THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

NINETEENTH YEAR. OMAHA, SATURDAY MORNING, OCTOBER 19, 1889. NUMBER 122.

THE ZALINSKI TORPEDO GUN.

Interviews With British Naval and Military Officers.

VARIOUS OPINIONS EXPRESSED.

Some Think It Would Be Effective in Bombardment But Not Capable of Destroying Large Ships.

English Views of Our New Gun.

[Copyright 1889 by James Gordon Bennett.]

LONDON, Oct. 18.—[New York Herald Cable—Special to THE BEE.]—A number of naval and military officers have been seen by the Herald correspondent and asked to express an opinion of the Zalinski pneumatic gun in view of the recent experiments.

Sir Frederick Richards, K. C, B., said: "I have been traveling a great deal and have not had time to thoroughly master the recent experiments. It seems to me, however, to be nothing more or less than an aerial torpedo. I think it would be a powerful instrument employed against a town, but I think it will require a great deal of improvement before it is used successfully against ships."

Sir Frederick Richards is the admiral who was lately commander-in-chief of the East India station. He is one of the three admirals who produced a report upon the naval manœuvres of 1888, which largely contributed to pass the naval defense bill.

Admiral Morgan Singer, adviser to the firm of Maxim & Nordenfeldt, gun makers, Victoria Mansions, S. W., was reluctant to speak, but on being pressed said: "If my opinion is worth anything I may say that it all depends upon the value of the projectile. The advocates of the gun state that if the projectile falls within thirty to forty feet of a vessel it is exploded with great effect. That is not my experience at all. I believe myself that unless the projectile falls within an even space of twenty feet, supposing it to be charged with 1,000 pounds of dynamite, it would have very little effect indeed. I have never seen the Zalinski gun approach with reasonable accuracy. I have seen it used in its earliest days, and its accuracy was very bad indeed. Then you might fire a good many rounds before you struck a ship or anything else. These defects have never been satisfactorily cleared up to my mind, but if all these things that are said about it now be true, it must be a very formidable weapon, but they do not come within my own experience."

"You have seen, Admiral Singer, the cable accounts in the London edition of the Herald of the successful experiments the other day near Philadelphia?"

"Oh, yes, but as the experiments are presented to us they are very misleading. As an example of what I say, only the other day the papers said that the experiments in Victoria were very satisfactory, whereas I know for a fact that they were just the reverse, so that I am rather loth to take all I read for granted. If one is to give an opinion that is worth anything he should either see the experiment himself or have a witness of somebody who has. I have neither of recent date. If the value of the Zalinski gun depended upon the projectile striking a vessel, it would not amount to much. I repeat that if the projectile discharged from this gun falls within twenty, thirty or forty feet, and, there exploding, can blow up the vessel, it must be a most formidable weapon, but I do not believe a bit of it."

Admiral Morgan Singer was at the head of the naval artillery department. He is an expert on ordnance matters.

Lieutenant General Sir Andrew Clark, G. C. M., G. C. B., C. I. E., said: "I attach very great importance to the Zalinski gun. It is not a completely perfected weapon and inventions are continually taking place. I regard it as a most formidable weapon as employed against towns. Yes, and when used against ships."

"Do you think its projectile dropped within thirty feet or forty feet of a vessel and then exploding would be effective for destructive purposes?"

"I most certainly think so."

"Have you had any experience of its accuracy? Does it deliver with tolerable accuracy?"

"Both from my own experience and from what reliable witnesses have told me, I can certainly say I do think the Zalinski gun a most formidable weapon and one of the most important inventions of the kind we have had."

"In such craft as the Vesuvius torpedo gun vessel could it be especially serviceable?"

"No, I would not say that. I think it could be used with greater advantage in such craft as the Polyphemus, but the gun is only as yet in an experimental stage."

"Have you read the cable reports of the recent successful experiments near Philadelphia?"

"Yes, and all that I have read only confirms and strengthens the impressions I had previously formed. Experiments are continually going on and I hardly know of any one in England who would be a decided authority. The range of observation and information is very long, but from what we do know that is reliable it is one of the most effective weapons we have seen."

Lieutenant General Sir Andrew Clarke is a most distinguished military officer. He is sixty-five years old and entered the army forty-five years ago. In 1853 he was surveyor general of Victoria and was elected to the Victoria assembly for Melbourne and became minister for public lands in 1863. He went on special service to the west coast of Africa respecting the Ashantee difficulties. He was appointed director of the naval works and held the office for nearly nine years. He then became governor of a Straits settlement and was next appointed minister to India. He was commandant of the school of military engineering at Chatham from 1881 to 1882, when he was appointed inspector general of fortifications. He has been on important special missions to Egypt, and has written several valuable works on engineering.

Not Born to Be Beheaded.

MADRID, Oct. 18.—While returning from an excursion into the interior yesterday, the sultan of Morocco had to cross a swollen river to get to Fez. The sultan crossed safely, but twenty of his body guard who undertook to swim the river on their horses, were swept down the stream by the raging flood and drowned.

