THE PARNELL COMMISSION

Pigott Concludes to Relieve His Overburdened Conscience.

HE IS AN ACCOMPLISHED LIAR.

The Persuasive Powers of Sir Charles Russell's Cross-Examination Draw Forth Some Startling Confessions.

Pigott's "Exaggerations."

LONDON, Feb. 22.—The court room was crowded again this morning when the Parnell commission reassembled. The cross-examination of Richard Pigott was continued. He admitted writing the letter to Archbishop Walsh which Sir Charles Russell produced in court, and which contained a statement that the documentary and personal evidence to be produced before the commission could be rendered harmless by the exposure of the means by which it had been obtained. At the suggestion of Presiding Justice Hannen, Archbishop Walsh's letter to Pigott, part of which was read yesterday, was read in extenso. The archbishop referred to the fact that there had been systematic lying concerning the nationalist cause. Witness now admitted receiving this letter. He said that when he wrote to the archbishop he was in very distressed circumstances, owing to having received no money from Houston. Witness' other work had been neglected and lost. He therefore wrote to Archbishop Walsh, hoping he would submit the matter to the Parnellite members in the house of commons, and induce them to provide witness with means with which to leave the country in return for the information the witness should give. Witness was startled and surprised when the letters appeared in the Times, and considered it a breech of faith. He wrote to Houston strongly protesting against their publication.

Sir Charles Russell demanded that this letter be produced.

Houston here said that he had forgotten receiving it. On being further pressed, Pigott voluntarily exclaimed: "I may say at once that the statement I made to Archbishop Walsh was unfounded."

This statement produced a sensation. Sir Charles Russell then said to witness: "You deliberately wrote lies?"

Witness replied: "Well, exaggerations."

Sir Charles Russell—"Did the exaggerations have no truth?"

Witness—"Very little. (Laughter.) I forgot what I meant when I wrote to Archbishop Walsh that the charges were a mixture of what I believed to be true and untrue."

Continuing, witness said he knew that criminal proceedings were projected when he wrote saying that he could nullify them by exposing the discreditable means by which it was sought to institute the proceedings. He could not say what the proceedings were to be taken for. He imagined they were for complicity in the Phœnix park murders, but there was no foundation for the statement. Witness again wrote to Archbishop Walsh on May 1, offering to furnish further information. In reply to this letter the archbishop said:

"I understand you are anxious to make a statement to assist the victims of fraud and slander by exposing fraud and slander. I cannot refuse to accept such statements fully. I accept your assurance that you took no part in the publication."

Witness said he forgot writing the statement.

Sir Charles Russell read a letter dated May 5, to Archbishop Walsh. In it Pigott offered to make a personal written statement. Witness admitted making a statement to the archbishop between May 5 and May 7. He had written to the archbishop recently, but denied that he had done so in order to again obtain a written statement.

Sir Charles Russell read a letter from the archbishop to Pigott, bearing date of May 7, in which the archbishop said he assumed that Pigott either knew the author of the fraud, or knew what measures had been taken to procure fraudulent evidence. The writer said he did not wish to know the name of the gentleman who was at the bottom of the matter.

Sir Charles Russell pressed the witness, who reluctantly admitted that he had Houston in mind when he wrote it. In reply to a question by Presiding Justice Hannen, witness said he was not sure that he had received the letter. Sir Charles Russell quoted from a letter written by Pigott to Archbishop Walsh on May 12. Witness said he could not say what the latest proposition mentioned in the letter meant. He only remembered making one proposition, namely, that he had been shown compromising letters. His opinion having been asked as to the genuineness of the letters, he had stated that the letters credited to Parnell were rather doubtful.

This statement created a sensation in the court room.

Witness further testified that he would not swear that he had not told Archbishop Walsh that the letters were forgeries. He doubted the authenticity of the letters because he did not know the handwriting in the bodies of them. He believed he told Archbishop Walsh that he thought the Egan letters were genuine, but would not swear that he did. He was not sure whether Houston ever expressed a doubt as to the genuineness of the letters. It was not owing to Houston's doubts that witness offered to reobtain the money.

Sir Charles Russell read from a letter to Archbishop Walsh from Pigott, in which he says: "I trust your grace will do me the justice to believe that I am not the fabricator of the letters, as is falsely alleged."

Sir Charles asked, "Who was the fabricator?"

Witness replied that he did not know.

Sir Charles—"Did you believe there was a fabrication?"

Witness—"No."

This answer caused laughter.

Reid produced letters from Pigott to the late William E. Forster, then chief secretary for Ireland, dated June 2, 1881, in which he offered Forster papers which he said would break up the league, for £1,000 to £1,500. Witness said that the issue of the Irishmen, the paper printed by Pigott, depended upon his receiving this sum, as his creditors were pressing him. Forster, on June 5, refused to accept this offer.

At Presiding Justice Hannen's suggestion Sir Charles Russell agreed to read selections from the letters, instead of the whole of them.

Witness continued that he had been in straits since 1881, and anxiously turned to every quarter for money.

