

WATSON B. SMITH'S MURDERER

He is Said to Have Confessed in Australia.

SHOT WHILE HOUSEBREAKING.

George O'Connor Pours Into the Ears of a Priest the Story of the Crime—The Mysterious Tragedy Mysteriously.

On His Dying Bed.

Seven years ago the 4th of this month, Colonel Watson B. Smith was found lying dead in the upper portion of the government building on the corner of Fifteenth and Dodge streets, until to-day the cause that led to his death have been shrouded in the darkest mystery.

Supposed Suicide.

NORTH PLATTE, Neb., Nov. 17.—[Special Telegram to The Bee.]—A. J. Beckwith, a prominent farmer living about twenty miles south of here, is reported as having shot himself this morning while standing on the edge of a well, his body falling into it. No cause was assigned. The coroner left for the scene of the supposed suicide to-day.

The Farmers' Protective Association.

COLUMBUS, Neb., Nov. 18.—[Special to The Bee.]—The Farmers' Protective association of this county has a committee of grain elevators to cost \$2,500. The association in this county is growing rapidly. An elevator is very much needed in this city for the amount of grain that is handled by the association.

Breaking Up the Gang.

CHARLESTOWN, W. Va., Nov. 18.—[Special Telegram to The Bee.]—Alexander Messer, one of the notorious Hatfield murderers, was arrested at night by police headquarters last night by Detective Gibson, of Berkeley. Messer was one of the band who took the three McCoy boys out of jail in August, 1882, tied them to trees and shot them to death. He left the country and was lost sight of until about two weeks ago. Detectives Gibson and Cunningham arrested Elton Hatfield, another member of the gang, who was arrested at night by Messer and his associates. Messer and his associates were kept a profound secret. Detectives at once took up Messer's trail and on Wednesday ran him down on Ugly creek, Lincoln county, where he was shot and killed. He was fifty-two years old and his wife and six children are living in Lincoln county. He was a member of the Hatfield gang, and was a resident of Kentucky, Kentucky, twenty several years ago. He is said to have killed several men since the war.

Swept by a Tidal Wave.

NEW YORK, Nov. 18.—[The Cunarder Etruria, which arrived at her dock this afternoon, experienced one of the worst passages in her history. Tuesday last a tidal wave swept over the big steamer, and one man, a sailor, was killed. Five others were more or less severely shaken up. The injured crew members were taken to the hospital. The wave struck the ocean reer. They saw the mountain of water approaching. Terrified, they scrambled for safety, but with irresistible force the waters curled over and fell upon the big steamer. The officers and crew were jammed in a heap against the deck-house. One, as stated, was killed and the others injured as described. The wave swept the deck clean before it. The officers and crew were reticent about the accident, and the only information that could be obtained was from the passengers.

An Estimate of Population.

DES MOINES, Ia., Nov. 18.—[Special to The Bee.]—An approximate, though not an accurate, estimate of population can be found from the number of votes registered in the different cities. In this state an opportunity for registration was given on election day, to those who had been out of the city on all of the registration days before, so that a few hundred names were added to the list, but the following table shows the number of persons registered in the various cities prior to election, in some of the leading cities of the state: Des Moines, 7,411; Keokuk, 3,338; Burlington, 4,223; Ottumwa, 3,451; Davenport, 4,223; Keokuk, 3,338; Burlington, 4,223; Marshalltown, 1,772; Sioux City, 4,415; Muscatine, 3,384; Cedar Rapids, 3,619; Lyons, 1,200.

To Regulate Trusts.

NEBRASKA CITY, Neb., Nov. 18.—[Special to The Bee.]—The bill for the regulation of trusts called for the attention of Hon. J. C. Watson, Ohio and Cass counties' float representative, and in the course of the conversation Mr. Watson stated that he was preparing a bill to introduce in the coming legislature, for governing and regulating trusts. Mr. Watson said that next to the election of a republican United States senator he considered that the subject of trusts would present itself to the careful examination and energetic action of the next legislature. "We have trusts in this state," continued Mr. Watson, "that daily do irreparable injury to both the producer and the consumer of products in our market. Take for example the distillers of our state, one of which is located in our city. Its owners do not, neither do they spin, yet they secure \$10 a day for allowing the dross to go out in the furnaces of their manufacturing. This keeps seventy-five men out of employment. United States senators are paid to sell their grain to the elevators alone. These trusts, being men possessed of great capital and financial resources, combine with each other to keep up the price of their manufactured articles and raise it to such a point that they can sell at prices satisfactory to themselves. For this evil, as the law now stands, no remedy is provided. In conversation with a great many business men and

ON THE GERMAN FRONTIER.

