THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

EIGHTEENTH YEAR. OMAHA. THURSDAY MORNING DECEMBER 20, 1888. NUMBER 189

BRUTAL MURDER AT OAKLAND

A Young Man's Head Battered In With a Club.

IOWA SHERIFFS IN CONVENTION.

A Uniform Basis of Property Valuation Recommended by the Auditors—Another Postmaster Goes Wrong—The Diggle Trial.

A Midnight Assassination.

AVOCA, Ia., Dec. 19.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—Joseph Hair, a young man in the employ of John Kelley, a rich bachelor living twelve miles south of this city and two miles east of Oakland, was the victim of a horrible murder last night. He heard a noise out in the barn and went out to discover the cause. He was gone longer than was thought necessary, and Kelley went out to learn the reason. He found Hair lying in a pool of blood, his head battered in and his face terribly disfigured. Near by was found a roller that carries the canvas on a harvesting machine, covered with blood. When discovered Hair was unconscious. He died to-day, never recovering sufficiently to give any intimation as to the perpetrator of the deed or how it was done. There is no clue to the murderer, but the theory is prevalent that he laid in wait for Kelley, who carries money with him, and in the darkness killed the wrong man. Public indignation runs high, and, if caught, the assassin will be dealt with in a summary manner. Hair resided at Council Bluffs, was twenty-six years old, steady and industrious.

The Diggle Case.

MASON CITY, Ia., Dec. 19.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—Advices received from Clarion to-night state that the most damaging testimony the state will present in the case of Mrs. Diggle, on trial for poisoning her husband, is now in. During the entire day the accused has been present in court and seemed the most unconcerned of all as the evidence was recorded against her. There is no noticeable change in her appearance, unless it be an occasional look of weariness. The principal witness examined was Mrs. Overacker, at whose house Mr. and Mrs. Diggle boarded. She stated that early in the evening Mr. and Mrs. Diggle came into the house from the porch, and as they passed into the bedroom Mrs. Diggle took up two glasses which were standing on the table. In a few moments Mrs. Diggle came out of the room and asked her if she liked beer. While they were eating supper, a few minutes later, Mrs. Diggle said: "Why, George, what ails you? You look so bad." Both went into the bedroom. Presently Mrs. Diggle came out and said that George was very sick. She went out on the porch wringing her hands and sobbing aloud, "My God, he is dying!" Witnesses have testified that late the same afternoon Mrs. Diggle purchased fifty grains of morphine.

The Supreme Court.

DES MOINES, Ia., Dec. 19.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—The supreme court filed the following decisions here to-day:

Sarah Allison et al vs J. S. Jack et al, appellants; Monroe district; reversed.

Mary G. Murphy, appellant, vs Emma Hanscome et al; Monroe district; reversed.

Hoxie & Wilder vs C. A. Zeiter et al and H. H. Fensler, intervenor, appellants; Harrison district; reversed.

A. Allison vs Chicago, Burlington & Quincy railway company et al, appellants; Union district; reversed.

E. S. Kent, appellant, vs C. E. French; Wappelo district; reversed.

State of Iowa vs Frank Pierce, appellant; Polk district; reversed.

State of Iowa vs David Utterson, appellant; Polk district; affirmed.

State of Iowa vs W. J. Harris, appellant; Polk district; affirmed.

Charles E. Whitehead, trustee, and company, appellant, vs B. A. Plumber et al; Emmet district; affirmed.

Charles L. Cole vs Des Moines Valley railway company et al, appellant; Emmet district; affirmed.

Kate Howard, appellant, vs Elizabeth Wilson et al; Buchanan district; affirmed.

State of Iowa vs H. H. Sandley, appellant; Adair district; affirmed.

Joseph Harrow, appellant, vs J. S. Brown; Decatur district; affirmed.

Ella F. Martin vs C. E. Davis and H. Hubbard, intervenor, appellants; Monona district; affirmed.

Incorporated town of Bayard vs Frank Baker, appellant; Guthrie district; affirmed.

W. M. Tharp, appellant, vs C. M. Fanest, sheriff; Monroe district; affirmed.

New Haven Lumber company vs D. R. Raymond et al, appellants; Clark district; affirmed.

State of Iowa vs J. W. Huff, appellant; Harrison district; affirmed.

The Auditors and Sheriffs.

DES MOINES, Ia., Dec. 19.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—The lack of uniformity in the assessments of property in the different counties of the state has caused great confusion and embarrassment in the matter of returning the assessed valuation of property. In order to remedy that evil a convention of county auditors was called, which met here to-day. They discussed the importance of having a uniform basis of valuation all over the state. Their reports showed a variation in the present modes of assessment, ranging from 60 per cent of the value down to 33⅓ per cent. This convention, of which John Q. Rathbone, of Hardin county, is chairman, will probably recommend, before adjourning, a uniform basis for assessments and urge all boards of supervisors to enforce it upon the assessors.