French Military Plans.

PARIS, Oct. 18.—The Sixth corps, which France proposes to double on account of the increase of German garrisons in Alsace-Lorraine, is now centered at Nancy. The eastern railway facilities will be increased by doubling the lines running from Lille, Lyons and Besancon to the German frontier.

WILL WED A PRINCE.

The Coming Marriage of the Daughter of Millionaire Huntington.

[Copyright 1889 by James Gordon Bennett.]

LONDON, Oct. 18.—[New York Herald Cable—Special to THE BEE.]—The marriage of Prince Halzfeldt and Miss Clara Huntington, daughter of C. P. Huntington, will take place at the oratory at Brompton at 11 o'clock in the morning of the 28th of this month, the past week being devoted to arrangements of the necessary preliminaries, and in the region of Hanover square and Dover street, where the contracting parties are at present respectively residing, there is a state of happy anticipation quite commensurate with the fact that one of America's daughters is to become a princess in a family which dates back in history for 900 years.

The date of the marriage was not settled upon until this afternoon. Various circumstances have delayed the final conclusion. A marriage in London, according to the rites of the Catholic church, including the publication of the bans, necessitated that both of the contracting parties should be Catholics, and they should have had previous residence in London for a certain period. The first obstruction disappeared through Miss Huntington's becoming a communicant of the Catholic church. This has been entirely by her own desire, as the marriage could have gone on just as well without it, but she so chose, and a Catholic bishop will marry them. The other objection was overcome by means of a special license, and in the most fashionable Roman cathedral in London, under the superintendence of Bishop Patterson, the nuptial knot will be tied. The wedding will be a private one, without ostentation or extraneous ceremonies, and only the nearest friends will be present. This is due partly to the fact that the Huntingtons are in mourning, and, furthermore, to the departure of Mr. and Mrs. Huntington for America by the Teutonic, Mr. Huntington's business calling him to New York without delay.

On the day of the ceremony Prince and Princess Halzfeldt will leave for Italy for their honeymoon, which will be spent at the northern lakes. After a month there the prince will take his bride to Schonstein, the seat of the Halzfeldt estate, in Germany.

The Huntingtons have been here for a month past and the prince arrived ten days ago. The ceremony was originally intended to take place in Paris, but the necessity of Mrs. Huntington's stay in London altered the plan. For a week past the preparations have progressed with all the pleasurable flutter incidental to such happy occasions. What the results are is not known, but it is quite certain that they are in every way satisfactory to all parties. Mr. Huntington has been in the most genial mood ever known since his arrival and seems to have accepted the role of father-in-law to the prince as a new and very pleasant addition to his existing fame.

Miss Huntington's wedding dress is being made in Paris.

Prince Halzfeldt is being variously described, and under the present circumstances a pen picture of him may not be uninteresting. He is a blonde of medium height, square and symmetrical figure; his hair parts in the center and rolls back in a German way, and his moustache, which is brown and curling, takes the princely honors among moustaches. His face is German in type and clearly cut, though in looks he is entirely cosmopolitan. He is exceedingly good natured, off-hand and very cordial in his address. He has penetrating blue eyes, is shrewd in observation, and has a quick, commanding manner, which is apparently due partly to his traditions and partly to his nervous and wiry make up. He dresses very quietly with a gentleman's taste and evinces a notable discrimination in the matter of scarf pins. But for his faint German accent in speaking English he might be mistaken for a young American of the most polished class. Alman De Gotha says he is thirty-six years old, but he does not look thirty, if as old. It is only in conversation that his added years become apparent. From the very sentimental complexion of affairs at present it quite seems that the result would have been the same if the prince had the good fortune to be a thoroughbred American and without anything to recommend him to his bride and father-in-law except himself.

Castle Schonstein, which will be the future residence of the prince and princess, is quite a realization of the dreams of all young ladies who read novels. It is located on a precipitous cliff on the Rhine and its picturesque, ivy-grown gray walls and towers are the most imposing feature in the landscape for many miles. It has the felicity of being nine hundred years old, having been built by the feudal Halzfeldts and occupied without a break by their descendants up to now. The estates are extensive and the farms and woods stretch in all directions over a picturesque, rolling country, so that the princess-to-be will be the sovereign of all she surveys in several directions at least. There are three old churches in ruins among other adornments of the Fief environments, and the legends that cluster thereabout from the story of the siege of 1848, back through the realms of semi-mythical tradition will be a liberal education in yeoman history if anybody ever masters them.

HAWAII'S PROPOSITION.

The Conditions Under Which She Will Trade With Uncle Sam.