Sir Charles Russell produced a batch of letters written by Pigott to Egan, including one written on February 23, 1881, in which the writer asked Egan to give him the address at which he could write Parnell, with whom he wished to communicate a matter of vital importance.

Pigott said he had forgotten the letter, but, admitting that he must have written it, had not the slightest idea as to what the important matter referred to was. On being hard pressed, and after fencing, he admitted that he must have received an answer.

Sir Charles Russell read from a letter from Pigott to Egan, written on February 27, in which it was stated that he (Pigott) had received an anonymous letter from two gentlemen, who would call upon and submit to Pigott a proposal greatly to his advantage. They came, but declined to give their names. They had an interview lasting two hours, during which they asked him to publish a statement, which was an outrageous libel about the spending of league funds, and which was to be so constructed that its publication would do much harm. He added that he was badly in need of £500, but would be satisfied with £400 in addition to the £200 already sent in consideration of his paper. Pigott concluded the letter by saying: "Bad as I am, I can truly say that I have been true to those who have trusted me." Witness said that Egan did not send the money. On March 9 Pigott wrote to Egan, giving an outline of the statements referred to. He also stated in the letter that Egan would see that if he (Pigott) published the statement he would get £500, and that whatever the consequences might be, he would be compelled to accept the offer unless Egan assisted him. On March 11 Egan replied that he regarded the letter as a threat, and declined to pay anything, even if he could.

Sir Charles Russell read Egan's draft of a letter written on the fly leaf of Pigott's letter. The phrasing of the first thirty-eight words was identical with the Times version of Egan's letter of June, 1881. Witness admitted that the similarity was remarkable.

Sir Charles pressed witness regarding several similar resemblances in the phrasing of letters that Egan had written to Pigott, and the letters that Pigott had supplied to Houston. Witness admitted that, assuming Sir Charles' copies to be correct, which he would not admit, the coincidences were striking. The copies, he said, might have been forged. If they were not, the coincidence could be got over because men were in the habit of using the same phrases. Pigott admitted that he misspelled the word "hesitancy" in the witness box yesterday. He believed that the knowledge that the letter of January 9, 1882, similarly misspelled the word, had influenced his mind. The letter did not come into his possession until the summer of 1886, so he could not account for the mispelling of "hesitancy" in his own letters prior to that. After Parnell had declined to employ him on the staff of the Irishman he asked a priest named Meagher to intercede with Parnell.

Sir Charles Russell produced the witness' letters to Meagher, and pointed out further resemblances to the Times letters. He then asked the witness if he was not ashamed of himself.

Pigott replied hotly: "Under the circumstances, no. It is scandalous that I should be thus questioned. I did not forget the letters. If I did I should not be here."

Reid produced letters written by Pigott to Forster, in which Pigott asked a loan. After much writing, in which Pigott pleaded poverty, Foster sent him £100 as a private loan. Some time later, as a matter of personal sympathy, Foster loaned Pigott £5 to enable him to go to America. Pigott did not go, however, but renewed his applications for money until Forster granted him an interview.

SLEEP, BABY, SLEEP.

Opening of the Infants' Home on Harney Street.

The new creche building was opened under the most auspicious circumstances yesterday. The ladies were busy all the morning receiving donations of groceries, furniture, toys and useful articles of every known description. The donations came unsolicited, and were given with such hearty expressions of good will that the ladies of the society feel greatly encouraged.

Mrs. Groff and Mrs. Pratt, who constituted the building committee, received many congratulations from the ladies of the society yesterday. Previous to the reception, and in the afternoon, all the ladies were made happy by the warm praises bestowed by the throngs of visitors.

The severity of the weather did not prevent the friends of the society, who have watched the efforts of these ladies with much interest, from calling in large numbers at the new building. The visitors were received in the reception room by Mrs. T. L. Kimball, president; Mrs. Walker, vice president; Mrs. Thos. Kilpatrick, treasurer; Mrs. W. S. Curtis, secretary; Mrs. Wm. Wallace, Mrs. W. J. Broatch, Mrs. Thomas Orr, Mrs. W. J. Connell, Mrs. Henry Akin, Mrs. L. A. Groff, Mrs. Aug. Pratt, Mrs. A. Allee, Mrs. E. Martin, Mrs. G. M. Hitchcock, Mrs. J. C. Cowin, Mrs. E. Rosewater, Mrs. E. D. Van-Court, Mrs. A. D. Morse, Mrs. Burlingame and Mrs. Geo. A. Joslyn.

In the dining-room dainty refreshments were served under the superintendence of Mrs. Pratt.

Four children have already been entered at the Creche, and will be received there Monday by Mrs. Chediister, the lady who has been appointed matron. Eight others will be entered during the week. Five cradles have already been endowed.

