

THE DAILY BEE

E. ROSEWATER Editor.

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SWORN STATEMENT OF CIRCULATION. State of Nebraska, County of Douglas, ss. George B. Tschuck, secretary of The Bee Publishing Company, does solemnly swear that the actual circulation of The Daily Bee for the week ending February 7, 1891, was as follows: Sunday, February 1, 25,500; Monday, February 2, 25,087; Tuesday, February 3, 25,087; Wednesday, February 4, 25,087; Thursday, February 5, 25,087; Friday, February 6, 25,087; Saturday, February 7, 25,087.

Average, 25,087. GEORGE B. TSCHUCK, sworn to before me and subscribed to by me this 7th day of February, A. D. 1891. Notary Public.

There are several joints loose in the plumbing department of the Seventh ward.

The contest for spots in Lincoln has subsided, but that in Omaha promises to outlive the year.

The register of deeds does not need a new deputy half as much as he needs a muscular guardian.

The collapse of the distillery conspiracy save providence from being charged with an earthly "visitation."

DISTANCE lends peculiar charms to South Omaha annexation, especially when the tax collector camps on its wale.

The people of the Big Third will rejoice to learn, on his own authority, that Congressman Dorsey is a practical joker.

The reform in city affairs trumpeted thirty days ago stands a slim chance of securing a speaking acquaintance with the council.

MR. GOULD is moving westward by easy stages, carrying an unusually large supply of good intentions to scatter in his railroad provinces.

It is possible Henry Watterson's letter did not reach David Bennett Hill. The important fact is that Mr. Hill chose the road Henry pointed out.

The legislatures of Kansas and Nebraska are entitled to credit for giving a piquancy to the cold formalities of session life. The official form of adjournment in Kansas is: "Boys, it's time to milk." In Nebraska: "Boys, let's plow this furrow and then graze."

THE disgraced scramble for a few petty offices throws an air light on the calibre of the men controlling city affairs. The people who pay the bills are not concerned about the political complexion of subordinates so long as they are competent to perform their duties. But they have a right to expect decent regard for the public interests.

"The trouble is," says May or Cushing, "that some of these one-horse statesmen think that the eyes of the world are upon them. If they could only see themselves as others see them they wouldn't swell to the importance of their office quite so much." Life size and artistic, the picture will be readily recognized by the public, coming from a high democratic authority.

THE official report on the number and value of farm animals on January 1 does not show any material change from the report of the preceding year. The losses on the Pacific slope and Rocky mountains during last winter were unusually severe, but the gains in other sections were sufficient to balance the loss. The aggregate of beef cattle is 36,875,418; sheep, 43,411,130; and hogs, 50,625,106. A decrease of 2 per cent is noted in the latter, the scarcity of corn causing a rush to market.

HON. JERRY SIMPSON continues to dazzle the country, not only with his physical extremities, but also with his unique originality as a financier. Gold and silver are to his mind as so much dross. Had he his way the mines would be closed, the precious metals left in the bowels of the earth, and the printing press proclaimed the money maker of the world. It is painful to observe that the scoldless meager of Wichita throws a dark shadow over Nebraska's 2 per cent genius hibernating in Hitchcock county.

THE ordinance licensing coal dealers is a dead letter and should be repealed. It was not drawn for an honest purpose, nor is its enforcement practicable. Even if the council has a right to license the business, the power should not be exercised. With equal justice all classes of business may be licensed. The plea of short weights is absurd. The city has its inspector of weights and measures, and if scales are tampered with for the purpose of defrauding purchasers, the dealer can be promptly punished. The imposition of a license is not a guarantee of honesty.

BEYOND PIGS IN A PORK.

There is no use in mincing matters about the close corporation which now controls the relief business of Nebraska. The legislature has voted \$100,000 out of the state treasury for the purchase of supplies. What quantity of these supplies had been bought before the appropriation bill passed has not been made known to the public. A liberal estimate fixes the amount at \$25,000. These purchases were made without competition from Lincoln jobbers who were smart enough to take advantage of the soft snap within their reach. In all probability had enough state money on deposit in one of their own banks to cover any contingency of delay in the appropriation. Now comes the question whether the relief committee proposes to control these purchases in the interest of a favored set of dealers instead of throwing the doors open to competition.