Excited Peasants Attack a Prussian Officer in Command.

EMPEROR WILLIAM AT BRESLAU.

His Speech to the Workmen Severely Criticized—Denmark's King and Premier—The Duke Maximilian's Philanthropic Heit.

Foreign Potpourri.

[Copyright 1888 by James Gordon Bennett.] BERLIN, Nov. 18.—[New York Herald Cable-Special to The Bee.]—The German papers are rather surprised at the French newspapers saying so little about the recent affray between a Prussian gamekeeper and some French poachers in a field on the German side of the frontier. Although shots were exchanged and one of the poachers was carried away with a few pellets of lead in his side, the French newspapers declared it was one of a hundred similar occurrences certain to happen on a frontier and unworthy of serious notice. The Post remarks: "It would have smelted away many diplomatic difficulties if the French press had done this conclusion sooner." Strasser still is the fact that the French have, to his knowledge, made no reference to the scenes of violence that accompanied the departure of recruits for the Prussian army a few days ago, from Alsace. At Altkirch a large number of people accompanied the recruits and they escorted to the railway station, with threats to the soldiers of the escort; cries of "Vive la France" and volleys of stones were thrown on arriving at the station. Matters became so serious that an order was given to load; after that quiet was restored, but it was only by a miracle that a bloody disaster was averted. When the train reached Rafort, the next station, a crowd attacked the escort and insulted the officer in command, and finally laid their hands on him. He drew his sword and cut his assailants over the head, inflicting serious wounds. The station was then carried at the point of the bayonet. At the large manufacturing town of Mulhouse preparations were made in case of trouble, but no attempt to disturb the peace occurred. These riots, on a smaller or larger scale, take place every year when recruits leave Alsace. They are not unknown even in Prussia. At Cologne, in 1870, when the "handwehr" were called in, women took possession of the train that was to carry their husbands and brothers away. Some sat down on the rails, saying: "Before you take our men away you must drive the train over us." The station master finally persuaded them that he would allow them to accompany their husbands, brothers and sons to the next station, but when the train drew out the cars were unoccupied and the poor weeping women remained behind. Poor old Duke Maximilian of Bavaria died at half past 2 Friday morning at the green age of eighty, lacking a few weeks his wife and two of his daughters, the Countess Trans and Duchess d'Alencon, were at his bedside. His third daughter, the Austrian empress, was fond of spending the summer months at the beautiful castle of her parents on Lake Starnberg, near Munich. But she was absent, traveling for her health. Her empress was here when the poor King, Louis, her cousin, was laid out in state at the castle of Berg, just across the water from the Duke Maximilian's castle. Duke Maximilian leaves a widow, the daughter of King Maximilian I, of Bavaria, and eight children—three sons and five daughters. The eldest son, Prince Ludwig, has inherited the title, as he contracted a morganatic marriage with the countess Walderssee. The second son, who steps in his place, is Duke Charles Theodore, the famous oculist, who studied medicine and surgery in Berlin, and has restored to hundreds of poor people their sight, without relieving their pocketbooks of a single mark. The second daughter, the General Princess Maximilian of Bavaria. The daughters I have not mentioned are the widowed Princess Thun and Taxis, the ex-queen of Naples. It is pleasing to turn to the jubilee of old King Christian at Copenhagen. It is a cardinal fact that he and his son, King George of Greece, celebrated the twenty-fifth anniversary of their accession on the same day. Two more conscientiously constitutional monarchs never did honor to royalty. The Germans take a great interest in Eastreup, the Danish prime minister, a small Bismarck in his way, for Denmark has for some years been going through just such a struggle as King William of Prussia waged against a popular parliament in the years before 1861, when Bismarck helped him to govern for some years, without a majority or a budget. Eastreup, in the face of an overwhelming majority in his legislative body, whose war-cry was: "Rike en oere til dette ministerium"—not a shilling toward the debts of the ministry. But all attempts to drive him from the monarch's side proved vain. His fiery soul dwells in a feeble frame. His lungs were so delicate as a youth that abstinence from all the joys of life, the physicians told him, was the price of life itself. The parliament may be hostile, but the common people cheered King Christian here to-day to the echo; they remember how he rode through the trenches at Duppel, when gallant little Denmark, in 1864, stood boldly up to face such fearful odds. For Germany, also, the anniversary of the Danish king's accession, the 15th of November, has a historical significance, for on this day the death of Frederick VII. dissolved the political connection between Schleswig-Holstein and Denmark, and set the stone of the German question at once rolling. Twenty-five years ago began the development of events which ended with the proclamation of the empire, at Versailles. Much gossip is taking place over the speech made yesterday by the young kaiser to the Breslau workmen, who paid deep attention to his words. Many thousands calling themselves "Koenigstuehler" workmen tried to the emperor—took part in a torchlight procession in his honor. As the members of the deputation were introduced to the emperor he shook each by the hand, and subsequently thanked Breslau, in the person of the chief burgomaster, for the patriotic welcome accorded to him. He added that he was especially pleased at the refusal of deputations whom Breslau had lent choice to the Prussian parliament at recent elections. In these the free conservatives and the national liberal candidates had defeated the advanced liberals. It is this decisive expression of political opinions that has instigated the gossip I allude to. The kaiser's reference is taken to be an imperial interference with the freedom of election.