After 7 o'clock in the evening the chandeliers in the little infant home were lighted for the first time and from out every window came a cheerful glow which, in the piercing blasts attracted the attention of every passer-by. It was such a glow of cheer and comfort as might be expected from the interior of a happy home, with a fireside surrounded by kindered and loving souls. Indeed, all save the assemblage of a family, did the Creche resemble the kingdom of home, because within were charity and devotion, honored matrons and devoted young women, united in the magnanimous work of dedicating an institution which shall be to many a waif the only home it may know on earth.

In anticipation of the reception the ladies of the committee had provided aides, who served light refreshments, cake, tea and coffee, which has been generously donated, in many cases, by sympathetic but anonymous friends. These were served in the little triangular dining room of the institution and were freely patronized, not less because of the attractions and attention of the fair attendants than for the intrinsic merit of the appreciated refection. The young ladies who attended were as follows:

From 2 to 4 o'clock, Miss Richardson, Miss McClintock.

From 4 to 6 o'clock, Miss Woodman, Miss Church and Miss Clarkson.

From 8 to 10 o'clock, Misses Stella Rosewater, Dollie and Mattie Pollack, Kate and Claire Drake, Nellie, Fannie and Dorothea Groff.

The reception closed at 10 o'clock, up to which time, the ladies recorded the following visitors, the number being considerably smaller doubtless than it would have been, but for the frigid weather:

Mrs. George Lang, Mrs. D. Morrow, Mrs Riley, Miss Lizzie Isaacs, Miss Isaacs, Mrs. Ames, Mrs. Nichols, Miss Adele Johnson, Miss Johnson, Mrs. Cleveland, Miss Clarkson, Miss Woodman, Miss Church, Mrs. Dugot, Mrs. Albert Cahn, Mrs. Martin Cahn, Mrs. I. New, Mrs. Meinrath, Mrs. Cahn, Mrs. Max Meyer, Mrs. Adler, Mrs. Reifelt, Mrs. David Kimball, Mrs. Hainey, Mrs. Jensen, Miss Rosewater, Miss Richardson, Miss McClintock, Mrs. A. W. Nason, Mrs. Van Ostrain, Mrs. Zahner, the Misses Stoutenbourough, Mrs. Shinn, Mrs. Hall, Mrs. George E. King, Mrs. George Barker, Miss Amy Barker, Mrs. T. F. Lewis, Mrs. L. J. Finn, Mrs. G. D. Clarke, Miss Thorngate, Mrs. H. M. James, Mrs. Goss, Mrs. Cowell, Miss Logan, Miss West, Miss Leonard, Mrs. S. J. Howell, Mrs. William Wallace, Miss Grant, Mrs. Gannett, Misses Lionberger, Mrs. W. S. Curtis, Mrs. Euclid Martin, Mrs. Allee, Mrs. J. C. Cowin, Mrs. A. D. Morse, Mrs. A. Pratt, Mrs. F. Drake, Mrs. Burlinin, Mrs. Pritchett, Mrs. Van Court, Mrs. R. H. Walker, Mrs. Edward Rosewater, Mrs. H. Andrews, Miss Nellie Groff, Frances Groff, Dorothea Groff, Miss Drake, Miss Claire Drake, Mrs. Anderson, Miss Mamie Mears, Mrs. D. Kennedy, Miss Dollie Pollack, Mattie Pollack, Mrs. Emerson, Mrs. Cottrell, Mrs. Peattie and Mrs. Groff, Mayor Broatch, D. H. Wheeler, W. G. Shriver, Mr. Davis, A. H. Sander, G. S. Chaffee, Mr. Meinrath, Louis Heimrod, Judge Groff, Dr. Gifford, Mr. Cowell, Euclid Martin, Mr. Megquier, P. L. Forgan, W. S. Curtis, Fred Babcock, Mr. Anderson, M. Pollack, Colonel C. S. Chase and T. M. Orr.

The creche has already been described in THE BEE, but ought to be seen by every charitably disposed person in the city. In its way, it is a little gem. It has been designed with special reference to prospective as well as present use and with so much foresight as to convince the observer that the ladies, who made the suggestions, and the architect, Mr. Mendelssohn, who put them on paper, admirably understood their business. The finishing is simple but tasty, hard pine predominating. If exception may be taken, it must be to the size of the apartments, but this could not have been obviated when the size of the building and the multiform uses to which it must be put are taken into consideration. It is to be regretted, but the Creche in a very short time will outgrow its present capacity. Already there are fourteen applications for admission, and all of the little ones in whose behalf these have been made will be enrolled Monday. The capacity of the house is sixty children for day and twenty for board by the week. The former will be charged 10 cents per day except where there are more than one child in the same family to be cared for, where but 5 cents will be charged. The rate of board per week has not yet been determined.

The Creche in all the permanent features is admirably supplied, but needs a great variety of furniture and utensils. One of the first things needed is a desk, and one of the ladies asked THE BEE to direct the attention of the charitably inclined to this great want.

The total cost of the structure is about $7,000. It would have been much greater had it not been that architects, superintendent, material furnishers, mechanics and railroads worked or supplied articles or labor either for cost or nothing. The list of these charitable people and corporations is now incomplete, but may later be published.