The sherriffs of the state also held a meeting here to-day, about forty counties being represented. Their proceedings were secret, but chiefly devoted to devising means for co-operation in their work, and by a kind of mutual benefit association help each other at less expense than when serving strangers.

An Important Case.

FORT DODGE, Ia., Dec. 19.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—The Iowa board of railroad commission is sitting here, hearing the case of the city of Fort Dodge against the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific railway company, to compel the defendant to rebuild its abandoned track from Tama to this city. The city voted a tax to the old Des Moines Valley railway company in 1880 to secure this line, and the terms of the land grant require the building of the road to Fort Dodge. When the company, some years ago, extended its lines northwest it took up its track into Fort Dodge and went thirty-four miles to one side, running in only parts of its tracks over the Illinois Central track; thus, it is alleged, breaking its contract. The city is very hopeful of winning the case and compelling the company to rebuild, as they could not forfeit the land grant without going into bankruptcy, for it includes 592,000 acres of land now constituting the best land in the state. Solicitor Wright and Superintendent Gilmore, of Des Moines, are here for the company.

A Verdict For the Settlers.

FORT DODGE, Ia., Dec. 19.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—The trial of the test case of the Des Moines river settlers to recover possession of improvements made on land occupied by them, was concluded to-day after a five days' stubbornly contested legal battle, and resulted in a victory for the settlers. The suit was brought by James Meehan, an evicted settler, against Thomas Suell, of Clinton, Ill., and after an absence of sixteen hours the jury returned a verdict awarding Meehan $700 for improvements, but recognized Suell's title by granting $299 rental during the settler's occupancy of the land. This case, which the land owners say will not be carried to the supreme court, establishes a precedent, and all settlers will now recover value for their improvements.

The South English Shooting.

DES MOINES, Ia., Dec. 19.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—A special from South English, in Keokuk county, reports the capture of the person who shot C. C. Horn yesterday. He proves to be a young man, seventeen years old, who gives his name as Conley, and says he lives at Colona. He said that Horn came into possession of some money, and it is thought he attempted to frighten him into giving it up. He acknowledged the shooting, but claims that it was done accidentally; that the revolver went off while in his pocket. When asked why he ran away, he said he was afraid he would be hung. The sheriff has taken him to the county jail at Sigourney. Horn still has the bullet in his head, and his recovery is uncertain.

Another Postmaster Absconds.

DES MOINES, Ia., Dec. 19.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—A special from Hampton says that another democratic postmaster has gone wrong. This time it is William Towes, deputy postmaster at that place. He left town last Thursday night, and an examination of the condition of the office by an inspector shows, according to reports, a shortage of about $600. Nothing definite can be stated until the examination is finished. In the meantime the whereabouts of Mr. Tomes is a profound mystery, and is a matter of great interest to his bondsmen, who are expecting to have to pay the amount of his defalcation.

Dr. Williams in Marshalltown.

MARSHALLTOWN, Ia., Dec. 19.—[Special to THE BEE.]—Dr. G. W. Williams, who suicided in Omaha, resided here and practiced medicine for a number of years before removing to Omaha. He was well esteemed here, but developed rather cranky notions toward the latter part of his stay. From being a quiet republican, he developed into an active democrat, and became chairman of the democratic county committee. He was a member of the insurance organizations of the Knights of Pythias and Iowa Legion of Honor, in each of which he held a policy of $2,000, neither policy being vitiated by suicidal death.

THE ALASKA OUTRAGES.

An Investigation of the Matter By a House Committee.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 19.—The house committee on fisheries to-day began an investigation regarding the alleged outrages in Alaska. William Gavitt, special treasury agent to Seals islands, testified that the Alaska company's agents at St. George's island respect neither the laws of God nor man. The whole island is a place of prostitution from one end to the other.

George Wardman, special agent from 1881 to 1884, entered a rather sweeping denial of the charges against the company's employes.

T. F. Ryan, another special agent, attributed the lack of discipline and loose morals on the island partly to the improper conduct and neglect of duty of some of the government agents, which was in turn imitated by the agents of the company. The witness formulated rules forbidding females on the island from visiting the company's and government houses, but Mr. Tingle, his superior officer, had declared such rule null. It was impossible to imagine what influenced him to do this, as the order was issued in the interests of law and decency.

Postal Changes.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 19.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—The following Nebraska postmasters have been appointed: L. B. Mabon, Beloit, Holt county, vice Ernest A. Clark, resigned; Mary C. Maloy, Emmet, Holt county, vice John F. Crooghan, resigned; Oscar N. Bass, Golden Spring, Burt county, vice Henry Marsh, deceased; L. H. Monroe, Hartington, Cedar county; vice Henry R. Swing, resigned; Samuel M. Pickerton, Inland, Clay county, vice Samuel R. Dillinger, resigned, and L. M. Mulford, Wolbach, Greeley county, vice Charles A. Romeg, removed.

