THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

TWENTY-SECOND YEAR. OMAHA, TUESDAY MORNING, APRIL 18, 1893. NUMBER 303.

LEESE MAKES HIS ANSWER

Denial of the Impeachment Charges by the Ex-Attorney General.

MALICIOUS CONSPIRACY AGAINST HIM

He Declares that Lies Were Told to Drag Him Before the Legislature—Explanation of the Nuckolls Bond Case and the Mosher Contract.

LINCOLN, Neb., April 17.—(Special to THE BEE.)—Ex-Attorney General Leese today filed his answer to the impeachment proceedings in the supreme court through his attorney, John M. Stewart. The answer is quite a lengthy document, and its importance is increased in that it foreshadows some of the points which will probably be made in the answers of Benton and Hill if their cases are not thrown out of court for want of jurisdiction.

To begin with General Leese enters a general denial of each and every allegation contained in the articles of impeachment, and of each and every one of the specifications therewith, except that during the years mentioned he was the duly elected and qualified attorney general of the state of Nebraska, and was during all of said time acting as such officer, and was by virtue of his office a member of the Board of Public Lands and Buildings. He denies that the board ever made any contract with Betts, Weaver & Co. or with the Whitebreast Coal and Lime company for finishing any coal for the use of the Hospital for the Insane at Lincoln, or any other institution, but that the board of purchase and supplies, consisting of the governor, the commissioner of public lands and buildings, secretary of state, treasurer and attorney general, attended to such matters. When the latter advertised for proposals for furnishing coal for the use of the Hospital for the Insane at Lincoln Betts, Weaver & Co. and the Whitebreast Coal and Lime company were each the lowest bidders and the contract was awarded to them in strict accordance with the laws of the state of Nebraska.

The Board Not to Blame.

The respondent further says that "all vouchers approved by the Board of Public Lands and Buildings for furnishing such coal were presented by the superintendent of the Hospital for the Insane at Lincoln and accompanied by his certificate showing the amount of coal specified in such voucher was in truth and in fact actually furnished by said Betts, Weaver & Co., and by the Whitebreast Coal and Lime company, and stating that the amount of coal therein specified was received at said Hospital for the Insane at Lincoln by such superintendent, and that such account was just, true and correct, and in addition thereto said claims had been examined by him and found to be correct. And this respondent avers that it was wholly impracticable and impossible for respondent, in addition to attending to other duties imposed upon him by law, to personally inspect the delivery of such coal, and know by observation that the coal charged for had in fact been delivered."

The answer then goes on to say that the superintendent is by law made the business manager of the institution and the duty of ascertaining that all supplies purchased are actually delivered is placed upon him and the steward of the institution, who is under his direction and control. At no time prior to the allowing of the accounts referred to in said specifications, says the respondent did there any information, fact or circumstance come to his notice or knowledge which did or reasonably would have aroused a suspicion in his mind that the superintendent's certificate was not correct, and that the coal charged for was not in fact all delivered.

Defect in the System.

To show that the system of purchasing supplies for state institutions and the approvals of claims therefor by the Board of Public Lands and Buildings is defective and inadequate to properly protect the interests of the state, General Leese quotes from his biennial report as attorney general for the years 1889 and 1890, in which he said:

As a member of this board I find that it is not only made our duty to take the general supervision and control of all the public lands, lots and all institutions, buildings and the grounds thereunto, under the constitution, but also are made responsible for the proper disbursements of the funds appropriated for the maintenance of all the said institutions. All accounts of the several public institutions must be audited by the board, and this duty is in itself enough to keep the board busy for ten days at least, if the accounts are properly scrutinized. It is an utter impossibility for each member of the board to give the time actually necessary to properly examine every account presented each month without neglecting the business that properly belongs to his own department. The method that has been adopted by this board is to leave the secretary of state, who is ex-officio secretary of the board, to examine each account as it is presented and whenever, in his opinion, there is an account that is found to have been drawn on the wrong fund, or an account that should not be allowed, or looks suspicious he lays them aside for the board to examine. The other accounts, amounting to hundreds of thousands of dollars, are passed on the inspection alone of one member of the board. This, to my mind, is wrong, and yet it is the only method by which the board is enabled to get through with the business. I do not wish to cast any reflections on the secretary of state, for I can cheerfully say that on this board he has ever been a faithful officer, but I desire to call attention to the facts so that a remedy may be provided, and in this connection I will speak of the imperfections in our Board of Purchases and Supplies. This board, under section 2 of article xii of chapter lxxxiii, Compiled Statutes, is composed of five state officers, including in that number the attorney general. It is the duty of the board to advertise four times each year to furnish supplies for the various institutions.

Left to the Stewards.

The heads of the institutions make out estimates that are found to be necessary to run the respective institutions for ensuing terms. This business is generally left to the stewards of the institutions, and, as the board has no knowledge of the actual demands required, the several items asked for is, as a rule, taken to be the demands necessary to keep the institutions are supplied.

