THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

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A BID FOR THE SOLDIER VOTE

The Lavish Issuing of Pensions Before Election.

THREATENS DIRE VENGEANCE.

Cleveland Will Retaliate For the Senate's Refusal to Confirm Webb and Thompson — The Cowles Bill.

WASHINGTON BUREAU THE OMAHA BEE, 513 FOURTEENTH STREET, WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 20.

The pension office has practically suspended the issuance of pensions. It was announced to-day by the commissioner that no more lists of pensions would be given to the press. The chief of the division explained that this was because very few pensions have been issued during the past three or four weeks, and that the issuance has almost completely ceased for the present. The commissioner does not want a public comparison between the work of the pension office now and that of eight or ten months ago. It will be remembered that during the campaign and for three or four months before the election, there were issued six days in the week at the pension office, for the press, the list of pensions allowed, and that they ran away up in the hundreds, and that sometime there were a thousand issued in a day. Pensions were poured out by the wholesale. During the campaign there were about eight thousand issued for Indiana alone. The democratic and mugwump press pointed to this with great pride, and declared that the soldiers had better friends in the administration than they ever had. When the polls were closed and it was discovered that Mr. Cleveland was defeated, the ardor in favor of the soldiers, their widows and orphans, cooled at the pension office. Within three weeks the number of pensions allowed had decreased until there were not as many granted in a week as had been granted in a day, a month before. There have not been as many granted during the past two months as there were allowed in one day during the heat of the campaign. The soldiers can now see who their friends are and were.

CLEVELAND THREATENS VENGEANCE.

President Cleveland threatens dire vengeance on the republicans in the senate for refusing to confirm Webb, the very doubtful republican or mugwump, to be a district commissioner, and Thompson, of South Carolina, the solid south shaker, to be a civil service commissioner. The president's friends in the senate say that if these nominations are not confirmed the chief executive will refuse to sign any of the bills which the republicans want signed. They say he will refuse to sign either the direct tax or the omnibus territorial statehood bills, both of which finally passed congress to-day, and will be sent to the white house as soon as enrolled. It is now a question whether the republicans in the senate can be frightened into doing that which they do not want to do and which they know to be wrong. They have not, up to this time, shown the slightest lack of courage, and it is not at all likely that they will at this late day. No one would be injured half so much by a failure to sign just measures as the president and his party, nothing could bury him and his party half so deep as a refusal to sign either the direct tax or the omnibus bill. Senator Sherman thinks the defeat by the president of the direct tax bill would destroy every democratic hope of party success and relegate the retiring president to private life perpetually. Representative Springer declares that if the omnibus bill is not signed he will head a delegation of democrats who will ask President Harrison for an extra session of congress for the adoption of the same measures. All the same, the body of the democrats in both houses fought both of these bills bitterly, and they would never have been passed had it been possible for democratic caucuses to defeat them. There were just enough democrats in the house who would not be held by caucus instructions, most of them members who will go out of congress in nine days from now, to give the republicans a majority, and although the democratic party in the future will claim the credit of passing these bills, it should be remembered that both measures were first introduced in a republican senate, and that neither would have been passed by a democratic house if they could have been defeated by the democrats or a body acting under the instructions of President Cleveland. It is a clear instance of the minority of democrats running away from the reins of the majority. The final adoption of these bills was fought bitterly. The general impression is that both will be signed, although it will be a very distasteful task for the retiring chief magistrate. There are many prominent democrats in congress who to-night say the president will not sign the direct tax bill. It can not become a law without his signature. The south opposes the bill, and the south controls the nominating conventions, and Cleveland expects to be nominated again.

THE COWLES BILL.

Your correspondent to-day asked Judge Kelly if he thought there was any probability of the passage of the bill to repeal the tobacco tax at this session of congress. "There is only a possibility and not a probability," he said. "If Speaker Carlisle should recognize some one to move the repeal, under a suspension of the rules, which would be in order at any time during the last six days of the session, I think there would be a sufficient number of votes to make the necessary two-thirds majority, but I do not think the speaker will recognize any one for this purpose. He is pledged against it."

"But if he should, would any of the democrats filibuster to prevent the consideration of the bill?"

"It would be a most extraordinary spectacle if they didn't." I asked the same question of Representative Connor. He said: "No, I do not think that Carlisle will recognize anybody for that purpose. He has refused to do so many times, and I think he will continue to refuse until the end of the session. He considers himself the representative of his party and as bound to carry out their will. He believes that a great majority of the democrats on the floor, which is probably true, are opposed to the reduction of the revenues by the repeal of the tobacco tax, therefore he can best serve their interests and comply with their wishes by refusing to recognize anyone to make a motion for that purpose. But even if he should do so, the bill would be beaten by filibustering."

