THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

SEVENTEENTH YEAR. OMAHA, WEDNESDAY MORNING, FEBRUARY 8, 1888. NUMBER 235.

KNOW-NOTHINGISM REVIVED.

Reported Discovery of a Great Political Secret Society.

ANYTHING TO DEFEAT BLAINE.

The Purposes of the Organization Alleged to Be For Booming Judge Gresham For the Presidential Nomination.

A Political Resurrection.

CHICAGO, Feb. 7.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—The Mail says to-night: A political secret society, one in which, though the objects of the association are lawful and may be laudable, the members are obligated to profound secrecy, even as to the membership of the order, is a novelty in the American political history of the past twenty years. At least such an organization is in existence and has been in operation for several months past. Its avowed purpose is nothing less than to control the republican national convention which meets here in June and to prevent by any means the nomination of James G. Blaine for the presidency by that convention. The candidate of the society for the presidential nomination is Judge Walter Q. Gresham. It is not claimed that that gentleman is aware of the existence, the workings or the purposes of the society, but neither is it denied. It was only through an incautious slip of the tongue by one of the members that a reporter learned of the existence of such an organization and a very persistent application of the most approved methods of "pumping" developed the following facts regarding this American president-making society: The society has been in existence for some time and has slowly been perfecting its organization in all of the states. In the south and west—particularly where the question of a low tariff may be the main issue of the coming campaign—the greatest amount of work has been done and the most satisfactory results obtained. Throughout certain portions of the east this propaganda has been preached to many converts, and it is asserted that the society now numbers thousands of selected men in all parts of the country, men who will obey orders or men who have either given their solemn word of honor never to reveal, until the "proper time," the intentions or the methods of the leaders.

Ohio has been one of the principal fields of labor of the "organizers," and they say there is a "circle" or "branch" of the "order" in every county of that state. Illinois has been well worked also, and in more than forty counties the "order" has subordinate organizations, some of which have already affiliated with the main body, while others are all prepared and are waiting for the advent of the "organizer," who passed through Chicago a few days ago on his way to the work of initiation of the new branches.

The method of securing members for the society is very peculiar. Men are selected who are known in the first place to be republicans, or anti-Cleveland democrats, or anti-Blaine men. Anti-Blaine men are cheerfully sought for. When a man is found who, it is thought, is fitted for membership, his name is proposed and he is balloted for. All this time the individual so honored does not know that such a society exists, much less that he is under consideration for membership. If found suitable he is elected to the brotherhood and then some one well acquainted with him is deputated to sound him with a view to obtaining an expression of opinion regarding the objects and mission of the society. This is done in so guarded a way as not to excite suspicion, and if everything is satisfactory the gentleman is informed of the new honor that has been conferred on him.

The main object of the Gresham organization will be to get Gresham men elected as delegates to the national convention. In every case possible a Gresham man will be put forward without obtruding his preference until the session of the convention.

In reply to a question as to whether the Gresham association had any strength in Chicago, the gentleman who gave the information said: "There is in Chicago a republican who was in the convention that nominated Lincoln, and also in that which nominated Garfield, and who stood very high in the confidence of the administration under Lincoln and under Hayes."

"Who is the leader of the movement in this state?"

"Men who are supposed to be solid Blaine men and who will continue to be thought such till the first ballot in the convention. They are heart and soul in the movement."

A number of leading republicans were seen and questioned, but none of them had heard of the Gresham movement, but the know-nothings' attack on Blaine had been broatched to several of them

Illinois Editorial Preferences.

CHICAGO, Feb. 7.—In reply to inquiries as to the choice or preference of Illinois editors for president and governor, the Chicago Evening Journal has so far received sixty-nine answers, with the following result:

For president: Republicans—Robert T. Lincoln 13, James G. Blaine 10, Shelby M. Cullom 6, Walter Q. Gresham 4, Joseph R. Hawley 3, John Sherman 2, Philip H. Sheridan 2, George W. Childs 1. Democrats—Grover Cleveland 22, John C. Black 1. Greenbackers—Jesse Harper 1. Prohibitionists—John P. St. John 1, no choice 3. For governor: Republicans—John C. Smith 8, Joseph W. Fifer 5, John McNulta 5, James A. Connelly 4, Robert W. McClaughrey 1, Frank M. Wright 3, Richard J. Oglesby 2, Lewis E. Payson 2, Clark E. Carr 2, Thomas J. Henderson 1, Horatio C. Burchard 1. Democrats—Julius S. Grinnell 4, William R. Morrison 3, William A. J. Sparks 3, Andrew Jackson Bell 2, Adlai E. Stevenson 2, John M. Palmer 1, Jesse J. Phillips 1, William Brown 1, William J. Mize 1. Greenback—Andrew Jackson Streeter 1. Prohibitionist—Judge McCullough 1, no choice 6.

RESULT OF A QUARREL.

Three Men Killed and One Fatally Wounded in Louisiana.

JEANERETTE, La., Feb. 7.—In an altercation George Dixon was shot and killed by Jake Marshall, a colored deputy sheriff. Marshall fled and concealed himself in a corn crib, where he was found with his brother. The pair were fired upon and the brother and Louis Payton, a spectator, were almost instantly killed. Jake Marshall succeeded in escaping, but received fatal wounds. The shooting was done by unknown persons.

Electricity For St. Joe Street Cars.