The advertisement is made asking for bids on these various estimates and in many cases it is found that the institution does not purchase the full amount stated in the estimates, and a system has grown up in this particular branch of the state's business whereby the bidder to furnish the goods discovers that in some of the items asked for the supply on hand is such that the institution will not require the whole amount stated on the estimate, and therefore the price bid for furnishing such item is made very low, sufficiently so to reduce the aggregate value of the bid on all the articles, and the contract is awarded to such bidder, while, in truth, the state pays more than the actual value on the other items specified on account of the low price alone bid on some articles that the state institution does not actually need, or at least does not buy, what they ask for in their quarterly estimates. Notably, one particular fact is where one bidder at the last meeting of the board in October bid 1 cent per pound for granulated sugar. It is unnecessary to say that he was awarded the bid.

It might be said that the board is to blame for this state of affairs, but it is impossible for the board to know the actual demands only through the heads of the various institutions, and when an estimate comes before the board properly certified the board takes this for its authority.

I have endeavored in the six years service on this board to remedy this, and in some institutions have been successful to a great degree, while in others we have not been so successful.

I mention these matters for the purpose of showing that the system of purchasing supplies is liable to great abuse. Take the item of fuel and lights required to run the public institutions, the last legislature appropriated for this item alone $192,000. If all of our coal needed for all of our institutions could be purchased at the mines on one contract a saving of at least $25,000 could be made.

Take the item of board and washing. The appropriation to meet this item for the past two years was $285,000. It seems to me that the state has made such rapid strides in population and wealth that the old laws governing this subject are altogether too limited, and if some change could be made whereby the purchase and supplies could be governed by an agent or board created for this purpose alone, with headquarters where all the necessary supplies could be had on short notice, or shipped directly from the seller to the various institutions, the state would be the gainer by thousands of dollars every year. It is a subject worthy of consideration and it is respectfully submitted.

Those Nuckolls County Bonds.

General Leese then takes up the Nuckolls county bond case and says: "The action of Franklin P. Bonnell against the county of Nuckolls and others was commenced by the respondent in the supreme court, but respondent denies that the state of Nebraska was a party or in any way interested in said action, and denies that it was his duty as attorney general to appear for said Thomas H. Benton as alleged. Respondent avers the fact to be that the only petition in interest in said case was the plaintiff therein, who was a taxpayer of Nuckolls county, and the defendant, the county of Nuckolls. That said Thomas H. Benton as auditor was not a necessary party to such suit nor a party in interest, and was made a party thereto at his own solicitation and request, and voluntarily accepted service of summons therein, and the said Thomas H. Benton at all times stated to respondent that it was wholly immaterial to him whether such issue of bonds was by the court declared legal or otherwise, and that he did not desire to appear in said action to contest the claim of plaintiff therein as to their validity.

"Respondent avers that under the law of this state, and the rule of this court, the attorney general is required to appear only in cases where the state is a party or interested, and that there is no law or rule that debars such officer from practicing as an attorney in other cases, and respondent submits to this honorable court that his connection with said case in no wise violated his official duty as attorney general, but was the proper and legitimate exercise of his right and privilege as a practicing attorney."

The answer then admits the charge that General Leese, as attorney general of the state of Nebraska, did draw the several amounts of money mentioned in the specifications, but it asserts that all of said moneys were legitimately expended by him in the payment of actual fees and expenses necessarily incurred, for all of which he has an itemized statement, and he is now ready to show that every dollar of the appropriation was by him necessarily and legitimately expended for the purposes therein designated.

Charges a Malignant Conspiracy.

The answer continuing says: "Respondent further answering avers that the charges against him upon which said articles of impeachment are based are without foundation in fact, and are the result of a conspiracy against this respondent; that certain persons, actuated by the spirit of hatred toward this respondent, circulated among the members of the late legislature false and malicious statements of and concerning this respondent, and thereby procured charges to be preferred against respondent, and the appointment of a committee to investigate such charges. Respondent is informed among other things that one of said persons procured himself to be called before said committee and then and there falsely stated to such committee that in the years 1889 and 1890 this respondent had drawn from the treasury of the state of Nebraska the sum of $800 for printing briefs in the supreme court of Nebraska, and that the said person had examined the records and files of such supreme court of Nebraska in state cases, and that briefs costing but the sum of $200 could be found; yet respondent avers that in truth and in fact there was then on file in such cases briefs, for the printing of which this respondent had necessarily expended at the usual and customary rates of printing at least the sum of $400, and this respondent has been at all times and is now ready and willing to exhibit his account for such moneys so expended and paid out for the briefs so printed and filed.

Mosher Contract Story a Lie.

