THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

NINETEENTH YEAR. OMAHA, THURSDAY MORNING, JULY 25, 1889. NUMBER 36.

THOMAS BLYTHE'S MILLIONS.

Interesting Facts About the Struggle for Their Possession.

WAS HE A TICKET-OF-LEAVE MAN.

A Late Member of Parliament Tells the Story of the Case Which is Attracting Attention in California.

The London Side of It.

[Copyright 1889 by James Gordon Bennett.]

LONDON, July 24.—[New York Herald Cable—Special to THE BEE.]—In conversation about the extraordinary Blythe case, D. F. Gabbett, late member of parliament for Limerick, who has interested himself in the various phases of the romance, told a remarkable story:

"I took up the New York Herald to-day," he said, "and was surprised to see it stated there was a probability of the Blythe case being settled in favor of the new claimant, Florence, alleged to be the illegitimate daughter of the late Thomas H. Blythe, whose case occupies so much attention in California. My knowledge of the case is this: A few years ago a family named Savage, in London, were communicated with by the London firm of Want & Harston, who had received instructions from the English consul in San Francisco to find out, if possible, the next kin of Thomas H. Blythe, who was well known to have been an Englishman, and who died six years ago in California. Certain circumstances led me to follow up the case on behalf of these claimants, who are now in California prosecuting their claim, and I also at the same time, in the course of the investigation, learned some very remarkable and trustworthy information in reference to the child who is now claiming the estate.

"It seems that about twelve or thirteen years ago Thomas H. Blythe, who was frequently in the habit of coming to London, and residing in Nottingham place, Regent park, while walking in Oxford street, late one evening, spoke to a girl who was looking in a shop window and whose name turned out to be Perry. She was a dressmaker and kept company with a young man named Ashcroft. The girl on several occasions visited Blythe at his apartments. She married Ashcroft, but previous to this a child was born and placed under the roof of Ashcroft's mother, old Mrs. Ashcroft, where she resided for several years. Mrs. Ashcroft, jr., stated over and over again to her mother-in-law and other members of her husband's family, that Ashcroft was the father of this child.

The child was at last taken, under very peculiar circumstances, away from the grandmother by young Mrs. Ashcroft. About this time Ashcroft died and the death of Blythe occurred a few months later. Mrs. Ashcroft then left England for America, accompanied by her father, for whose apprehension on a serious criminal offense the London police had a warrant. They landed at San Francisco and Florence was placed in the hands of Mrs. Hart, who is now conducting the business. Then it was that for the first time Mrs. Ashcroft made the statement that the child was Blythe's. She had previously registered the child in England under two different names—Florence and Flora—but omitted on both occasions to give the name of the father.

"Thomas H. Blythe never, under any circumstances, lived in England with Mrs. Ashcroft, nee Perry, but he had several mistresses with whom he lived in California at various times, and the last one with whom he lived produced a will after his death, which was proved in the California courts to be a forgery. This woman was also accused of having attempted Blythe's life by poison, and it is she who is now supposed to have produced the will signed by Millionaire Blythe leaving everything to Florence Blythe. This woman was also well known as a keeper of public gambling saloons. Another will has also been produced, but it is not signed. It was stated to have been drawn by Blythe's solicitor, who now acts for Florence Blythe, but there is no signature appended to this document, and the solicitor explains this by saying that the pen nib broke when Blythe was in the act of signing.

The property now in dispute has been stated to be of various values. The real value is £60,000. The property is now being carefully managed by Mr. Roach, appointed agent by the courts. Blythe's body was embalmed after his death and deposited in a handsome sarcophagus erected out of the moneys of the estate.

"There are some sixty or seventy claimants now before the courts. There may be some difficulty in foreshadowing the result of this litigation, but it might be well if three or four of the claimants, whose claims are particularly strong, would agree to a division in the event of the government not actually declaring one person alone entitled to succeed as heir. Of course if the Blythe will can be produced, and it does not seem strange that this much spoken of will should be produced by Blythe's mistress, whose career has been so shady, then that would settle the question, but the laws of bastardy in the state of California are of a very peculiar character. The guardians of an illegitimate child must prove that the child has been publicly recognized by the father, or that the child has lived under the father's roof. Florence Blythe, the present claimant, cannot prove either of these things.

"The statement of the claims of the Savages is as follows: In the year 1825 a young man in London named James Savage was, for petty theft, sentenced to seven years penal servitude, and was transported by the ship Eurydus to New South Wales. After a few years he was released on ticket of leave, and starting from Sydney went through the country hawking goods. He subsequently settled in California under the name of Thomas H. Blythe. He realized by the purchase of small plats of land a large fortune. Photographs of Thomas Blythe have been recognized and sworn to by a large number of persons who were acquainted with Savage. A man of the name of Wright, who is at present at Peter Robinson's, and with whom Thomas H. Blythe used to lodge during his stay in London, has sworn that Blythe confessed to him that he was no other than James Savage, who was sent away from England so many years ago. Many persons in London have also sworn before Mr. Walker, the late consul general in London, that they recognize from the photographs shown them, Thomas Blythe and James Savage, who was transported so many years ago, as one and the same person."