ST. JOSEPH, Mo., Feb. 7.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—An ordinance was introduced in the council last night granting the Union Street Railway company permission to change its motive power over its entire line, a distance of four and a half miles, to electricity. The Union company will not be permitted to operate its line at a greater speed than ten miles per hour through the less populous portion of the city, or at over eight miles through the more densely populated portion. The line will be in operation from the northern limits to the city hall by July 1.

The Hatfield-McCoy Gangs.

CHARLESTON, W. Va., Feb. 7.—Governor Wilson to-day commissioned ex-Congressman Gibson to represent West Virginia in the habeas corpus proceedings to be begun in Louisville, for the return of nine prisoners in the Pike county, Kentucky jail, who are charged with having been implicated in the recent Hatfield-McCoy vendetta.

Exports From New York.

NEW YORK, Feb. 7.—Exports, exclusive of specie, at the port of New York for the week ending February 6 amounted to $6,087,000.

BLOODY DOUBLE TRAGEDY.

A Missourian Kills the Girl He Loved and Then Suicides.

ST. JOSEPH, Mo., Feb. 7.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—A frightful tragedy was committed this morning at 8 o'clock on a stock farm six miles south of Stewartsville, a small town on the Hannibal road, twenty-eight miles east of this city, William Bull, the superintendent of a stock farm, shooting Miss Elva Everett, daughter of the proprietor of the farm, dead and then killing himself. Miss Everett, who is remarkably pretty and an heiress, is the belle of the neighborhood. A few months ago Bull asked her to marry him. She refused, and told him not to mention the subject to her. He was persistent in his efforts and became wearisome to the young lady, who appealed to her mother to show him the folly of his attempt. The mother did so, and Bull never again referred to the subject until to-day. This morning after he had completed his morning's work he went to the young lady and requested a private interview. She refused, telling him to say what he had to tell her before her mother. The young lady was in the kitchen at the time and was sitting in a chair by the stove. Without saying a word Bull drew a pistol from his pocket and fired, the ball striking the girl in the back of the head and killing her instantly. Bull then ran into an adjoining room and shot himself in the temple and died immediately. The mother fell prostrate and is delirious. Sunday Bull wrote the girl's father, who is in Kentucky, and to his own father, who resides in southeast Missouri, telling them that he intended to kill the girl and himself and that he would like to be buried in the same grave with the girl he loved, but who spurned him. The Everett family is one of the best in this section of the state and known far and wide. The father of the girl owns a stock farm of 640 acres and is one of the leading stock raisers of the northwest.

HAD TO JOIN.

The Union Pacific Finally Involved in the Great Rate War.

CHICAGO, Feb. 7.—The first slash was made to-day into Des Moines freight rates, which were reduced early by the Rock Island to, first class, 25 cents; second, 20; third, 15; fourth, 12½; fifth, 10, and class A, 8. This is a reduction of 60 per cent from established rates and 8 per cent below Monday's cut rates. The drive was made against the Chicago, St. Paul & Kansas City road. Des Moines rates are too low for the Burlington, which announces that it is out of Des Moines business. The Rock Island and Milwaukee & St. Paul made the latest cuts the basis of through rates to all junction points on the Union Pacific in Nebraska, much against the will of the latter road, which was anxious to preserve its local rates, but by virtue of the old tripartite agreement, which is yet in force, it was compelled to yield and participate. This carries the cut rate all over Nebraska. Lumber rates were evened up to 10 cents per hundred to all Missouri river points, and it was rumored that some lines were contracting at as low rates as 5 cents, but this was denied. The fight got too hot for the St. Louis and Kansas City roads, and they agreed to make no reductions below the rates put in effect Monday morning. A slight reduction of 1 cent per hundred was made in corn rates from Council Bluffs, but this was caused by class reductions, and none of the lines are cutting old grain rates. The air was full of rumors of other reductions, but the above were authoritatively made.

Another Bank Sensation.

CINCINNATI, Feb. 7.—William Means, president of the Metropolitan National bank, has been arrested for violation of the national banking laws. The warrant was issued this morning, but was not served in the usual manner, out of regard for Means. District Attorney Burnett notified him after 12 o'clock of the issuance of the writ and arranged for Means to go voluntarily with his bondsmen to the commissioner's office at 2 o'clock. This arrest causes a decided sensation. Means has had a leading position among business men for a number of years, and has been reputed quite wealthy. He served a term as mayor, when he was elected, not by a party vote, but by a combination, whose support was a compliment to their candidate. To have a man of such prominence put in peril of imprisonment causes a profound feeling. At this time it is not thought other arrests will be made, but of this no one can speak with certainty, because there has not been time for a thorough examination of the bank's affairs.

President Means appeared this afternoon at the office of the United States commissioner and gave bond for his appearance in the sum of $20,000. The charge against him in the warrant is the misapplication of upwards of $200,000 of the funds of the bank.

Sheedy and the Sluggers.

NEW YORK, Feb. 7.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—Pat Sheedy, who arrived on the Aurania yesterday, is firmly of the opinion that Sullivan is training honestly and well at Windsor, and with the intention of getting himself in the best possible condition. Mitchell had no idea that Sullivan would get into condition or would meet him in the spring. Sheedy reiterates his statement that the fight between Kilrain and Smith was a "barney," and says that everyone in London knows it was. Mitchell had all to say about Kilrain's management, and Fox's representative cut a contemptible figure in the whole affair, having no voice in it other than to re-echo Mitchell's ideas. All of Mitchell's attempts to make Sullivan so angry that he would take to drink have proved futile, and the big fellow has ten friends in England to Mitchell's one. Pat was not surprised at the result of the Dempsey-McCaffery fight, and he says Dempsey can readily whip either Kilrain or Smith. He does not believe, however, that he would have a show with Sullivan.