Persons who desire to contribute to the furnishing of the home are requested to confer with the chairmen of the several committees, so that there may be uniformity in all the articles accepted. The ladies to be consulted in this matter are Mrs. General J. C. Cowin, clothing; Mrs. William Wallace, furniture; Mrs. Captain Allee, furnishing.

NOT SOLDER AND RESIN

The Bill of Fare Was Different Last Night.

THE MASTER PLUMBERS FEASTED

A Table Spread With the Best In the Land All Seasoned With Jest and Good Fellowship.

It Was a Banquet.

The master plumbers of the state met at the Murray at noon yesterday for the purpose of form a state organization.

All local plumbing firms were represented, and from out of town H. A. Korsmeyer, J. H. O'Neill, H. W. Orr, of Lincoln; Frank Barclay, F. W. Barclay, Alf. McMahon, Beatrice; A. E. Whitcomb, Holdrege; C. Bolen, York; F. B. Burgess, McCook, and John Cowiy, of Nebraska City, were present.

The visitors were received upon their arrival at the hotels by a delegation from the Omaha association, headed by Secretary Hench.

The delegates and members of the association were presented with handsome silk and gold badges, the visitors, members of the Omaha association and different committees being distinguished by the different colors.

The meeting was called to order by N. B. Hussey. A temporary organization was effected by the election of Mr. Hussey as chairman and Mr. H. W. Orr, of Lincoln, as secretary.

Committees on credentials and permanent organization were appointed with instructions to report at 2:30.

At 3 o'clock the convention reconvened.

The committee on permanent organization made its report, nominating permanent officers as follows: For president, N. B. H. Hussey, of Omaha; for vice-president, J. H. O'Neil, of Lincoln; for recording secretary, Theo. Hinch, of Omaha; for corresponding secretary, F. G. Hussey, of Omaha; for treasurer, M. A. Free, of Omaha.

The report was adopted by a unanimous vote and, the secretary was instructed to cast the vote of the convention for these nominees. This was done and the gentlemen named were declared the officers of the association for one year.

The committee on credentials reported the following delegates entitled to seats in the convention:

Lincoln—F. A. Korsmeyer, J. H. O'Neil, H. W. Orr.

Beatrice—F. W. Barclay, Frank Barclay, A. McMahon.

Holdrege—A. E. Whitcomb.

York—J. Bolan.

McCook—F. W. Burgess.

Nebraska City—John Cowley.

Grand Island and Kearney—F. C. Phillips.

South Omaha—J. F. Burt.

Omaha—N. B. Hussey, Frank Hussey, W. H. Day, D. Fitzpatrick, A. C. Lichtenberger, W. H. Spellman, J. J. Hanighan, F. F. Balfe, A. E. Wallace, John Rowe, Theodore Heuck, Charles Baxter, T. H. Laurence, J. R. Barnacle, T. W. Whelan, F. J. Birmingham, S. D. White, Graham Park, A. Jamison, M. A. Free, S. J. Morrison and J. L. Reed.

President Hussey, in stating the object of the convention, said that it had been called to organize a state association of master plumbers, and that the object of the association to be formed will be the mutual protection against imposition, injustice or encroachments upon the common rights of its members, and to advance scientific sanitary progress and improvements, encouraging inventions and improvements in sanitary appliances, and to promote amicable relations with employes on a basis of mutual interest and equitable justice to both journeyman and master plumber alike.

A committee of three was appointed to prepare a constitution and by-laws to govern the association.

Mr. O'Neill introduced for the consideration of the convention a bill now pending before the state legislature providing for the licensing of plumbers in towns of over 8,000 inhabitants. The measure is very stringent and makes a number of provisions that the members of the association consider entirely impracticable, and that as the association had not time at this session to prepare such amendments as they considered necessary, it was decided that a committee be sent to Lincoln from the convention and urge the withdrawal of the bill. Messrs. O'Neill, Korsmeyer and Orr were appointed as such committee.

Messrs. Orr, McMahon, F. D. Hussey, Phillips and Frank Barclay were appointed a legislative committee to examine into the bill, revise it if found practicable or prepare a new bill if it should be considered that any legislation is necessary, such bill being first presented to the next meeting of the association.

The bill referred to above is known as house roll 378, and is entitled "An act to secure the licensing of master plumbers and the registration of journeymen plumbers and their apprentices, and to provide for the supervision of plumbing and house drainage in cities of 8,000 inhabitants or over," introduced by R. L. Berlin.

Under the act a license cannot be granted to persons or firms who have not served an apprenticeship of three years at the trade; and no person not registered in the board of health shall alter or repair sanitary fixtures; all draining and plumbing in cities affected by the act shall be done under the supervision of an officer appointed by the board of health, and work declared defective by such an officer shall be repaired by the owner or lessee of the lot. The bill also makes it unlawful for any master plumber to employ any but registered journeymen, declares any violations of the act a misdemeanor, and provides penalties on neglect to comply with its requirements.

