbing with their funds in the senate.

A vicious growl has gone up from the corporation organs all over the state over the make-up of the railroad committees of the house and senate. Speaker Redman placed eight farmers before the house committee and not a single corporation copper. Lieutenant Governor Hill was not able to do as well, but he only gave the railroads three out of the eleven members and it is a question if the anti-monopolists like McVay, of Calhoun, do not actually have a majority of the committee. The

SENSATION OF THE WEEK

Was the introduction into both houses, Thursday, of the bill supplementary to the Clark law. It has been known for some time that a committee of the State Temperance Alliance and a number of leading prohibitionists were busy preparing a measure to abolish saloon drug stores, but few were prepared to believe that a measure so radical and extreme as the bill proposed would be the outcome. The bill absolutely takes away the sale and handling of alcohol in all its forms from the druggists except for making tinctures and compounds, and vests it in the hands of agents to be appointed by the district judge. Not more than four agents can be appointed in any one county, and they are so hedged about by the most erroneous and exacting conditions that, if the bill passes, it is questionable whether any one will undertake the sale of liquors except in the largest cities. The bill provides that all liquor packages shall be stamped, and that liquors found in unstamped packages shall be subject to seizure; also that no person can purchase intoxicating liquor of any kind unless he subscribes to an oath that it is for some specified, lawful purpose.

The committees on the suppression of intemperance, in both houses, are so constituted that the bill will very likely secure a favorable report and, radical and extreme as it is, the prohibitionists will give it a strong support and may be able to secure enough votes to make it a law. Should the bill pass, it will either wipe out the liquor traffic entirely or create such a revulsion of public feeling that a high license law similar to that in Nebraska will be enacted by the next legislature.

SCHOOL BOOK DISCUSSION.

The legislators are all at sea on the school book question and while a large majority are certainly of the opinion that something should be done to cheapen the price of school books, none of the numerous plans proposed meet with much favor. A number favor the idea that the district should purchase the books and furnish them to the pupils free, while others believe that a uniform system should be published by the state and furnished at actual cost. Still others think that the state should purchase all the books at wholesale of the lowest bidders and furnish them to the districts at this option. Some measure of this kind may get through, but the large number of school book lobbyists in attendance will endeavor to so confuse matters as to make an action difficult. The teachers of the state are by no means a unit on the question. Many of them bitterly oppose the adoption of a uniform system, claiming that it would prevent any improvement in progress either in the material or in the composition. No one can deny but that there has been a decided change for the better in the arrangement of type and forms as well as in subject matter of school books in the last few years and this argument has some weight with legislators.

LEGISLATURE GOSSIP.

The house succeeded in passing one measure this week—a bill appropriating $7,200 to rebuild the kitchen and dining hall of the Soldiers' Orphans' Home at Davenport, which was recently destroyed by fire. Much of the time was given to committee work.

The registration bill passed two years ago compelling the voters in all cities of the first class to register before every election proved an elephant on the hands of the republicans and the author of the bill, Senator Hutchinson, of Wopello, made haste to amend its provisions so that a registration will only be necessary once in four years. Every effort is being made to pass the bill, so it will not be necessary to register for the coming spring election. REX.

Weather Indications.

For Nebraska: Colder, followed by warmer, fair weather, light to fresh variable winds.

For Iowa: Colder, fair weather, winds light to fresh northwesterly.

For Dakota: Slightly colder, fair weather, followed by light and local snows, light to fresh variable winds.

INCREASED INSURANCE.

Secretary Weir Says Premiums Will Be Raised May 1.

A reporter for the BEE called upon Secretary Weir, of the board of underwriters, to ascertain when it was proposed to increase the rate of insurance in this city, as indicated in his note to this paper. He said he thought the raise would be made about the first of next May. The increase in the department deemed desirable by the chairman of the commission of underwriters, J. L. Whitlock, of Chicago, in connection with Mr. Weir, was as follows: Five standard steam fire engines, five hose carts, one hook-and-ladder truck, and all the hose, apparatus and men required by such a compliment. He said that the insurance in Omaha was lower than in western cities generally, Kansas City, St. Paul, Minneapolis, St. Joseph and other places and when asked why this was the case replied that the companies had not experienced any particularly severe losses here such as had been sustained in other places.