Fires and Snowslides.

MONTREAL, Feb. 6.—No mail from Victoria, B. C., has arrived for a week past on account of snow slides near Yale and cold weather.

Insurance companies lost $1,500,000 by fire in this city last year, which is two or three times as much as they received from premiums. One company is closing up, and it is thought several more will do so.

Fatal Gas Explosion.

INDIANAPOLIS, Feb. 7.—The Daily News' special from Anderson, Ind., says a terrific natural gas explosion occurred this morning at the residence of T. M. Norton, proprietor of the Anderson brewery, blowing out the entire front of the dwelling and killing Fenton C. Rogers, of Cincinnati, and severely burning Mrs. Norton.

Fox Run In.

NEW YORK, Jan. 4.—Richard K. Fox proprietor of the Police Gazette, was arrested this morning charged with violating the penal code by encouraging prize fighting.

When Fox was arraigned in court he asked for an adjournment of the examination until Tuesday. His request was granted and he was released on his own recognizance.

New York Dry Goods Market.

NEW YORK, Feb. 7.—There was a very large business completed through deliveries on orders for all descriptions of cotton goods, but the demand is in proportion to stocks, which continue wholly nominal. For heavy woolens there was more doing through orders.

St. Louis Wants It.

ST. LOUIS, Feb. 7.—Leading democrats of the city held a meeting yesterday afternoon and selected a committee to go to Washington and present to the democratic national committee the claims and advantages of St. Louis as a place to hold the next national convention.

SWAMP LAND SETTLEMENT.

The House Public Lands Committee Agrees on a Bill.

PROGRESS OF TARIFF WORK.

The Measure Already in the Hands of the Public Printer—The Nebraska Delegation Entertain Constituents.

The Swamp Land Bill.

WASHINGTON BUREAU THE OMAHA BEE,
513 FOURTEENTH STREET,
WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 7.

The house committee on public lands to-day agreed to report favorably a bill settling the swamp land claims of the various states against the general government. This bill provides for a cash indemnity to be paid to the several states at the rate of $1.25 per acre for all lands that have been sold for cash by the government, for the redemption of all outstanding swamp land certificates at the rate of $1.25 per acre and for the adjustment of all claims embraced in the land grants to the railroad companies at the same rates. In case any state which may have a claim on account of swamp lands, shall be indebted to the United States government for any reason, that indebtendess shall first be settled out of the proceeds of the sale of the swamp lands before any cash payments are made.

THE BANK REDEMPTION FUND BILL.

There appears to be a misunderstanding in the newspapers throughout the country in regard to bills, which have recently attracted attention. The bill which was knocked out in the committee on ways and means the other day by Congressman Scott, after having been agreed to by the democratic members of that committee, provided that the reserve fund in the United States treasury of the $100,000,000 in coin held for the redemption of United States notes should be invested in part in United States bonds. The bill that has been reported favorably from the house committee on banking and currency and is now upon the calendar of the house of representation waiting action is an entirely different measure. The latter provides for the investment in United States bonds of any moneys in the treasury belonging to national banks in process of liquidation, the interest upon such bonds to be paid to the creditors of said banks. This will release and place in circulation from $80,000,000 to $100,000,000, and will be a profitable transaction for the banks and their creditors. It is expected that this bill will be called up for consideration some day this week, when it is likely to pass, as there is very little objection to it.

THE READING RAILROAD COMMITTEE.

The chairmanship of the committee to investigate the Reading railroad strike has been offered to Mr. Collins, of Massachusetts, and Mr. Rayner, of Maryland, both of whom have declined. It will probably be given either to Judge Chapman, of Detroit, or Wilson, of Minnesota, and these two gentlemen, with Tillman, of South Carolina, or Mr. Collins, of Massachusetts, will represent the democracy upon the committee, provided the latter will accept, which is now doubtful. The speaker is urging him strongly, as he is an Irishman and has great influence among the laboring classes, as well as being one of the ablest lawyers and leaders in the house, but he is reluctant to take the responsibility. The republican members of the committee will probably be Anderson, of Kansas, and Stell, of Indiana.

THE TARIFF BILL.

The democratic members of the committee on ways and means have sent their tariff bill to the government printer to have a few confidential copies printed for their use in revision. When the copies are furnished the bill will be gone over again for revision and then the republican end of the committee will be allowed to look at it.

SOME CIVILIZED INDIANS.

Representative Dorsey, of Nebraska, was steering about the capitol to-day a delegation of stalwart red skins from the Omaha tribe in Nebraska, who have had their lands apportioned in severalty, have adopted the garb of civilization, have sent their children to the Indian schools at Hampton and Carlisle and are here to ask that the proceeds of the sales of their lands shall be invested for them under the direction of the Indian bureau in cattle instead of United States bonds. The tribe will receive about $400,000 from the sale of their surplus, which will be something like $900 to a family, and they prefer to have the money invested in stock than to have it tied up in the treasury and only receive the interest upon it. There are 250 voters in the tribe and they are said to be industrious and temperate men. As soon as they have their interview with the commissioners the delegates will go to Hampton, Va., and Carlisle, Pa., and see their children at school, of whose progress they are very proud. Senator Manderson escorted them about the senate wing of the capitol and introduced them to some of the great chiefs who hold counsel in that wigwam. Then he took them to the stationery room and gave each a pearl-handled pen-knife, which made their hearts glad. Dorsey, as his gift of peace, handed each one a silver-mounted lead pencil. Laird, who is the apollo of the Nebraska delegation, presented each with his photograph on a gilt-edged card, and there is a rumor to the effect that Representative McShane promised to remember them liberally when he makes his will. Representative Mason, of Chicago, was introduced to the Indians and when he found that they had been admitted to citizenship he immediately enquired as to their politics. The interpreter put the question to the head man, a monstrous, beefy-looking fellow, and the prompt answer came back that every member of the tribe voted the straight republican ticket, hearing which the great Chicago statesman said that he desired to shake each of them by the hand.