"This respondent further shows to this honorable court that for the purpose of injuring this respondent such persons maliciously circulated among the members of said legislature the further false statement that this respondent had, while in the office of attorney general, corruptly received a check for the sum of $500 from one C. W. Mosher, the then contractor for the convict labor of the Nebraska state penitentiary, and in consideration therefor had written an opinion for said Mosher holding that the contract between the state of Nebraska and said Mosher for said convict labor was a valid and binding contract on the state, yet the truth is and was that this respondent never during his term of office wrote an opinion upon the question of the legality of such prison contract, nor did he ever during said period utter an opinion favorable to its legality, nor did respondent ever at any time during his said term of office render said Mosher any services of any kind or character, or receive from said Mosher, directly or indirectly, any check, money, or other thing of value. And respondent says that the only opinion he ever wrote concerning the legality of such contract was in March, 1890, at the instance and request of a committee of the late legislature.

Respondent further says that at the expiration of his term of office he engaged in the practice of law in the city of Lincoln as a member of the law firm of Leese & Stewart, that in 1891, after the expiration of his said term of office and while engaged in the practice of law, among other parties, one C. W. Mosher proposed to retain generally said firm; that said Mosher was then and there duly informed and fully advised by said firm that said firm could not be retained by him if he expected this respondent or said firm to defend the prison contract held by him, and that respondent was then of the opinion that said contract was void, and with this distinct understanding that said firm would not be called upon in any manner to defend said contract the said Mosher did retain said firm of Leese & Stewart, and gave said firm a check on the Capital National bank in payment for the same. That said persons conspiring together to injure this respondent, falsely and maliciously represented that said check was dated in 1887, and that the same had been paid for an opinion alleged to have been corruptly given by this respondent as aforesaid.

Respondent, for the purpose of further showing to this court the utter want of even the semblance of truthfulness in such statements, avers that said firm of Leese & Stewart, or either member thereof, never at any time wrote or uttered an opinion favorable to the legality of said prison contract, nor were they, or either of them, ever asked to do so by said Mosher or any other person.

"Wherefore this respondent prays that on the final hearing of this case he may be dismissed and go hence without day and recover his reasonable costs in this behalf expended."

EDISON'S LATEST WONDER.

He Will Exhibit a Mechanical Retina Which He Calls a Kinetograph.

CHICAGO, Ill., April 17.—Thomas A. Edison has finally announced the nature of his individual exhibit. It is the kinetograph, the last of a series of wonderful inventions displayed in connection with the most versatile group of photographs ever brought together. It is to the eye what the phonograph is to the ear—a mechanical retina, which stores away a living picture to be reproduced in all its actions, every movement faithfully shown, at any time and in any place. With the kinetograph it is possible to show in Chicago Chauncey Depew delivering a speech aboard the flagship Chicago in New York harbor. Not a photograph of arrested action, but the living man, his every gesture, the play of expression on his face, the movements of his lips. It will transmit and reproduce motion of any kind for any distance.

From a Shed to a Palace.

CHICAGO, Ill., April 17.—The Illinois Central railroad company today opened to the public its new and handsome depot located on the lake front between Park Row and 12th street. The building was commenced on October 25, 1892, and when the properties and workmanship of the structure are taken into consideration it seems to be and it is in fact, one of the most noteworthy pieces of human skill ever accomplished. It will be in many respects the finest passenger station in the world.

BELGIUM'S LABOR TROUBLES

Workingmen Rioting in the Streets of the Principal Cities.

FIERCE ENCOUNTERS WITH THE POLICE

Soldiers and Strikers Killed and Wounded—Extraordinary Precautions Being Taken to Prevent a Revolution—Serious Trouble is Feared.

BRUSSELS, April 17.—The strike in favor of universal suffrage is spreading steadily in all parts of the country and the strikers are growing more turbulent each day. It is fast becoming the firm belief that only the sternest steps will avert the gravest trouble.

During last night rioters and police met constantly. Today the dockmen in Antwerp joined the movement and cut off communication with vessels lying at the quays by throwing their gangways into the river. They indulged in other serious demonstrations and become so threatening that the military had to be called out to preserve order.

The strikers at Mons have resorted to the use of dynamite to enforce their demand for universal suffrage. A bomb placed close to the Petit Wasines church exploded this morning with great violence, shattered the stained glass windows and did other damage.

Attacked by Two Strikers.

Many of the men employed at Antwerp in loading and discharging vessels and in other work about the wharves did not quit work in obedience to the order of the men engineering the strike. This inflamed the strikers, who made an attack on the workers. The latter made a weak attempt to defend themselves, but they would have in all probability been driven away had it not been for the gendarmes, who took a hand in the affray. The strikers were armed with revolvers and used them. The gendarmes, who also had firearms, were quick to respond, and it is thought that several strikers were wounded. A number of ringleaders among the strikers were captured. The feeling of unrest continues to spread. There is no denying the fact that the crisis is acute. Excited meetings in favor of universal suffrage are being held throughout the country. Everywhere appeals are made to those who live by labor to join the demonstration now in progress.