Iowa postmasters appointed: J. A. Edgett, Dedham, Carroll county, vice Nathan Holk, resigned; Frederick A. Tracy, Packwood, Jefferson county, vice Charles D. Johnston, left the place; Frank E. Thornton, Welton, Clinton county, vice P. L. Donogan, resigned.

A postoffice has been established at Strand, Adams county, with Berthel P. Strand as postmaster.

Formed a Watermelon Trust.

COLUMBIA, S. C., Dec. 19.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—A meeting of the melon growers of this state was held at Blackville yesterday for the purpose of organizing a watermelon alliance or trust. Last year the shipments were over two hundred thousand melons. The trust will meet on the 26th inst., when rules will be adopted, and it is expected that arrangements will be made looking to the acreage and fixing of prices, etc. The association will probably establish agencies in New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Boston and Chicago, to all of which points South Carolina melons are shipped in great quantities.

Frightful Executions in Zanzibar.

LONDON, Dec. 19.—A dispatch from Zanzibar says that, in pursuance of the sultan's orders the natives who are awaiting trial for murder were horribly and cruelly executed in the streets of the town, their heads cut off and their bodies left where they had fallen, exposed and unguarded, until the evening of the day of execution. The sultan has also ordered that twenty-four prisoners, including one woman, who had been sentenced for life imprisonment, be put to death in a similar manner during next week, a few to be executed each day. The British consul has vainly protested against these atrocities.

The Lindauer Case.

CHICAGO, Dec. 19.—In the now noted Lindauer insolvency case, to-day, members of the firm on the witness stand admitted that they took considerable sums of money from the money drawer shortly before the failure, which they had with them in court. Judge Prendergast ordered that they produce it. This was counted and aggregated $4,000. The court said that it would make an order in regard to it. Adolph Moses, Lindauer's attorney, protested and accused the court of harsh and unjust treatment. The judge declared him guilty of contempt but deferred fixing the penalty.

Another War in Africa.

LONDON, Dec. 19.—News has been received of an outbreak between the Arusha and Masai tribes. The former tribe had enticed the Masai warriors into making a cow-lifting expedition, and during their absence the Arushas raided the Masai settlement, massacreing old men, women and children and seizing the younger women for concubines. The Masai warriors have commenced a war against their enemies which will probably last for three years.

The Wabash Case.

NEW YORK, Dec. 19.—The hearing in the Wabash, St. Louis & Pacific railway case was resumed this morning. Major Bluford Wilson, of Springfield, Ill., and A. J. Ricks, are the masters conducting the proceedings. S. Fisher Johnson, of the Stock exchange, testified as to his knowledge of the securities of the Wabash road.

Fifty Conductors Discharged.

NEEDLES, Cal., Dec. 19.—About fifty passenger and freight conductors on the Atlantic & Pacific between Albuquerque, New Mexico, and Mojave, this state, have been discharged during the last few days.

TWELVE MEN SAY NOT GUILTY.

Wilcox Acquitted of the Charge of Wife Murder.

TOOK THE WRONG MEDICINE.

A Valparaiso Man Gets Hold of the Other Bottle—Marriage of Carl Morton — Hampton's Depot Burned.

Wilcox Acquitted of Murder.

O'NEILL, Neb., Dec. 19.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—The jury in the Wilcox murder case retired last night at 9 o'clock to deliberate, and returned a verdict this morning of not guilty.

Took the Wrong Medicine.

VALPARAISO, Neb., Dec. 19.—[Special to THE BEE.]—Yesterday evening James May, living about six miles east of town, took a swallow of tincture of aconite by mistake, thinking it was a cough medicine, which was in a bottle on the same shelf. He discovered his mistake when it commenced to act. Dr. Bowman was sent for, and on his arrival soon had Mr. May up and all right.

Marriage of Carl Morton.

NEBRASKA CITY, Neb., Dec. 19.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—Mr. Carl Morton, youngest son of the Hon. J. Sterling Morton, and Miss Boatie Payne, daughter of Hon. Robert Payne, of this city, were united in marriage this evening at the home of the bride. It was an elegant affair and was attended by friends of the family from many points of the west and east. The young couple are among the most popular in the city, and commence wedded life with bright prospects.

Valparaiso Items.

VALPARAISO, Neb., Dec. 19.—[Special to THE BEE.]—Last Saturday night Leon Andress, a young man who had been living a few miles south of town, skipped leaving several creditors to mourn his disappearance. He had mortgaged everything he had, then sold three cows to William Coons, a neighbor, for $60 cash, pocketed it and left.

The roundhouse is nearly completed, and is a well built and nicely arranged building.

Corn is still coming in lively, and business is good.