A SENSIBLE BILL.

The house committee on judiciary to-day agreed to report favorably a bill providing that no white man who has married or may hereafter marry an Indian woman shall by such marriage acquire any right to any property, privilege or interest to which the tribe of his wife shall be entitled, and every Indian woman who marries a white man shall hereafter become by such marriage a citizen of the United States, with all the rights, privileges and immunities of married women, and that the cohabitation as married persons of a white man with any married woman shall be accepted as evidence of matrimony. The purpose of this bill is to head off a number of enterprising white men, who are marrying the women of Indian tribes in order to get possession of the lands that are being allotted to the Indians in severalty.

A CAST OF JEFFERSON'S FACE.

A cast was taken to-day of the head of Thomas Jefferson for the use of some New York sculptor, who wants to make a bust of the apostle of democracy. As Mr. Jefferson could not be seen personally, the statue that stsnds in the old hall of representa-ives was used instead. This statue was made in bronze by DeAngre, a Frenchman, from a cast taken by him while Mr. Jefferson was secretary of state.

THE MILITARY ACADEMY MEASURE.

The military academy bill was reported to the house to-day by the military committee. In many respects it is more liberal towards the academy than the bill of last session. Several recommendations made by the board of visitors are incorporated in this year's bill. The bill of last year contained $130,000 for the erection of new buildings. Deducting that amount, the aggregate of the bill reported to-day exceeds that of last year by $25,000. No provision is made in the present bill for the erection and extension of building, furnishing proper accommodations for people visiting the academy and supplying additional facilities for the instruction of cadets, all of which were urged by the board of visitors and recommended by the war department. The aggregate amount appropriated by the bill is $314,000.

SOMETHING FOR DANA TO PONDER OVER.

This evening's Critic speaks editorially as follows: "If the editor of the Sun could only see the goings on at the white house since the late meeting of the New York state committee at Albany he would awaken to the fact that Grover C. is a candidate for renomination and is mounted on his political charges, lance in hand and visor drawn, ready for the conflict. Since that tie vote between the adherents of Cleveland and Hill, Colonel Lamont has rallied Cleveland's friends from all parts of New York, and the daily and nightly conferences at the white house in Cleveland's interest has been carried on with a zeal that would paralyze a mugwump and astonish the civil service reformers. Cleveland not a candidate? Why, he is for a renomination and will certainly get there—unless his free trade message proves a boomerang.

IS BLAINE SCARED OUT?

A dispatch from Chicago to the New York Herald, upon the authority of a member of the republican national committee, asserts that William Walter Phelps has a letter from Blaine authorizing the withdrawal of his name whenever such a course seems prudent. Mr. Phelps has been asked a good many times to-day about this letter, but has not ventured to say yes or no. His bangs have had a dejected look, however.

OMAHA AS A PORT OF ENTRY.

Senator Manderson made another appeal to the secretary of the treasury to-day in behalf of Omaha's claim to be declared a port of immediate transportation. He presented a great many facts and statistics to the secretary, and belives that at last that official is in a frame of mind to issue the order necessary.

FEDERAL COURTS IN NEBRASKA.

The sub-committee of the house committee on judiciary has made a favorable report on the Dorsey bill providing for the holding of terms of United States courts at Kearney, Hastings, Norfolk, Omaha and Lincoln. Judge Hammer and C. W. Tellson are here in support of the measure.

COLLAR MANUFACTURERS PROTEST.

A delegation of collar manufacturers appeared before the ways and means committee to-day, and urged that the duty on linen collars be increased from 25 to 75 per cent ad valorem. They claim that German manufacturers have stolen their patterns and their brands, and that the American markets are full of spurious American collars, made in Germany, and that if the duty is increased their industry would be protected against these Teutonic pirates.

THE SHERIDAN BOOM.

The Star says editorially to-night: "The Sheridan boom is booming enough to attract the rather thoughtful attention of the various presidential aspirants of both parties.

PERRY S. HEATH.

Among the Committees.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 7.—The committee on ways and means to-day agreed to report favorably C. R. Breckenridge's bill providing for the consolidation of customs districts as recommended by Secretary Fairchild. There was also some discussion, without result, of Nelson's bill extending to Rainy lake region, Minnesota, the privilege of free importation of unmanufactured lumber, owned and sawed by American citizens in Canada.

In reporting adversely the bill to create a civil service retired list, the house committee on reform in the civil service says the ultimate effect of the bill would probably be the building up of a burdensome civil pension list, unnecessary to the service and unjust to those who bear the burdens of the government.