In the Charleroi district there are 30,000 miners employed, and work in the mines may be said to be at a standstill, for 20,000 of the miners have quit work and are riotous. Most of the miners are miserably poor and their families are bound to suffer. The cotton yarn, lace, linen and wool mills and factories in Gramont, in East Flanders, are affected by the movement, a large number of the operatives in these industries having joined in the strike movement.

Desperate Struggle with the Strikers.

Some of the more enthusiastic and hot-blooded strikers at Gramont assembled at that place and held an impromptu meeting at which fierce speeches were made. The gendarmes attempted to break up the meeting, but met with a stout resistance. The fight was transferred to the street, and although the gendarmes had the advantage of arms and discipline, the strikers struggled desperately and were only dispersed after a long contest and after two of the gendarmes and a large number of the rioters were seriously wounded. Order now prevails, but is liable again to be disturbed at any moment.

The cowardly assault on Mayor Buls by strikers gave rise to an excited meeting of the municipal authorities today. Some of the councilmen expressed deep indignation at the outrage and proposed that a delegation be appointed to wait upon M. Buls and express the council's sympathy for him. It was also proposed that the police measures ordered by the mayor be approved by the council. These proposals were objected to by a minority of the members of the council, the opponents of the mayor holding that his orders to the police and his hostile attitude toward the strikers were the sole cause of the attack that had been made upon him. Finally, however, the proposals were adopted and a committee appointed to wait upon the mayor and express the council's sympathy.

Tried to Take Possession of the Town.

The dynamite explosions at Mons today seem to have acted as an incentive to the strikers to commit further outrages. The strikers indulged in all manner of threats against the government, and as the day wore on they became emboldened and determined to take possession of the town for labor processions. When the mob attempted to march through the streets they were met by a strong detachment of the civic guards. No attention was paid to the order to disperse. Hooting and yelling, they attempted to march on and defied the guards to fire upon them. The guards fired upon the crowd, but this did not effect their dispersal. On the contrary, it only infuriated them and a charge was made upon the guard. A desperate hand-to-hand conflict ensued. The main body of the strikers was broken up, but groups of struggling men could be seen in the side streets. The battle was long and bitterly contested, but finally the guards were victorious. It is known that four of the miners were killed. Many of the rioters were wounded and a number were taken to the hospital. The killing of the four strikers has added greatly to the excitement in town, and there is danger of a more serious outbreak. Men and women from the adjacent mining villages are flocking into Mons and the authorities are anxiously awaiting the events of the night. Mons is the center of the great Borinage coal mining district. Three-fourths of all the miners in Belgium are employed in this district.

Must Suppress Suffrage Demonstrations.

The governor of the province of Babant, in which the city is situated, has instructed all mayors of cities and towns within his administrative district that they must prevent all public demonstrations for universal suffrage.

The city officials of Brussels have voted thanks and congratulations to the police and guards for their valiant conduct in suppressing recent disturbances here. The government has issued a decree calling out all the militia for the defense of the state. This means the mobilization of some 45,000 troops against the working men.

In the fight between the working men and civic guard in the district of Mons today fourteen soldiers were wounded. Three will not recover. They were removed to the hospital where their ante-mortem statements were taken for the public prosecutors.

Dispatches from Antwerp show that the situation in that city has grown more threatening since noon. The strikers have gathered repeatedly in large crowds throughout the northern district. Before 3 o'clock a squadron of police raided them with swords and the workingmen overwhelmed them with showers of stones. The police retired in confusion.

Desperate Fighting on the Streets.

While the reserves were being summoned the strikers threw up barricades in the side streets, and women and children hastened from houses with firearms. When another squadron of police supported by a detachment of the civic guard tried half an hour later to drive back the mob they were met with volleys from the revolvers and rifles of the men behind the barricades. Many of the soldiers were wounded and were removed to the hospital. More military were summoned and after ten charges carried the barricades. The strikers retreated firing. Crowds are still gathering in the northern district this evening and more fighting is expected. The concert halls of the city are emptied. Several theaters are closed. The petroleum reservoirs are guarded by militia.

Rioting in Bucharest.

BUCHAREST, April 17.—Hundreds of workingmen and their wives made a demonstration before the parliamentary building today against the increase of the octroi. The minister of public works was attacked as he rode from the chamber, stones were thrown through windows and three men tried to drag him into the street. Several policemen were injured with stones when they tried to protect the minister. A company of cavalry came to the rescue of the minister and cleared the open space in front of the building. Two cavalrymen were knocked from their horses with stones. Half a dozen rioters were arrested.

Results of the Eclipse Observation.

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PARIS, April 17.—[New York Herald Cable—Special to THE BEE.]—"Pickering's observation of the eclipse," says Flammarion, "confirms the theory that the sun is surrounded by a luminous atmosphere to a distance equal to one-eighth of the sun's diameter. Nothing more can be said until we have other details."