THE BEE insists that the money contributed by taxpayers shall be expended only for such supplies as are actually needed and these goods should be purchased from dealers who sell the cheapest deliverable in localities nearest to the points of distribution.

We realize that some of the merchants who generously volunteered to ship a lot of dried grapes and canned fruit to relieve the hungry and thirsty settlers were doing a smart thing in relieving themselves of goods which were liable to spoil on their hands. But we doubt whether the state should invest in luxuries for people who are in want of bread, meat and fuel. And we don't believe it to be good policy to buy a pig in a poke, instead of inviting bids and having standard goods delivered according to sample.

The people of Nebraska are willing to tax themselves for the relief of the poor, but they do not relish being taxed for the benefit of any set of merchants or any locality through favoritism or discrimination.

AFTER THE PENSION SHARKS. Public opinion will approve the efforts of the interior department to protect pensioners from the rapacity of the pension sharks. Himself an old soldier, Secretary Noble is properly desirous that the veterans who are entitled to the bounty of the government shall not be robbed of it by a pack of sordid and greedy attorneys, many of whom are capable of almost any disreputable practice to obtain business. His first commendable move against the pension sharks was for a reduction of the fee allowed in pension cases, and he has now taken a further step that will have the effect to save many thousands of dollars to pensioners.

This latest action of the department is the cutting off of a source of information which the attorneys have hitherto found very profitable. The published pension lists have been giving the addresses of persons to whom pensions were awarded. As soon as these lists appeared the attorneys would write to each pensioner, informing him that his pension had been granted and suggesting that the fee for services rendered be remitted. The department has ordered that hereafter the addresses of pensioners be omitted from the lists furnished the press, nothing to be published but the name of the successful applicant and the state in which he resides. As the commissioner of pensions gives timely information to all persons who have been granted a pension, this new arrangement will not cause successful applicants to be held in suspense very long while it will be of very material benefit to them pecuniarily.

In the official communication to the commissioner of pensions, after referring to the illegitimate and unprofessional methods of the attorneys, it is said: "It is the judgment of the department that these methods should not be permitted among attorneys who are admitted to practice before it. To tolerate them is almost the equivalent to approving them, and no room should be left for misinterpreting the department's attitude by even the remotest application." It is suggested not only that the addresses of pensioners be omitted from the published lists, but that all persons engaged in the service of the pension bureau be prohibited from disclosing to anyone outside the address of such pensioners on pain of dismissal from the service, and that this rule be applied also to divulging the names of claimants for pensions.

The pension bureau has been the most troublesome branch of the government service to the present administration, but much needed reforms have been instituted, beneficial both to the government and the pensioners, and the latest adopted is not the least commendable of them. The old soldiers have every reason to feel that the administration is most anxious to protect their interests and secure them the full benefit of the nation's bounty.

WHERE WE SHALL GO.

Secretary Blaine has submitted to the president tables showing the articles which under the commercial arrangement with Brazil will be entitled to free admission into the ports of that country, and also the articles upon which the existing duties will be retained. The first of these tables includes all kinds of agricultural products, coal, farm implements, mining and mechanical machinery, railroad material and equipment. The average annual value of these articles imported into Brazil is \$20,000,000, of which the United States supplies only a little over \$3,000,000 worth. This country exports more wheat flour to the Brazilian markets than all other countries combined, but of corn and the manufactures thereof, rye, barley, and other agricultural products, the supplies are drawn almost wholly from other countries. In the item of coal this country does not ship any to Brazil, while her importations from other countries amount to over \$3,000,000 a year. We do almost no business with that country in mining and mechanical machinery, although manufacturing the best in the world, while other countries sell them nearly \$3,000,000 worth annually.

OF articles upon which the Brazilian duty will be reduced, the discrepancy between our trade and that of other

countries is still more glaring. These include provisions, canned meats, fruits and vegetables, manufactures of cotton and of iron and steel, and leather and its manufactures, except iron and steel. The average annual value of these articles imported into Brazil is over \$35,000,000, of which the United States supplies only about \$2,000,000 worth. The greatest discrepancy between the trade of this and other countries appears in the manufactures of cotton, of which we furnish annually less than \$1,000,000 worth, while other countries, chiefly England, find a market there for these goods to the value of over \$28,000,000. Another noteworthy discrepancy is in leather and its manufactures, of which there is to the account of the United States the begetry sum of a few thousand dollars against several millions to that of other countries.