President Hussey denounced the action of Mr. Hussey in introducing the bill without consulting the master plumbers, and said that he had the assurance of that gentleman before his departure for Lincoln that he would notify the association of any attempted legislation in anywise concerning them.

The convention then went into executive session to discuss matters appertaining to the association which they do not care to make public at this time.

At 6 o'clock the convention adjourned until 10 o'clock this morning.

The Banquet.

Amid flowers and music and jolly good cheer thirty-five plumbers of the goodly state of Nebrassa, together with nearly as many guests, sat down at the banquet board of the Murray last night.

Flowers bloomed everywhere: upon tables, in corners and from chandeliers they distilled sweet fragrance over the knights of the solder and the friends who sat with them.

From the head of the table that father of plumbers, N. B. Hussey, president of the association, sent welcoming smiles to all. On his right sat Mayor Broatch, and next to him was Mike Leo, president of the council. To the immediate left of the president Congressman-elect Connell was seated, and to his left was J. H. O'Neill, of Lincoln, to-day elected vice president of the new state association.

The banquent was tendered by the Omaha Master Plumbers association to their visiting brethern, and to say that the association did itself great credit would be expressing the truth feebly.

A most elaborate and complete menu of twelve courses had been prepared by the management of the hotel, and everything passed off with ideal perfection.

Blended with the subdued chatter that accompanied the feast, orchestral music swelled through the room. Sparkling bon mots added spice to the material food and

"All went as merry as a marriage bell."

The material man satisfied, the feast of reason began.

President Hussey arose to welcome the visitors from abroad and city guests. He said:

"To our visiting delegates and fellow citizens, it becomes my duty, as well as my pleasure, to extend to you a hearty welcome to these hospitalities. Omaha has made great strides towards prosperity during the last few years, and it is meet that she should be so largely represented here to-night. I congratulate you, gentlemen, upon the organization of this association, which promises so much. Once more I welcome you."

In response Mr. James O'Neill, of Lincoln, said that it afforded him much pleasure upon behalf of the visiters to offer hearty thanks for the hospitalities "tendered by the Omaha association to us. Let us drink the health of it and our new president, Mr. Hussey."

After the toast had been drank Mayor Broatch was introduced. "My first impressions of a plumber," he said, "were obtained from a play called the 'Tin Soldier,' but to come to my subject, 'Our City.' I knew it first in '68 and have seen Omaha grow from a town of 4,500 to a town of 120,000." The mayor spoke of the gradual improvements that had been made and told of the many miles of street railways and of sewers, and spoke of the waterworks and treated of his favorite hobby—the acquisition of these works by the municipal government. In conclusion he extended a hearty welcome to the visitors.

The next toast, "The Plumber as a health officer," was responded to by Dr. Ralph, city physician.

"There is much of significance and suggestion in the toast," said he. "The plumber is a health officer if he is practical; he is a co-laborer with every health officer of the country if he is competent, otherwise he is the reverse. I see before me to-night the representatives of a noble profession. Without a perfect system of plumbing our cities will be in a most deplorable condition, and as I look upon these representatives of the plumbing profession, I feel that the care of this is in safe hands.

Mr. Palmer and Colonel C. M. Jackson, of the Herald, oh Lord! responded to the toast, "The Press."

Mr. Palmer spoke briefly of the progress of the newspapers of the city, and then Colonel Jackson took his place. Said Jackson: "While Mayor Broatch has said he was too full for speech and Dr. Ralph says he isn't full enough, I tell you that I'm just right." Mr. Jackson made many facetious allusions to the affinity existing between the plumbers and the reporters, both being representatives of a much abused class.

Mr. Jackson was followed by Clement Chase, of the Excelsior, who spoke of Omaha past and present.

Mr. William F. McCarthy, of Topeka, was expected to respond to the toast, "Our National Association," but was not able to be present.

A. F. Ross, representing a jobbing house of the east, spoke of the relations between the jobbers of the trade and the plumbers. He said that the latter should patronize the jobbers in their section of country, as by so doing they were enabled to carry smaller stocks, and allow their customers greater credit. He assured the association of the hearty co-operation of the jobbers of the trade in the efforts of the plumbers of Nebraska to promote sanitary perfection in the state.

Mr. Ross was followed by Mr. F. C. Sholes, F. B. Farre, and F. B. Parsons, all representatives of eastern jobbing houses. Each of these paid tributes to Omaha and the new born association.

"Our Sister City" was responded to happily by Mr. Hart, of Council Bluffs, while Hon. J. W. Connell reviewed "The Plumber from the Citizens' Standpoint," and did it in a manner which allowed the assemblage to dissolve in a veritable burst of good humor.

PLUMBING TROUBLES OVER.

Journeymen and Masters Meet, Compromise and Embrace.

The journeymen plumbers have decided not to strike Monday as has been intended.

The executive board of the Plumbers, Steam and Gas Fitters' union and the Master Plumbers' association have had a conference, and the difficulties that existed have been amicably settled, and the journeymen will continue to struggle with gas and water pipes at the old rates.