A CONGO RAILROAD.

The Belgian Government Votes Money to Help Build One.

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BRUSSELS, July 24.—[New York Herald Cable—Special to THE BEE.]—The chamber of representatives has passed by ninety votes against six, the bill empowering the government to contribute £10,000 towards the construction of the Congo railway. The debate preceding the vote was long, and in the course of it M. Jansen, recently elected deputy for Brussels, opposed the bill as contrary to the constitution of the Congo Free State, in favor of which Belgium had no right to intervene.

Sewahadji, who came to Brussels some time ago to learn on what conditions it would be possible for him to transport business from the east coast of Africa to the Congo Free State, had several conferences with the representatives of the state here, and the result is that he has decided to establish transport service for four years, which will be occupied in the construction of the railway. He will leave Brussels in a few days for Zanzibar and thence he will proceed to Congo to make the necessary arrangements.

Mrs. Mackay's Party.

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LONDON, July 24.—[New York Herald Cable—Special to THE BEE.]—Mr. J. W. Mackay gave a dinner party and at home on Monday evening at her residence, 7 Buckingham. At the former were only a few of her London friends. Among those present were United States Minister and Mrs. Lincoln, Miss Lincoln, Brazilian minister, Lord Greenack, Lord and Lady North, Lord and Lady Carew, Sir Charles and Lady Palmer, Mr. and Mrs. MacCormick, Mrs. Parkinson Sharp, Miss Hutchins, Colonel and Mrs. John C. New, Mr. and Mrs. De Young, Mr. and Mrs. Emery. Afterward the guests to the number of 300 or more enjoyed a pleasant evening. The rooms were tastefully decorated, and an orchestra furnished the temptation to dance, which many of the guests readily yielded to. Just before leaving time Mrs. Mackay's intention to start for America became known, and she was overwhelmed with farewells and wishes for a bon voyage.

Notes About Royalty.

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LONDON, July 24.—[New York Herald Cable—Special to THE BEE.]—In spite of the gout in his eye and leg, the prince of Wales keeps on the move. He presented the new colors to the first batallion of the Northampton regiment at the tower yesterday.

It is semi-officially stated that the queen has offered Lord Fife his choice of titles. He preferred to keep his own name and will be known as the duke of Fife, marquis of MacDuff.

The wedding presents of Princess Louise constitute a small fortune. Her girl friends presented her with a flexible band of large diamonds for a bracelet. The cabinet ministers have given a half hoop bracelet with eleven large diamonds. The prince of Wales' household has given a magnificent diamond comb. The queen's household gives three splendid diamond stars. The prince and princess of Wales gave a flexible tiara of diamonds. A cross of brilliants was given by a gentleman of Norfolk. The materials of the trousseau are supplied by England, Ireland and Scotland. The trousseau will not be very large or costly. The bridesmaids are to wear pink, not a becoming color to any of the eight princesses except Victoria of Teck.

Why the Pope Declined.

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ROME, July 24.—[New York Herald Cable—Special to THE BEE.]—One of the principal reasons which determined the pope on calling the last secret consistory was that he had received a communication from France urging him to leave Rome and putting at his disposal a residence in any city he chose in that country, besides promising him the reestablishment of temporal power in Rome. The holy father told the cardinals assembled in the consistory that he refused the offer from France because he will not leave Rome except at the last moment, in case of war in which Italy is complicated, and which consequently would put his person in danger. But he will never leave if his doing so would be the means of France declaring war for his cause against Italy, for whom, from the bottom of his heart, he wishes every good. "I desire, above all things, that peace be maintained," he said.

The Yarana Wins Again.

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DOVER, July 24.—[New York Herald Cable—Special to THE BEE.]—The fourth match in the Royal Yacht club regatta was sailed yesterday from Dover to Ostend, seventy miles. There was a strong wind from the west-southwest at the start, but it soon lost strength. The Yarana won the first prize in 2:18.36. The second prize was won by the Deerhound by her time allowance of six and a half minutes. The Irex did not sail and the Valkyrie is fitting out at Southampton for her American trip. The lugger Paradox was nowhere again.

Sugar Refineries Shut Up.

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BRISTOL, July 24.—[New York Herald Cable—Special to THE BEE.]—Until the bounty system was put in force on the continent sugar manufacturing here gave employment to thousands and support to many more. After the present week there will not be a refinery in operation here. The men of the last refinery to shut down have been informed there will be no work after Saturday.

James Brice Married.

[Copyright 1889 by James Gordon Bennett.]