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 18.—Advices from Honolulu by the steamer City of Pekin say the Hawaiian cabinet, in response to a committee of citizens who made inquiry as to the relations with the United States, has issued a statement saying that as to the result of nearly a year's consideration the minister resident at Washington has been instructed to ascertain whether the government of the United States is willing to entertain a proposition looking to the extending of treaty relations so as to enhance and increase the commercial and political benefits now enjoyed. Should he find such willingness he is instructed to open negotiations with the United States government for the conclusion of a treaty whereby the following objects may be secured:

"1. To continue in force all treaties and conventions now existing until it is to the mutual advantage to abrogate or modify them.

"2. All products of either country which are by virtue of the reciprocity treaty admitted free into either country shall be treated as of the country into which admitted.

"3. To provide for the entry into either country without duty all products of either country except opium, spirituous liquors of more than 18 per cent alcohol strength and all articles prohibited by law.

"Lastly a positive and efficacious guaranty by the United States government of the perfect independence and autonomy of the Hawaiian government in all its domains, and its right of sovereignty over such domains.

"To enable the United States government to do this without danger of complication with other powers we do agree not to negotiate treaties with other nations without the knowledge of the United States government."

THE MANUFACTURERS' MAN.

Major McKinley's Backing for the House Speakership.

ARIZONA WANTS TO COME IN.

She Will Lay Siege to Congress This Winter—The Virginia Campaign—Solving the Desertion Problem—Army News.

WASHINGTON BUREAU THE OMAHA BEE, 513 FOURTEENTH STREET, WASHINGTON, D. C., Oct. 18.

There are good reasons for believing that the manufacturers of the country intend to ask the election of Major McKinley, of Ohio, as speaker of the Fifty-first congress.

Hon. Robert P. Porter, editor of the New York Press, a representative of the manufacturers of the country and a standard authority on the tariff, says to your correspondent that he and his friends are for McKinley, and that the Ohio man will be elected.

To-day's Baltimore American has this from its Washington correspondent, who quotes Mr. Porter:

"I believe Major McKinley will be elected because he is the man the manufacturers want. They know that the tariff will be revised by the coming congress, and it is only natural and proper that they should feel the deepest interest in the selection of that man to preside over the house in whom they have always recognized the ablest champion of their industries. I have reason to believe that they have discussed the subject and that they will bring pressure to bear upon their respective congressmen. There has been some talk of a formal meeting to be held just before congress convenes for the purpose of formally endorsing Major McKinley, but I hardly believe that such a meeting will be held. Major McKinley may not be elected on the first ballot in the caucus. On the contrary, Mr. Reed, of Maine, may poll the biggest vote, but his first vote will, I think, be his largest and unless he goes through with a rush on that ballot I think his following will at once begin to drop off. There are many congressmen who are willing to give Mr. Reed their first vote as a well earned compliment, but who after that will consider themselves at liberty to vote for their preference. I don't believe that the statements to the effect that the New York and Pennsylvania delegations are solid for Mr. Reed are founded on fact. I don't think that either of the delegations are solid for anybody just yet."

ARIZONA'S ASPIRATIONS.

"We shall make a vigorous effort to induce congress to admit Arizona to statehood this winter, or rather provide laws by which we may come in some time next year," says N. O. Murphy, who is the secretary of the territory and who is now in the city. "As to what the politics of Arizona will be I do not know, it is uncertain, but sure it is that a republican congress could not do a more popular thing to make Arizona republican.

"The outlook for prosperity with us has never been brighter. The output of metals will be larger this year than ever before, and according to the assessment rolls, the property of the territory has increased something over $2,000,000 during the last twelve months. The principal agricultural valleys are attracting widespread attention, not only for the variety but quantity of their products. When the railroads now being projected in Arizona are completed, bringing communities closer together commercially and furnishing cheaper and better facilities for traffic and the interchange of commodities for home consumption, as well as export, then Arizona will successfully compete with any other commonwealth in the union. Arizona will make a fight with Wyoming and Idaho to secure statehood at the approaching session of congress, and the prospects are that the admission to the union of more new states will be a feature of the winter's work in congress."

THE VIRGINIA CAMPAIGN.

Much more interest just now attaches here to the campaign pending in Virginia than in Ohio, New York or any other state, for the reason that there are doubts as to the result in the Old Dominion, and then it is very near the national capital.

Among those who are speaking for Mahone is Representative Cheadle, of Indiana. Mr. Cheadle takes a discouraging view of the outlook, it seems, so far as the natural disposition of the bourbons is concerned. He has written from Danville to your correspondent as follows:

"At Danville the owners would not rent the theater or hall for republican speaking, and there is a city ordinance prohibiting street speaking, so I could not speak here. A city of 12,000 people and nearly 5,000 white republicans in it. This country is sixty miles square. At Callands, twenty-five miles in the country, I held a successful meeting to-day. Democrats came to hear and we made votes for the tickets. At Callands I met three old friends who voted for W. H. Harrison and General Ben. There are 100 white republicans in that precinct."

Mr. Cheadle goes on to say that the white democrats are so prejudiced against the negroes that they are becoming almost rabid, and it looks as though a full ballot and a fair count would be impossible. Under the circumstances it would be almost a miracle for Mahone to secure the returns from his election.