J. W. Welch is circulating a petition to be appointed postmaster in place of T. D. Worrall.

Two Doctors Arrested.

NELSON, Neb., Dec. 19.—[Special to THE BEE].—Two men representing themselves to be doctors connected with a medical concern in Omaha, giving the names of Arthur V. Males and Henry Y. Oldsnue, have been arrested here on the charge of obtaining money under false pretenses. It is said they had promised to cure a child of Mr. A. Foulk, living near here in the country, whose speech is defective from a hare-lip. They required a note to be given, which they contracted not to sell nor collect until due and the child recovered. But they tried at all three banks, and of some individuals, to get it discounted on the very day it was given. The trial has not yet been held, in order to give time to the doctors to procure legal counsel from Omaha. The evidence may show up a different state of affairs.

A Thieving Tramp Sentenced.

CRETE, Neb., Dec. 19.—[Special to THE BEE.]—Late last evening J. C. Butler, a tramp claiming to hail from Denver, was brought before Justice Schilling upon complaint of J. D. Laymon, of this city. The complaint charged Butler with stealing an overcoat from complainant's wagon. Defendant pleading guilty the justice fined him $100 and costs. Not having the wherewith to liquidate he will languish in the county jail for thirty days. Two "pals" of Butler's were arrested at the same time, both of whom were in possession of overcoats thought to have been stolen, but for the lack of evidence they were discharged with orders to leave town in fifteen minutes.

General Brisbin Chosen Commander.

CRAWFORD, Neb., Dec. 19.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—The representatives of the Grand Army of the Republic met at Fort Robinson yesterday and unanimously elected General J. S. Brisbin their commander. A senior vice and junior vice, and a full complement of officers were also elected for Robinson Post No. 261. Sixteen new members joined the post, including nearly all the army officers serving at Fort Robinson who served in the war—Captains Corless, Bailey, Worth, Parker and Lieutenant H. H. Wright. A public installation of the new officers will take place at Fort Robinson January 17.

Councilman-Elect Wheeler Honored.

PLATTSMOUTH, Neb., Dec. 19.—[Special to THE BEE.]—Mr. D. H. Wheeler, of Omaha, master mason of lodge No. 1, A. F. & A. M., was in this city and attended a regular meeting of lodge No. 6, which was founded by him over thirty-five years ago. He was presented with a beautiful past master's jewel, valued at about one hundred dollars, by the members of the order. Hon. F. E. White made the presentation speech, to which Mr. Wheeler responded in a few well chosen remarks.

Closed the Fall Term.

PERU, Neb., Dec. 19.—[Special to THE BEE]—The fall term of the state normal school closed at this place to-day. There were over 300 students in attendance, and extra cars had to be ordered to carry them home to spend their holiday vacation. The winter term commences January 2. The members of the board are in session to-day, but there is not likely to be any change made in the present corps of teachers.

The Latest Hastings Failure.

HASTINGS, Neb., Dec. 19.—[Special to THE BEE.]—The John Stich mercantile failure, reported from this city last Saturday, was the collapse of a Kansas firm that came to Hastings only a few weeks ago to save at life, if possible. Branch houses went under it Paola and Independence, Kan., and brought this down with them. Hastings has had but one real failure this season outside of the Gazette-Journal crash, and that was entirely due to reckless and incompetent management.

General Merchandise Failure.

FREMONT, Neb., Dec. 19.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—J. B. Foot, a dealer in general merchandise at North Bend, made an assignment last evening. The First National bank of North Bend held a first mortgage on the stock for $7,500 and a real estate mortgage for $3,500. May Brothers, wholesale grocers of this city, are creditors to the extent of $2,200. The indebtedness to eastern firms makes the total liabilities $15,000 to $18,000, with assets nearly covering the amount.

Death of Mrs. Watson, of Beatrice.

BEATRICE, Neb., Dec. 19.—[Special to THE BEE.]—Mrs. W. A. Watson died at her home this morning, after an illness of several weeks. She was the wife of Mr. Watson, who is head man in the jewelry house of S. W. Wadsworth. They had been married but a few months. Mrs Watson was formerly a popular teacher in the city schools, and a niece of J. W. Morse, formerly passenger agent of the Union Pacific.

Depot Burned.

AURORA, Neb., Dec. 19.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—The passenger depot at Hampton burned down last night. It caught fire from the flues. The loss is abou $1,500. It was partly insured.

FRENCH INTERESTS AT PANAMA.

How They Are Being Looked After By the Home Government.

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PARIS, Dec. 19.—[New York Herald Cable—Special to THE BEE.]—I called this afternoon at the ministry of marine in reference to rumors that circulated to-day in Paris and in London to the effect that the French government was about to send several armorclads to Panama to watch the United States vessels of war there, and to enforce France's policy of "hands off," as far as the meddling of other nations in the affairs of the canal is concerned. I have the formal authority from Admiral Krantz, the French minister of marine, to categorically contradict any such reports. I asked the minister what are the French naval forces that are now within striking distance of the Panama canal. The minister replied: "The only vessels we have there now are the Rolande and an unarmored cruiser."