Pickering's observation, as cabled to the Herald, apparently establishes the existence of this solar atmosphere beyond controversy. The Paris edition of the Herald was the only paper in Europe that gave any report this morning of the observation of the total eclipse. At the meeting of the Academy of Sciences this afternoon, Tisserand, the director of the observatory, officially drew attention to the Herald's cable, which was read to the assembled scientists, who unanimously directed that it be translated and published verbatim in the next number of the academy's journal.

SHOT THROUGH A WINDOW.

A. B. Paxton Wounded by a Bullet While Sitting in a Saloon.

Some unknown marksman let loose with a revolver through the windows of a saloon on Dodge between Eighth and Ninth streets last night. A man named A. B. Paxton who was in the place at the time was struck by one of the bullets. He was taken to the station and his wound dressed. The police are on the trail of the party who fired the shots.

AREAS OF WAR VESSELS.

Arrival of the British Fleet at the Rendezvous at Hampton Roads.

FORTRESS MONROE, Va., April 17.—Before 8 o'clock this morning, Colonel Frank, commandant of the army post, was informed by Rear Admiral Gherardi that the British vessels expected to take part in the coming meeting and naval review were coming up from the capes and that they would be alongside in an hour. This was the notification to stand by to salute the visitors, for they had fired twenty-one guns in honor of the American colors and the fort was prompt to respond. Many of the hotel visitors were awakened by the terrific bombardment which ensued and the reverberation of the big guns of the Blake and the answers that came quickly back from the military post and the flagship Philadelphia. Hardly had the smoke disappeared from the muzzle of the guns when the Blake began a series of salutes to the French, Russian and Italian flags. During these ceremonies the flags of all the ships were constantly changing from one country to that of another.

The appearance which the five British ships presented as they moved past the end of the United States fleet to the anchorage grounds designated them by Rear Admiral Gherardi was a beautiful one. At the head of the visitors was the big armored cruiser Blake, a counterpart of our own ship New York, of 9,000 tons displacement, and 20,000 horse-power, heavily armored and the most formidable ship that will be in the review. In her wake was the protected cruiser Marlborough, and behind her came the big armored cruiser Australia, with her sides fairly filled with high power guns. Next was the cruiser Tartar, and in the rear was the little barkentine rigged cruiser Partridge. The Blake slowed down just as she passed the Newark, and when abreast of the Philadelphia her signal was displayed to the other ships to anchor.

At 11 o'clock Admiral Hopkins was pulled over to the Philadelphia to call upon Admiral Gherardi, after which he returned and soon afterward received the return visit. Later in the day Admiral Hopkins called on Colonel Frank and Colonel Frank returned the call.

The weather here continues perfect. The Dutch frigate Vanspeyk arrived late this afternoon and anchored in the Roads.

MET IN A COLLISION.

Fatal Accident on the Toledo, Ann Arbor & Michigan Railroad.

FARWELL, Mich., April 17.—A collision occurred on the Toledo, Ann Arbor & North Michigan road about four miles north of this town this morning, between a working train and a north-bound passenger train. Two men were killed, several badly injured and one is missing. The wounded were brought here. No one in the passenger train was injured. The men killed are:

J. W. UNGER, Owassiac.
RUNNELL MOORE.

Injured:

FRANK ELSIE, thigh broken, may die.
D. S. CROWTHERS, Owerscok.
JAMES PICKERING of Farwell, badly bruised.

Several other laborers were slightly bruised and cut. The work train had been picking up some wrecked cars and was backing up when the passenger train struck it. It is impossible to say who was to blame for the accident.

Killed the Fireman.

WACO, Tex., April 17.—An incoming cattle train on the San Antonio & Aransas Pass railroad ran into an empty train standing on the main track at this station this morning. The cattle train engine was completely wrecked. Fireman Smith was caught in the ruins and scalded to death. Engineer Browning was scalded and received internal injuries.

CHARGED WITH MURDER.

Arrest of an Omaha Man Named Kent for Killing Two Policemen.

DUBUQUE, Ia., April 17.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—Two of the three men wanted for killing Officers Frith and Talcott in the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul yards Friday morning were brought to Dubuque at 10:30 o'clock tonight and placed in jail. They were seen at Grody, Delaware county this morning and Marshal Longford organized a posse and captured them at a country school house, where they had laid down to rest. They are "Kid" Healey of Lacrosse, who has done time in the Waupin penitentiary, and Kent of Omaha.

The Sioux City man, the one supposed to have done the shooting, is still missing. The trio came to Dubuque last Wednesday. Wednesday night the Sioux City man, who said he was the cousin of a Dubuque man named Thiane, tried to shoot a bartender, who took his revolver from him. This revolver was found at the scene of the murder Friday morning filled with bloody cartridges. It is supposed the trio committed a highway robbery here Thursday night and that they fled to the railroad yards, where the police were hunting them when killed. Detective Gadbois of the Illinois Central had followed them into Dubuque. After leaving Sioux City for Dubuque they broke into a car at Webster City and stole some revolvers and further on they robbed an American Express office.