Judge Waddel, of Henry county, Virginia, spoke to a crowd of 1,500 people on Broad street, Richmond, last night, on the methods practiced by democrats to prevent the negroes from voting in Jackson ward. In the course of his remarks he said:

"It is wrong, and unless stopped will result in bloodshed."

He insisted that the negroes should be allowed to vote, and added: "We intend to give them a chance to vote, and furthermore, we propose to give those who have been keeping them from voting a chance to go to the penitentiary."

THE DESERTION PROBLEM.

Secretary Proctor will receive to-morrow the testimony taken by the board of inquiry appointed to ascertain if possible why there are so many desertions from the army.

Without awaiting the mass of testimony as to the causes, however, the department to-day made the first practical move to avoid desertions. General order No. 77, issued this afternoon, directs that hereafter there shall be an interval of six days between the day of enlistment and the day of taking the oath. During this time the recruit will be known as a "recruit on probation." The purpose of this innovation is clear. The six days' interval will give the newly enlisted man a chance to repent of the step he has taken before it is too late. It will give him also a slight opportunity to hear and see something of the life that awaits him for five years of service. Many a new recruit will be very willing to take off his uniform before the day comes when he takes the oath, and thus the army is saved a desertion. Experience has proved that a large proportion of the deserters are men who regretted their action almost immediately after enlisting and who are determined from the very outset to desert. By this new order the man may leave it if he repents without deserting, and the army is saved an unwilling soldier and the expense of capturing and punishing for years a certain deserter.

NOBLE'S FIRST LETTER.

Secretary Noble intends in a few days to give to the press the entire report submitted by the board appointed to investigate Commissioner Tanner's administration of the pension office.

The letter which he gives for publication to-night reviewing Tanner's re-rating of ten employes of the pension office and reminding him that he, as secretary of the interior, had jurisdiction over the management of the pension office, is but the first installment of what is to be a vigorous defense of the position of the administration taken in relation to the management of the pension office under Tanner. It has been decided that the administration side of the case shall be given to the public in full.

ARMY NEWS.

Captain Lewis H. Rucker, Ninth cavalry, has been detailed as a member of the court-martial to convene in Jefferson barracks next Wednesday for the trial of such prisoners as may be brought before it.

Captain William F. Spurgin, Twenty-first infantry, now on duty at the United States military academy at West Point, will proceed to Greenwich, Rochester, Medina and Batavia, N. Y., on public business and on the completion thereof will return to his proper station.

Acting Assistant Surgeon Henry S. Haskin is relieved from duty at Fort Omaha and will report in person to the commanding officer at Fort Sheridan, Ill., for duty at that station, relieving Major John Robinson, surgeon, and reporting by letter to the commanding general department of the Missouri.

TSUI KWO YIN CALLS.

The new Chinese minister, with one of his new attaches, who speaks English very well, were making calls upon the delegates of the International Marine conference yesterday afternoon and to-day. The minister's name, as engraved upon his visiting card, is Mr. Tsui Kwo Yin. The cards were turned down at the upper right hand corner, which in the language of visiting cards, being interpreted diplomatically, means "affairs."

The latest arrival in the diplomatic corps makes the first calls upon all the resident ministers, as do the new accessories to the United States senate make the first calls upon their seniors in offices.

NEBRASKA AND IOWA POSTMASTERS.

Nebraska—Randolph, Cedar county, James L. Stewart; Raymond, Lancaster county, William J. Weller; Minatier, Cheyenne county, William B. Swindell.

Iowa—Clio, Wayne county, Perry Tullis; George, Lyon county, W. F. Stillwell; Moville, Woodbury county, Barton E. Boyd; Yorkshire, Harrison county, Eli Vickery.

MISCELLANEOUS.

A regular meeting of the cabinet was held this afternoon at which several important questions were considered.

Carter Clarkson, the son of the first assistant postmaster general, who has been acting as his father's private secretary, has resigned in order to continue his studies preparatory to entering Harvard college.

PERRY S. HEATH.

THE CRONIN CASE.

New Indictments Found in Order to Increase Bail.

CHICAGO, Oct. 18.—The work of securing a jury in the Cronin case was resumed this morning in the criminal court.

Jerry O'Donnell and Thomas Kavanaugh, of those who were rearrested last night on the new indictments returned yesterday, were bailed out this morning. The state's attorney stated that the object in having the men reindicted was to have their bail fixed at a higher figure. In cases of conspiracy it is customary to have an indictment returned against all the prisoners jointly. The state's attorney also said there was nothing in the rumor that this indictment held the prisoners for complicity in the murder of Dr. Cronin as accessories after the fact.

The grand jury is again in session to-day, but so far nothing important has transpired.