LONDON, July 24.—[New York Herald Cable—Special to THE BEE.]—James Brice, member of parliament, professor of civil law at Oxford and author of the "American Commonwealth," was married yesterday to Elizabeth Marion Ashton, daughter of Thomas Ashton, ex-sheriff of Lancashire.

Early Arrival of Hops.

[Copyright 1889 by James Gordon Bennett.]

LONDON, July 24.—[New York Herald Cable—Special to THE BEE.]—A packet of this season's hops was sold here to-day. Not for half a century has there been such an early arrival of saleable hops, it is said. The sample was grown in Kent and sold at the rate of £12 per hundred weight.

A Bar to English Capitalists.

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LONDON, July 24.—[New York Herald Cable—Special to THE BEE.]—It is reported here that an English syndicate is negotiating for the acquisition of American steel plants, including Carnegie's, in the Pittsburg district. The report is probably without foundation unless the scheme is in the hands of people ignorant of the law of Pennsylvania. The statutes provide not only that foreigners can not hold real estate in Pennsylvania, but that the shares of a local company can not be transferred to foreigners. The point was decided in the supreme court of Pennsylvania about three years ago in the case of the commonwealth of Pennsylvania against the Erie railroad, to save the latter's property in Pennsylvania from forfeiture to the state. The legislature passed an act about two years ago giving the company either three or five years to dispose of the property to American citizens. The law of Pennsylvania is more strict touching foreign ownership of property than the United States, but the law of New York it has been found possible to evade sometimes through the aid of the legislature.

Nothing Definite Decided On.

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LONDON, July 24.—[New York Herald Cable—Special to THE BEE.]—The net selling prices of iron by the twelve firms selected by the Midland iron and steel wages board during the three months ending June 30 was £5 3s 1d. per ton. For the previous three months the price was £5 18s 7d. The committee of the board meets at Birmingham to-morrow. It is understood they will adopt a recommendation that nothing definite be decided touching the adoption of the sliding scale of wages.

Importation of American Apples.

(Copyright 1889 by James Gordon Bennett.)

LONDON, July 24.—[New York Herald Cable—Special to THE BEE.]—Liverpool bought 700,000 barrels of American apples and London 350,000 barrels in the season recently ended. The importation of American apples by the United Kingdom is rapidly increasing.

Steamship Arrivals.

At New York—The State of Pennsylvania, from Glasgow.

At London—Sighted, the Spain, from New York.

At Glasgow—The Devonia, from New York.

DIVIDING UP THE JUDICIARY.

A Long Debate Over It in the South Dakota Convention.

THE MAJORITY REPORT ADOPTED.

Huron Comes in For a Large Share of Opposition—Dissatisfaction With the Legislative Apportionment.

South Dakota's Judiciary.

SIOUX FALLS, S.D., July 24.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—In the South Dakota constitutional convention a long, sharp, and, for the most part, interesting debate occurred over the report of the judiciary committee on the apportionment of judicial districts. The majority report made the districts compact and recognized the railway connection of the various counties in the respective districts. The Fifth district, however, caused the trouble. This was composed of the populous counties of Beadle, Spink, Brown and Marshall. Huron, Redfield and Aberdeen are the leading cities of the three first mentioned counties, and as these towns each have a candidate for circuit judge, Huron and Aberdeen objected to this grouping. Redfield, situated between the two, did not care, holding, as she believed, the key to the situation. The minority report contemplated putting Beadle, Spink and Brown into different circuits, and therefore recommended a different formation of the Third, Fifth and Sixth districts, adding to the counties several smaller ones on each side.

It was mutually charged during the debate that this was done purely for political effect, and doubtless both sides were somewhat right. Of course the large towns would get the judges and the smaller ones would be more or less subservent. The majority of the committee declared that it would be far better to have the smaller counties in a district by themselves, free from the influence of the larger ones. Quite a number of representatives from the different counties are in the lobby, favoring one side or the other. Among them one has two candidates for judicial honors.

The majority report was adopted and a motion to reconsider was tabled. It is believed, all things considered, that the report does full justice to all sections.

This was perhaps the hardest job before the convention, and it has been evident for ten days that a warm debate would follow. Huron was the center of the opposition. Her representatives fought ably, but the field was against them.

The legislative apportionment was handed in to-day. It is generally thought that the representation in both houses is too large. The legislature will consist of 45 senators and 123 representatives. There will be 43 senatorial and 50 representative districts.

Petitions are coming in from various sections asking for the adoption of the Australian ballot system. The committee, after deciding to recommend it, rescinded its action. This action is the cause of the petitions.

The committee on rules reported that certificates be issued to members and employes for per diem after the federal appropriation of $20,000 has become exhausted. It is expected that the convention will be in session nearly one week after that, and that either congress or the state will pay the deficiency, as the convention cannot adjourn until the joint commission at Bismarck has completed its work of dividing the assets and liabilities.

