RUN TO COVER BY HIS WIFE

Richard Murphy of Lincoln in an Embarrassing Position.

BOASTED OF HIS INTIMACY WITH A GIRL

He Thought He Was Foxy, but it Is Different Now—Arrested and Jailed with His Female Companion.

LINCOLN, Dec. 14.—[Special to THE BEE.]—Something of a sensation was created this morning when it became known that some time after midnight the police, assisted by the county attorney and an indignant woman, had succeeded in capturing one of the prominent citizens in a most compromising situation, and that the sequel is likely to be spread upon the records of both the criminal and the divorce courts. The man in question is Richard Murphy, the well known contractor and proprietor of the Capital City Planing mills on N street. He has been suspected of maintaining friendly relations with a young woman of the town for some time and according to the story told the police by his wife he has openly boasted of his conduct to her and defied her to discover the identity of the young woman or the location of the comfortable little furnished flat where he had established her. In this, it seems, he was mistaken, for his wife not only discovered the woman's identity but found out where she had been in the habit of receiving the visits of the recreant spouse.

After gathering her evidence Mrs. Murphy secured the attendance of Deputy County Attorney Collins, Chief of Police Cooper and Detective Malone. The quartet sallied forth and soon located the rooms. The door was burst open and when a light was struck the husband and the girl stood before the callers in sleeping attire. They were taken to the police station and locked up for the night. This morning they were released on bail and the case continued until tomorrow morning at 9 o'clock. The girl in the case is more than an ordinarily fine looking specimen of her class, but in spite of her modest dress and demeanor she has a record already well known to the police and has contributed more than one dollar to the cause of education by way of fines for prostitution.

Investment of Idle Money.

The question of investment of idle money in the permanent school fund has presented itself to the state treasurer and the other executive officers of the state in a new and unexpected manner. At a meeting of the Board of Educational Lands and Funds held yesterday Treasurer Bartley asked that a resolution be passed endorsing his action in purchasing about $100,000 of general fund warrants with money belonging to the permanent school fund.

No action was taken, but at another meeting held this afternoon the board declined to either endorse the treasurer's action or to give him written instructions to continue to purchase warrants. At the meeting of the board this afternoon the matter was discussed at length. The point at issue between the treasurer and the other members of the board, briefly stated, is this:

Under the provisions of constitution as interpreted by the supreme court and the law enacted by the legislature of 1891, the money belonging to the permanent school fund may be invested in state warrants. Governor Crounse takes the position that the treasury needs no further authority to purchase warrants.

Treasurer Bartley Disagrees.

Treasurer Bartley believes that the Board of Educational Lands and Funds has sole control over the permanent school funds and that he has no right to invest them either in bonds or warrants without the written authority from the board. The meeting today adjourned without definite action. Treasurer Bartley then wrote the following letter, which will be submitted to the board tomorrow:

TO GOVERNOR CROUNSE, CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATIONAL LANDS AND FUNDS: Dear Sir—Section 1, article viii of the constitution of the state, provides that the governor, secretary of state, treasurer, attorney general and commissioner of public lands and buildings shall, under the direction of the legislature, constitute a board of commissioners for the investment of the school funds in such manner as may be prescribed by law. In the Compiled Statutes of 1887, chapter lxxx, section 1 of article i, provision is made for the commissioners created by section 1, article viii of the constitution, to invest the school fund. Section 25 of article i, chapter lxxx of the said statutes of 1887, says that the said board of commissioners above referred to, shall, at regular meetings, make the necessary orders for the investment of the funds. The legislature of this state in 1891 amended section 25 of article i, chapter lxxx, statutes of 1887.

Present Provisions.

It now provides that said board of commissioners shall at regular meetings provide for the investment of said funds and in addition to United States and state securities and registered county bonds, it makes state warrants proper securities. The legislature, in my opinion, could not relieve the commissioners of their responsibility and I do not believe it was its intention to do so in chapter xlviii, session laws of 1891.

My idea is that the legislature, when the commissioners at a regular meeting passed upon certain securities, including state warrants, and approved them, made it the duty of the treasurer to invest the funds in the securities as approved. The board of commissioners should, in my judgment, do three things. First, it should ascertain that there is a levy behind the warrants presented. Second, it should see that they are regularly issued and on a proper appropriation. Third, that the party presenting them is the rightful owner. Having ascertained these facts it is then the duty of the commissioners under the law to direct the treasurer by resolution to purchase the warrants. To do otherwise is to give the treasurer a privilege which I do not think he is entitled to. In view of the action taken by the board today in refusing my request for authority to place the warrants now on hand in the school fund, I shall be obliged to discontinue the purchase of warrants until the question is decided by the supreme court, which I trust will be done in a few days. Your obedient servant,

J. W. BARTLEY, State Treasurer.

Treasurer Bartley will employ counsel and a friendly suit will be instituted before the supreme court Tuesday.