"Has the Duquesne received orders to sail for the Panama canal?"

"No, but she will probably be ordered there as a simple police measure, to look after the interests of a great many Frenchmen who are employed as workmen on the canal."

The minister then went out, and his chef-de-cabinet told me that the Duquesne was also an unarmored cruiser, and that if France had the remotest idea of subserving men-of-war of other nations it would not be cruisers but more formidable vessels that would be sent there.

The Pope's Support Appreciated.

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ROME, Dec. 19.—[New York Herald Cable—Special to THE BEE]—In an interview with the pope yesterday, Dr. Keane, bishop of Richmond, who is also titular rector of the projected university of Washington, handed to his holiness a collective letter written in Latin from the Catholic bishops of the United States, thanking the pope for his support of the university scheme, and announcing that the work was making the most satisfactory progress. Eight hundred thousand dollars have been collected, while the ground on which the building is to be erected has already been paid for. The bishops draw attention to the great importance of the university, which they believe will act as a bulwark against the rise of rationalism and free thought in America.

Another Opportunity Gone.

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LONDON, Dec. 19.—[New York Herald Cable—Special to THE BEE.]—American girls have missed an important match, for it is authoritatively announced this evening that a marriage has been arranged between the Duke of Newcastle and Miss Candy, daughter of Major Candy. It was reported recently that the duke was engaged to Miss McTavish, of Baltimore.

A Sensation In the Chamber.

PARIS, Dec. 19.—In the chamber to-day, during the debate on the budget, M. Challemel-Lacour created a great sensation by a speech condemning the policy now pursued in the schools, which, he said, struck at the root of the traditional principle of parental control. The main cause of the existing evils was the radicalism which relentlessly pursued the old founders of the republic, and gave promises which it was impossible to fulfill. France had abandoned the most glorious of monarchies, and was about to fall at the feet of the last of men. Instead of checking the movement toward the abyss, the cabinet was hastening the movement. It was time to return to a policy of good sense.

At the conclusion of his speech he appealed to the right to unite with the party on the left, and together save the country. Tremendous cheering followed. Premier Floquet defended the policy of the cabinet, which, he said, had been wise and republican. M. Leon said that the premier had not arisen to the occasion. A great uproar ensued. Floquet announced that he would, if necessary, introduce new legislation to combat the Boulangist danger. The house rose amid scenes of great excitement.

Importing Canadian Labor.

NEW YORK, Dec. 19.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—It was authentically stated in official circles to-day that a movement had been discovered in this city within the past week to engage the services of a large number of laborers from the northern frontier of Canada to work in the United States during the winter, in direct violation of the contract labor law. The movement was precipitated, it was said, by the "Border Horse and Cart Law." The attention of the customs officials will be called to the intended infringement of law, and precautions taken to prevent it.

The Canadian Blizzard.

ST. JOHN, N. B., Dec. 19.—The snow storm of yesterday was the severest for years. At Moncton more than a dozen trains were held because of the blockade north of Campelltown. A snow-slide at Metapides covered a special train, but no one was hurt. The Quebec train reached here last night ten hours late. The train hands had a very severe experience. In some cases, owing to blinding snow and sleet, relays of men had to be provided, and cuttings were often filled up when nearly open. The storm will cost the company thousands of dollars to reopen communication.

Business Troubles.

ALPENA, Mich., Dec. 19.—The lumber firm of Lee R. Sanborn & Son made an assignment yesterday. Their liabilities are reported at $70,000; assets not known.

CINCINNATI, Dec. 19.—A. E. Burt, of the "Crystal Hall," made an assignment this afternoon. Assets, $35,000; liabilities, $50,000.

WAUPACA, Wis., Dec. 19.—The Ostranda Manufacturing company, manufacturers of furniture, at Ostranda, made an assignment to-day. Liabilities $30,000; assetts not stated.

Is Marriage a Failure?

LOUISVILLE, Ky., Dec. 19.—The wife of Mr. John Meeks presented him on Saturday with a bouncing pair of twin babies. They have now twenty children living, eighteen girls and two boys. Mr. Meeks is only forty-nine years old and his wife forty-four. A peculiarity of Mr. Meeks' household is that two cradles have been kept going since the first two years of his marriage, and he has never had but one doctor's bill. All the children are living.

A Victory for the Samoans.

LONDON, Dec. 19.—A dispatch from Auckland says that news has been received from Samoa that the Samoans, under Rataafa, have succeeded in capturing most of Atna, after a long battle with Tamazz's forces. The losses included 100 killed and several hundred wounded.

Base Ball in Australia.