The Journal says that additional evidence has been secured against E. W. Smith, one of the men under indictment for conspiracy to bribe the jurors in the Cronin case. The story is to the effect that two men voluntarily sought an interview with State's Attorney Longenecker last night and revealed to him the fact that Smith had approached them with the suggestion that they could make money by acting as jurors on the Cronin case. They replied they had not even been summoned as venire men. To this they said Smith replied that he would fix it so that they would be summoned; that, if they would so frame their answers as to be accepted on the jury and would then hold out for acquittal they would be paid $1,000 each. The men are Messrs. Francis and Wolf, members of a dry goods firm in Englewood.

No additional jurors were secured in the Cronin case to-day.

Michael A. Manley, who has a room on Oak street opposite the residence of Alexander Sullivan, was before the state's attorney this evening. Nothing of what Manley said could be learned from him or the state's attorney, but the report became current that Manley was asked as to whether he had not seen Suspects Cooney and Coughlin and a Clan-na-Gael man named Foy and another man enter Mr. Sullivan's house together during March. Accompanying this rumor was the report that Manley's examination did not prove very fruitful.

Another expressman has been brought into the case. He was taken to the state's attorney's office to-night and confronted by young Carlson, a son of the aged owner of Carlson cottage. The expressman, it is believed, was subsequently taken to some secure place by the authorities.

STABBED HIS WIFE IN COURT.

A Jealous Husband Frustrated in an Attempt at Murder.

INDIANAPOLIS, Oct. 18.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—Henry Smith, a huckster, was defendant yesterday in Justice Judkin's court on a charge of threatening his wife's life. When Smith was led into the court room he addressed the squire saying he was not ready for trial. The 'squire asked him if he could furnish bond, and then Smith turning to his wife, said: "See what you have brought us to. I'll fix you."

With that he drew a large knife from his pocket and sprang at his wife. Grabbing her by the throat with his left hand he plunged the knife into her throat within a quarter of an inch of the jugular vein. He was about to stab her a second time when 'Squire Judkins and some of the spectators sprang forward and caught his arm.

In an instant the wildest confusion prevailed in the court room. Some women who had accompanied Mrs. Smith ran wildly about screaming and a general rush for the stairway leading to the street followed. Mrs. Smith fell to the floor insensible, and the justice and constable struggled with the desperate husband to prevent him from striking another blow. Smith was soon overpowered and disarmed, but begged for the knife that he might cut his own throat.

The trouble is due to jealousy and Smith declared he had no regret for what he had done except that the blow was not fatal.

MAGGIE MITCHELL MARRIED.

The Ceremony Took Place at Long Branch June 13.

BOSTON, Oct. 18.—With regard to the reported marriage of Maggie Mitchell to her leading man, Charles Abbott, the Boston Herald announces on authority that the ceremony took place at the residence of the actress at Long Branch June 13 last.

When Miss Mitchell married Mr. Paddock she did it so quietly no one knew it until two months had elapsed. She pursued a similar policy on this occasion, for not even her nephew in this city was invited to witness the marriage.

CAPTAIN KIDD'S PETS.

Incendiaries Found to Be a Band of School Boys.

KANSAS CITY, Oct. 18.—A large number of small incendiary fires have occurred recently. The police have discovered that the incendiaries were a band of school boys ranging in age from eleven to fifteen years. They were regularly organized and called themselves Captain Kidd's Pets. The leaders are under arrest.

Big English Deal in Texas.

AUSTIN, Tex., Oct. 18.—The Capital Freehold Land and Investment company, of England, filed a copy of its charter with the secretary of state yesterday. The company's operations embrace 3,000,000 acres of capital syndicate land in the Panhandle portion of the state. The capital stock of the company is $15,000,000.

NOBLE'S EPISTLE TO TANNER

The Corporal Had an Exaggerated Idea of His Official Size.

THE FIRST POINT SETTLED.

Then He Had Little or No Notion That the Law of the Land and Not Caprice of the Commissioner Ruled.

Noble Rates Tanner.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 18.—Secretary Noble's first letter to Commissioner Tanner on the subject of the rerating of pensions is made public to-night. It is dated July 24. The secretary acknowledges the receipt of Tanner's letter of July 11, marked "unofficial," but which he could not receive as anything but an official paper, raising as it did the question of authority between the commissioner and the secretary and asserting that the commissioner is to be the superior as to the matter discussed.

"Your position in your own language," says the secretary, "is that 'while the secretary of the interior has power to reverse the decision of the commissioner of pensions on appeal by a claimant against whom the commissioner has decided, on the other hand, if for any reason it should be held that the claimant has been granted too much pension the commissioner himself is the only person who has the power to call a halt and reduce the pension.' The commissioner is laboring under a great misapprehension. The secretary has power to correct any abuses in the bureau of pensions, or any other bureau in his department."

The secretary in support of his position quotes copiously from the revised statutes, and adds:

"It will not do to say that the secretary may not interfere and stop by his own power the execution of any orders obviously illegal and arbitrary. The secretary is reponsible for the conduct of the commissioner, is bound to see that the law is enforced, that the public treasury is not unlawfully invaded, and that one citizen entitled to a right, whether of a pension, land or anything else, is not unduly preferred either in the time of hearing or in the allowance of money."