The Judiciary Committee Reports.

BISMARCK, July 24.—The judiciary committee has at last reported to the convention. The committee recommends a supreme court of three judges, six judicial districts with as many judges and that the present system of justices of the peace be retained. The committee sits down on the proposed plan of the establishment of county courts, favors holding all terms of the supreme court at the capital, makes the terms of judges of the supreme court six years, any vacancy by death or otherwise to be filled by appointment by the governor, the appointee to serve until the next regular election.

The Scandinavian Temperance society, of North Dakota, has petitioned the convention, on behalf the of the Scandinavians, to prohibit the manufacture and sale of intoxicating liquor in the state. The consideration of the complete constitution introduced by Williams has been postponed until after the committees have all reported.

The Day at Helena.

HELENA, Mont., July 24.—In the convention to-day the judiciary committee reported as follows: The enabling act of congress for a general election to be held before admission to fill all offices of the state and county provided for in the constitution is not mandatory. The convention has the right and power in its discretion to provide that all or any state, district or county officers provided for by the constitution shall be elected in such time and for such terms as may be prescribed or provided. Any district or county officers now holding offices under the laws of the territory may continue in office under the constitution until such time as may be prescribed. The committee are of the opinion that the whole matter is within the power of the convention to regulate town and county organizations. Myers introduced a resolution providing that no person holding an office of profit under the United States shall, during his continuance in such office, be eligible to hold an office of profit under the state. The afternoon session was devoted to the consideration of judiciary bill, the organizing of districts and appointment of judges.

Elliott Shepard's Request.

OLYMPIA, Wash. T., July 24.—In the convention to-day a telegram from Presiden Shepard, of the American Sabbath union, asking the insertion of a clause in the constitution protecting and encouraging Sabbath observance, was referred to a committee where it will likely be buried.

In the miscellaneous reports was one favoring a prohibitory clause in the constitution and another opposing it. The latter was adopted. A large number of the members, however, expressed themselves in favor of the separate submission of the prohibition question to the people at the same time the constitution was submitted. After a long discussion the report of the committee on county, city and township organization was passed. The sentiment in favor of wise laws to encourage capital to come into the state is gaining ground and the majority of the violent propositions against corporations will undoubtedly be allowed to sleep in committee.

Passes and Pooling Find Friends.

BOISE CITY, Idaho, July 24.—The time of the convention was mostly occupied in considering propositions in relation to taxation. It was decided that compulsory education may be enforced to a certain limit. The legislature was authorized to regulate the charges of railroad and express companies. The section prohibiting railroad pooling was stricken out. The proposition against free passes to state officers was voted down.

The Weather Indications.

Nebraska: Threatening weather and showers preceded by fair in eastern portions, warmer, variable winds.

Iowa: Fair, followed by light local showers in western portions, warmer, southeasterly winds.

Dakota: Threatening weather and light local showers, slightly warmer, southerly winds, becoming variable.

Big Premium on Gold.

BUENOS AYRES, July 24.—The premium here on gold has advanced to 75 per cent.

BIDING THEIR TIME.

Warner Says the G. A. R. Will Lay For the Roads.

BISMARCK, N. D., July 24.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—Major Warner, commander of the Grand Army of the Republic and a member of the Sioux commission, arrived here to-day and will leave for Standing Rock to-morrow morning. In speaking of the recent trouble between the Grand Army and the railroads with regard to rates to the national encampment to be held at Milwaukee, he said the Grand Army would go ahead with its encampment and will treat the people of Milwaukee with the respect and consideration to which their generous preparation entitles them. He adds significantly:

"We will settle with the railroads afterwards."

He says that the eastern people will suffer very little by the refusal of the roads to give a special rate to the encampment, but it will be a hardship on the Grand Army men of the west, where rates are high. With regard to the prospect for the success of the commission treating with the Sioux Indians for the opening of the reservation, Major Warner said the result at Cheyenne is not satisfactory nor encouraging, and that they have little knowledge of the feelings of Indians at Standing Rock, to which agency the commission is now en route. General Crook and the other commissioners are coming to Standing Rock by boat and Major Warner will leave for there to-morrow. Here it is that the commission will meet their most uncompromising and ablest opponents in the persons of Sitting Bull, Gall and John Grass, who are said to be as strongly opposed to the opening of the reservation as they were a year ago. At a recent council held by the Indians on the subject, Gall stated to his admiring constituency that this is simply another attempt of the whites to crowd the Indians from their lands; that one year ago the Sioux told the government that they did not wish to part with their reservation, and now they come again, thinking the Indians will give up. He advised his Indians to stand firm and keep the lands. Sitting Bull is improved in health and will be present at the conference.

Favor the Bill.