Where the United States may be expected to make the most important gain under the reciprocity arrangement is in increasing the trade in agricultural products and the manufactures of cotton. In these alone we ought to be able to enlarge our trade with Brazil within the next few years to the amount of from \$10,000,000 to \$15,000,000 annually. It is impossible to say how long we can look for any considerable demand for farm products, because the promotion of agriculture in Brazil may enable the country in the not very remote future to supply the home demand for breadstuffs and other products of agriculture, but in certain classes of manufactures, and particularly in that of cotton, a steady enlargement of trade is reasonably to be expected if our manufacturers will make good use of the market at prices that will compete with the English goods. Of course it must be understood that this commercial arrangement will secure the beneficial results sought only when all the conditions essential to a successful competition with other countries for the trade are provided, and this will require time. It is not to be supposed, therefore, that our merchants and manufacturers are to at once acquire control of the Brazilian market. A commercial conflict more or less prolonged will have to be fought, and the result will depend upon the energy and enterprise of our people and their ability to supply the demand upon as favorable conditions in all respects as Europeans can make. Granting they can do this, the figures of Brazilian trade are certainly tempting enough to induce a vigorous and determined effort to secure it.

THE sinecures around the state house are numerous enough to warrant an investigation. The number of persons drawing pay without work would form an interesting chapter on legislative economy.

Got There Just the Same.

Nebraska is given a slight head-start in the erection of school houses where Nebraska editors may learn that the rules of grammar do not permit the use of the direct object "silence" after the passive verb "is given."

Money Rates Low.

The New York Sun thinks the tendency of the money market is now as decidedly toward low rates as it was towards stringency in 1890. It is generally expected that money will rate at 3 or 4 per cent for some time to come, or even less than that, and if it continues at that basis for any considerable time there will have to be a readjustment of the value of income-bearing securities, which have for a long while been selling on the basis of a 5 or 6 per cent money market.

Rowdy Bell Moves Eastward.

It seems to us that a necessity exists for a relocation of the rowdy known as the "wild and woolly west." It is popularly supposed and is probably true that some time ago, some of the rowdy elements of that section, and a tract on the eastern slope of the great chain. But when we read of banks robbed in open daylight in Chicago and bodily conflicts between a small army of tramps and trawlers in central Ohio, we are forced to conclude that the zone ought to be further east.

Nevada Up For Bids.

It is reported that Tom Fitch has a mine for which he has been offered \$2,000,000, and that within a few months he will make a clean-up and return to Nevada. That means, of course, that he will be a candidate to succeed W. M. Stewart in the United States senate. Well, if Tom will chuck half a million or so into the sea he can get away with the fight, and if the senatorship is to be continued in the market for sale, we would as soon see him get away with it as any member of his party in the state.

Seasonable Fable.

Two politicians were exchanging ideas regarding the rewards for public service. "The reward which I most desire," said the first politician, "is the gratitude of my fellow-citizens." "That would be very gratifying, no doubt," said the second politician, "but alas! in order to obtain it one has to retire from politics."

Who is Sweating Now?

The Union Pacific, Jay Gould says, is being operated with 400 less men than were on the pay rolls a year ago, writes the financial man of the New York Epoch. It is also said that when Mr. Gould made Mr. S. H. Clark general manager of the Union Pacific, the latter found the road crowded with equipment belonging to other roads, on which, of course, the company was paying mileage. His first act was to send these cars back to their owners as fast as practicable and collect back the cars belonging to the Union Pacific which were stationed all over the country. He also sent several large payments alone. It is asserted, will form a big item in the future results of the Union Pacific. One of the oldest directors of the company, a man thoroughly acquainted with its condition, history and possibilities, said to us recently: "The investor who buys any of the stocks or bonds connected with our system will make a great deal of money in 1891. We have gone through several 'wreaths,' but hereafter the other fellow will do the 'sweating.'"

Something in It.