Representative Steel, of Indiana, who is an intimate friend of Speaker Carlisle, and lives in the same house with him, said about the same thing, although he was not quite so emphatic as Mr. Connor. Mr. Steel says that if a certain number of democrats should express a desire to vote on the repeal of the tobacco tax, he thinks Mr. Carlisle would give them an opportunity.

THE CABINET SLATE.

The cabinet slate given in these dispatches day before yesterday continues to stand the test of public opinion at the national capital, notwithstanding the change made by the reports from Indianapolis. Although both gentlemen are held in high esteem here, it is not generally believed that either Representative Thomas or W. H. H. Miller will be in the cabinet.

Senator Palmer, of Michigan, is given either the secrefaryship of agriculture or of the navy. He is wealthy, has a splendid home here, where he can do much towards making the social end of the administration a success, and and he is both capable and popular.

Since General Alger is out, Palmer stands prominently to the front in the minds of Washington people.

Mrs. Noble, of St. Louis, is here house hunting, and it is stated by her husband's most intimate friends that he will be secretary of the interior.

There can be no longer any doubt about Mr. Windom being secretary of the treasury. In response to an invitation to dine with friends in Washington he has sent his regrets, saying that he is so busy closing up his business affairs in New York that he is not able to give a moment's time to pleasure.

So far as opinion in congress and private circles goes, the slate continues to stand to-night as follows:

Blaine, secretary of state.
Windom, secretary of the treasury.
Rusk, secretary of war.
Noble, secretary of the interior.
Wannamaker, postmaster general.
Baxter, attorney general.
Palmer, secretary of the navy or agriculture.
Warner Miller, secretary of the navy or agriculture.

It is stated that efforts are being made to have Warner Miller reconsider his refusal of the agricultural portfolio, and that if he will not do so to have him accept the navy secretaryship. It is believed that the name of Swift, of California, will be substituted for that of Baxter, of Tennessee.

MISCELLANEOUS AND PERSONAL.

The bids for the sale of land for a new site for Fort Omaha will be opened on Friday, March 1.

Senator Paddock to-day secured the passage of amendments to the sundry civil appropriation bill of $80,000 each for improvements at Forts Robinson and Niobrara, and $10,000 for improvements on the Lincoln postoffice for the pavement, sidewalks, etc.

The secretary of the interior has rejected the application of Evans Scott to amend his homestead entry in the North Platte land district. The secretary says Scott has exhausted his rights under the law.

At the session of the house last night Mr. Dorsey succeeded in getting up the bill placing Colonel Leib, of Grand Island, on the retired list, but the filibustering tactics of Kilgore of Texas, the confederate, defeated consideration. The previous question has been ordered on the bill and it may be passed before the 4th of March.

Frank W. Lewis, of Lincoln, is here.

Congressman elect Dolliver, who succeeds Representative Holmes, of Iowa, was at the capitol to-day.

William E. Annin and Watson Pickrell, have returned from Nebraska and resumed their official duties at the senate.

WESTERN PACKING INTERESTS

An Increase In Output Compared With the Preceding Week.

CINCINNATI, Feb. 20.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—To-morrow's Price Current will say the movement of hogs has been especially liberal the past week, and western packing has moderately enlarged. The total packing is about 290,000 hogs, compared with 270,000 the preceding week. The indicated total to date is 4,985,000 since November 1 last year, 235,000 for the week, 5,600,000 to date. These approximations imply a gain of 55,000 for the week and a decrease of 615,000 for the season, compared with a year ago.

Packing November 1 to date:

Packing, Nov. 1 to date.	1889.	1888.
Chicago	1,370,000	1,640,000
Kansas City	632,000	732,000
Omaha	295,000	325,000
St. Louis	270,000	345,000
Indianapolis	252,800	236,000
Cincinnati	290,000	334,000
Milwaukee	240,000	208,000
Cedar Rapids	135,000	147,000
Cleveland	74,000	85,000
Louisville	142,000	185,000
Sioux City, Ia.	188,000	108,000
Ottumwa	76,000	57,000
Nebraska City, Neb	81,000	66,000
Keokuk	48,000	45,000
St. Joseph	75,600	109,000
Des Moines	59,000	62,000
St. Paul	132,000	70,000

THOSE PARNELL LETTERS.

Houston Tells How He Secured Them From Pigott.