The sum and substance of the whole trouble, it is stated, is that the association and the union were afraid of one another. The former feared that their employes contemplated an increase in the scale, and the latter thought that the masters contemplated demanding a decrease in wages.

The idea of each was to maintain the present scale, and when the two organizations came together, and the fact became manifest that they both desired the same object, the whole difficulty was quickly settled.

Some of the journeymen object to going back at the old scale, but they are in a most decided minority, and will be governed by the action of the union.

Found.

Yesterday afternoon Patrick Finan, president of the Plasterers' union, stopping at the California house, found a large memorandum book containing various documents which he has left in the office of the city editor of THE BEE for identification.

WHAT EVERYBODY WANTS.

But Few Get in This Bustling Modern World.

"Give us a Rest."

That was the theme of the Hen. A. W. Tourgee, LL.D., last night, as he addressed an audience that filled the auditorium of the Y. M. C. A. hall. He went back a century, and spoke of the difference in things generally as they were then and as they are now. Americans, whether in business or pleasure, are worn out long before their time. Some of them have apparently come to the conclusion that the only use a man has for his body is to hang his clothes upon it. If the present progressive action is kept up, it will pay men financially, to build their shops without windows and trust to artificial light to display their wares. How differently the news of to-day is brought to the homes of the people compared with a hundred years ago. Then it crept along the river side, or climbed the hills weeks after the event had happened. In the present time when the clock marked 10:30 as the hour in which President Garfield was shot, 12 o'clock brought back a message of sympathy from England's queen. For fifty years before he came into prominence George Washington was being prepared for the grand work that has since immortalized his name, and were he to day empowered to step from the tomb he has honored for ninety years, how different he would find things. How different he would find it to govern the affairs of the nation to-day, with a brigade of reporters behind him, telling the truth when necessary, and a lie when it best served their purpose? What could he have done with 20,000 newspapers following after him and publishing the news, daily, weekly, bi-weekly, tri-weekly and eternally? How could he have could carried on the government with them all pegging away at the administration?

How could John Wesley have maintained his religion if he had a telephone in his library, with repeated calls in which for the first few times he would make use of the professional "hello" and then feel inclined to reverse the word? Now times are changed and men are living at high pressure. Where the missionaries of former years spent their allotted span of three score years and ten, the ministers of to-day are worn out with the greater amount of work they are asked to do in ten years. To-day the body is considered a worthless thing, while the mind alone is thought worthy of culture. In the schools of to-day knowledge is said to be power, and yet how few can say what knowledge really is. Many think it is contained in a "diploma," and its a poor American parent that won't swap a child for a diploma. The diploma's respectable, and no one knows what a child may prove to be. The American parent says, "don't let that scrub of a Smith boy do better than you—we're going to fit you for the white house,"—and if they fail in that they fit him for the poor house. Its claimed that Solomon said: "Train up a child in the way he should go," but he never did—he had too broad a domestic experience for that. What he said, as the new version mildly puts it, is "train up a child in his way." That meant to train him up in the way for which he seemed best adapted, and not in the beaten path that some one else—wholly unlike him—had trod. Then with an eloquent peroration on the necessity of every one enjoying the daily rest that nature calls for, the address was brought to a close.

Nebraskans Buy Trotters.

LEXINGTON, Feb. 22.—The combination sale of trotters was continued here to-day. Sixty-three head were sold, bringing $20,800. Among the highest prices were: Senator Blackburn, by Alcyone, J Keene, Fort Spring, Ky., $2,050; Katy Wilkes, by Tumpes, J. Creighton, Omaha, $1,500; Moss Rose, by Macris, Hambletonian, S. C. Lyne, Windom, Ky., $1,500; Gildas, by Egbert, M. O'Riley, Nebraska, $550.

A Topeka Conflagration.

TOPEKA, Kan., Feb. 22.—The five-story stone block occupied by the George W. Crane publishing company burned this morning. The establishment employed 125 people, and the material, stock, machinery and work on hand were valued at nearly $250,000. The loss on the building is $40,000.

CONGRESSIONAL PROCEEDINGS

Approval of the Omnibus Bill Causes Great Satisfaction.

A PENSION FOR MRS. SHERIDAN.

The Retirement of General Rosecrans Agreed to by the House After a Somewhat Animated Debate.

Senate.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 22.—The house amendments to the senate bill authorizing the construction of a bridge across the Mississippi river at Alma, Wis., was concurred in.

The following bills reported from committees were placed on the calendar:

House bill to authorize the construction of a bridge across the Illinois river within seven miles of Columbiana, and within seven miles of Campville, Ill., and the army appropriation bill.

Mr. Hoar moved to take up the election outrages resolution. Agreed to—yeas 28, nays 26 (party votes).

Mr. Gorman took the floor but yielded to a motion of Mr. Allison to proceed with the consideration of the sundry civil appropriation bill. The resolution was therefore laid aside, and consideration of the sundry civil bill resumed, the question being on Mr. Hiscock's amendment offered yesterday, appropriating $300,000 for the expenses of the celebration of the centennial of the constitution.