CHAMBERLAIN, S. D., July 24.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—A Standing Rock Indian who arrived at Lower Brule agency yesterday was in the city to-day and said his people at Standing Rock were in favor of and would sign the treaty when presented to them, as the bill was exactly what his chiefs wanted, and that in private council they would have expressed themselves as in favor of its acceptance. A report coming from the source this does can be considered more reliable than reports sent out from towns which are opposed to the opening of the reservation.

A PECULIAR CASE.

Did Bachelor Colonel Walter Babcock Have Two Wives?

CHICAGO, July 24.—A suit at law with many peculiar features was decided here today by Judge Knickerbocker. Colonel Walter S. Babcock, a supposed bachelor, died in August, 1887, at Gardner, Ill., from the effects of wounds received under mysterious circumstances, which have never been cleared up. He was on a visit to Miss Sarah Dodge, a Gardner spinster. He left property valued at $600,000, and his sister, Mrs. Hattie A. Martin, secured letters of administration thereon. Pending the settlement of the estate Mrs. Naomi Fairchild, aged sixty years and broken in health, began suit to secure a share of the estate, claiming to be Colonel Babcock's widow. She set up that she was once a very beautiful woman, in fact she was the belle of the whole countryside in Wisconsin. Colonel Babcock, she avers, fell in love with her as a widow and on October 7, two days before the great fire of 1871, married her. The circumstances of the marriage, as she related them, were very peculiar. He took her, she avers, to a house on Wabash avenue, whose location she cannot fix, and there, at midnight, they were married. After the ceremony, he took her back to her home and left her, enjoining upon her to keep the matter secret. This she did, and was always known as Mrs. Fairchild until the colonel's death.

On trial, Rev. W. H. Burns testified that at the time mentioned and under the circumstances described, he had married Mrs. Fairchild to some person, but whether or not it was Colonel Babcock he could not affirm.

On top of this came the testimony of Mrs. Julia Brattan, the claimant's sister, that it was she who was married at night in the house on Wabash avenue, under the circumstances described by Mrs. Fairchild. The court decreed that the claimant was not the wife of the deceased.

WESTERN PACKING INTERESTS.

Considerable Reduction Shown in the Movement of Hogs.

CINCINNATI, July 24.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—To-morrow's Price Current will say: Considerable reduction is shown in the movement of hogs during the past week in the west. The packing returns indicat a total of 145,000, compared with 210,000 the preceding week and 120,000 a year ago, decreasing 65,000 from the preceding week and gaining only 25,000 over last year. The season's total from March 1 is 4,390,000, against 3,545,000 a year ago.

Place.	1888.	1889.
Chicago	1,415,000	1,185,000
Kansas City	740,000	685,000
Omaha	431,000	412,000
St. Louis	266,000	200,000
Indianapolis	187,000	156,000
Cincinnati	115,000	88,000
Milwaukee	172,000	118,000
Cedar Rapids	129,000	122,000
Cleveland	114,000	83,000
Sioux City	201,000	138,000

HOGAN FOUND.

He Requests a Friend to Keep Still For a Time.

DETROIT, Mich., July 24.—The Journal today prints a dispatch from Jackson regarding Hogan, the missing aeronaut. Harvey Flower, of Jackson, who has known Hogan since boyhood, states that on last Thursday he saw Hogan in Jackson and talked with him for some time. Hogan requested him to keep quiet for a time. The foregoing information is considered reliable. Two other men claim to have positive knowledge that it was Hogan.

A Contractor Skips.

ST. JOSEPH, Mo., July 24.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—Charles Nowland, a prominent building contractor, who gained considerable notoriety a few months ago by shooting a negro in the city police station, and who was formerly a member of the city council, has borrowed all the money he could get on his home and other property and left, presumably for England, leaving his wife with several children without a dollar. He is also behind with his partner, William Frederick, to the extent of $4,000. His disappearance is very mysterious, and has caused his wife to go insane. It is said that Nowland is now in New York. He has lived here many years.

The Chinese District Burns.

SACRAMENTO, Cal., July 24.—The entire Chinatown district in this city, consisting of forty wooden buildings, mainly rookeries, burned at 4 o'clock this morning. It is believed that no lives were lost, though many Chinese had narrow escapes. The loss on the buildings will not exceed $10,000. No insurance.

Strike at Salt Lake.

SALT LAKE CITY, July 24.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—The masons and bricklayers are on a strike, and the contractors have telegraphed to Denver for more help, as building operations are being delayed by a scarcity of masons.

A TRIP TO NEW ENGLAND.

Early in August Harrison Will Visit the Yankees.

CHIEF BELL TALKS TOO MUCH.

A New Head For the Secret Service Division Soon to Be Appointed—Death of the Oldest Priest in the Country.

WASHINGTON BUREAU, THE OMAHA BEE, 513 FOURTEENTH STREET, WASHINGTON, D. C., July 24.