LONDON, Feb. 20.—When the Parnell commission met this morning the courtroom was crowded. Parnell was present. Houston, secretary of the Irish Loyal and Patriotic union, was further cross-examined. He said he destroyed Pigott's letters to him in accordance with an agreement made between them that they were intended for the eye of the witness alone, and were not to be used publicly. Up to the time witness went to Paris, Pigott had not given him the names of any of the persons connected with the letters secured by the Times. Witness said his part was done when the letters were obtained. He accepted them without securing any means of testing Pigott's statements in the event of their genuineness being questioned, because he understood that it was useless to attempt to make a complete case, and further inquiries would only handicap himself. He had no means whatever of testing any part of Pigott's story, which he regarded as probable. Witness saw Mr. Stead, of the Pall Mall Gazette, before he obtained possession of the letters and asked him to make up a letter which would lead to the disclosure. Stead said he had lost £3,000 by the publication of the "Modern Babylon" articles, and he would not like to touch anything else unless he knew he would be successful. When witness visited Paris he had no genuine specimens of either Parnell's or Egan's writing. He accepted letters solely on Pigott's word. Witness further said he might have told Stead that Messrs. Sexton and Dillon were implicated in the Phœnix Park murders, but if he did so it was on the authority of the statement made by Eugene Davis to Pigott, a copy of which was produced by the witness. He did not know where the original was. Two days before the commission opened Pigott wrote him an abusive letter demanding that after giving testimony before the commission he should be given £5,000.

A STORMY SESSION.

The Indiana Senate the Scene of Great Excitement.

INDIANAPOLIS, Feb. 20.—In the senate this morning, under the previous question rule enforced by the majority, the bill creating a supreme court commission was passed. Senator Byrd then sought to bring up the bill creating a department of geology, but Johnson, (rep.) had in the meantime secured recognition from the chair. Byrd claimed the floor and a wrangle ensued, the chair allowing Johnson five minutes, which he devoted to scaring the majority vehemently, denouncing the enforcement of the rule which prevented the minority from explaining their vote. When the five minutes had passed the presiding officer interrupted Johnson, who continued his fiery speech, whereupon the chair ordered the roll called. Great confusion and excitement prevailed, in the midst of which Doorkeeper Bulger called out that unless Johnson took his seat he would come down and seat him. Immediately all the republican senators arose and gathered about Johnson, who indignantly challenged any doorkeeper to seat him. The excitement was great, and for some time a general conflict seemed imminent, and when quiet was restored Senator Dresser (Rep.) announced that a caucus would be held immediately after adjournment, and it is thought that all the republican senators may conclude to resign their seats and leave the senate without a quorum.

Referred to State Legislatures.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 20.—During the last session of congress bills were introduced in the house to "punish dealings in futures in agricultural products," and "to prohibit fictitious and gambling transactions on the price of articles produced by American industry." The bills were referred to the committee on agriculture, which to-day decided to report both bills adversely. The committee concluded that congress has no jurisdiction over the subject, and that it is a matter for state legislation exclusively.

Probably Only Rumor.

DENVER, Colo., Feb. 20.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—Neither C. H. Kountze nor his brother Herman, of Omaha, are in the city. The rumor that the latter is to remove to New York none of the business associates of the gentlemen credit. W. H. Berger, his brother-in-law, upon being questioned, stated that he knew nothing whatever of any such plan.

GOVERNOR LARRABEE'S TRIAL

Judge Conrad Grants a Continuance Until This Morning.

THE PROSECUTION NOT READY.

Sioux City Infested With a Gang of Safe Crackers—Woes of the Prohibitionists—Other Iowa News.

A Continuance Granted.

DES MOINES, Ia., Feb. 20.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—The large court room in the county court house was well filled this morning when the case of the state of Iowa vs. William Larrabee, charged with criminal libel, was called for trial. Within the bar standing room was at a premium. The governor was not present in person, and it was stated that he would probably not come over from the capitol until the jury was impanelled. At the long table in front of Judge Conrad's seat sat Mr. J. R. Bancroft, who has been engaged to assist the county attorney in the case, and at the north end of the table sat Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Gillette, Mrs. Turney and Mr. A. N. Denman, prosecuting witnesses, while the governor's counsel, Mr. C. A. Bishop, held a whispered consultation as to the proposed continuance of the case.

When order was produced Mr. J. R. Bancroft arose, and in a quiet and dignified manner addressed the court. He said that he had been asked to assist the prosecuting attorney in the case but had not had time to examine into the testimony, and had not even decided whether to accept the work of prosecution. The importance of the case demanded that nothing be done with undue haste. The governor had been indicted for circulating a certain document. The question whether it was a privileged communication, and if so, whether it was circulated maliciously, and why it was selected from the mass of testimony in the office, would have to be considered. He thought that the case ought to be continued for a day or two at least.

Mr. C. A. Bishop said the defendant in this case courted the fullest investigation and would not seek or accept any technical advantage. William Larrabee had been indicted, not as a personal person but because he was the governor of Iowa and because he had circulated certain matters in the line of official duty and by virtue of his office. The entire state is interested in a full, fair and prompt trial. The case is not new and does not demand much delay in its preparation. The Turney case has been heralded all over the state and discussed by the newspapers for three years. The character of the person alleged to be libeled would play no part in the trial. The question would be whether the governor had acted in malice in doing what he had done. There was no need for long delays. He would say to the court, professionally, that the governor desired to go out of the city and state on Thursday or Friday, and wished that the case might be tried before that time.