Will Repair the Workshops.

At a meeting of the Board of Public Lands and Buildings held late this afternoon it was decided to at once repair the stone workshops at the penitentiary, which burned late in October. The architect estimates that the burned buildings can be restored at a cost not to exceed $6,200. The walls are still standing and are in good condition. Warden Beemer was appointed superintendent of construction upon his agreement to serve without compensation. The state will furnish the material and pay the wages of one or two skilled laborers. The unskilled labor will be donated to the state by W. H. Dorgan, the prison contractor. It is believed by the board that there is money enough in the repair fund voted by the last legislature to pay for the material. Warden Beemer was authorized to advertise for bids for the material and work will begin at once.

Will Sell the Saline Lands.

The Board of Educational Lands and Funds has decided to issue the deeds to the lessees of the state saline lands. The last legislature authorized the sale of these lands to the holders of the leases. The lands are located near the city of Lincoln and most of them are, and have been for years, occupied with extensive manufacturing plants. The lake at Burlington beach covers a great many hundred acres of these lands. They were appraised during the summer by the county commissioners, the valuation placed upon them being merely nominal.

Since the lands were appraised considerable doubt has arisen as to the validity of the law passed by the last legislature. There has also been a question in the mind of Governor Crounse as to whether he would be allowed to exercise any discretion in the event that he deemed the appraisement too low. The governor has finally come to the conclusion that he had no option but to sign the deeds as presented to him. The attorney general has also written an opinion, in which he states that the law as passed by the last legislature is perfectly valid. So there are hardly any doubts remaining that the parties who now hold the leases will be able to walk up to the state house and get deed to lands, worth all the way from $500 to $1,500 per acre, at a mere nominal cost.

Disposition of the Lands.

Originally Nebraska was entitled to select from the public lands within the boundaries of the state 46,954 acres of saline lands. At the time that the national government created the state it was generally believed that these saline lands would be very valuable to the state, and that the manufacture of salt would ultimately become a great industry. For this reason Hon. J. Sterling Morton attempted to pre-empt a part of the lands near the present site of the city of Lincoln, and the contest between himself and the authorities over the possession of the lands is yet fresh in the minds of the oldest inhabitants.

The state spent large sums of money in an endeavor to establish the fact that Nebraska salt would supply the entire country, but all efforts only confirmed the fact that the deposit of saline matter was too slight to warrant profitable results. In the general distribution of the lands 19,000 acres were sold to private individuals in accordance with the act of the legislature in 1869. Three hundred and twenty acres went to the State university, 1,280 acres to the State model farm and 12,800 acres to the State Normal school.

The lands as yet undisposed of amount to 11,124 acres, nearly all in Lancaster county. Of this amount 6,211 acres are in township 10, range 6, just west of the city of Lincoln.

Will Mandamus the Board.

The lady managers for the Home for the Friendless will carry their grievance against the State Board of Public Lands and Buildings into the courts. They have employed Judge Broady, who will apply to the district court for a writ of mandamus to compel the board to approve its vouchers. The papers will probably be filed before tonight. The case is likely to go to the supreme court, whichever way the district court decides.

Growth of the State Militia.

The governor and his staff will visit Omaha next Monday night for the purpose of mustering the Thurston guards into the Nebraska National guards. This will bring the number of companies in the state troops up to twenty. Two old companies were recently mustered out and their places filled by the company at North Platte and the new Omaha company will complete the regimental organization. The adjutant general is anxious to form four more companies in order to complete the battalion organization under the new rules. This would give the state two regiments of twelve companies each and divide the state troops into four battalions. The adjutant general will lend every encouragement for the organization of four additional companies. The state has sufficient supplies on hand to fully equip the new companies with uniforms, arms, tents, flags, blankets and in fact everything necessary to a complete military equipment.

Brockway Again in Limbo.