SYDNEY, N. S. W., Dec. 19.—A game of base ball was played here this afternoon between the American teams. All-American 6, Chicago 3.

Hanged For Murdering His Son.

HACKENSACK, N. J., Dec. 19.—John Myers Doremus was hanged this morning in the Berger county jail for the murder of his son John last June.

The B. & O. Presidency.

BALTIMORE, Md., Dec. 19.—Charles F. Mayer has been elected president of the Baltimore & Ohio railroad.

CLERKS FOR CONGRESSMEN.

Hayes of Iowa Introduces a Bill to Provide Them.

DIVIDED ON THE SUGAR QUESTION

Republicans Will Go Into Caucus to Adjust Differences On This Point—Mahone Fails of Endorsement.

WASHINGTON BUREAU THE OMAHA BEE, 513 FOURTEENTH STREET, WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 19.

Another attempt is to be made during the present congress to secure allowances for clerks for members of the house. A bill looking to this end was reported to-day from the committee on accounts, by Hayes, of Iowa, authorizing the appointment of such clerks to senators and representatives, but the amendment to consider it immediately was defeated by a vote of 95 to 103. Mr. Hayes will try again to secure action on this bill, and there is little doubt that a majority of the members are in favor of it, but there is a good deal of doubt as to whether they will all have the courage to vote for the measure, because they fear the cry of "salary grab" will be raised against them.

THE SUGAR SCHEDULE.

When the sugar schedule of the tariff bill is reached it will be passed over until the republicans can have a caucus and agree upon some basis of compromise, for there is a division among them. The senators from the prairie states are opposing the large reduction of duty on sugar, just as they are opposing the high tariff on lumber; in the interests of their constituents. The Kansas and Nebraska senators, for example, will join with those from Louisiana in keeping up the duty on sugar, in order to develope the sorgum and beet root industry of their own sections.

MAHONE DISAPPOINTED.

A conference of southern republicans was held here last night, by invitation of ex-Senator Mahone, who desired their endorsement as the representative of the south, for a position in the cabinet, but did not get it. The opposition was too strong, and a resolution endorsing him had to be withdrawn to prevent its being rejected. A substitute was adopted declaring that the south was entitled to a representative in the cabinet, and recommending the adoption by the next administration of such a policy as will secure a fair count at elections in that section. General Mahone is very much disappointed at the outcome of his conference, as he felt assured of receiving its support.

RIDDLEBERGER.

Senator Riddleberger has not made his appearance in the senate since the episode the other day, but is seen about his hotel still breathing threats of vengeance against Ingalls and the republicans, but those who know him best say that he will not resign, as he promised to do, because he wants the salary of a senator, which amounts to more than $1,200 between now and the 4th of March.

GOVERNOR SWINEFORD'S PAY.

The senate committee on claims has reported a bill authorizing the secretary of the treasury to pay Governor Swineford, of Alaska, his salary from the 1st of July to the 1st of September, 1885. It appears that Mr. Swineford was appointed on the 1st of July, but remained at his home in Michigan until the 1st of September before going to his post of duty, and the comptroller of the treasury decided that he was not entitled to his pay for this portion of his term. Swineford came to congress with a claim, which passed the house last session, and his friends will probably secure its passage in the senate.

WORK OF PADDOCK'S COMMITTEE.

The senate committee on the improvement of the Mississippi river and its tributaries, of which Mr. Paddock is chairman, held a long and important session on Saturday, during which a final determination was reached upon the several bills for the improvement of the Mississippi river by the outlet system, which the committee have been investigating for nearly a year past. More than three hundred pages of printed testimony, taken during the course of the inquiry, were considered by the committee. The committee finally decided to report adversely on the bills presented, on the ground that they were unanimously opposed to any improvement of the river by private contract with individuals and not directly through government channels.

A resolution was also adopted calling upon the senate for authority to investigate the entire subject of the Mississippi river improvement, and also of the Mississippi and Missouri river commission, with power to sit during the recess, if necessary, and subpœna witnesses.

During the last year Senator Paddock's committee has held thirty meetings, and has accomplished a larger amount of work than has been done by the same committee during the previous ten years of its existence.

Senator Paddock said this afternoon that the investigation in which they have been engaged had developed so many interesting inquiries, and had raised so many important questions, that the committee had unanimously arrived at the conclusion that a thorough and searching investigation of present methods by which the national monies were expended in the west with such apparently small results, was urgently required. The southern members of the committee were particularly anxious for a full examination, not only into systems of river improvement, but into expenditures of money. In the inquiry which it is proposed to conduct, the very important subject of storage reservoirs in connection with the prevention of overflows in the rivers, and the water of which can be used for irrigating purposes, will also be considered.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The commissioners of the District of Columbia were very much astonished to see John G. Carlisle, speaker of the house of representatives, J. S. C. Blackburn and several other statesmen, appear to use their influence to secure a license for the sale of liquor for a saloonkeeper by the name of Solori, who had been refused one license because he had been four times convicted of selling liquor on Sunday, in violation of the law.