County Attorney Macomber said that it was with regret, and against his better judgment, that he had consented to so early a trial. He had had but little time to attend to this case, having been busy with the prosecution of other cases. The indictment had only been returned on Saturday, and he had not known until within a few hours that he was to have associate counsel. The case is very important, being probably the first when a governor of a great state like Iowa had been arraigned on such a charge, and it should be conducted with deliberation. New testimony had been discovered and it was important that the state should have time.

Attorney Bishop thought that, having associate counsel, the prosecutor could attend to one part of the work and his associate could be looking up the other while the jury was being selected.

Judge Conrad said that it was true that the defendant was the governor of the state, but that it would be the duty of the court to look upon it as nearly as possible the same as if he were a private citizen. All accused persons are entitled under the constitution to a speedy trial, but a speedy trial is not necessarily a trial the next hour, the next day, or even perhaps the next week. It is a relative term, and what would be a speedy trial under certain circumstances would be very slow in another. Courts should not, however, at the request of defendants, rush the case into a trial before it is ready. The request for some delay in this case seemed not unreasonable, and if he might consider it he might say that the defendant could not afford to so urge immediate trial as to call forth the comment that the state had not been given ample time to prepare its case. He would, therefore, grant continuance until 1:30 p. m., which had been asked by the county attorney, and consented to by the defendant's attorney, and would at that time grant a second continuance till Thursday morning if the state had not yet had sufficient time to prepare for trial.

The crowd then filed out of the court room and the regular routine of business was resumed. At 1:30 p. m. the state requested a continuance till morning and the court granted it.

Sioux City Burglaries.

SIOUX CITY, Feb. 20.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—Last night burglars cracked the safe in the office of Tolerton & Stetson, wholesale grocers. They received $800. The building occupied by the firm was once the county building, and the company's safe is inside the vault which was used by the county treasurer. The burglars cracked the vault door and then got into the safe. During the past few weeks eight safes have been cracked in this city, and all the jobs other than the one performed last night have been bunglesome ones.

Judge Griffey's Story.

SIOUX CITY, Ia., Feb. 20.—Special to THE BEE.]—The institution of suit against Judge T. L. Griffey, of Dakota City, Neb., for breach of promise, excites much interest here, where the judge is well known, as well as at his home. Judge Griffey is one of the oldest and most respected citizens of Dakota county, Nebraska. He is a man of a good deal of wealth, owning a large amount of land and other property in Nebraska and having business interests in Sioux City.

The suit is brought by Miss Sallie McConohey, a lady of about forty-five years of age, who lays her damages at $20,000 for the alleged breach of promise. On her behalf it is claimed that the suit is bona fide, and it is specifically stated that the judge promised on or about the 10th day of April, 1887, to marry her, "if he ever married at all," whereas about six months ago he married an estimable young widow.

Judge Griffey is stopping in the city with his wife, and upon receipt of the news of the institution of suit he talked quite freely about it. He says that he is not at all surprised, but he denies that he ever promised to marry the plaintiff. On the contrary, he says that she several times hinted pretty freely the subject of marriage to him, but he invariably dropped the subject, without giving her the slightest encouragement. He admits that he was frequently, although casually, in the plaintiff's company, she residing with her brother, who owned a farm adjoining that of the judge. The judge says the plaintiff's family are respectable people, the brother especially being an upright man. The judge feels sure that the plaintiff has brought suit at the instigation of some other parties. He denies positively all reports that there has ever been anything improper in his relations with the plaintiff, and says that he shall most certainly make vigorous resistance to the suit, although he has not yet employed legal counsel.

The Temperance Alliance.

DES MOINES, Ia., Feb. 20.—[Special to THE BEE.]—The state temperance alliance has been in session all day devoting much of the time to hearing reports of the condition of prohibition in the different congressional districts of the state. Most of those reporting gave very sanguine and glowing accounts of how well the law was being enforced. Occasionally a wail would be heard from some river county, where little headway was being made. The delegate reporting for Fort Madison gave a glowing account of the difficulties which prohibition had to encounter in his vicinity. He said the temperance people couldn't get any lawyers to take their cases, and had to go to Burlington for legal assistance. The report from Muscatine was also discouraging, claiming that two of the district judges were tools of the liquor men and would not enforce the prohibitory law. For the most part the delegates reported that the law was generally enforced, with a large reduction in criminal expenses in consequence.

The nominating committee reported as officers for the next year the following: B. F. Wright, of Floyd county, for president; Mrs. A. E. McMurray, of Polk county, for secretary, and General A. J. Barker, of Polk county, for treasurer and attorney.

A Very Close Call.