CRUSHED UNDER A CANNON.

One Soldier Mashed to a Pulp and Another Fatally Hurt at Chicago.

CHICAGO, Ill., April 17.—While a party of soldiers were setting up a fourteen-ton gun as part of the government exhibit at Jackson Park this morning, the gearing broke. Private Warwick was crushed to a pulp and Private Kern was fatally hurt.

MOSHER'S VICTIMS COMPLAIN

Receiver MacFarland's Methods Not Acceptable to the Smaller Creditors.

THEY WILL MEET TODAY TO PROTEST

Alleged Crookedness in Connection with the Transfer of Property Involved in the Failure—Numerous Suits Filed—When the Deeds Were Made.

LINCOLN, Neb., April 17.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—A meeting of the smaller creditors of the defunct Capital National bank has been called to meet at rooms 48 and 84 of the Richards block tomorrow evening to protest against what is termed the unjustness of Receiver MacFarland toward the depositors and holders of certificates of deposits. It is claimed that although months have elapsed since the failure of the bank the mystery surrounding the failure is as dark as ever and that Receiver MacFarland insists that depositors shall give up their certificates without so much as the scratch of a pen to show they ever had a cent in the bank.

In answer to these complaints the receiver claims that he is only complying with the law and that no other course is open to him, and that he has no authority to give a receipt to the depositor who surrenders his certificate and that he is issuing receiver's certificates as fast as his duties will permit him to examine the proofs in support of the claim.

Some very interesting affidavits are being filed in the district court in regard to the manner in which Mosher and Outcault disposed of their property on January 23, the day after the failure of the Capital National bank. On that day several large blocks of property were transferred to friends and business associates, and in defense of the action it was explained that the transfers had really been made months before, but that the deeds had never been placed on record. County Clerk Woods filed an affidavit this morning to the effect that although purported to be dated some time in December, the ink on the dates and signatures was fresh and damp when filed on the morning of January 23. He swears that his attention was especially called to this fact by F. M. Hall. The civil suits which have been commenced in district court against Mosher, Outcault and their "preferred creditors" are becoming more numerous every week, and are attracting an interest second only to the criminal prosecution of Mosher in the federal courts.

Sandbagged an Auburn Man.

AUBURN, Neb., April 17.—[Special to THE BEE.]—Joe C. Nichols, proprietor of one of the barber shops in this city, was sandbagged last night about 8 o'clock within a block of his home. He was met by two men who parted and let him pass between them, and just after he had passed them one of the men with a back stroke hit him on the head with a sandbag which felled him to the ground. He managed to reach his home, but how, he has not the slightest recollection. His wife, noticing something wrong, called in one of the neighbors, when they soon roused him. Nothing was disturbed on his person and it is supposed the rascals were frightened away by the approach of someone as it was very early in the evening and in the heart of the city.

Chance for Ambitious Young Men.

FULLERTON, Neb., April 17.—[Special to THE BEE.]—Congressman Melkiejohn has given notice that a competitive examination of candidates for appointments to the United States military academy will be held by a board of examiners at Norfolk Wednesday, May 10, commencing at 9 o'clock a. m.

The candidates must be bona fide residents of the congressional district and between the ages of 17 and 22 years, unmarried, at least five feet in height and free from any deformity, disease or infirmity which would render them ineligible for military service.

The cadet will be appointed and the alternate nominated strictly on educational and physical qualifications, according to the standing reported by the Board of Examiners. The academical examination will include reading, writing, orthography, arithmetic, grammar, geography and history and each candidate will be subject to a rigid medical examination.

Damaged by Wind.

CLAY CENTER, Neb., April 17.—[Special to THE BEE.]—The very strong wind which was blowing this morning from the northwest, suddenly changing to the southwest, leveled quite a number of wind mill towers in this vicinity.

The large hotel building now in course of construction was swerved about three inches on the foundation. No one was injured.

HASTINGS, Neb., April 17.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—A very hard wind storm came up this morning at 6 o'clock and lasted half an hour. It proceeded in a northeasterly direction and was much more severe further south than in Hastings. Wind mills were blown down and one house is reported wrecked.

Smooth Lincoln Burglars.

LINCOLN, Neb., April 17.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—Hon. John Fitzgerald reported to the police today that during Saturday night thieves entered his suburban residence in this city and stole personal property to the value of about $1,500. The robbery was one of the most daring perpetrated in Lincoln, for although there were nearly a dozen people in the house the burglars ransacked every room and even searched the pockets in the clothing beside the beds of the sleeping men.

Nebraska Fires.