Congressman McShane called on the president to-day, accompanied by Mr. B. D. Slaughter, of Nebraska.

Hon. J. M. Thurston, of Omaha, is registered at the Arlington to-day.

The claim of John Bechtold, of Kearney county, for $6,354, alleged losses by Indian depredations by Sioux and Cheyennes in 1864, was disallowed by the secretary of the interior, on the ground of insufficient evidence.

PERRY S. HEATH.

Fixing the Adjournment Date.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 19.—This evening the indications are that an agreement will be reached by to-morrow by the senate on the question of holiday adjournament, and in connection therewith an agreement as to the length of the debate on the tariff bill. The democratic senators held a caucus after adjournment this evening and authorized Messrs. Harris and Vest to propose to Messrs. Morrell and Sherman, representing the republican senators, a proposition embodying the following provisions: To adjourn on Friday next until January, as fixed by the house resolution; to hold daily sessions, beginning at 11 a. m. and continuing until at least 5:30 p. m., until the tariff bill is disposed of, and finally to vote on the tariff bill on January 30. This is in practical harmony with the republican proposition, save in the matter of night sessions.

The Republican League.

NEW YORK, Dec. 19.—The executive committee of the republican league of the United States met to day and fixed the date of the national convention for February 28 next, at Baltimore.

All Quiet at Bevier.

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 19.—The latest in formation from Bevier, Mo., coal mines is that everything is quiet. The grand jury has adjourned without finding any indictment.

KNOCK DOWN ARGUMENTS.

A Lively Meeting of the Dakota Board of Asylum Trustees.

YANKTON, Dak., Dec. 19.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—There were troublesome times in the meeting of the board of asylum trustees to-day, but not so far as the members of the board were concerned. Outside parties made all the trouble. To begin with, the employes went on a strike yesterday and that was the fundamental cause of the trouble. To-day the board of trustees met, and after deliberation deposed Dr. Robert Buchannan, the superintendent, and appointed Dr. James Roane, a young physician of this city, in his place. Dr. Buchannan was called into the presence of the board and notified of his deposition. He became angry and struck Dr. Slayman, the assistant superintendent. Mrs. Buchannan, wife of the doctor, and others interfered, and had it not been for this, Dr. Buchannan would have continued his pugilistic exercises. Stories are current on both sides and it is indeed difficult to make head or tail out of the whole. The trustees claim that the assault of Dr. Buchannan was totally unprovoked and uncalled for, while his adherents claim that he was perfectly justified. Interviewed by a BEE correspondent to-night, Dr. Buchannan said: "I notified Trustee Gale that he could not keep any mysteries inside that institution; that it was none of my business how many he kept outside, but he could not have them there."

Dr. Buchannan was appointed by the new board presumably upon the recommendation of Mr. Quigley, ex-trustee, and Mr. Gale, and when Mr. Quigley and the colonel fell out Dr. Buchannan was expected to be deposed. Contractor Pattee has settled his differences with the employes on the wings, and work will be resumed in the morning. Dr. Roane, the new appointee, is a competent physician, and one of the best in Yankton.

An Anti-Catholic Movement.

NEW YORK, Dec. 19.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—At a meeting of German Evangelists held yesterday afternoon in the Houston Street Reformed church, steps were taken to inaugurate a movement against the encroachments of the Catholic church on the public schools. Rev. Dr. John O. Erter presided, and there was presented for adoption an appeal to German Evangelists to join in the movement. The alliance thus formed will take steps to preserve the civil and religious liberty granted by the constitution. They have issued an appeal to the people of the United States, in which they say the pope has greater power to-day than any sovereign. He menaces the United States. Right here in New York Archbishop Corrigan is an absolute ruler. While millions are expended for the Catholic church, nothing is done for the Evangelists. It is the duty of all people who have other than Catholic belief to make one front against this phalanx of arch-enemies.

Contesting Ross Burns' Will.

TOPEKA, Kan., Dec. 19.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—Contests were commenced to-day in the district court over the will of Ross Burns, who was at one time general solicitor of the Santa Fe. The title to some of the most valuable business property in the city is involved. The suit is commenced by Fernando de Francisco Martin, who has for the past ten years been chancellor of the Spanish legation at New York. He claims that Burns' daughter Rosa, who was entitled to one-fourth of the estate, deeded all her interests in the estate to him at her death four years ago. This one-fourth interest is believed to be worth over $100,000. The case revives the strange circumstances connected with the death of Ross Burns, whose first wife was a sister of Victoria Claflin Woodhull.

The Playwright Must Disgorge.