Why do not some of the energetic ferrets at Washington attempt to show that there was a wheat plot. If they look into the matter they will probably find that the same man who bought silver also speculated in wheat. The absolute certainty that the price of wheat, and consequently every other commodity, will rise in sympathy with silver was understood

by every advocate of the white metal, and they would have been fools if they had failed to back their belief with coin. It is absurd in the extreme to accuse men of corrupt acts who openly declare their intention of effecting a certain object, and who were prompted to make the effort by the whole country, which demands for coinage for the avowed purpose of raising the price of silver and with it that of other products.

Gold vs Wamamaker.

The public has been vexed with brief reports of what has been done, or rather of the way in which time has been squandered in the committees on postoffice and post-roads this session, the bone of contention being Mr. Wamamaker's limited postal telegraph bill. Messrs. Bingham and Ketchum have been restricting its consideration. It now appears that W. W. Dudley, who has been managing the campaign against the bill, has been provided by the Western Union company with an extra fund of \$50,000 to work up an opposition to it. Strange as it may seem, Mr. Dudley has had the aid of Mr. Clark. Another re-enforcement to the lobby is Mr. Moore of Moore & Schley, who formerly represented Mr. Gould, and has a separate fund besides the \$50,000 placed in Mr. Dudley's hands.

PERSONALITIES.

Since Oscar Wilde cut his hair and patronized an every-day tailor he has become a different looking and evidently cultured appearing gentleman. Judge Peffer says that of the hundreds of congressmen who have been receiving since his election as senator not one has come from the moneyed classes. Senator Correll of Missouri has for a long time been a year-around in Ewing, Mo., in addition to this service, attends the public high school in Washington.

Bismarck has found one friend that he can frequently beget in the west. It is a little wren which comes at call and perches upon his hand that has swayed the destinies of nations. The will of Judge Keyser, who died at Marysville, Cal., is a clause giving Mrs. Ida Lee of Yuba City \$100,000 for her husband and attention during a long and dangerous illness.

Dr. McIntosh of Harrisburg says he recently visited a Pennsylvania town where no one could understand his English. He also says that his notices posted in four different languages. Governor Northern of Georgia refused to meet Jay Gould at the Atlanta banquet because he objected to him personally and disapproved of his policy of monopoly and his business methods.

Idaho's new senator, McConell, is said to owe a great measure of his popularity at home to the fact that he taught the Boise City constitutional convention the mysteries and fascinations of stud poker. Goldwin Smith says that Macaulay, whom he frequently beget in Oxford, didn't look at all like a man of genius, except for his eye, and that he used to think "a cobbler's apron would have become him very well."

Charles McManis, a little Belgian girl by birth, of New York is one of the few women diamond setters in America, and Mrs. Cecilia Klingenberg is as good a judge of diamonds and precious stones as there is in that city. Andrew Carnegie, who cannot now tell just how many millions he is worth, was a telegraph operator by a Pittsburgh firm in the 1850s, and tried harder than to master the intricacies of the telegraph than he does now to increase his great fortune.

Colonel E. C. Wells, superintendent of the western division of the Adams express company, was in early life a telegraph operator, and used to work at the other end of the wire than Tom Edison. Wells was one of the few men who could "take" Edison. Henry Hays, writing from Paris, says that nearly every good singer on the lyric list was born in the United States. Miss Adley, leading prima donna of the Paris grand opera, and an American, was recently decorated with the violet ribbon.

Carl Schurz, a senator-elect from California, is Ohio and frequently mistaken for another in New York, where they spend nearly all of their time. Both have the same well known features, the same cut and trim of his hair, the same pose of the head, shriveled in air, and might be taken for brothers if they were sitting together. The special abhorrence of Mr. Schurz is a bon-ton democrat, which Mr. Brice is. The special abhorrence of Colonel Brice is a mug-wump, which Mr. Schurz is.

PASSING JESTS.

Washington Post: There is a growing suspicion that the Illinois people are trying to preserve their senatorial contest for the world's fair attraction. Brooklyn Life: Little Johnny—Say, father, what makes the baby cry every time it wakes up? Bro—Well, from what I know of babies, it cries from vexation to find that it has kept still for a reasonable length of time. Life: She—I am sorry you must be going. He—It doesn't matter. When one meets you he is already gone.

St. Joseph News: When a Parisian commits suicide by drowning the jury invariably finds that he came to his death while temporarily in-Selma. Athol Globe: Every man has a secret feeling in his heart that somebody is not treating him right.