O. H. Brockway, the Omaha traveling man who wants to get off the earth, but can't, is again in the city jail on the charge of vagrancy. He was taken from the asylum a couple of weeks since and left the city. He returned yesterday and last night became so troublesome that the police were obliged to call him in. He has become fond of going about the town and playfully threatening to kill a few score of his most intimate friends and there is room for the belief that he is likely to attempt violence if not restrained. He is crazy from the effects of continued opium eating, and is evidently unable to take care of himself. At present he is a white elephant on the hands of the city authorities and they will either dispose of him by sending him to the county jail as a vagrant or bind him over to keep the peace and in lieu of bail, which he will hardly be able to furnish, send him to jail.

Climbed Through the Transom.

James France and a fellow named Blake gave the police a lively chase last night a few minutes before midnight. They had pried open a transom over the door of one of the apartments over Ivison's saloon and thus gained access to the interior. While they were searching for booty their presence was discovered by several colored frequenters of the place and an alarm given. Officer Mitchell responded and captured the burglars, but before the patrol wagon arrived Blake escaped, carrying with him two overcoats. France was lodged in the station and the officers scoured the town for Blake, but did not succeed in running him down. This morning one of the stolen overcoats was found on Q street and brought to the station by Officer Morrissey. The stolen property belonged to Sam Dunbar.

Arrested for Housebreaking.

Frank Feltz and William Howard were arrested shortly after 5 o'clock for housebreaking. They entered the home of a woman living on C street during her absence. She returned unexpectedly and discovered them ransacking the house. Policeman Mitchell, living next door, happened to be at home and he captured the men after an exciting chase.

Eli Grubb and W. H. Rairdon were arrested this evening for an assault on a lady stopping at a hotel near the B. & M. depot. The lady ran screaming into the street, while the men pursued her. They were at once placed under arrest. The woman, who was a stranger, boarded the train for Omaha and her name could not be learned.

S. A. Shilling, the well known druggist of this city, was arrested this evening for alleged violation of the excise law.

Lincoln in Brief.

A bicycle stolen one night last week from B. W. Wilson at 1440 Pawnee street, was found this morning in the alley back of the residence of A. H. Masterman at 1509 E street, where it had been left by unknown parties during last night.

James McDonald was arrested this afternoon for stealing three winter coats from Miss D. A. Wilson, at 1447 Q street. He had sold the coats to a servant girl for $1, and this discovery led to his apprehension.

For some reason there is a marked revival of the feeling in Lincoln that the chances of J. D. Calhoun's success in the postoffice contest are improving. No one seems to be able to locate the parties who have received the encouraging news from Washington.

There is a pretty sure prospect that the necessary $2,000 will be subscribed to insure Lincoln's admission to the Western league of ball players next season. The subscriptions now amount to $1,650, leaving but $350 to be subscribed, and T. J. Hickey, who has the matter in charge, says the full amount will be in within twenty-four hours.

FOR THE GRAND ISLAND BANK.

Tobe Castor Indulges in Just a Little Nepotism for a Change.

LINCOLN, Dec. 14.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—It was learned here tonight that Edgar M. Westervelt had been appointed receiver of the Citizens National bank of Grand Island at the instance of Tobias Castor.

Westerveldt is employed in the claims department of the B. & M. He is a son-in-law of Castor. Inquiry among bank officials here indicates that if he ever had any experience in banking business they never heard of it. B. & M. officials say he has been in their employ for a number of years, is a young man of good business qualities, energetic, quiet, gentlemanly and a thoroughly good accountant.

Must Pay for His Pleasure.

GRAND ISLAND, Dec. 14.—[Special to THE BEE.]—The case of William Gibson, accused of grand larceny, was tried yesterday. About seven weeks ago William Gibson and Paul Hachten suddenly disappeared. At the same time $300 was missing from the safe in James Foley's saloon, where Gibson had been employed as bartender. The pair were caught in Salt Lake City, brought back here and confined in jail. Hatchen had his trial last week and was acquitted. The jury in the case of Gibson, however, returned a verdict of guilty. The penalty is from one to seven years. Judge Thompson has not sentenced William yet.

Stromsburg A. O. U. W. Entertain.

STROMSBURG, Neb., Dec. 14.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—Stromsburg lodge No. 47, Ancient Order of United Workmen, gave a banquet at the hall last evening. About 100 Workmen, their wives and friends participated. Turkey and oysters were the order of the occasion. Master Workman G. S. Osborne acted as master of ceremonies. Short speeches were made by Hon. H. M. Marquis, Hon. J. B. Stewart, Rev. Leander Morrison and others. It was one of the greatest social events in the history of the order at this place.

Death of David Erb.