BURLINGTON, Ia., Feb. 20.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—M. F. Mellinger, manager of the Burlington Syrup works, and family have had a narrow escape from asphyxiation by escaping coal gas. The family retired at the usual hour. About 4 a. m. one of the children complained of feeling sick. The father got up to attend the child's wants and immediately sank unconscious to the floor. At this juncture Mrs. Mellinger sprang from the bed, but before she could reach the side of her prostrate husband she, too, fell to the floor in an insensible condition. Mr. Mellinger has no idea how long he lay in this condition, but finally recovered sufficiently to regain his feet and raise a window, and to give an alarm. A neighbor came over and a physician was summoned. After a few hours all were out of danger, and to-day are well as usual. A short time longer and the affair must have resulted fatally for all.

The A. O. U. W.

MASON CITY, Ia., Feb. 20.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—The supreme faction of the Ancient Order of United Workmen today filed a petition for a rehearing with the clerk of the supreme court. When the case was decided by this court two years ago a rehearing was asked for by the same party, but was denied. In the recent decision the court stated that the case "demanded from the court no further discussion." It is now open to the Iowa grand lodge to begin summary proceedings by injunction to restrain the supremers from the further use of the name of the order and the right to do business in the state, which course, it is understood, will now be pursued. An invitation was extended to the supremers to become members of the order upon complying with the requirements relative to reinstatement, but this invitation was spurned with contempt. Heretofore the grand lodge has acted on the defensive; henceforth it will assume the aggressive.

Red Oak's Board of Trade.

RED OAK, Ia., Feb. 20.—[Special to THE BEE.]—At a meeting of the business men of Red Oak, about fifty were present, and articles of incorporation were adopted and a full set of officers elected, as follows: President, John Houp; first vice president, M. E. Fisher; second vice president, E. M. Coney; secretary, O. P. Worsley; treasurer, P. P. Clark. Shares were placed at $100 each, payable $10 membership and $2.50 quarterly assessments, at the discretion of the board of directors. Twenty members have already joined, with a good prospect of fifty in the near future. The committee on by-laws and soliciting members was ordered to report at the next meeting, to be held on Tuesday evening next. Three delegates will be chosen to the blue grass convention, to be held at Creston on February 26, to advertise southwestern Iowa.

Played a Joke on the Mayor.

DES MOINES, Ia., Feb. 20.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—Some days ago the state board of health received a letter purporting to have been written by the mayor of Laporte, Ia., stating that two skeletons had been found near that place under suspicious circumstances and asking what should be done with them. The board replied, setting forth minutely the duties of a mayor in such cases. To-day the board received a letter from the real mayor of Laporte, declaring that the other letter was a scandalous forgery, and asking that it be sent, so that he could find the forger. The mayor was quite indignant at the publicity he had received, and he proposes to make it warm for the author of the practical joke upon him.

Affairs at Clarion.

CLARION, Ia., Feb. 20.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—Some days ago there were sensational reports sent out from here coupling the name of Mrs. Judd, of Dows, with that of County Attorney Whipple in connection with some alleged warnings of White Caps, and the sequel now follows in the commencement of a suit by Mrs. Judd against G. C. Jameson, a banker of Dows, for alleged defamation of character. Mr. Jameson, in turn, has begun suit against Mr. Whipple, as attorney for the water company, asking $3,000 damages for one of his clients, Crabtree. It is claimed that Whipple held a note against Crabtree, and when it became due issued an attachment and collected the note by distress, hence the request for damages.

Combining Against Chicago.

DES MOINES, Ia., Feb. 20.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—The railroad commissioners received information to-day that the Missouri railroad commission would join with them in their stand for western packers against the Chicago board of trade. The Missouri commission will employ counsel to assist the Iowa counsel if a fight has to be made. It is expected that the Nebraska commissioners will also join the others in standing for western interests.

The Winona & Southwestern.

MASON CITY, Ia., Feb. 20.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—The report that the Mason City & Fort Dodge road has passed into the hands of the Winona & Southwestern is further evidenced from the fact that the Winona surveyors have been running an independent line toward Sioux City, which was completed to Livermore, were called in to-day. This insures the Winona & Southwestern for Osage, Mason City and on through to Omaha.

A Child Burned to Death.

BOONE, Ia., Feb. 20.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—Lorene, the three-year-old daughter of Jesse Hull, was playing with a lighted lamp yesterday afternoon and in some way set fire to her clothes. She was frightfully burned, not a spot on her body escaping; and died about 12 o'clock. She did not recover consciousness.

Refused the Injunction.

DUBUQUE, Ia., Feb. 20.—[Special Telegram ta THE BEE.]—Judge Ney, at Independence, has refused to enjoin the American Express company from delivering liquor shipped "C. O. D." from another state.

Disbanded the Division.

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 20.—It has been learned that at a meeting held here on Sunday night Enterprise division of the Brotherhood of Engineers decided unanimously that the division disband. The division was composed almost exclusively of Reading railroad engineers, and was one of the largest divisions of Reading engineers.