THE SITUATION IN EUROPE.

Competent Judges Think There is No Immediate Danger.

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Mrs. Cleveland Said to Have Influenced His Action.

NORTH AND SOUTH DAKOTA.

Consul Carroll and the Dago—The Irate Irishman Kicks an Insolent Italian Out of His Office.

WASHINGTON HERALD THE OMAHA BEE, 533 FOURTEENTH STREET, WASHINGTON, D. C., Nov. 18. Why Cleveland Recanted. While up in New York about the time of election I had a conversation with some of the friends of the family of President Cleveland, and naturally the topic turned to the renomination of the president, and I expressed some surprise that he should have accepted the renomination after issuing his original letter of acceptance, wherein he took such advanced grounds against a second term. The friend, who by the way, is an American people, told me that he had heard of comment upon the president's act, and he thought that he could account for it. Said he: "Grover Cleveland was sincere when he wrote that now historic phrase concerning a second term for the chief magistrate, but you must remember that then he was not married, and he really believed that he honestly intended to retire without an effort to secure his reelection, at the end of the first four years. But cupid came along; Grover Cleveland was married, and the love of the little girl was too much for him. Mrs. Cleveland is delighted with her position. She does not like the idea of returning to private life, and she writes to her husband, just at the zenith of her social career, and it was to her wishes that the president yielded, and it was in response to her pleadings that he consented to abandon his position and to become once more the candidate of his party for the highest gift at the hands of the American people. This is the real reason, 'is my view of the matter, and I am convinced that it is the right one from what I know of the family and of the feelings of my relatives. It was a laudable ambition on her part, and I think under the circumstances that Grover Cleveland cannot be blamed for acquiescing in the wishes of his wife, and for the time being putting aside his utterances on the subject.' It is understood that the four staff appointments in the army will be filled by President Cleveland on Tuesday. These appointments have been pending for quite a long time, and the amount of influence, social, political, and military, which Cleveland has been able to command has been suggested, but it is safe to assume that the four appointments in the army will be made exclusively from the party which he has supported. President Harrison will have at his disposal during the four years of his administration several important army appointments, the first of which will be that of an adjutant general to succeed General Drum, who will be retired on the 28th of May, 1889. The adjutant general is a very important position, and the one which will be made exclusively from the party which he has supported. President Harrison will have at his disposal during the four years of his administration several important army appointments, the first of which will be that of an adjutant general to succeed General Drum, who will be retired on the 28th of May, 1889. The adjutant general is a very important position, and the one which will be made exclusively from the party which he has supported.

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THE CLEARANCE RECORD.

The Financial Transactions of the Past Week.

BOSTON, Mass., Nov. 18.—[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 gross exchanges at each point for the week ending November 17, 1888, with rates per cent of increase or decrease as compared with the amounts for the corresponding week last year.

Table with columns: CITIES, CLEARINGS, Increase, Decrease. Lists cities like New York, Boston, Philadelphia, etc., with their respective clearing amounts and percentage changes.

Going to England.

BERLIN, Nov. 18.—The ex-Emperor Frederick and daughters started for England to-day. They were escorted to the railway station by the emperor.

The Boiler Inspectors.