MCCOOL JUNCTION, Neb., Dec. 14.—[Special to THE BEE.]—David Erb, the wealthy German farmer living west of here, who, about one week ago, became insane, died yesterday. Some think it was from natural causes and others that it might have been from the effects of morphine he had been taking.

VERY NEAR THE SCAFFOLD

State Rests Its Case Against One of the Akeson Murderers.

MANY WITNESSES NOT EXAMINED

Prosecuting Attorney Declares that the Testimony Introduced Against Harry Hill is Sufficient to Secure His Conviction as Charged.

PLATTSMOUTH, Dec. 14.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—The rush at the district court room was as great as ever at this morning's session of the Hill murder trial. The entire forenoon was spent in taking testimony. Mrs. Akeson, wife of the murdered man, was first called, and her testimony was damaging to the defendant, Hill. An impressive scene was created when the aged woman walked from the witness stand and, pointing to Hill, amid a flow of tears stated positively that he was one of the men who did the shooting at the Akeson farm.

Mr. Gering's cross-examination was thorough, but it failed almost entirely to disturb her story.

Saw the Fatal Shot Fired.

Tom Akeson, the dead farmer's son, was next called. His testimony was perhaps of more importance to the state than that to be given by any other witness, as he was the only person in the room when Mat Akeson received his mortal wound. Tom was not able to positively swear as to which man did the shooting, but this fact is not considered as weakening the case in any manner. He stated that both men had revolvers and that both weapons were fired.

Gus Berg, a hired man at the Akeson farm, was the next witness. His testimony was corroborative of the testimony given by Mrs. Akeson and Tom, and he positively identified Hill as one of the men who participated in the tragedy.

Judge Chapman has shown a disposition to rush the trial as much as possible and it was after 12:30 o'clock before the morning session was adjourned. The state in all has forty-one witnesses, but the county attorney expects to have all of the state's evidence submitted before tomorrow noon. The defense will have but very little in the way of testimony, and it is fully expected that Hill's fate will be known by Saturday evening.

Drawing the Lines Close.

Peter Lemon, another of the hired men, and who received a bullet in the knee during the general fusilade, was the first witness called in the afternoon session. His story corroborated the testimony given by Mrs. Akeson, Tom and Berg. These four were the only eyewitnesses to the killing.

Coroner Curuh was next placed upon the stand, and it was he who produced the bullet which was found in Matt Akeson's clothing after it had passed through his body.

James Malone, chief of the Lincoln detective bureau, testified to having arrested both Hill and Benwell in Lincoln on the Friday evening after the murder. He produced the revolver taken from Hill at the police station. It was a 38-caliber weapon, with every chamber loaded, and the bullet which caused Akeson's death exactly fitted the weapon.

Harry Race, editor of the Weeping Water Eagle, testified that he visited the Akeson farm immediately after the tragedy. He exhibited a bullet which he found in the floor, and it also fitted the revolver taken from Hill.

Mrs. Ida Gentry, stepdaughter of Matt Akeson, was recalled and produced the bullets which she found in the dining room and kitchen after the shooting.

State Rests Its Case.

The state still had some twenty-two remaining witnesses who were unexamined, but as the state's case could hardly be made stronger and as the case promised to continue over into next week County Attorney Travis concluded to rest.

It was then almost 5 o'clock, and Judge Chapman adjourned court until tomorrow morning at 10 o'clock. The session tomorrow will open with the presentation of testimony on behalf of the defense. Just what the defense will seek to show is yet a mystery, as the prisoner's counsel has steadfastly refused to divulge his plans.

Those most ardent in favor of the conviction insist that Hill can really have no defense worthy of material consideration. It is thought by many, nevertheless, that the defendant's counsel will ask for clemency on the plea of dipsomania. A plea of temporary mental unsoundness is another ground advanced by the theorists, but either plan is doubtless conjecture. The defense will introduce about ten witnesses, most of whom are from Omaha and former acquaintances of Hill when he was driving a hack for the Stephenson stables. The defense also has several affidavits taken at Washington, Denver and other points and it is intimated that on these Hill will mostly rely.

Hill's Desperate Position.

In view of the general strength of the state's testimony Hill's defense must of necessity be a strong one to secure anything short of the death penalty. The fact that none of the four eyewitnesses were able to positively testify that it was Hill and not Benwell who fired the fatal shot is not feared in the least by the county attorney as meaning that the verdict of the jury will be other than guilty in the first degree. On the other hand and in view of the testimony that both men carried revolvers and fired them promiscuously, is regarded by the county attorney as simply strengthening the prosecution against Benwell, who, until the present proceedings, was generally regarded as being an accessory, and not an actual participant in the firing.