The Oklahoma Territory Bill.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 7.—The bill forming the territory of Oklahoma, which was reported favorably from the house committee on territories to-day, provides that what is know as the "public lands strip" and that all that part of the Indian territory actually occupied by the civilized tribes of Indians shall be created into a temporary government under the name of the territory of Oklahoma. The president is required to appoint a commission of five persons to open negotiations with the Creeks, Seminoles and Cherokee tribes, and when they shall signify their assent to the provisions of the act and the president has issued his proclamation fixing the time for the same to take effect, the unoccupied lands ceded to the United States under the traties of June and March, 1886, shall be open to settlement, except the 16th and 36th section in each township which shall be reserved for school purposes. Lands so thrown open to settlement shall be disposed of to actual settlers only, in quantities not to exceed 160 acres to each settler at the price of $125 per acre. All persons settling on lands under the provisions of this act shall maintain a continual personal residence of three years before obtaining title. It opens all lands not required for the use of any Indian tribes to settlement; it makes it a punishable offence for any person or company to directly or indirectly induce any person to settle upon these lands with a view to afterwards acquiring title for himself from said occupants. All leases of lands belonging to the United States or held in common by the Indian tribes, of Okalhoma, except such as are held for farming purposes are declared void and contrary to public policy, and the president is required to cause the lessees to be removed from such lands. Laws granting lands for right of way to certain telegraph and railrsad companies, except for right of way and necessary stations are repealed and such lands forfeited to the United States. It prohibits any railroad company from acquiring lands in such territories to avoid in the construction of a road. Green county is exempted from the provisions of this bill.

National Capital Notes.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 7.—The bill introduced in the house to-day, by request, by Mr. Warner, of Missouri, for the appointment of a commissioner on reform in orthography, provides for the appointment of three commissioners to report to congress whether there is any practical system of orthography for the English language simpler than that now in use. The commissioners shall be distinguished scholars, and shall be paid $25 a day.

The bill to grant a pension of $12 per month to army nurses was to-day reported favorably from the senate committee on pensions.

M. H. Rawley was appointed as register of the land office at Mitchell, Dak.

The president has sustained the action of the secretary of war in issuing an order limiting details as aide-de-camp to four years.

It is stated at the interior department that the report of the Union Pacific railroad company for the quarter ended September 30, 1887, shows that nearly $83,000 was paid out by that company during the quarter named, as rebates to shippers. The company claims this amount should be deducted from the gross earnings in ascertaining the net earnings under the Thurman act.

Western Patents Issued.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 7.—[Special Telegram to the BEE]—Western patents were issued to-day as follows: Valentine G. Barney, Charles City, Ia., stone sawing machine; George H. Eymer, Red Oak, Ia., cooking utensil; Joseph McMillin, assignor of one-half to G. W. Julian, Casey, Ia., pipe cutter; John H. Whitaker, Davenport, Ia., trotting harness.

Nebraska and Iowa Pensions.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 7.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—Nebraska pensions were issued to-day as follows: George Cottrill, (deceased), Shelton; Julia A., widow of Chas. E. Fox, McCook; Druzilla Craven, former widow of George W. Cottrill, Shelton; James G. Cox, Mexican survivor, Humboldt.

Iowa pensions: William A. Graha, Tingley; Curtis Clarke, Chariton.

Burned to Death.

BOLIVIA, N. Y., Feb. 7.—The residence of George D. Hill, near here, burned last night. Mrs. Hill and two small children perished in the flames. Hill is so badly burned that he is not expected to live. It is believed that the fire was caused by natural gas, with which the house was heated.

Striking Oil.

ST. LOUIS, Feb. 7.—While boring an artesian well a few days ago at Grobes Bros'. brewery, oil, which proved to be crude petroleum, was found at a depth of 1,100 feet.

BILLINGS BEFORE THE BAR.

A Grand Jury Considering the Kingsley Murder Case.

MANY RAILROAD MAGNATES.

They Arrive in Des Moines to Oppose the Reduced Rate Bills—Solicitor Carey's Argument —Iowa News.

Growing Thin.

WAVERLY, Feb. 7.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—In the district court for Bremer county this morning, Judge Ruddick commanded the clerk to call the grand jury and the sheriff to bring M. E. Billings, committed for the murder of County Attorney Kingsley, into court. The defense challenged the whole pannel on the ground that they had seen no record of the drawing thereof, and did not know whether the law had been complied with, and also that the manner of drawing was not constitutional. After satisfying himself on these points the court failed to sustain the defense and the grand jury retired and began the investigation of the case about 2:30 p. m.

The prisoner's altered appearance was noted by the spectators present. His once rotund and portly form, which was wont to fill his clothes to repletion, has shrunk considerably, and from his face much of the color of health has disappeared and is replaced by the sickly palor always seen on the features of a jail bird. There is intense interest on the part of the public as to the result of the deliberations of the grand jury. The fact that Wile, a prejudiced juror, was retained on the jury but not allowed to act in this case, makes it necessary that the four remaining jurors must be unanimous in their action, under the instructions of Judge Ruddick, if an indictment be found.

Iowa Legislative Doings.

DES MOINES, Ia., Feb. 7.—Weber spoke before the senate committee on retrenchment and reform this morning, favoring the bill in regard to state printing. The bill recommends the abolition of the present system of election of state printer and binder, substituting a state plant under the supervision of the executive council, a practical printer to have charge who gives a bond for faithful performance of duty. It was shown by Weber's statement that such a plan would save the state at least $15,000 every two years. The comparison with other states made by Weber shows that the contract system admits of much abuse.

Harsh appeared before the senate railway committee to-day in support of his bill providing for general railroad control. The bill is similar to the Nebraska and Illinois law in many respects. If passed it would annul all existing railway statutes.