Mr. Walker Blaine to-day wrote to Governor Ames, of Massachusetts, giving him the outline of the proposed trip of President Harrison to New England. The president will leave Washington on Tuesday or Wednesday, August 6 or 7, will travel by rail to New York, and then by steamer to Boston, where he will spend one day and night. From Boston the journey will be made to Bar Harbor by rail. Mr. Blaine informs Governor Ames that it is the desire of the president if anything in the nature of a reception is to be tendered that it shall be of a public character. Mrs. Harrison has not yet made up her mind whether she will accompany her husband on this trip or not, but she will probably do so. Mr. Halford will go and Secretary Tracy is also expected to be one of the party.

A TALKATIVE DETECTIVE.

A great deal of interest is being taken in the probabilities as to the appointment of a chief of the secret service division of the treasury department. Mr. Bell, the New Jersey man who has occupied the place for the past two years, has not proved at all satisfactory. He talks altogether too much for a detective, and has shown great indiscretion and want of business tact. His early statement that the treasury notes printed on the steam presses could be very easily counterfeited was extremely annoying to Secretary Fairchild at the time, and it was only through strenuous efforts on the part of Bell's political friends that he was retained during the latter part of the last administration. Mr. Bell has been working up sentiment in his own behalf and is trying hard to induce Secretary Windom to keep him, but the secretary has other views, and it is understood to-day that the appointment lies between ex-Chief James D. Brooks, who was one of the most competent men that ever held the position, and Mr. Thomas Furlong, of St. Louis. The talk of the appointments of the latter man has brought up a great deal of indignation from the Knights of Labor, in the first instance because of the alleged part he took in the labor riots in St. Louis some years ago while employed by a railroad corporation. It is understood, however, that this opposition has been withdrawn, and that the Knights of Labor will not oppose his appointment if the secretary decides to give him the place.

THE OLDEST PRIEST IN THE UNION DEAD.

Father Curley, of Georgetown college, died to-day. He was the oldest priest in the United States. He was born in Ireland on the 25th of October, 1796, came to Georgetown college in 1827, was ordained priest in 1831 and on the building of the observatory in 1845 took charge of it, and took the first longitude and latitude of Washington. He was the instructor of many eminent men.

A FEELING OF DISSATISFACTION.

Some dissatisfaction is expressed among the senior army officers stationed at Washington over the action of Secretary Proctor in designating Chief Clerk Tweedale as acting secretary of war in his absence. General Scofield is the officer upon whom the duties of the war department devolve in the absence of the secretary, but General Scofield is also away, so that it becomes necessary to select some one else. The law permits the chief clerk to be designated, but some of the officers think that some such man as General McFeely or General Casey should be selected, instead of taking a civilian clerk who is thus given power over them.

THE MOTION DENIED.

The secretary of the interior has decided the motion for a review of the departmental decision filed by George W. Davis so as to set aside the ruling holding that Alva C. Ness had the superior right to the south ½ of the northwest ¼ and the north ½ of the southwest ¼ of section 15, township 33, north range 47 west, Valentine land district, Nebraska. The secretary says that after careful examination of the whole record he can find no good reason for changing said departmental decision, and denies the motion.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The pension board at Carroll, Ia., was reorganized to-day, and Drs. Albert S. Gockley, Samuel C. Dunkle and Arthur L. Wright, appointed members of the new board.

S. M. Calkins was to-day appointed post master at Mentorville, Antelope county, Nebraska, vice H. F. Vail, resigned.

Secretary Noble has affirmed the decision of the commissioner general of the land office, holding that without special congressional authorization the Creek Indians can not be paid the $400,000 with which they are credited on the government books under the terms of the treaty by which the Creeks ceded the United States certain lands.

The comptroller of currency has authorized the First National bank, of Liberty, Neb., to begin business with a capital of $50,000.

TWO NOTED CLAIMS.

Some Papers Which Harrison May Take Action On.

WASHINGTON, July 24.—Among the papers President Harrison has before him, and upon which he may take action while at Deer Park, is a statement from Secretary Blaine respecting the noted Will and Laabra claims upon which the government of Mexico has paid several hundred thousand dollars under the judgment of the commission before whom the claims were tried. After Mexico had paid a portion of the sum awarded, further payment was stopped in the time of Mr. Cleveland's administration, and the matter taken up by congress upon the plea that the testimony before the claims commission was perjured and unreliable and the claims themselves unjust and unfounded. A long investigation by the senate committee on foreign relations followed, resulting in a report just before the Fiftieth congress adjourned, sustaining the plea and recommending the passage of a bill to secure a retrial. The facts in the case have been submitted to President Harrison by Secretary Blaine, who awaits instructions as to the disposition of the money paid by the government of Mexico. The claimants have made a demand for it under the judgment awarded by the commission. The amount involved is nearly $700,000.

The Spirit of the Law Violated.