Hill's exhibition of courage has been wonderful during the entire trial. Not once did he show any evidence of weakness, and the stolid look on his countenance betrayed no change.

Been in Prison Before.

He has evidently been in prison before, for when a representative of THE BEE called on him this evening at the county jail he remonstrated vigorously with one of the guards for objecting to his talking to visitors, and insisted that it was any prisoner's distinct privilege to receive visits from reporters whenever he saw fit.

He gave his age as about 30, but refused at first to tell any of his past life except that he was on the police force at the national capital in 1888-9. He stated—and it seems to strengthen the theory that the plea of dipsomania will be introduced in his behalf—that he had twice taken the "cure" for drunkenness in the east within the last four years, but that both times he had taken to excessive drinking afterwards. He complained bitterly against the manner in which the trial had proceeded and stated that it was grossly unfair. He further insinuated that the court had not done him justice in admitting irrelevant testimony over the objections of his counsel. Just then his counsel put in an appearance at the jail to have a conference with the prisoner and THE BEE correspondent was thus forced to desist in his interrogations.

The state's case is unusually strong and the general opinion is that the verdict will be guilty in the first degree.

Will Have a Public Library.

TECUMSEH, Dec. 14.—[Special to THE BEE.]—This city is to have a public library and reading room. An ordinance to that effect has been passed by the city council and signed by the mayor. The council is authorized to levy a tax of 1 mill on taxable property of the city to establish and maintain the enterprise. For five years past no public reading room has been in existence here, as the one running at that time was sustained by donations and not enough was offered to continue it.

Brunswick A. O. U. W. Organized.

BRUNSWICK, Neb., Dec. 14.—[Special to THE BEE.]—J. E. Buttler, grand lecturer of the Ancient Order of United Workmen of Lincoln, organized a lodge here with a large membership. It is named Brunswick lodge No. 312.

West Point News Notes.

WEST POINT, Dec. 14.—[Special to THE BEE.]—Mr. William E. Radier and Miss Christina Borgelt were married Tuesday at the residence of the bride's parents in Monterey township, in the presence of many friends. The event was appropriately celebrated, refreshments of all kinds being served. The newly wedded couple will make their home in this city. They are well known in this county and many congratulations are extedded to them.

William Mack has invented a combination foot rule. He sent a model of his invention to the patent office at Washington and made application for a patent.

The mortgage sale of Mrs. Artman's millinery stock took place Monday and the stock was purchased by the mortgagee, W. E. Krause, for $275. It was afterward sold to Miss Alice Schairer, who opened the store for business Tuesday.

Mr. Adolph Zwimpfler and parents left for their old home in Switzerland Sunday. Adolph is a hard worker and has many friends who regret his departure.

Mr. Frank Drahos and Miss Helena Metz were united in marriage by Rev. G. A. Mueller at the residence of the bride Tuesday evening at 5 o'clock. Many friends were invited and refreshments were served.

DEPOSITORS WERE ANGRY.

Failure of the Bank of Rushville Causes Serious Trouble.

RUSHVILLE, Neb., Dec. 14.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—Matters in connection with the closing of the Bank of Rushville assumed a decidedly warlike and sensational aspect late last night. All day yesterday depositors and other interested parties were excitedly discussing the situation and threats of personal violence toward May and Williams, the special administrators, were openly and freely indulged in. In the evening a crowd of the indignant depositors and May and Williams and several of their friends got together at one of the saloons, when a general row, consisting of many threats and loud words and one small knockdown became the order. Nearly all the participants were heavily armed and had there not been much prompt and successful work at peace making done there would unquestionably have been a pretty general gun play.

As it was, Messrs. May and Williams were hurried out of the room and out of town as fast as a livery team could carry them. Since the death of his partner, H. A. Chamberlain, May has wanted to get possession of what money he had in the business and sever his connection with its affairs, and the depositors seem to think he has taken unfair means to bring it about, and hence are very much enraged. It is understood the bank owes depositors nearly $26,000.

Soldiers Have Trouble.

FORT ROBINSON, Neb., Dec. 14.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—Sergeant McDonald of troop F, Ninth cavalry, and Private McCampbell of the Ninth cavalry got into an altercation today, resulting in the sergeant firing three pistol shots at McCampbell, one shot causing a flesh wound, the others going through his clothing. McCampbell had recently married the sister-in-law of McDonald, and separated from her two weeks later. The men have been enemies since. The sergeant is in the guard house.