Mr. Hoar offered a substitute for the amendment. Agreed to. It declares Tuesday, April 30, 1889, the anniversary of the inauguration of George Washington, a national holiday throughout the United States; provides for the assembling of both houses in the hall of the house of representatives on the second Wednesday in December, 1889, when under arrangement by joint committee, suitable ceremonies are to be held in further commemoration of that historic event; authorizes the joint committee to invite the officers of the United States, and through the secretary of state, the representatives of foreign governments, to attend; also invites the chief justice to deliver a suitable address on the occasion, and appropriate $3,000 to defray the expenses of the joint committee in carrying out its arrangements.

The bill was then reported back to the senate and all the amendments agreed to.

Mr. Daniel offered an amendment appropriating $40,000 for the site and pedestal for the statue of General Winfield Scott Hancock in the city of Washington. Agreed to.

Mr. Plumb called up the amendment relieving honorably discharged soldiers and sailors, and their widows and children, from the necessity of competitive examination, and suggesting in connection with it the query, "Was it to be done with their grandchildren?"

The point of order was sustained and the amendment excluded.

The bill passed, and the senate proceeded to the consideration of the agricultural appropriation bill.

Mr. George moved an amendment striking out the provision for distributing seeds through senators and representatives, and providing for their distribution through the experimental stations established by the various states, under the law of March 2, 1887, in connection with agricultural colleges. Rejected.

The bill was then passed.

The house amendments to the senate bill for a pension to the widow of General Sheridan were non-concurred in, and a conference asked.

The senate then proceeded to consideration of the resolution, reported by Mr. Evarts from the committee on privileges and elections, for a revision of the existing laws regulating the election of members of congress, and Mr. Reagan addressed the senate in opposition to the resolution, which he declared to be for the purpose of carrying on a crusade against the southern states. He would vote against the resolution because it was not warranted by testimony; because the senate had no rightful jurisdiction over the question, and because the proposed proceeding would be a denial of the right of local self-government. If the federative system were once broken down, and the capacity of people of a state for self-government were denied, then the union was destroyed and the liberties of the country sacrificed.

At the close of Mr. Reagan's speech Mr. Hoar moved that the resolution be laid aside, and his resolution instructing the committee on privileges and election to investigate the election outrages in certain states be taken up.

Several roll calls followed on Mr. Hoar's motion, on motions to adjourn and to go into executive session, and finally, without action, the senate adjourned.

House.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 22.—In the house, as the work was finished of reading yesterday's journal, the rival chairmen of the committee on ways and means and appropriations were on the floor claiming recognition. The speaker recognized Mills, who called up a resolution touching the constitutional right of the senate to amend the Mills bill by means of a substitute dealing with the entire subject of taxation. Randall, stating that he had reports to make from the committee on rules, raised the question of consideration. The house refused—yeas, 88; nays, 143—to consider Mills' resolution.

The following democrats voted in the negative: Bliss, Bryce, Chandler, Chipman, Clements, Cowles, Crain, Cummings, Dibble, Green, Hall, Henderson of North Carolina, Hopkins of Virginia, Johnston of North Carolina, Latham, Lynch, Merriam, O'Ferral, Outhwaite, Pennington, Randall, Simmons, Spinola, Stewart of Georgia, Vance, Washington and Wise.

Mr. Bland of Missouri also voted in the negative for the purpose of reconsideration, but a motion to that effect was met by Mr. Randall with a motion to table.

A motion to reconsider was tabled—yeas, 115; nays, 83.

Mr. Randall then reported from the committee on rules a resolution providing that after to-day the daily hour for assembling shall be 10 o'clock; that from that hour until 11 o'clock business shall be transacted by unanimous consent and that the speaker shall not at any other time receive requests for unanimous consent, except to concur or non-concur in house amendments to senate bills or pass senate bills when received from the speaker's table.

Mr. Bland, of Missouri, objected to the resolution on the ground that the time of the house should be devoted to consideration of appropriations and the California contested election case.

The resolution was adopted and the committee on rules reported a resolution for the immediate consideration of the senate bill granting a pension to Irene Rucker Sheridan.

Mr. Breckenridge, of Kentucky, raised the question of consideration and on division Mr. Cheadle, of Indiana, raised the point of no quorum.

The house determined—yeas 174, nays 62—to consider the resolution. Then filibustering was inaugurated by Mr. Kilgore of Texas who moved adjournment, and when that motion was voted down followed it with a motion for a recess until 7:30. The motion for a recess was lost—yeas 2, nays 211.

Mr. Reed's resolution was then adopted.

The Sheridan pension bill was taken up and passed with an amendment fixing the rate at $2,500 per annum.

Great satisfaction was expressed on both sides of the house when it became generally known that the president had signed the territorial bill. Shortly after the house met a special messenger from the white house brought the following autograph letter to the chairman of the committee on territories:

Hon. William M. Springer—My Dear Sir: I signed the bill for the admission of the new states at 11 o'clock this morning.