The secretary takes up the rerating cases, which, he says, seem to be largely mere increases of pension allowed for long periods prior to the date of the examining surgeon's certificate establishing the same under the pending claim for increase. "In fact," he says, "the commissioner himself acknowledged them to be cases of increase of pensions."

The secretary continues: "The cases referred to were ten in number. In each one of these the claimant was an employe in the pension bureau, receiving a salary sufficient for his comfortable subsistence and was at his work daily. They were associated together; most of them had been in their places under former administrations, but they did not then prefer their claims. They made them soon after the advent of the present administration. There was no reason under the existing rules that their cases should be made special or rushed through in advance of all others. On the contrary, there was then, and had been for some years, a printed rule in full force that no cases should be made special except in case of destitution, or when the applicant was at the point of death. Yet these cases were all hurried through by your order, while hundreds of thousands of other applicants were awaiting throughout the land the allowance for the first time of the bounty the government had promised them. These other pension claimants were, many of them, supported by no such salaries as these particular men were receiving, and the association together of these men, where by this preference seems to have been secured, and the subsequent allowances obtained is in itself a fact that shows that their purpose was to impose upon the commissioner. A further fact in each case is that the increase was allowed prior to the surgeon's certificate in the pending claim, and that the sums allowed aggregate over $16,000.

"Neither you nor I can afford to act upon personal considerations in a matter of this magnitude. We are each bound by the law in all things and it is our duty to take the law as we find it. We are to fully exercise that power given to either of us and to abstain from its abuse to any degree whatever."

The secretary refers to the duties of the board of review and says it is an established and well known rule that the department will uniformly refuse to disturb an adjudication of claims by a former administration except upon the most conclusive evidence that error has been committed. "When a question as to the propriety of a given rating is one of judgment merely, depending upon the weight of evidence, the department will not allow the opinion of to-day to overturn the opinion of yesterday; and, furthermore, old cases will not be reopened, reconsidered nor readjusted, except upon the presentation of new and material evidence tending to show the existence of a palpable error or mistake. The department does not entertain the least objection to the increase of a pension, the increase to commence under the pending claim as the law directs and upon evidence to support it."

The secretary then reviews at considerable length the cases of three of the pension office employes whose pensions were rerated, and concludes that the rerating was illegal and unwarranted. He adds:

"I will not go into the other cases. They are before you. I have said enough, I think, to show that the secretary may well call a halt until these cases can be more carefully examined. I notice you say in your letter that you have such regard for your official and personal reputation that you will not permit these cases to remain as they are, but will order each claimant for medical examination before men whose word upon medical points cannot be challenged. The question is not what may hereafter be found out about these men. The question is what should have been done upon their record as it stood when judgment was rendered. It may be that this government is strong and great and has at its command a surplus that no other nation ever had, but if sums of money to the amounts above mentioned may be granted without any further consideration of fact or law than seems to have been given in these cases it will depend solely upon a single officer's disposition whether the resources of the government shall be sufficient for its maintenance or not. There are more than enough of these applications already on file and increasing daily to exhaust the surplus of which so much has been said in connection with this matter, and I am informed the applications for reratings are greatly on the increase, and now reach the amount of from seven to eight thousand a week."

The secretary further says that he intends to have all these cases re-examined and has ordered an investigation of the pension office. Pending the report of the investigating committee he will issue no further order, but expresses his belief in his authority to control the abuses in his department by any means he deems legal and expedient.

A Pastor Falls From Grace.

CHICAGO, Oct. 18.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—Rev. S. J. Backwell is a Methodist minister who resides at Fort Sheridan, and who up to this morning has enjoyed the highest esteem of his flock. For some years the reverend gentleman has also been the proprietor of a flourishing little grocery store. To-day his congregation was astonished and horrified to learn that their pastor had been arraigned by the city officials and fined on the charge of selling intoxicating liquor in the guise of a healing tonic.

The Weather Forecast.

For Omaha and vicinity: Fair weather.

For Nebraska, Iowa and Dakota: Fair, cooler, except stationary temperature in Iowa, winds becoming northerly.

THE PENSION OFFICE REPORT.

Nearly Five Hundred Thousand Men on the Rolls.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 18.—The annual report for the fiscal year 1888-9 of the commissioner of pensions shows there were at the close of the year 489,794 pensioners. There were added to the rolls during the year named 51,921 new pensioners, 1,754 were restored to the rolls and 16,507 dropped from the rolls for various causes. The amount paid for pensions during the year was $88,275,113. The amount paid as fees to atterneys was $1,393,383.

Since 1861 there has been filed 1,248,146 pension claims, of which 789,121 have been allowed, the amount disbursed on account of pensions since 1861 being $1,052,218,413.

During the past fiscal year 145,298 certificates were issued, 51,921 being originals.

At the close of the year there were pending unallowed 479,000 claims of all classes.