Mrs. Clinker—Dr. Hytown seems a great favor to society. Mr. Caldwell—Yes. He says his practice has grown beyond his personal supervision, and he must devise some way of seeing to getting rid of more than half his patients.

Go to the ant, thou sluggard, see how much she labors uselessly. And then your thanks to heaven tell that you know how to rest so well.

Washington Post: "There is one thing I like better than all the rest," said the young man who works in his father's store, as he was speaking of athletic sports at the dinner table. "No," said his father, "I don't think there is. I like to see how they can be anything else but better than all the rest you can possibly get."

"Did you see Maria brushing the cobwebs from that bottle of port?" "Yes, I spider."

Athol Globe: No man's occupation is gone as long as there is some one younger than himself to whom he can give advice.

Life: Tommy (gazing after dude)—When I get to be a man, papa, will I dress like that? Papa (severely)—No, Tommy; not if you get to be a man.

Munsey's Weekly: Hobbs—What's the matter with the Indians, mamma? Mamma—They haven't enough to eat, my dear, so they want to fight.

Hobbs—Why do they send some missionaries out there?

ENTIES JOHNNY. Washington Post: Johnny—Mama, my brother often licks me after school. Or it seems somehow or other that there's always some small rat which has a way of breaking; and he always it is a sin, when he tells in accents shaking how he got kept in.

But the school-ma'am—she's a sprightly modest winsome little miss, Abohy'd give a fortune lightly in exchange for one small kiss. And when Johnny comes a-pining, have felt it would have been right to shake him for his whining. When he gets kept in.

But in youth you must expect it; When it sees a treasure rare, Like as not it will reject it. But if some trifling light as air, Wouldn't I—'I've thought it sadly— If the chance I could but win, De his penance for him gladly. What has kept kept in.

FATAL NATURAL GAS EXPLOSION. Lafayette, Ind., Feb. 12.—Gas from a leak in the natural gas main today caused a terrific explosion in a house at West Lafayette. The whole side of the building was blown out and Mrs. Luther A. Jenners, an old lady living in the house adjoining, and her son were horribly burned. The cause of the explosion was a gas leak from a pipe. Two more persons were seriously injured.

Highest of all in Leavening Power.—U. S. Gov't Report, Aug. 17, 1889.

SWITCHMAN'S HORRIBLE FATE

Henry Campbell Crushed to Death in the Burlington Yards at Lincoln.

NOTHER FOLL OWER OF MINEHART INSANE. A Couple Divorced After Nearly Forty Years of Married Life—Work of Incendiaries—Odds and Ends.

LINCOLN, Neb., Feb. 12.—[Special to THE BEE.]—Henry E. Campbell, a young man of twenty-two, living at 1130 Rose street and employed as a switchman, was killed at 2:30 this afternoon in the Burlington yards near S street. No one witnessed the accident. He was riding on an empty coal car which was moving slowly through the yards, and after setting the brakes he jumped down to pull out a pin. The pin was bent, and he was compelled to walk several steps backward. In doing so his foot caught in the frog or tripod on a rail, and he became insane. The car ran directly up his leg, and when stopped was resting on his chest. He was crushed to death, and after the body was released from under the car it was removed to the yard office.

Corner Holyoke was called, and after examining into the matter decided that an inquest was unnecessary. The remains were removed to Roberts & Co's undertaking rooms. Campbell had been in the Burlington's employ since December 10 last.

ANOTHER MINEHART FOLLOWER INSANE. Mrs. M. J. Wedge, wife of a former groceryman in East Lincoln, was brought up before the insanity board yesterday afternoon. The woman is apparently about thirty-five years of age, and has become insane on the subject of religion. She has been a most devoted follower of Rev. Minehart, the minister who created a sensation a year or two ago by reason of his peculiar views, rationally insisted upon and publicly preached. Her people have endeavored of late to keep her from attending church, but she has slipped away and came down town, and in saloons and public places she preached on holiness in a rambling sort of way, and on one occasion tried to preach on the cars. She recently refused to pay fare, saying that Christ had told her to get onto the train. She was sent to the asylum.

From present indications the Minehart craze has run its course. The congregation has dwindled down to about twenty members, and one of the wealthiest of these is about to go to Chicago to live. From his original belief the pastor has branched out into new lines of thought which smack strongly of the sensational and which have been the cause of the gradual dropping off, and lately caused trouble in the family of a well known East Lincoln citizen.