PLAINVIEW, Neb., April 17.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—A fire in the west part of town this afternoon called out the bucket brigade. A stable belonging to Seim & Boyens was consumed. Loss about $150.

BEATRICE, Neb., April 17.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—During a severe wind storm today a barn in the suburbs of the city caught fire and much work was required to save adjoining buildings.

Cedar Creek Saloon Robbed.

CEDAR CREEK, Neb., April 17.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—Burglars entered George Schulen's saloon last night, stealing a lot of bottled goods and cigars.

Stock for South Omaha.

PLAINVIEW, Neb., April 17.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—Eight carloads of stock left this place this evening for South Omaha.

SHENANDOAH'S SENSATION.

Dr. Whiting and Prof. Carroll Engaged in a Spirited Controversy.

SHENANDOAH, Ia., April 17.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—This place is wrestling with a sensation of unusual dimensions. The parties to it are Dr. E. C. Whiting and Prof. A. B. Carroll, principal of the city schools. Some time ago Mrs. Carroll was ill and Dr. Whiting was called to treat her. She alleges that Whiting made improper proposals to her and undertook to have criminal relations with her and last week the grand jury indicted the doctor. The doctor strenuously denies the accusation and his friend, C. S. Keenan, has demanded that Prof. Carroll be discharged from the schools on the ground that he had used improper language before the children and also that he had slandered Dr. Whiting.

The board met and decided that the difficulty existing between Prof. Carroll and Dr. Whiting was purely a personal matter and that the school board had no jurisdiction to enquire into it. The board was promptly ordered by the district court in a mandamus proceeding to try Prof. Carroll on the charges and set tomorrow as the day to begin.

State Superintendent Knoepfler was appealed to to interpret the meaning of the order of the court and to direct the board as to what matters it shall go into on the trial. President Mentzer of the state board received a letter from the state superintendent this afternoon informing him that the board must try and decide the complaint of Mr. Keenan, but the manner of conducting the trial and the admission of testimony is entirely in the power of the school board. The board cannot compel witnesses to testify and is not obliged to take the testimony of anyone whose evidence it desires to exclude.

Mysterious Iowa Tragedy.

DES MOINES, Ia., April 17.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—Michael Smith, a Rock Island engineer running from Des Moines to Grand Junction, is lying at Cottage hospital in a precarious condition with a bullet hole through his temple. The tragedy occurred about 3 o'clock this morning in rooms occupied by Mr. Smith and family. The shooting is surrounded with mystery, no one appearing to know whether Smith shot himself or was shot by some person to the authorities unknown. Members of the family refuse to talk. The injured man claims a man did the shooting, but refuses to divulge his name. He may recover, but will likely lose his eyesight.

Car Thieves Caught.

CLINTON, Ia., April 17.—For some months systematic robberies of freight cars of the Chicago & Northwestern railway has been going on here. Five employes of the road have been arrested on a charge of feloniously breaking and entering the cars of the railroad at this point. The culprits are John Lund, Ben F. Monroe, Joseph R. Witcher, John Seeley and C. E. Inman. They waived examinations and were put under bonds of $1,000 each. The evidence is strong against them. The articles stolen were of all sorts.

Moving Wartburg College.

CLINTON, Ia., April 17.—Favorable action was taken today by the German Lutheran synod covering fifteen states, now in biennial session here, with regard to removing Wartburg college at Waverly, Ia., to this city. Final action is not yet taken, but it is practically assured. By it Clinton gets college buildings to the amount of $75,000 with nearly 500 students a publishing house employing over thirty persons and over 100 permanent residents.

Will Have a Military Course.

SIOUX CITY, Ia., April 17.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—The Episcopal diocese of Iowa will build a new school for boys in northern Iowa with a military course. The location will be determined at the council to be held in Cedar Rapids next month. The question of dividing the diocese of Iowa so as to relieve Bishop Perry of Davenport will also be discussed. If a division is not agreed to an assistant bishop will be appointed.

Coffin Tendered a Reception.

FORT DODGE, Ia., April 17.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—The railway men of this city this evening tendered an elaborate banquet to Hon. L. S. Coffin, on his return home from Washington. Mr. Coffin is the father of the movement to compel railway companies to use safety appliances for the protection of employes. The railway employes of Iowa are urging Mr. Coffin for the republican nomination for governor next fall.

Destroyed an Iowa Brewery.

DAVENPORT, Ia., April 17.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—Early this morning the malt house of Zeiler Bros'. brewery here caught fire from the dry kiln and burned with several thousand bushels of malt and barley. One of the proprietors was asleep in the upper story, and barely escaped hanging outside to a window sill till he was reached with a ladder. The loss is $16,000, insurance $28,000.

Her Injuries Paid For.

CEDAR RAPIDS, Ia., April 17.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—In the case of Ann R. Fleagle against the city of Cedar Rapids for $5,000 damages for injuries received by falling on a defective sidewalk, the jury returned a verdict today for half the amount.