Phelps Interviews the President.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 20.—Mr. Phelps, United States minister to England, called at the white house to-day and had an interview with the president.

NEWS OF NEBRASKA TOWNS.

Manderson Speaks at the G. A. R. Encampment.

THE WORK OF AN INCENDIARY.

A Barn, With Several Thousand Bushels of Grain and Two Horses, Burned—Some Stock Missing.

Women's Relief Corps.

KEARNEY, Neb., Feb. 20.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—The convention of the Women's Relief corps was called to order this morning at 10 o'clock. All the officers responded for duty. Mrs. Helen M. Aplegut, captain of the department, offered an eloquent prayer. The following were appointed for the convention. Mrs. Lucy Lacy, of Creighton, and Mrs. Len Robertson, conductors of the mess; Mary Manchester, of Lincoln, page; Mrs. Abbie C. Phillips, of Tecumseh guard; Miss Ida Smith, reporter, assisted by Mrs. Emily Dickson. The reading of the resolution of greeting to the sixth annual state encampment was the next feature. The greetings were forwarded to the encampment. The annual address of the president, senior vice president, junior vice president and sedretary followed, showing a very successful year ended with bright prospects for the future. The election of various committees followed, and a vote of thanks was extended to Sedwick Post No. 1 for their kindness in providing so thoughtfully for the comfort of the visiting delegations. After a recess for dinner, the business of the ladies was continued until an invitation to listen to an address by Senator Manderson before a joint meeting of the two organizations was received and accepted. After this it was necessary to adjourn to arrange for the reception tendered by the corps to the visiting delegates and the citizens of Kearney.

Smallpox Scare.

FALLS CITY, Neb., Feb. 20.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—A good deal of excitement prevails throughout the southern part of the county and across the line into Kansas over the report that smallpox was raging there. The city council held a special meeting yesterday, quarantining the three bridges from the south, positively excluding anyone from entering the city from that part of the country. The doctors all pronounce the disease smallpox in a very bad form.

It is understood that Rulo has guarded the approaches to that city from the south, as the epidemic is raging among the Indians on the reservation. Fo cases have yet been reported in the city, and by the strict jurisdiction of the city authorities it is thought everything will be all right. The last report from the country, some four miles south, states that between twenty and twenty-five persons are down with the disease.

G. A. R. Annual Encampment.

KEARNEY, Neb., Feb. 20.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—The sixth annual encampment of the G. A. R. of Nebraska convened in the opera house at 10 o'clock to-day. The forenoon was spent in examining the credentials of the delegates. Two hundred and eighty posts were represented by over seven hundred delegates. Aside from these there are a number of visitors. Routine business was taken up, but was intercepted on a motion to suspend the rules and listen to an address by Senator Manderson, who arrived at noon in a special car. The matter of selecting a place for the next annual reunion was taken up and decided in favor of Kearney. After this the meeting adjourned to give place to the ladies of the Relief Corps, who gave a splendid reception, which lasted from 4 o'clock to 7. The encampment is now in session, and it is expected that officers for the ensuing year will be elected this evening.

Manderson Visits Laird.

HASTINGS, Neb. Feb. 20.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—Senator Manderson arrived in the city this morning. He visited James Laird, whom he found to be much better than he expected. He urged Laird to return with him to Washington to-morrow night and the congressman promised to go in a few days any way if he went with the senator. L. D. Richards, D. R. Lillibridge, F. J. Alexander and C. A. Holmes accompanied the senator in a special car, and the party went on to Kearney.

Grand Island Sporting Club's Shoot.

GRAND ISLAND, Neb., Feb. 20.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—The Grand Island sporting club held its weekly shoot to-day at the fair grounds. Owing to the strong wind the score is not up to the average. It is as follows: At ninety-five blue rocks, J. C. Geerspacher, 59; Charles Herry, 57; O. H. Tracy, 50; H. J. Palmer 43.

An Incendiary's Work.

WOOD RIVER, Neb., Feb. 20.—[Special to THE BEE.]—About 1 o'clock this morning the large barn on the farm of Stephen Jones who resides two miles south of here, was burned with all of its contents, consisting of large quantities of oats, shelled corn, hay, harness, farm implements, two cows and a team of horses. There were three horses and a team of mules in the barn when it was closed for the night, but as the carcasses of only two horses were found in the ruins, it is thought that the team of mules and one horse had been stolen, and the barn set on fire. Extensive search is being made for the incendiary. Mr. Jones took out a policy last week in the Farmers' Union Insurance company on the property destroyed to the amount of $1,500; loss $2,000. The sheriff of Hall county has offered a reward of $50 for the arrest and conviction of the thief, and the owner of $50 for the return of the property.

Kicked His Wife to Death.