WASHINGTON, July 24.—Civil Service Commissioner Roosevelt said to-day that charges has been brought against both the pension office and the sixth auditor's office that men had been discharged because they were democrats. He was not prepared to say this was a violation of law, but individually he was firmly of the opinion it was in violation of the spirit of the law. He thought that no one, unless he happened to be an active partisan, should be dismissed from the public service. He said he was going to look the matter up, not only as relating to the present, but the past.

Nebraska and Iowa Pensions.

WASHINGTON, July 24.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—Pensions granted Nebraskans—Original invalid—Henry Johns, Bradstreet R. Wildes. Increase—Barnett Isley, Alfred Springer, George French, Albert Clemens.

Pensions allowed Iowans: Original invalid—F. Stevenson, Elias Leonard, Isaac C. Finch, James M. Bish, P. E. Leach, D. Scofield, Hankins C. McKeehan, Martin G. Folett, Solomon W. Reed, Samuel Horn, David C. Elder, Joseph D. Smith, Charles Lippman, Morris Hunter, Levi B. Copeland, Joseph T. Lambert, Henry M. Graves. Increase—John Q. Adamson, Peter H. Loy, Henry D. Nuse, James T. McIntoch, Christopher C. Shank, Dadid Dean, John M. Elgin, James F. White, John G. Crist. Reissue—Littleton W. Hetston.

BURKE'S BANKER.

The Prosecution Thinks It Has a Clue to the Man.

CHICAGO, July 24.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—The state's attorney and the police are in quite a pleasant state of mind over their latest discovery in the Cronin case. They have at last found, or think they have found, a tangible clue to the mystery that has so long tormented them—where the money for Burke's expensive defense in Winnipeg came from. The persons sufficiently interested in Burke to spend money to prevent his being returned to Chicago to answer for Cronin's murder must have very strong personal motives to induce such action, the police thought, and all possible efforts were made to learn who was acting as Burke's banker. Until to-day all attempts at the discovery of the people backing Burke resulted only in flat failure. To-day the state's attorney received information which made him fly around very lively, for a stout man, and which sent half a dozen detectives hustling on the habits, record and acquaintances of a certain man who is well known in Chicago and is well known to the police to be nearly connected with a prominent member of the Clan-na-Gael and firm adherent of the triangle. The reason for the sudden solicitude of the police is this: Up to Saturday morning Isaac Campbell, Burke's attorney, disclaimed any knowledge as to whether he would enter an appeal from Judge Bain's decision to the general term of court on behalf of his client. It all depended, Mr. Campbell said, and he gave it out unqualifiedly, on Burke's ability to raise funds to pay for making up the record and also to pay Mr. Campbell a fee. Burke had no money, Campbell said, and unless some was forthcoming the lawyer would drop the case. That was the situation Saturday. Monday Mr. Campbell announced that an appeal would be made, and he gave orders to have the record written up as rapidly as possible for presentation to the judges, who, sitting en banc, would review the evidence and give the final decision as to its sufficiency to warrant the delivery of Burke to the United States officers. Evidently, then, money had been obtained, and in no small quantity either. But how and from whom were the questions Assistant States Attorney George Baker and the Chicago detectives put to themselves and which they could not answer. The officers began a search for a possible messenger from Chicago. They found one and an account of him and his doings at Winnipeg was promptly sent on to Chicago. The suspected emissary of the triangle is a relative of a man who has a considerable monetary interest in one of the men now held for complicity in Cronin's murder.

Habeas Corpus Granted.

WINNIPEG, July 24.—Martin Burke's attorneys applied this morning for a writ of habeas corpus for the prisoner. Mr. Perdue, in making the appeal, impugned the validity of the testimony allowed by Judge Bain. The writ was granted. The court will consider the matter to-morrow.

KANSAS FLOODS.

Crops Damaged By the Rain—Fears of an Overflow.

KANSAS CITY, July 24.—The heavy rains the past few days in Kansas seem to have done almost as much harm as good. The fall was the heaviest in the small grain sections of the state, where much of the wheat and oats has not been stacked. The damage in this direction will be considerable.

The people of Manchester, Kan., are fearful of a repetition there on a small scale of the Johnstown disaster. Above the city the waters of Mud creek are confined by a dam. The water in the creek rose so rapidly it overflowed the dam and flooded a portion of the town. If the dam should break the damage would be severe. Many people have sought refuge where the waters can not reach them. At Manhattan, Kan., the Kaw river rose six feet in twenty-four hours, but kept within its banks.

A Flood at Topeka.

TOPEKA, Kan., July 24.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—The most disastrous flood for many years visited this city yesterday afternoon and last night. The waters rose so rapidly this morning that some forty or fifty families in the vicinity of Eighteenth street succeeded in making their escape only by means of boats. The water is over the roofs of a large number of houses in Walnut Grove addition. The bridge on Fifteenth street is two feet under water, and the Shungamunga creek, which ordinarily is but a small stream, is now more than half a mile wide. The water continues to rise, and many families are leaving their homes for safety. Great damage has been done to the corn crops in the valleys, and the wheat which is in the field is also heavily damaged.