Convicted the Merchant.

HASTINGS, Dec. 14.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—John Weingart, the Hastings merchant arrested for maintaining a nuisance in the shape of a cesspool in the business part of town, after the Board of Health had ordered it abated, was fined $15 and costs today. The case will be taken to the district court to furnish a test. The increasing vigilance of the Board of Health is due to the recent diphtheria scare.

Death of a South Dakota Educator.

ROSEBUD, S. D., Dec. 14.—[Special to THE BEE.]—Henry F. Eaton, government school teacher at Corn Creek school on this reservation, died Sunday morning, after a few days sickness. He was the ablest teacher in the Rosebud corps and was generally liked. He was educated at Ripon college and spent several years teaching in South Dakota. His home was at Wentworth, S. D. He leaves a widow and two children.

VAPARAISO SHOOTING SCRAPE.

W. O. Wright Injured by Charles Basye in that City.

VALPARAISO, Neb., Dec. 14.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—About 10 o'clock this morning Charles Basye, a carriage maker, shot W. O. Wright with a shotgun, the charge passing through the right arm just above the wrist and lodging in the right side of the abdomen. The trouble occurred over the arrest of Basye on complaint of Wright for allowing his building to be used as a house of ill-fame. Physicians do not think the wound fatal. Basye gave himself up and in an hour was on his way to Wahoo in charge of two constables.

Masonic Grand Chapter Adjourns.

YORK, Neb., Dec. 14.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—The grand chapter of Royal Arch Masons closed its meeting here today. Officers of the grand council of Loyal and Select Masons were elected as follows: Grand master, J. H. Foxworthy; grand secretary, W. B. Bowen; grand treasurer, Colonel B. C. Crabb; grand sentinel, Mr. King. Officers elected for the grand chapter of Royal Arch Masons are: Albert W. Crites, grand high priest; Frank E. Bullard, deputy grand master; Charles J. Phelps, grand king; Charles C. Writtenhouse, grand scribe; W. R. Bowen, grand recorder; L. D. Richards, grand treasurer; Robert H. Henry, captain of the host; John J. Merser, grand principal sojourner; James Dinsmore, grand loyal arch captain; George E. Whitemin, grand master of the third vail; Jacob King, sentinel. The meeting next year will be held in Omaha.

Members of the P. E. O. Entertain.

HOLDREGE, Neb., Dec. 14.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—Chapter H, P. E. O., held an open meeting here tonight. This being the annual meeting a fine literary and musical program was rendered by the ladies of the chapter. One of the especial features was the essay on "Women's Clubs" by Mrs. Cornell and "Literary Gossip" by Mrs. Breech. The meeting was held in the Presbyterian church, which was crowded. Taken all together this was the finest entertainment of its kind that ever was given here.

IN THE IRON TRADE.

Purchases of Rails for 1894 Promise to Equal Last Year's Demands.

CLEVELAND, O., Dec. 14.—The Iron Trade Review this week says: The beginning of rail purchases for 1894 is the feature of the week in iron and steel. The Pennsylvania road is first to place any considerable contract, and while the 43,000 tons of eighty-five-pound rails bought are but little more than two-thirds of the last year's purchases, the expectation is that the requirements for 1894 will round up close to the total for 1893. The prices paid were $24 at the three eastern mills, among which 36,000 tons were distributed, and $25 at the single western mill in the pool. Late intimations are that western roads will make good sized purchases of rails for 1894. Only a portion of their requirements were covered by the limited contracts placed by the year, and there are reasons for expecting that compensating orders will be given for the coming twelve months.

Reports from the general market indicate a particularly quiet week in pig iron. Southern sellers are not forcing sales, in view of the condition of their order books, and melters of iron, outside of pipe foundries, report a continuance of the extreme dullness that has marked the past few months.

Stockholders' Meeting.

Union Elevator company of Omaha. Notice is hereby given that the annual meeting of the stockholders of the Union Elevator company, for the purpose of electing seven directors and such other business as may properly come before the meeting, will be held at the office of John M. Thurston Union Pacific building, Omaha, Neb., upon Monday, the 1st day of January, 1894, between the hours of 10 o'clock a. m. and 6 o'clock p. m.

ALEX MILLAR, Secretary.

Boston, December 10, 1893. D13d22td