CLINTON, Ia., Feb. 20.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—Margaret Ford was found dead and frozen stiff on the floor of her bed room in the center of the city, to-day. Her husband, partially intoxicated, was found lying in the bed with his hat and overcoat on. He claims that his wife died at 5 this morning and that he went out and telegraphed to a daughter in Dakota and then climbed over her to bed, where he lay till awakened by the calls of neighbors. Others think that he kicked his wife to death while in a drunken rage.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 20.—When shown the Berlin dispatch in which it is stated that the Cologne Gazette says that Germany will demand of the United States government the arrest and punishment of Klein, the American correspondent charged with having led the attack against the Germans in Samoa, Secretary Bayard said it was the first he had heard of it. He added that he did not know of Klein's existence until informed of it by by Germany, and said that he had referred all correspondence received by him in regard to Klein to the senate committee on foreign relations.

Linn's Insurance Bill.

LINCOLN, Neb., Feb. 20.—[Special to THE BEE.]—The senate committee will report adversely on Linn's bill making life and endowment assurance policies non-forfeitable and fixing a surrender value. At their meeting the committee heard arguments from William P. McLaren, of Milwaukee, Howard Kennedy, of Omaha, and J. H. Mockett, of Lincoln, all of the Northwestern, of Milwaukee, and from B. H. Robinson, of Omaha.

Inspector Breen has granted B. Jetter a permit to build a two-story brick business block at Twenty-fourth and J streets. The building will cost about $3,000.

THE GENTLEMEN'S AGREEMENT.

The Indication All But Decisive That It Will Fail.

CHICAGO, Feb. 20.—Appearances to-night are all but decisive that the proposed interstate commerce railway association will not be organized. The committee appointed to obtain the signatures of the five dissenting companies reported to-day that the Illinois Central positively refuses to join, and that the Wisconsin Central would join only on condition that the Burlington & Northern sign. Nothing has been heard from the latter company. It was then proposed, in effect, to at least make a show of perfecting an agreement with such companies as had already signed. This was agreed to and a committee appointed to make such changes of details as might be necessary in view of the failure to obtain the assent of certain companies." This committee will report to-morrow. Meantime, the erstwhile advocates of the agreement are busy pointing out that its virtual failure doesn't amount to much after all; that the agreement of the western freight association covers practically the same territory; is much more binding, and is being lived up to.

NEW YORK, Feb. 20.—The Illinois Central directors were in session to-day from 10 a. m. until 6 p. m. It is understood that the session was called for the purpose of considering action in regard to the proposed interstate commerce convention. Great pressure has been brought to bear on the company from all directions to induce them to sign. Shortly after 6 o'clock the meeting adjourned and the secretary gave out an official statement setting forth that the company's attorneys had carefully looked into the matter and were of the opinion that the Illinois Central corporation is, by the terms of its charter, precluded from becoming a party to the agreement in question. The board therefore declines to authorize the president of the company to sign said agreement, and approves his action in not committing the company thereto. But being now, as always, in favor of enforcing and maintaining reasonable and remunerative rates and preventing cutting of the same, the board is determined to give its moral support as far as may be consistent with the best interests of the company to the aims and objects of the interstate commerce railway association in the establishment and maintenance of rates. In order to carry out this intention the president is directed to notify every officer, agent or employe that if he wilfully violates the rules, rates or regulations established by the board he will be dismissed from the service.

DIVORCE STATISTICS.

Some Facts Which Lend Color to the Belief That Marriage is a Failure.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 20.—Commissioner Wright, of the department of labor, in a special report on statistics and laws relating to marriage and divorce in the United States from 1867 to 1886, inclusive, shows the number of divorces granted in the United States increased from 9,937 in 1867 to 25,535 in 1886. The total for twenty years is 328,716. During the last five-year period of twenty years the states of Connecticut, Maine and Vermont are the only ones showing a decrease in divorces. Dakota shows the largest increase of divorces granted. Two hundred and sixteen thousand seven hundred and thirty-eight, or 65 per cent of the whole, were granted to wives, and 111,983 were granted to husbands, the cause for which the greatest number of divorces was granted is that of desertion, being 16,57or 38 per cent of the whole number. The commissioner says it is apparent that the divorces granted for drunkeness, 13843, cannot in anyway represent the total number in which drunkeness or intemperance is a serious factor. In a few representative counties it is shown that intemperance was the direct or indirect cause in over 20 per cent of the whole number of divorces granted in such counties.

THE ILLINOIS G. A. R.

Annual Encampment of the Department—Woman's Relief Corps.

SPRINGFIELD, Ill., Feb. 20.—The department encampment of the Grand Army commenced its annual session in this city to-day. Considerable routine business was transacted. The report of the commander shows 500 posts in the state, and a gain in membership of over 1,100 during the year. The assistant quartermaster reported that he received over $7,000 and expended over $6,000 during the year. There are charges of mismanagement made against the superintendent of the soldiers' home, and a special committee of five was appointed to investigate. The committee on soldiers home recommended, among other things, that habitual drunkenness be excluded from the home.