RIVAL CITIES OF THE NORTH.

Minneapolis Takes a Turn on Figuring Up the Census.

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn., July 24.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—Sensational telegrams have been sent to leading papers of the country by a St. Paul correspondent concerning the directories of 1889 for Minneapolis and St. Paul. We desire to ask these same papers which have published the falsehood from St. Paul to publish the truth from Minneapolis. The directory of St. Paul was issued on the 15th inst. It contained 74,000 names, an increase of 4,000 over 1888. The Minneapolis directory was issued to-night and contains 80,000 names, an increase of nearly 5,600 over 1888. According to the multiple used during the state census of 1885, St. Paul has 185,000 population. By the same multiple Minneapolis contains 235,000 people, showing Minneapolis to be in the lead by 45,000 people. This directory estimate is confirmed by statistics. Minneapolis cast 38,000 votes for president in November, 1888, while St. Paul cast but 26,000. Minneapolis has 19,000 school children enrolled upon her books, while St. Paul has but 15,000 enrolled. The taxable valuation of Minneapolis exceeds $132,000,000, while St. Paul scarcely reaches $105,000,000. The twin cities of the northwest undoubtedly have 430,000 population, but Minneapolis leads St. Paul by more than 40,000.

The Salt Trust Subscriptions.

NEW YORK, July 24.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—The Evening Post says: Inquiries to-day in well informed circles of finance lead to the belief that although there have been numerous small subscriptions to the new Salt company's securities, the total amount applied for is inconsiderable. The opinion is entertained also that the whole amount of stock and bonds not subscribed for here will be taken in London. The subscription is for $11,000,000 stock and $4,000,000 bonds. Since the owners of salt properties brought into the combine do not take securities for their plant, but only cash, the carrying out of the programme ought to make a large amount of sterling exchange available, and stop gold exports for a while. It is, of course, possible that large subscriptions may be made here at the last moment, but up to this time there has been no eagerness to take up new salt securities. The subscription books close to-morrow.

Raised to a War Footing.

VIENNA, July 24.—The Austrian infantry has been increased by the addition of 9,000 men, raising that branch of the service to a war footing.

THE SWEETWATER HANGING.

Five Men Held Responsible For It By the Coroner.

ALL OF THEM PROMINENT.

Two of the Parties Readily Admit Their Participation in the Tragic Affair But Do Not Regret It.

The Double Choke at Sweetwater.

DOUGLAS, Wyo., July 24.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—The dime novel literature telegraphed from Cheyenne Monday night regarding the lynching of James Averell and Ella Watson Saturday last was not correct in some particulars. Averell and the woman were in a wagon en route for Casper. The lynchers surprised and captured them, and while in the act of hanging them a cowboy named Buchanan, who was a friend of Averell, and who had witnessed the capture of the victims, began firing on the lynchers. They returned the fire and pursued Buchanan, who escaped and rode into Casper, fifty miles away, and told his story. Warrants were sworn out for the supposed lynchers, and a deputy sheriff left with a posse of seven men for the scene of the tragedy Monday morning. Two of the men returned last night. They report that the sheriff and posse reached the scene of the lynching at an early your yesterday morning. The tale told by Buchanan was true. Hanging from the limb of a stunted pine growing on the summit of a cliff fronting the Sweetwater river were the bodies of James Averell and Ella Watson. Side by side they swung, their arms touching each other, their tongues protruding and their faces swollen and discolored almost beyond recognition by the exposure of almost forty eight hours. It was a ghastly picture. Common cowboy lariats had been used and both had died by strangulation, neither having fallen over two feet. Judging from signs too plain to be mistaken a desperate struggle had taken place on the cliff, and both man and woman had fought for their lives to the last.

The bodies were cut down and taken to the ranch of Ed Healy, where Acting Coroner Emery impaneled a jury and held an inquest, resulting in a verdict to the effect that the deceased met their death at the hands of John Durbin, Tom Sunn, J. R. Bothwell, Sam Johnson and a man named McLean.

The bodies were placed in one box and buried at the ranch. Sheriff Watson and party then proceeded to the ranch of Tom Sunn, who admitted that he was one of the lynchers and readily gave the names of the others. He stated further that one of the shots fired by Buchanan at the lynchers, when they were in the act of stringing Averell up, struck John Durbin in the hip, inflicting a very serious if not fatal wound. The wounded man had been taken to Sand creek, and Sunn did not know whether he lived or not. Taking Sunn into custody the party then proceeded to the ranch of J. R. Bothwell, who also readily admitted that he had assisted at the hanging. He told Buchanan and Healey that both would go over the range the same way if they didn't leave the country, and on being told that he would be taken to Rawlins, advised the sheriff to take a good look at every