Yours very truly, GROVER CLEVELAND.

The committee on rules reported a resolution for the immediate consideration of the senate bill for the retirement of Rosecrans with the rank of brigadier-general. The resolution was adopted and the bill taken up.

Mr. Spinola of New York desired to offer an amendment authorizing the president to appoint and retire J. C. Fremont as a major-general, but under the terms of the resolution the previous question was ordered on the bill and the amendment could not be received.

The bill was then taken up and vigorously opposed by Mr. Struble of Iowa on the ground that General Rosecrans had vilified General Grant and declared that Grant was a scoundrel. This man, who had vilified the name of the country's hero, came here to-day and asked for aid without a word of apology or without showing that he had changed his opinion.

Mr. Anderson of Iowa said at one time he had felt that, in consequence of the assault made by General Rosecrans upon General Grant, he could never forgive General Rosecrans. But he had changed with time, and had come to the conclusion that the manly thing to do in view of the great infirmities of human nature which attached to the greatest heroes, was to vote for this bill.

Mr. Cannon of Illinois said he was not voting to put General Rosecrans on the retired list because of what he had said, but because of what he had done, and he believed that if Ulysses S. Grant could be called from the grave and stand in this presence he would be broad enough and grand enough to sweep aside the scenes which took place after the war, arising from passion and prejudice, and say, "I will vote to put the name of this man on the retired list in obedience to the wishes of the great body of the soldiers in the late war, and on account of his services in the war."

Mr. Holmes of Iowa was astonished that any true friend of Grant should arise and attempt to cast partisan shafts at General Rosecrans. He stood out as one of the heroes of victory of the late war. The men who had fought with him would never hear his name tarnished and be silent. In the course of his remarks Mr. Holmes said: "General Grant was an autocrat when the war ended, and endeavored to blot the name of Rosecrans, as it were, from the roll of the army, and attempted to tarnish his fair fame."

Mr. Randall warmly espoused the cause of Rosecrans.

Mr. Perkins of Kansas said that a few years ago General Rosecrans stood alone on the floor and opposed the Grant bill, saying he did so on principle, and that it was wrong to enlarge the retired list for the benefit of those who had gone into the private walks of life. Applying that principle to his own case, he (Perkins) could not see how Rosecrans could ask for the pending legislation.

Messrs. Henderson of Iowa, Weaver of Iowa, Sowden of Pennsylvania and McKenna of California favored the bill as a matter of justice to General Rosecrans.

Mr. Struble regretted that his colleague (Holmes) should refer to General Grant as an autocrat and dictator.

Mr. Holmes rose to deny the use of the latter term, but Mr. Struble declined to yield, saying, "You ought to be ashamed of yourself, and sit down forever in the face of those remarks."

After further debate the bill was passed.

Mr. Randall, from the committee on rules, reported a resolution providing for consideration of the Cowles bill on Monday next, and upon his suggestion it was laid upon the table temporarily, losing none of its privileges.

Mr. Matson of Indiana desired to offer an amendment fixing a day for consideration of the bill repealing the timber culture act, placing a limitation upon the payment of arrearages in pensions. It was read for "information," as the speaker stated, though Mr. Reed sarcastically inquired whether it was for information or misinformation, and Mr. Henderson of Iowa expressed a wish that it could be read for business at once.

The deficiency appropriation bill was then considered without any conclusion being reached, and the house took a recess, the evening session to be for consideration of private pension bills.

SOUTH OMAHA NEWS.

Slight Fire at Armour's.

The gas in the petroleum gas machine house at the Armour-Cudahy packing houses, caught fire at 7:47 o'clock Friday evening from a lamp, and but for the prompt action of F. E. Watson, the man in charge, who closed the machine, there would have been a pretty serious fire. In less than two minutes the firemen had water on the flames, and they were extinguished before any great damage was done. The roof of the house was slightly burned and Mr. Watson lost a coat. The machine is not injured and will be in operation to-day. Mr. Watson had a close call for his life, as the door was closed when the gas ignited and the least explosion would have been fatal to him.

Court Magic City No. 168 Ball.

Four hundred and nine tickets were taken in at the door at the ball given last night in A. O. H. hall, Rowley's block, by Court Magic City, No. 168, Independent Order of Foresters. If ever there was a successful fraternal society ball given in South Omaha it was this. Although the large hall was taxed, the systematic and judicious care of the several committeemen made it seem just full enough. The well arranged programme, the excellent music, the personal attention by committeemen and brethren, and an excellent supper were notable features.

Notes About the City.

Editor J. B. Erion of the Stockman, has returned from Kearney.

Hon. John F. McMillan returned from Lincoln Friday evening.

William Daley, a live Peru business man, is in the city looking for a location.

H. W. Culbertson has been appointed B. & M. car accountant, vice E. R. Sherman.

W. H. McCallister has returned from Missouri, where he has been visiting friends.

Mr. James H. Van Dusen and bride