NEW YORK, Dec. 19.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—In the supreme court, before Judge Lawrence and a jury, to-day, Shook & Collier recovered a verdict for $945 against Robert Buchanan, of London. In 1884 Buchanan wrote the plaintiffs, asking if they wanted a good "romantic society drama." They replied affirmatively, and Buchanan stated his terms, $5,000, $750 of which was to be paid in advance. Shook & Collier paid the advance price, and Buchanan sent over a play entitled "A Hero in Spite of Himself." The play was a story of western life, and the scene was laid on the prairies. The characters were to be arrayed in red shirts and top boots. The managers decided that the play did not come quite within the "society drama" limit, returned it, and demanded that the advance money be returned to them. This was refused, and they brought suit.

Obituary.

CINCINNATI, O., Dec. 19.—Rev. Isaac Errett, of the Christian church, and one of the oldest and best known divines in it, died this morning at a very advanced age. He was an early and life-long friend of the late President Garfield.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 19.—Mrs. Mary J. Cook, wife of P. B. Cook, of the postoffice department, died here last evening. With her husband, Mrs. Cook was a pioneer in the Galena and Dubuque lead mine regions of Illinois and Iowa in 1839.

INDIANAPOLIS, Dec. 19.—Hon. Finley Bigger, aged seventy-two years, died at Rushville, Ind., last night. He was register of the treasury during the administrations of Presidents Pierce and Buchanan.

The Prince of Wales Denounced.

LONDON, Dec. 19.—The announcement of the disbandment of the honorable artillery company has caused a sensation, and the action of the Prince of Wales, which led to the disorganization of the ancient body, is unfavorably commented upon by both press and people. The St. James Gazette says that if he behaved as a sovereign as he has behaved as captain of this company, his tenure of the throne would be brief.

Four of the Negroes Killed.

WAHALEK, Miss., Dec. 19.—A report has reached here that an armed posse overtook four negroes, participants in Sunday night's tragedy. One was shot and the other three hung.

NEW ORLEANS, La., Dec. 19.—A special from Wahalak, Miss., says: The trouble between the whites and blacks of this place is not yet settled, and serious trouble and much bloodshed is sure to follow. It is now known that in the past twenty-four hours at least four negroes, and perhaps more, have been killed.

Later—Three of the negroes have been captured, and six more are hedged in so that escape seems impossible. The prisoners are at a dilapidated frame building called the "white house," ten miles from here, on the brow of one of the highest ranges of hills in the neighborhood. They are under a strong guard, and the next twenty-four hours will determine their fate.

ditor Anthony's Assailant Pardoned

TOPEKA, Kan., Dec. 19.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—The governor to-day granted pardon to Thomas C. Thurston, once a leading attorney of Leavenworth, who was convicted in 1880 of assault with intent to kill Colonel D. R. Anthony, editor of the Leavenworth Times, and sentenced to eighteen years in prison.

A Home Stake Robber Found Guilty.

DEADWOOD, Dak., Dec. 19.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—The jury in the case of John Tehford, the accomplice in the late attempt at robbing the Home Stake railroad, was found guilty to-day, as charged in the indictment. The jury was out only fifteen minutes.

A Godspeed For Gladstone.

LONDON, Dec. 19.—Gladstone departed today for Naples. A great crowd gathered at the railway station, and the ex-premier was enthusiastically cheered when he departed.

BURNED TO BREAK A SPELL.

The Wierd and Gruesome Tale of a Kansas Correspondent.

ROASTED HER VICTIM ALIVE.

How a Young Lady On a Farm Was Tortured to Death By a Negro Servant Who Considered Her a Witch.

Jennie Barrett's Terrible Fate.

WICHITA, Kan., Dec. 19.—Several weeks ago an old negro servant of Eugene Bartlett, a wealthy cattleman of Kingman county, who was known as "good old Rebecca," set George W. Beatty, a well-to-do farmer living near Bross, that county, reported here to-night, conceived the idea that she was being bewitched by Jennie Bartlett, who was about twenty years old. While gradually showing an increased dislike for the lady she kept on with her work, but Saturday, in the presence of the family, she told Jennie that she was being hoodedooed by her and she would have to quit it or there would be trouble. This created considerable merriment, but the old colored woman watched her opportunity for breaking the spell.

Last evening early all the family except Jennie went to visit neighbors. Shortly after their departure Robert Donnelly, a young man who lives at Bross, called to see Jennie, as had been his custom for some time, and remained until about 9 o'clock, when Rebecca appeared and stated that there was a very sick horse at the barn, and she wanted him to go up to Bross for some medicine. He left in response to the request.

As soon as the young man was out of hearing, the servant caught the young lady, and tying a rope around her hands, swung her up to a joist with her feet about two feet from the floor. This done she stripped her of her clothes and covered her body with paint and then tar. In a short time she had placed a kettle filled with kindling wood under her, and after putting a large amount of oil on it