The house railway committee gave a hearing to Judge Hubbard, of the Northwestern road. He made the following points: The railroads would regulate the tariff by competition. From 1871 to 1888 the rates on goods from Chicago to Iowa points was reduced 20 cent on the hundred; on carloads of stock $20 per car. The railroads could not afford to be unjust, as traffic depended on population along the line, and would rather encourage immigration. The reduction of passenger rates would raise the freight rate. The Chicago & Northwestern never had a dollar of watered stock.

The house judiciary committee reported favorably on several bills with few amendments. Among them were: A bill relative to the probate and validity of foreign wills. To amend the code relating to arrests without warrants; relating to holding one accused of crime to answer indictment.

The committee reported favorably on the resolution approving the present oleomargarine law. Adopted.

The majority of the protests from railroad employes presented to-day were opposed to any legislation whatever.

The bill introduced by Mr. Gatch to amend the code relating to criminal cases, and providing that counter affidavits may be filed in resistance of any application for a continuance and wherever on the trial of the case the statement in the application for a continuance be read as the evidence of the absent witness, the general character of the absent witness may be impeached, passed the senate.

A resolution was adopted authorizing the committee on retrenchment and reform to inquire into the expenses of state institutions to see whether such may be curtailed.

By Mr. Finn—A bill to regulate telephone charges.

By Mr. Thompson—A resolution providing for a committee to investigate the charges against ex-Warden Martin, of the Anamosa penitentiary. Laid over.

The bill prohibiting the sale of cigars and tobacco to miners under sixteen years of age was passed.

The bill defining the duties and the manner of appointment of mine inspectors was passed.

Bill making 8 per cent the legal rate of interest on written contracts. Passed.

Bill giving courts the right to limit the time of attorneys before juries. Passed.

Bill repealing the law relative to voting tax nnd bonds to railroads. Passed.

Bill to compel owners of hedge along highways to trim within five feet of the ground. Passed.

The bill by Mr. Thompson providing that in counties of 12,000 inhabitants supervisors publish the proceedings in a foreign language, was ordered engrossed.

General Solicitor Cary, of the Milwaukee & St. Paul road, spoke before the railroad committee this afternoon. The drift of his argument was substantially as follows:

Without her 8,530 miles of railroad and between $300,000,000 and $400,000,000 invested therein, the rich soil and resources of Iowa would be valueless. Railroads are for the benefit of the state and come by request. All they ask in return is a suitable compensation and protection. To strike off one-third of the passenger rate and half of the freight rates is to prevent such return. Not only the railroads but but many citizens suffer from the reduction of the accommodations of these roads. Mr. Tucker, of the same road, also spoke, giving a detail report of expenses and rates. He said no passenger train west of Chicago probably earns expenses. The house railroad committee will probably report to-morrow. President Kennedy, of the state farmers' alliance, predicts the presentation of 20,000 petitions from farmers of the state favoring anti-railroad legislation.

Bringing Their Big Guns.

DES MOINES, Ia., Feb. 7.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—The railroad magnates have drifted here in great style the past two days. Three or four special cars are side tracked while the halls of the capitol swarm with general managers, general solicitors, general this and that who have come to protest against what they call hostile legislation. This forenoon and afternoon the senate railroad committee gave them a hearing and to-night the house railroad committee hears them. Their best orators are here, and if subtle argument can avail, they propose to get off clear. But it is doubtful if their talks will have much affect upon the general assembly, as it came loaded and is likely to continue so.

The New Registration Bill.

DES MOINES, Ia., Feb. 7.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—The registration bill which, as amended, passed the senate to-day and has now passed both houses, applies to every Iowa city of 3,500 or more population. It requires every voter to register once in four years, or at each presidential election. For all other elections it permits the registrars to make up their lists from the lists of those who voted the year before, registering only new voters. The law which, as amended, does away with the frequency of registration is received with much favor and will apply to about thirty cities of the the first and second class.

Brick and Tile Makers Meet.

DES MOINES, Ia., Feb. 7.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—The Brick and Tile Makers' association of the western states convened in annual session here to-day. Representatives were present from Indiana, Illinois and Iowa. The day was devoted to the discussion of topics connected with drainage and proposed legislation on the subject. Mr. J. J. W. Billingsley, of Indianapolis, read a paper on the effects of tile drainage and Lew Thorne, of Wabash, Ind., discussed the subject of a tunnel tile dryer. The convention will probably present a request to the legislature for some legislation to better protect the interests of the makers.

The Temperance Alliance.

DES MOINES, Ia., Feb. 7.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—The state temperance alliance has been in session here to-day, but the attendance is small and little enthusiasm is manifested. The time was chiefly occupied in hearing reports from different congressional districts as to the way in which prohibition was being enforced. There was considerable discussion also as to what legislation was needed to strengthen the present law. Many of the members favored the Custer bill, which was prepared by representatives of the alliance, but there is also considerable opposition to it, there being special objection to the feature which takes away from pharmacists all control over the sale of liquor.

Met the Cut.

SIOUX CITY, Ia., Feb. 7.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—The Illinois Central this afternoon not only met the cut in rates but announced that the cut rates would also apply to east-bound freights. This is a new feature of the war.

First Dress Beef Shipment.

SIOUX CITY, Ia., Feb. 7.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—The first shipment of dressed beef from Sioux City was made to-day. The Silverhorn Packing company sent a car load to Birmingham, Ala.

An Iowa City Blaze.