The commissioner recommends that congress be asked to amend the act of June 6, 1874, so as to extend the benefit of all pension laws to all pensioners whose pensions have been granted by special acts subsequent to the said date, and that pensions be granted the widows of soldiers who died, from causes originating in the service, prior to 1861 during time of peace. He further recommends that the act of March 3, 1877, be amended to grant pensions to those who having participated in the rebellion subsequently enlisted in the army or navy of the United States and were disabled therein.

The commissioner recommends new legislation to rectify the inequalities in the ratings, and cites instances to show the unfairness in the rates now provided by law. He thinks this statute should be amended so as to permit a rate of $72 per month to be proportionately divided for disabilities shown to be incident to the service and the line of duty. The injustice and unfairness caused by the law of June 16, 1880, limiting the right of pensions to receive $72 per month to those who were receiving $50 per month at the date of the law should be corrected. No provision is made for grading this rate for persons totally helpless on that date, but not receiving $50 at the time, and none for those who have become totally helpless since that date.

The commissioner proposes to pension all soldiers who were disabled. On this point he says:

"As the war period recedes from us and age and its attendant infirmities afflict the veterans, it is a serious question whether the government does him justice in limiting the application of the pension laws to those disabilities only which were contracted in the service. I earnestly recommend that a pension be granted to every honorably discharged soldier and sailor who is now, or who may hereafter become disabled, and without regard to whether such disability is chargeable to the service of the United States or has been contracted since discharged therefrom."

The commissioner calls attention to what he believes to be the manifestly insufficient sum ($2 per month) granted by the act of 1866 to widows for the care and support of minor children under sixteen years of age.

The commissioner also favors a pension for army nurses, and makes an earnest plea in their behalf.

SILVER LEAD ORE FREE.

Secretary Windom Refuses to Change Its Classification.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 18.—Secretary Windom to-night made public the long expected lead ore decision.

He sustains the present classification that admits argentiferous lead ores imported from Mexico free of duty.

The decision recites the uniform decisions and practice of the department with respect to the classification of these ores since 1880, and says, in view of the fact that since the original decision congress has re-enacted the pre-existing provisions of the tariff with regard to lead and silver ores, the secretary does not feel at liberty to set aside the existing classification. He also quotes from the report of the judiciary committee of the senate last year to the effect that ores of the character mentioned, namely ores containing more lead in weight than either gold or silver, but more gold or silver in value, are not, in the opinion of the committee, subject to duty under the existing law.

A MEDICINE MAN KILLED.

Three Indians Held Him While Another Cut His Throat.

SEATTLE, Wash., Oct. 18.—Four Snohomish Indians—Charles Williams, Tom Alexis, Charles Leatt and Big Bill—have been brought to Seattle from La Comer and charged with the murder of Big Bob Satta, alias Big Bob, who claimed to be a tenanen-ous man, or Indian doctor. There was much sickness in the tribe, and Bob was held responsible for it. Four Indians were appointed to kill him. They met him and three held him while the other one cut his throat from ear to ear. The Indians were arrested and bound over for murder.

A Civil Service Knot Untied.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 18.—In compliance with the request of the president, Socilitor General Chapman rendered an opinion upon the question submitted by the civil service commissioners.

In April J. M. Taylor was appointed in the regular way as a railway postal clerk. Taylor, however, did not take the oath of office until May 18, 1889. The time when the rule to include the railway mail service should go into effect having geen extended from March 15 to May 1, the question came up whether Taylor should not have been subject to a civil service examination. The solicitor general finds that the fact that Taylor did not take the oath of office until after May 1 is immaterial upon the question of his right to hold the office to which he was appointed on April 29. It is understood that a large number of appointments were made to the railway mail service just prior to May 1, and in a large percentage of these cases the appointees were, owing to the shortness of the time, unable to take the necessary oath, which fact it has been contended renders their appointments void. The opinion was approved by the attorney general.

Nebraska and Iowa Pensions.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 18.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—Pensions allowed Nebraskans: Original invalid—James H. Phelps, Thomas W. Granberry. Reissue and increase—Bradford A. Marsh.

Pensions granted Iowans: Original invalid—William McIntosh, David McFall. Restoration and increase—Simeon N. Dolph. Increase—Godfrey Zelico, Lyman L. Smith, James N. Lee, Carlos Chamberlain, Charles Corbin, Milton R. Davis, William T. Cameron, Van Buren Dennis, William C. Reed, Farnsworth Cobb, Charles J. Clark, August Gasman. Reissue—Edward Breshar. Original widows, etc.—Caroline, widow of James L. Elliott.

National Board of Trade Adjourns.

LOUISVILLE, Oct. 18.—The National Board of Trade adjourned this afternoon to meet a year hence at a place yet to be determined.

Resolutions opposing the modification of the inter-state commerce law, especially the provision prohibiting pooling, favoring national supervision of insurance and uniformity and insurance legislation, favoring a reduction in federal revenues in the way which will not embarrass the industries and trades, favoring congress considering plans for irrigation, and favoring reciprocity trade relations with Canada were adopted.