There was a camp fire to-night by the veterans, which was greatly enjoyed by them. Governor Fifer and Mayor Hay delivered addresses of welcome, to which Commander Sexton responded.

The Woman's Relief corps met, with 160 delegates in attendance. The reports show 122 corps in good standing, and a membership of 4,500. The membership on December 30, 1887, was 2,616. During the year $2,700 was expended in relief work.

The Electric Light Convention.

CHICAGO, Feb. 20.—In the national electric light convention to-day E. T. Lynch, of New York, chairman of the committee appointed at the last meeting to collect statistics and facts on the underground system, reported that the committee had communicated with nearly all the electric light companies in the United States. From the answers received it would seem that the placing of wires underground has proved a failure in most, if not all, instances. City Electrician Barrett, of Chicago, took exceptions to the report. The underground system of conduits in this city is a success, and the municipality proposes to extend it. The system has been in operation here nearly six years as regards electric light wires, and thirteen for telegraph wires. Mr. Johnson, of Philadelphia, indorses Mr. Barrett's position, and argued that the report should be reversed.

Left All to His Housekeeper.

CHICAGO, Feb. 20.—The will of the late Charles J. Hull, a wealthy landlord, who rented hundreds of houses, was offered for probate to-day. It was a document filling scarcely one page of legal cap, but it disposed of property estimated all the way from $2,000,000 to $5,000,000, and leaving the entire estate to Helen Culver, who was for many years his housekeeper.

The Southern Pacific Earnings.

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 20.—The earnings of the Southern Pacific for the year 1888 were $18,885,000; expenditures, including interest on bonds, $44,901,000, leaving a surplus of $3,949,000, from which amount, after deducting the guaranteed rental of the Central Pacific of $1,360,000, leaves a balance of $2,589,000, or about 2½ per cent interest on the outstanding stock of $100,000,000.

A University's Centennial.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 20.—The centennial celebration of the Georgetown (Jesuit) university began this morning. Archbishops, bishops and priests were present from almost every state in the union. The university buildings are elaborately decorated with flowers, flags, and banners bearing appropriate legends.

'Frisco Police in Trouble.

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 20.—Sergeant Gano, of the Chinatown squad, and three policemen, have been arrested on indictments found by the grand jury charging them with receiving bribes from the keepers of Chinese gambling dens.

The Weather Indications.

For Nebraska and Dakota—Fair, followed by snow; warmer, followed by colder weather in northwest portion of Dakota; variable winds.

For Iowa—Fair; warmer southerly winds.

THE SACKVILLE-WEST AFFAIR

It Once More Claims the Attention of the Country.

SOME INTERESTING DOCUMENTS.

All the Diplomatic Literature Bearing on the Subject Transmitted to Congress By the President.

State Documents.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 20.—The president today sent to congress all the correspondence relating to the Sackville incident, accompanied by a purely formal letter of transmission. The correspondence opens with a copy of the now famous Murchison letter and Lord Sackville's reply thereto. On October 25 Secretary Bayard, in a telegram, directs Minister Phelps to invite Lord Salisbury's attention to the Murchison letters and to express the confident reliance of this government upon the action of her majesty's government in the matter. On the following day Bayard telegraphs Minister Phelps that West's usefulness in the country is at an end; that strong public sentiment had been aroused and that Lord Salisbury should be permitted as speedily as possible to understand the necessity of immediate action. Under date of October 28, Minister Phelps telegraphs to Bayard that Lord Salisbury declines to act until in receipt of the precise language of Lord Sackville and his explanation. Lord Salisbury does not regard the minister's letter alone as sufficient to warrant his recall, thus ending his diplomatic career, which would not necessarily be too case if he were dismissed by the government of the United States, for which course there are precedents. Phelps states that there will be long delays, with no decisive result, if independence is placed on the movement of the British government, and advises that action be taken upon the intimation of Lord Salisbury.

The correspondence then gives the report of Secretary Bayard to the president on the conduct of Lord Sackville, (published heretofore). Under date of October 30, Bayard write to Lord Sackville, saying, "the president of the United States has instructed me to inform you that for good and sufficient causes which are known to yourself, and duly brought to the knowledge of your government, he has with great regret become convinced that it would be incompatible with the best interests and detrimental to the good relations of both governments that you should any longer hold your present official position in the United States, and that accordingly the government of Her Britanic majesty will be informed of this determination, in order that another channel may be established for the transmission of such communications as may be found desirable by the two governments in the transactions of their business wherever it is your pleasure to depart from the United States. I am instructed to furnish you with the usual facilities, and with that view I now beg leave to inclose a passport in the customary form."

On the same day