IOWA CITY, Ia., Feb. 7.—The Grady house, a large frame structure, burned this afternoon. Loss, $5,000; fully insured.

Endorsed the Cummins Bill.

IOWA CITY, Ia., Feb. 7.—The Young Business Men's association have endorsed the Cummins bill for regulating freight rates.

ROMANCE AND MYSTERY.

The Life and Death of ex-Premier Gibson of the Sandwich Islands.

CHICAGO, Feb. 7.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—The death of Walter Murry Gibson, ex-premier of the Sandwich islands, was recently announced. The man's career was a strange story of adventure and romance, and from present appearances, it would seem as though the plot thickens with his death. His death occurred in St. Mary's hospital, San Francisco, and it was stated at the time that he died, to all intents and purposes, a pauper. Now, however, it is said he died worth $1,000,000, and left a will, and his relatives want to know where the will is, and want certain other inquiries answered. Gibson's relatives, so far as known, are Dr. Punton and W. D. Barrows, of Chicago, who are second cousins, and John Punton, of Brooklyn, who is a first cousin. All three of these say they believe Gibson was worth one million when he died and they be lieve he left a will. Barrows has written to St. Mary's hospital to learn who ordered Gibson's body shipped to Honolulu and has also written King Kalakaua in regard to the mystery. It is said Gibson owned a newspaper in Honolulu and a big plantation on one of the islands. In one of the New York papers it was given out that Gibson had a son-in-law named Hazelton. This hardly seems probable, as Gibson's first wife and only daughter died in South Carolina. His second wife is said to have been a daughter of King Kalakaua, but history says nothing further of her, or of any children by her, who in any event could scarcely be of a marriageable age.

Business Troubles.

NEW YORK, Feb. 7.—F. Grotes & Co., manufacturers of ivory goods, have failed. Liabilities, $411,000; assets, $428,000.

MILWAUKEE, Feb. 7.—L. Best & Co., dry goods, Green Bay, assigned to-day. Assets $17,000; liabilities $9,000.

CHICAGO, Feb. 7.—A receiver was appointed to-day for the firm of E. A. Shager & Co., wholesale dealers in teas and coffees. The principal cause of their embarassment is said to be the recent decline in the coffee market. Their liabilities have not been made known. The assets aggregate something upward of $50,000, principally accounts receivable. The firm has an interest in warehouse receipts for over $300,000. The actual owners of these, however, are said to be traders in the east, for whom the Chicago firm has done commission business.

The Big Walk.

NEW YORK, Feb. 7.—At the end of the first forty-eight hours of the walking match Albert led with a score of 238 miles, twenty miles behind the world's record of 258 miles made by Rowell in 1882. His score, however, was twelve miles ahead of the highest record by the winner of a six days' race. The score at midnight was: Albert, 238; Connors, 174; Vint, 169; Sinclair, 160; Hart, 226; Panchat, 234; Herty, 221; Guerrero, 223; Strokel, 207; Moore, 205; Noremac, 187; Cox, 193; Golden, 212; Collins, 145; Lilly, 139; Day, 201; Taylor, 160; Stout, 134; Sullivan, 162; Dillon, 162.

They Skinned the Bank.

TORONTO, Feb. 7.—The Central bank investigation yesterday revealed the fact that Allan, late cashier, who absconded to the United States, owes the bank $40,000. Liquidator Campbell testified that Director McDonald's indebtedness to the bank at present is about $113,000, and that he is jointly liable with another for $22,000. The examination also elicited the information that James Baxter, of Montreal, is indebted to the bank to the extent of $41,000. The full extent of Barnett's indebtedness is said to be as high as $100,000.

Josie Backs Down.

CINCINNATI, Feb. 7.—Yesterday it was agreed between Josie Holmes and the district attorney that she should appear in the United States court, plead guilty and receive her sentence, which the court would afterwards suspend, she in the meanwhile to be liberated from prison. When the time came to-day for this proceeding Miss Holmes, through her attorney, informed the district attorney that for the present she had changed her mind, and would enter a plea of not guilty.

To Fight the Standard Oil.

TOLEDO, Feb. 7.—The Blade publishes the statement that a syndicate of capitalists representing $25,000,000 have organized to build pipe lines from the northwestern Ohio oil fields to Toledo and to erect refineries so as to compete with the Standard Oil company.

Thought to Be a Canard.

DETROIT, Feb. 7.—Little credence is given here to the reports from Toledo of the formation of a formidable competitor to the Standard Oil company.

A Long Strike Ended.

ROCHESTER, N. Y., Feb. 7.—Difficulties which have existed between the shoe manufacturers of this city and their cutters, by which 3,000 shoe makers have been idle since last November here, has been amicably adjusted and the factories are again starting up.

A MISSING DRUG DEALER.

Friend Troubled Over the Disappearance of a Prominent Citizen.

TOO SMART FOR THE OLD FOLKS.

A Dakota City Girl Weds Her Choice Despite Parental Opposition—Badly Cut in a Fight—Nebraska News.

Mysterious Disappearance at Friend.