Another cause assigned for the decrease is the belief that Minehart is a sharp, shrewd man, but insincere, and a lover of the sensational in preaching. A few weeks since he preached on the sexual relations, a favorite theme of his.

AWAY BOKE CUPPLE DIVORCED. An aged couple, living in Fall River, Mass., on October 1, 1888, Richard Worswick led to the altar a fair young woman who has been known to the world ever since as Sarah Worswick. They were married in the city of New York, and lived together for thirty-eight years, but in August, 1884, Sarah kicked over the traces and left the place. This was the story in brief as unfolded before Judge Field this morning by Richard, who got his decree, as Sarah is a non-resident and was not present.

CHANGED HIS NAME. Robert Clarence Fritag, a good looking young man from Hickman, was up before Judge Field this morning. Robert didn't like the name he was bearing, he had trouble with it, and he had decided to change it. He wanted to change it to Frenont, was what he wanted to be called and the court gave the necessary permission.

THE case against W. H. Hobbs for larceny from the person was finished in the district court this afternoon at 3:30, and the jury, well known of all ages and both sexes, found him guilty as charged. The defense immediately filed a motion for a new trial. Detective Malone has unearthed another good witness, who claims that he saw Hobbs cut the chain and take the watch from Bureham's pocket while they were drinking at the bar.

INCENDIARIES. A barn in the city, bounded by Eleventh and Twelfth and U and V streets, was set on fire last evening by some unknown parties, either accidentally or purposely. The fire burned slowly and was easily extinguished. A broken lantern stolen from a sewer ditch was found in the manger. The barn belonged to Bohannan Bros.

Some one cut the ropes holding the are light at 14 and Seventeenth streets last night and afterwards fire to the city. The fire burned in a barn at Eighteenth and Q streets, which was partially destroyed a few weeks since. It was fortunately extinguished in time, but the gas company has offered a reward of \$50 for the arrest and conviction of anyone cutting their ropes, and the Farmers and Merchants' insurance company will pay \$500 reward for the incendiary.

ODDS AND ENDS. Mrs. Sawyer, an adventuresome who operated a saloon some years ago, is in trouble at Bates, Mont., according to the report by reason of her peculiar financial transactions. She operated there and in Denver under the name of Moffet.

The reception at the Young Men's Christian association last evening in honor of Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Farnham was a very successful affair. The program was a very good one and the various selections admirably rendered. A very cordial welcome was extended the secretary and his wife and they made many friends.

Johnson, Little and Miller, the three men charged with burglarizing the Lincoln tannery, will have a hearing before Judge Houston Monday.

Nellie Newsam, charged with stabbing John Taylor with intent to kill, was discharged, as the prosecuting witness and the majority of the witnesses had skipped. The case against J. B. McGuire, charged with disposing of mortgaged property, was stricken from the docket. The county attorney entered a nolle prosequi in the case against Sam Gibson, charged with selling a pig in a market with a mortgage on it. This ended the criminal docket for the term and the jury was discharged until Monday.

R. J. Gross, attorney for Hammond and Chull, was allowed \$30 for acting in that capacity. J. D. Johnston, attorney for Henry Mohr, the would-be wife murderer, convicted yesterday, has filed a motion for a new trial.

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A MIGHT AROUND. The loser grew his habits. The harder he was pressed, The smoother grew his putting off. The rougher he was treated, The smoother grew his putting off. Though a tall man, he was always short, Likewise completely broke, And if he was in a tight spot, Though evermore in a "soak."

WHILE HOLD AN INQUEST. At the request of the relatives the coroner will hold an inquest over the remains of Charles Fren, the B. & M. switchman who lost a leg in the B. & M. yards about one week ago and died yesterday at St. Joseph's hospital. The inquest will be held next Tuesday at 2 p. m.

PROGRESS OF LEGISLATION.