Iowa Ministers in Session.

CEDAR RAPIDS, Ia., April 17.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—The semi-annual meeting of the Methodist ministers of the Cedar Rapids district is being held in this city with nearly all the ministers of the district in attendance.

ANOTHER AUSTRALIAN WHIPPED.

It Took Billy Smith Two Rounds to Do Up Tom Williams Last Night.

CONEY ISLAND, N. Y., April 17.—Two interesting events were pulled off at the Athletic club this evening. The first was between Johnny Van Heest and Danny Russell. Russell was outclassed, and, although game and willing to take punishment, was put out in the third round.

The second bout, between Tom Williams of Australia, and "Mysterious" Billy Smith of Boston, was a corker, and of the hurricane order. Although but two rounds were fought, both men were badly punished. Smith won the fight in the second round, and it was hard to tell which was the worst fixed up, he or his unconscious antagonist.

Smith will next fight Jack Dempsey to a finish.

BLOODY WORK OF A CONVICT.

He Kills Two Prisoners and Cuts a Number of Others in Auburn.

AUBURN, N. Y., April 17.—John Johnson, a colored convict, ran amuck with a sharp knife in the broom shop of the prison this morning. He stabbed to the heart Charles Peck, fatally cut Daniel Britton in the stomach, severely slashed several other convicts striking right and left, and would have killed Keeper Mitchell but for the fact that the knife blade broke before reaching him. He was finally cowed by a revolver and locked up. The act is said to have been caused by a grudge which he had against a number of convicts.

Movements of Ocean Steamers, April 17.

At Lizard—Passed—Gallia, from New York.

At Gibraltar—Arrived—Kaiser Wilhelm II, from New York.

At Scilly—Passed—Noordland, from New York.

At Havre—Arrived—La Bretagne, from New York.

At Philadelphia—Arrived—British Prince, from Liverpool.

WEATHER FORECASTS.

It Will Be Fair and Slightly Cooler in the State Today.

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 17.—Forecasts for Tuesday: For Nebraska—Fair; westerly winds; slightly cooler.

For Iowa—Occasional local showers; winds generally southerly; warmer in central and eastern portions.

For the Dakotas—Fair, except possibly local showers in extreme eastern portions of North Dakota; variable winds, becoming westerly; slightly cooler, except in eastern portions.

Local Record.

OFFICE OF THE WEATHER BUREAU, OMAHA, April 17.—Omaha record of temperature and rainfall, compared with corresponding day of past four years:

	1893.	1892.	1891.	1890.
Maximum temperature	76°	57°	72°	66°
Minimum temperature	42°	36°	54°	40°
Average temperature	59°	52°	58°	53°
Precipitation	.00	.02	.00	.00

Statement showing the condition of temperature and precipitation at Omaha for the day and since March 1, 1893:

Normal temperature	50°
Excess for the day	9°
Deficiency since March 1	203°
Normal precipitation	.10 inch
Deficiency for the day	.10 inch
Deficiency since March 1	1.23 inch

GEORGE E. HUNT, Local Forecast Official.

THEY STRUCK AT NOON

Five Hundred Union Pacific Iron Workers Walked Out Yesterday.

COULD GET NO OTHER SATISFACTION

Officials Refused to Comply with Demands for a Nine-Hour Day.

NO DEMONSTRATION MARKED THE EVENT

Striking Workmen Walk Quietly Away and Wait for the Result.

REVIEW OF THE EXISTING DIFFERENCES

Causes of the Trouble as Discussed by Workmen and Officials—Developments at Other Points on the System—Details of the Strike.

The whistle that sounded the noon hour at the Union Pacific shops yesterday was the signal for the beginning of the most extensive strike that has occurred in this city since 1884. The sound had scarcely ceased when 500 employes of the shops gathered their tools, blouses and dinner buckets together and left the shops, where many of them had labored for a decade or more, in defense of what they believed to be their just and equitable rights.

The strike was on the part of the iron workers of the shops, and as the several departments, including the machinist, boiler makers, blacksmiths, molders and patternmakers, mingled in the swarm of workers going to their dinners, there was little or no demonstration, except that now and then some overzealous striker would let out a yell which might have been taken for a paean of victory or exultation that a day off had been secured by those who were high in authority among them. They left the employ of the Union Pacific in vindication of what they believe to be an inherent principle of right, the right to a voice in who should be employed in the several departments of the shops and the time when such employment should take place, and the circumstances of the next few days will prove the wisdom or folly of their plans.

No Excitement Noticeable.

The carpenters, painters, car repairers and car inspectors went to their several lodging houses or remained eating their noonday meals in the shops, showing little or no concern in what was being done by their comrade workers in iron.

Of course, the action of the strikers was discussed in all its bearings, but the more conservative men in the shops counseled moderation and the counsels were universally respected by those who are not members of the Federated Machinery Constructors,