FRIEND, Neb., Feb. 7.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—People here are very much worried by the disappearance of W. E. Rea, a druggist of this place and one of our best citizens. He left home last Tuesday, January 31, for Lincoln to buy goods, and it is ascertained that he remained there only a minutes between trains. He went into the wholesale house of the Clarke Drug company, handed them a small memorandum for goods and told them he was going on to Omaha. This is the last and all that can be heard of him, and it is feared that he is mentally deranged or has been foully dealt with. His business affairs are in good condition and he had no domestic troubles. He is about six feet in height; walks with a swinging gait; has a slight stoop; is rather stoutly built and weighs 180 pounds. He has light hair, fair complexion, grey eyes; wears a full short beard of a sandy cast; wore, when he left home, a stiff black hat and dark clothes, with patch in back of overcoat. His wife, who is a very estimable lady, is prostrated with grief at his absence and the uncertainty of his fate. Tracers have been sent to Lincoln, Omaha and Kansas City, but no news of him can be learned further than Lincoln. The case was put into the hands of detectives to-day.

Eluded the Old Folks.

DAKOTA CITY, Neb. Feb. 7.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—A sensation was produced this morning when it was ascertained beyond a doubt that Miss Flora Naffziger had eloped on Saturday night with John B. DeWitt, who is in the employ of the Sioux City Street Car company in the capacity of driver. For some time past he has been paying his attentions to the young lady in question in spite of the parent's remonstrances and objections, on account of which, several weeks ago she left home and was employed in the Eureka hotel. On Saturday evening he came over, ostensibly to visit his mother, who resides here, and tried to persuade her to move to Sioux City, where he had rented a house, and make that her home, but she objected, whereupon he retired to the Eureka hotel, and the young lady informing her employer that she was going to a dance in South Sioux City, left with her lover. All things having been arranged before hand with the livery man, he took them to Sioux City, where they left Sunday for McCook, Dak., where they were married. The parents of the young lady are very indignant of her actions, as she is scarcely seventeen years old, and swear vengeance on their son-in-law should he make his appearance in Dakota City again.

A Reception to Governor Thayer.

BEATRICE, Neb., Feb. 7.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—Company C, N. N. G., to-night tendered Governor Thayer and staff a reception and military dress ball. A concert by the orchestra was given from 8 to 9 o'clock after which dancing was indulged in until a late hour. The distinguished guests present were Governor Thayer, J. E. Hill, his private secretary; General Palmer, of Plattsmouth; General Cole, of Juniata; Colonel Dudley and Captain Hotchkiss, of Lincoln; Major Cross and Captain Bills, of Fairbury; Lieutenant Foxworthy, of Lincoln; Major Watson and Captain Beskhoff, of Nebraska City, and Captain C. M. Mudoch, of Wymore. The guests were met at the depot by Company C and General Colby, Colonel Phillips and Major Bates and escorted in carriages to the Randall house. The governor and staff were highly pleased with their reception. Governor Thayer leaves for New York City to-morrow.

A Cutting Affray.

DAKOTA CITY, Neb., Feb. 7.—[Special to the BEE.]—A serious cutting affray occurred in Blyburg, about nine miles south of here, Saturday evening, in which George Chamberlain, who was arrested last summer on the charge of horse stealing, and Frank Bowman were participants. They had all been to Homer, about twenty in number, and after filling up with liquor got into a row in which Bowman's stomach was badly cut in several places. A physician was summoned who dressed the wounds and pronounced them of a very serious nature. There have been no arrests so far.

Dividing Indian Lands.

DAKOTA CITY, Neb., Feb. 7.—[Special to the BEE.]—Indian Agent Colonel J. F. Warner, of the Omaha and Winnebago Indians, and M. M. Warner, who has been assisting Miss Alice C. Fletcher in the allotment of lands in severalty to the Indians, passed through town yesterday en route to Sioux City. The latter gentleman informed your correspondent that there still remains a month or more work to finish the allotment, after which Miss Fletcher leaves for Washington to finish up the reports. Agent Warner reports everything on the agency moving along smoothly.

A School Land Sale.

SIDNEY, NEB., Feb. 7.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—The sale of school lands in Cheyenne county began to-day. Deputy State Land Commissioner Charles Charter, conducted the sale, assisted by Hon. Adam Ickes, county treasurer. Thirty-eight hundred and forty acres were sold, ranging in price from $7 to $57 per acre. The sale continues two days longer. There are many enthusiastic bidders and the land is bringing excellent prices.

Again Convicted.

FREMONT, Neb., Feb. 7.—[Special to the BEE.]—The second trial of Wm. F. Harris, charged with assault with attempt to commit rape upon a number of little girls, has ended as it did before, in the accused being found guilty. The case was given to the jury on Saturday at 3 o'clock and a verdict was brought in this afternoon after a deliberation of forty-eight hours.

Electric Street Lighting.

FREMONT, Neb., Feb. 7.—[Special to the BEE.]—The subject of electric street lighting is one which has been hotly discussed for a long time by the city council. They held a special meeting this forenoon and settled the matter by signing a contract with the Fremont Gas and Electric Light company for eight lamps for a year. The system will be in operation by the end of the present week.

A Big Horse Ranch.

FREMONT, Neb., Feb. 7.—[Special to the BEE.]—The Arabian and Percheron Horse Importing company, of Custer county, Dak., have just purchased a farm near this city and will establish a supply depot and headquarters. This is a strong company and will be a valuable addition to the already large horse interests of Fremont.

Chadron Prohibitionists.

CHADRON, Neb., Feb. 7.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—There was a gathering of prohibitionists at the opera house last night and 500 people listened to an able lecture by Dr. Mallory. A prohibition club was formed with 170 members. Following is a list of the officers elected: President, G. W. Reed; vice-president, G. W. Clark; secretary, C. P. Snidaker; treasurer, Mrs. G. S. Powell.