The Marine Conference.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 18.—Promptly at 10 o'clock this morning the international marine conference assembled, and consideration of the international rules was resumed.

The Dying King.

LISBON, Oct. 18.—The condition of the king of Portugal has become worse. The paralysis of his body has increased.

THE B. & N. AND MANITOBA.

Positive Assertions Made That They Have Consolidated.

THE MONON'S LATEST MOVE.

It is Rapidly Extending Its Lines Into Louisville & Nashville Territory—A Pennsylvania Traffic Arrangement.

A Rumored Consolidation.

CHICAGO, Oct. 18.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—Dispatches from New York to-day claim positively that the Manitoba and Burlington & Northern have formed their long-rumored consolidation. There was no Burlington & Northern official in the city to-day, and the only general officer of the Burlington was Vice President Peasley, who professed complete ignorance of such a deal. That the rumor should originate in New York he considered suspicious, as if the deal had been made it would have been consummated in Boston.

Pennsylvania's Traffic Arrangement.

CHICAGO, Oct. 18.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—The Pennsylvania officials who went on the recent junketing tour in northwest completed, while in St. Paul, a close tariff arrangement with the St. Paul & Duluth road to connect at Duluth from Erie with the Pennsylvania Anchor line of steamers, which was lately withdrawn from the Lake Superior Transit company. By the opening of navigation next season the Duluth, Twin Cities & Southern will have completed its line to Omaha and absorbed the present St. Paul & Duluth. This will give the Pennsylvania direct connection with Omaha and the west, irrespective of Chicago roads. The contract is at present in force between the Pennsylvania and the St. Paul & Duluth and will be continued under the name of the latter road, the Duluth, Twin Cities & Southern.

An Old Case Revived.

CHICAGO, Oct. 18.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—An old phase of the still older case of J. A. Stewart and Edwin H. Abbott vs the Wisconsin Central railroad company, first filed on December 1, 1875, and one of the most complicated pieces of litigation on record, was resurrected before Judge Gresham in the United States court to-day. The original case was brought about over a matter of first mortgage bonds. This was a motion on the part of W. H. Hollister, of New York, for an accounting and to file a supplemental bill to strike off some answers for reference and for a settlement for some $200,000 of first mortgage bonds. Hollister wishes an accounting and the trustees of the railroad company also want one, but they wish the matter of trust bonds settled, the trustees discharged and an order issued to pay up to date the mortgages. Hollister takes exceptions. He claims that he is a first mortgagee bondholder, has a prior right, and wants his bonds paid in full. The trustees say he has no further claim than other bondholders.

The Monon Becoming Aggressive.

CHICAGO, Oct. 18.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—The Monon is pushing its fight with the Louisville & Nashville by extending its lines into the latter's territory. Private advices from Lexington, Ky., to-day, say that next Tuesday the Monon will open its line between Lawrenceburg and Lexington, and within a week the Georgetown line will be opened.

The Wabash Receivership.

CHICAGO, Oct. 18.—The decree winding up the receivership of General John McNulta, late of the Wabash road, was entered by consent of all the creditors by Judge Gresham to-day. The court reserved the power to retake the Wabash property if the new company fails in any of its agreements.

WRECK ON THE SANTA FE.

The "Cannon Ball" Derailed—Nobody Killed—About Twenty Hurt.

HUTCHINSON, Kan., Oct. 18.—The eastbound train on the Santa Fe, the "cannon ball," reached here to-night twelve hours late, with only the express car and two Pullman coaches.

The balance of the train, consisting of a baggage car, two Pullman coaches and a tourists' and Pullman sleeper, were left at the bottom of a ten-foot embankment near Howell, twenty miles west of Dodge City.

A broken rail was the cause of the accident. Fortunately a fire was prevented and all the passengers were quickly rescued. No one was killed, but a score or more of persons were bruised and more or less injured.

Among the badly injured are:

Mrs. Dunkle, of Lamar, Mo.

E. H. Alman, of Elgin, Ill.

Miss Mary L. Upton, of Keokuk, Ia.

H. Knapp, of Falls City, Neb., had a collar bone broken.

D. H. Crath, of Lawrence, Kan., was hurt about the head, neck and chest.

AT GRAND RAPIDS.

The Tourists Get Their First Cool Reception, From Jack Frost.

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich., Oct. 18.—When the party of Pan-American delegates arrived here this morning, there was a heavy frost on the ground, which was something new to them. Breakfast was taken at the Morton house, and when the delegates left there to make the rounds of the furniture factories, a salute of sixteen guns was fired. An hour before lunch was spent in reviewing the Grand Rapids battalion, the city fire department and the city bicycle club. In the afternoon the party attended the running and trotting races at the fair grounds.

The delegates were much interested in the great furniture factories, of which there are forty-two in Grand Rapids