CHIEF GALLIGAN'S SUGGESTION.

At a recent meeting of the police and fire commission, Chief Galligan sent to that body a suggestion that the fire department needed the following apparatus and accommodation: Two first-class steam fire engines, for use in the business part of the city; three hose carts, one for Kountze's in the north, one for Walnut Hill in the west and the third on Vinton street in the south, the last mentioned also to have a hook and ladder truck. The chief also suggested that a decent central house (No 3 on Harney street) be secured. The present building was but a barn. There are nineteen men sleeping in it. He also recommended the enlargement of the house of No. 2.

FRESHIES OUTWIT THE SOPHS.

Exciting Little Episode Among Cornell University Students.

AN ABDUCTION AND ESCAPE.

Sophomores Carry the Freshman President Away Captive, But He Makes a Daring and Successful Break For Liberty.

Stirred Up a Hornet's Nest.

ITHACA, N. Y., Jan. 29.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—There was considerable excitement in the college circles at Cornell university to-night over the capture, abduction and remarkable and daring escape last evening of the president of the freshman class from a body of sophomores who had held him in duress for twenty-four hours. The trouble between the sophomores and freshmen grows out of the approaching annual banquets of both classes within the next few weeks. There had been peace ever since the all-night fight several months ago and the first sign of a renewal of hostilities was when Friday the sophomores came out with a pamphlet satirizing a secret meeting of the freshmen class and giving a four-page account of the proceedings. The sophomores decided to carry the war into the enemy's camp, and through the help of some of the seniors a plan was formed for kidnapping the freshman president and spiriting him away, to be held in captivity until the freshman banquet, which comes off early next week. Accordingly Friday night about midnight a body of seniors and sophomores went to President Davis' lodgings on East Hill, burst open the door of his room, and after a hand-to-hand scuffle with Davis and his chum succeeded in capturing the president. The captive was tied and blindfolded and then led down stairs. A closed carriage, which had been previously secured for the occasion, was in waiting, and into this the captors and captive entered. The carriage was hurriedly driven off, leaving Davis' chum to give the alarm to the freshmen. The carriage and load of kidnappers was driven now one way and now another, through streets and alleys, in order to bewilder the captive and preclude the possibility of discovering whither he was going. After an hour's ride the party alighted, and then a pedestrian tour began. The captors led their victim up the hill and down, and walked him for a long time so that he would not know the locality of his prison home. The party, as it afterward turned out, had secured quarters for President Davis in the upper story of a house kept by one Rupert, on Geneva street, and into this place he was taken, after which both captors and captive went to sleep.

Davis was carefully guarded during the whole day and had no idea at first where he was. By the striking of the church bells he gathered a general idea of his location and resolved at noon to effect an escape. At half-past 5 last evening the sophomore guards were horror stricken to see their prisoner make a rush toward one of the windows. Before they could prevent him Davis jumped, feet foremost, through two heavy curtains and a plate glass window and disappeared from the sight of the guards. Fortunately for him, in his fall of twenty or more feet, he alighted on his feet and in a small bank of snow. Although scratched and slightly bruised, he took to his heels and soon reached a place of safety among his friends. The young man was safely guarded last night in a secret place by a large body of freshmen.

The affair will stir up a regular hornet's nest here. The freshmen banquet comes off early in the week and the sophomores banquet on Friday at Auburn. President Adams has summoned one or two of the leaders to his side and his action may put a damper on later proceedings.

THE CLEARANCE RECORD.

The Financial Transactions of the Past Week.

BOSTON, MASS., Jan. 29.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—The following table compiled from dispatches to the Post from the managers of the leading clearing-houses of the United States, shows the gross exchanges for the week ended January 28, 1888, with the rate per cent of increase or decrease as compared with the amounts for the corresponding week last year:

CITIES.	CLEARINGS	Increase.	Decrease.
New York	$549,457,039		21.7
Boston	76,660,243		1.5
Philadelphia	67,270,680	5.3	
Chic