PITTSBURG, Nov. 18.—A convention of city and state boiler inspectors will meet in this city Tuesday next to form a national organization. The object of the association will be to arrange a uniform system of boiler inspection and to take measures to prevent the employment of incompetent engineers. Delegates will arrive to-morrow from St. Louis, Chicago, Cincinnati, Philadelphia and New York.

The Convention of Butchers.

ST. LOUIS, Nov. 18.—The Butcher National Protective association will hold a joint convention in this city during the coming week, commencing Tuesday morning. The delegates will represent 8,000 persons engaged in slaughtering, preparing and selling fresh meats, and some fifteen thousand cold raisers.

Murdered and Robbed.

BAINTREE, Mass., Nov. 18.—Miss Mehitable White, aged sixty-four, who has been running a large farm here, and who has lived with no other company than a hired boy, was murdered to-day. Her body was found under the hay in the barn, with her throat cut. The house had been robbed. The hired man, who is suspected, is missing.

Earthquakes in California.

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 18.—A shock of earthquake, that was sharp enough to cause many people in hotels and private houses to run out into the street, was felt here this afternoon. The direction was northwest to southeast, and the duration ten seconds. Telegrams to-night say that the shock was felt throughout central California.

The Weather Indications.

For Nebraska: Fair, slightly colder Tuesday, winds shifting to northerly. For Iowa: Light snow or rain except in extreme western portion, fair, slight rise in temperature Monday, colder Tuesday, variable winds. For Dakota: Colder fair weather, winds shifting to northerly, becoming variable, slight rise in temperature.

Whisky Claims Another Victim.

MILWAUKEE, Nov. 18.—A Merrill, Wis., special gives the particulars of the finding of C. E. Lucas' body five miles east of there near some logging shanties. He was the town clerk of Spaulding, and left for that place last week. His body was found in a ditch, and he had been shot through the head with a rifle bullet.

A Kansas City Murder.

KANSAS CITY, Nov. 18.—George Janely, a Missouri Pacific trackman, was set upon in the east bottom at 2:30 o'clock this morning and stabbed to the heart. Joel Boyd and his brother and two other ruffians have been arrested.

Declines to Be Interviewed.

A reporter for The Bee sent up his card yesterday afternoon to the room occupied by Mrs. King No. 3. Mrs. King sent down her regret that owing to the fact that she was about to leave for Chicago on the Burlington flyer, and had numerous domestic arrangements to fulfill, time would not permit of an interview, otherwise she would have been glad to see the gentleman. The lady was reported as having recovered much of her composure and was bearing up wonderfully under her misfortunes.

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WASHINGTON HERALD THE OMAHA BEE, 533 FOURTEENTH STREET, WASHINGTON, D. C., Nov. 18. Why Cleveland Recanted. While up in New York about the time of election I had a conversation with some of the friends of the family of President Cleveland, and naturally the topic turned to the renomination of the president, and I expressed some surprise that he should have accepted the renomination after issuing his original letter of acceptance, wherein he took such advanced grounds against a second term. The friend, who by the way, is an American people, told me that he had heard of comment upon the president's act, and he thought that he could account for it. Said he: "Grover Cleveland was sincere when he wrote that now historic phrase concerning a second term for the chief magistrate, but you must remember that then he was not married, and he really believed that he honestly intended to retire without an effort to secure his reelection, at the end of the first four years. But cupid came along; Grover Cleveland was married, and the love of the little girl was too much for him. Mrs. Cleveland is delighted with her position. She does not like the idea of returning to private life, and she writes to her husband, just at the zenith of her social career, and it was to her wishes that the president yielded, and it was in response to her pleadings that he consented to abandon his position and to become once more the candidate of his party for the highest gift at the hands of the American people. This is the real reason, 'is my view of the matter, and I am convinced that it is the right one from what I know of the family and of the feelings of my relatives. It was a laudable ambition on her part, and I think under the circumstances that Grover Cleveland cannot be blamed for acquiescing in the wishes of his wife, and for the time being putting aside his utterances on the subject.' It is understood that the four staff appointments in the army will be filled by President Cleveland on Tuesday. These appointments have been pending for quite a long time, and the amount of influence, social, political, and military, which Cleveland has been able to command has been suggested, but it is safe to assume that the four appointments in the army will be made exclusively from the party which he has supported. President Harrison will have at his disposal during the four years of his administration several important army appointments, the first of which will be that of an adjutant general to succeed General Drum, who will be retired on the 28th of May, 1889. The adjutant general is a very important position, and the one which will be made exclusively from the party which he has supported.

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