CONDITIONS OF THE VARIOUS BILLS NOW BEFORE CONGRESS.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 12.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—So much has been said about the work of congress and the chances of an extra session that it may be well to state just what the status of needed legislation is. There are thirteen regular appropriation bills which must be passed and signed by the president before noon of March 4. The condition of these bills is as follows: The military academy, fortifications, army and pension bills have passed both houses and are in conference. The District of Columbia bill has passed the house and is almost ready to be reported to the senate; the naval bill has passed the house and is now before the senate; the sundry civil bill, which passed the house last Monday, was yesterday referred to the committee on appropriations; the Indian surrenders and postoffice bills have been reported to the house, but are unacted upon, while the deficiency bill has not been reported to the house. Speaker Reed said yesterday that he would sign the appropriation bills except the deficiency, through the house by Saturday.

SCANDALIZED BY A LETTER.

It Culminated in the Expulsion of a Prominent Church Member.

BOSTON, Feb. 12.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—The culmination of a scandal that has agitated West Roxbury for weeks and has been given much publicity in local newspapers, was reached last night, when the South Evangelical church of West Roxbury formally suspended from fellowship W. H. French, a well-known lecturer, who has been a member a number of years. The charge which has resulted in French's dismissal was substantially that French wrote a letter in November last, stating that a Miss Helen C. Smith of the same church was his wife, and had sustained that relation for six months when she was forced to leave him through the animosity of her parents. Miss Smith denied French's claim, and the church committee finds that such a statement, as French made, if true, implied conduct on his part, gross in itself and scandalous, and if not true, it was adopted and assumed to be true, to ruin the lady's reputation and good name. Both parties move in the highest society.

TAKES THE BLACK VEIL.

Miss Drexel Becomes Sister Catherine of the Blessed Sacrament.

PITTSBURGH, Pa., Feb. 12.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—Catherine Drexel, the Philadelphia heiress who two years ago entered a convent here, took her final vows and adopted the black veil today. The ceremonies were private and no one outside the church, not even the members of Miss Drexel's family, were present. Archbishop Ryan conducted the services, assisted by Bishop Pheasant of Harrisburg. Father Stephen of the Catholic Indian bureau at Washington, D. C., and Rev. Father Conway of Mercy convent, Miss Drexel's sister, were present. She will now be known, brings with her \$500,000 and will found the order of the Blessed Sacrament, the object of the order being to educate the Indian and negro.

THE JOINT RATE CASE.

Stous City Journal. The decision of the supreme court of Iowa in what is known as the joint rate case is of great importance. The decision is in the broadest sense the statute enacted by the legislature at its last session requiring the corporations to make joint rates or the state railroad commission to establish maximum rates for hauls over two or more lines of the hauls being within the state.

The history of this case is a striking illustration of the arbitrary and exasperating conduct of the railroad corporations which has compelled the people to act in self-defense. The railroad law which was enacted by the Iowa legislature in the session of 1887, the same being almost a literal copy of the other Illinois law, did not specifically provide that the railroad commissioners might establish maximum joint rates. The railroad companies were in perfect liberty to make such rates themselves. They had made joint rates theretofore, but they refused to do so further the moment the legislature passed the railroad acts.

At that time the corporations began a strenuous litigation. The Illinois law, in the broadest sense the statute enacted by the legislature at its last session requiring the corporations to make joint rates or the state railroad commission to establish maximum rates for hauls over two or more lines of the hauls being within the state.

WHILE HOLD AN INQUEST.

At the request of the relatives the coroner will hold an inquest over the remains of Charles Fren, the B. & M. switchman who lost a leg in the B. & M. yards about one week ago and died yesterday at St. Joseph's hospital. The inquest will be held next Tuesday at 2 p. m.

PROGRESS OF LEGISLATION.

CONDITIONS OF THE VARIOUS BILLS NOW BEFORE CONGRESS.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 12.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—So much has been said about the work of congress and the chances of an extra session that it may be well to state just what the status of needed legislation is. There are thirteen regular appropriation bills which must be passed and signed by the president before noon of March 4. The condition of these bills is as follows: The military academy, fortifications, army and pension bills have passed both houses and are in conference. The District of Columbia bill has passed the house and is almost ready to be reported to the senate; the naval bill has passed the house and is now before the senate; the sundry civil bill, which passed the house last Monday, was yesterday referred to the committee on appropriations; the Indian surrenders and postoffice bills have been reported to the house, but are unacted upon, while the deficiency bill has not been reported to the house. Speaker Reed said yesterday that he would sign the appropriation bills except the deficiency, through the house by Saturday.

SCANDALIZED BY A LETTER.