

## A. O. U. W.

## ANNUAL MEETING OF GRAND LODGE OF MINNESOTA AND DAKOTA.

Report of the Grand Master Workman—The Order in a Flourishing Condition—Suggestions as to the Improvement of Its System of Insurance—Annual Report of the Grand Receiver and Other Officers.

The Grand Lodge A. O. U. W. of Minnesota and Dakota commenced its annual session yesterday morning in Workingmen's hall, on Wabashaw street. There was a large representation of delegates present from all parts of this state and the territory of Dakota, and great interest was manifested in the proceedings.

The day was devoted mainly to the reception of the reports of the grand officers. The report of the supreme representatives was first presented. It was simply a report of the proceedings of the national grand lodge, held in Cincinnati in June last.

## Report of the Grand Master Workman.

Following are the portions of the report of Grand Master Workman Levi that are of special interest:

Brothers: One year ago you conferred on me the unsolicited honor, the highest in your gift, of grand master. I now return to you the authority and trust you thus confided to me, hoping you will find that the duties thereby imposed, have been fulfilled. So far as I have been able, I have given careful personal attention to all the duties of the office, including correspondence; except, during the month of January, when, allied by the most grievous visitation of the Divine Workman, I was compelled, for a time, to accept the kind assistance of our grand recorder. Any delays or omissions arising during this period will, I have no doubt, be overlooked by my brothers, as you will recognize that in more senses than one, "The night cometh when no man can work."

You intrusted to my government in this grand jurisdiction, upon my accession to office sixty-nine lodges and about 2,200 members. The only accurate data from which to estimate members at that time is the amount paid on relief call No. 2, \$1,098.50 which indicates 2,197. Of these, however, No. 70, Ferguson Falls, was already substantially dead. I found it impossible to revive it, and therefore withdrew its charter. Lodges at Owatonna, Stillwater and Granite Falls were also on the verge of dissolution. The first and last have been placed, I believe, on a good working basis, and the other I hope may yet be, although it still requires help.

I now return you eighty-one lodges and about 2,600 members. Thirteen new lodges have been organized during the year, five in Minnesota and eight in Dakota. A detailed list of these lodges will be found in the report of the grand recorder. I also place before you the report of the deputy G. M. W., who organized and instituted these new lodges.

**DAKOTA.**  
The supreme lodge at its last session, having attached the territory of Dakota to this grand jurisdiction, I deemed it my duty to organize lodges therein. The work has been prosecuted with as much vigor as circumstances would permit, and appears upon the list of the new lodges added during the year.

**APPEALS.**  
Only one appeal from any subordinate lodge has been taken during the year, and in this the decision below was affirmed. Another appeal was attempted, but abandoned or settled.

The difficulty in the latter case arose out of an attempt by one brother to garnish the sick benefits of another. I now mention the matter simply because in my opinion, under no circumstances, should such an attempt be ever made, or contemplated. Sick benefits, as well as beneficiary funds, in our order, should be ever sacred to the purpose for which they are primarily intended, and authorized by our law, and be in no event subject to the payment of ordinary debts.

The order in this jurisdiction to-day is, I am satisfied, not only in numbers and financially but also in health and esprit *du corps*, in better condition than it has ever been; and with care in the selection of grand officers (including such deputy and a medical director) who will give their best efforts to the work, I see no reason why the membership of our beloved order in this grand jurisdiction could not, with entire safety, be largely increased during the coming year.

Notwithstanding the large number of new members who have come to us during the year, the record shows that there must have been several hundred brothers, who have fallen from the ranks. While this to a certain extent in all orders, associations and insurance organizations, must be so, as a rule, I do not think our loss in this regard, unexpected or too large. On the whole I am inclined to think, that we seldom lose a brother in this wise worth preserving. That means of suspension, we are frequently relieved of, and healthy lives or those over age. In such cases the attention of subordinate lodges should be called to the importance of not attempting a reinstatement, but of avoiding it whenever possible. In no case should we increase our members at the expense of our probable death rate. Our order in this jurisdiction, so far as its purposes as an insurance organization is concerned, is now I believe upon a sound, healthy basis. Its insurance is cheap, and its best. Every effort should be made to keep it so. At the same time I am not content with the present status of its social or lodge features. Why should there be such apathy in attendance upon lodge meetings and in the performance of lodge duties? I venture to say that in no other matter in which my brothers had each \$2,000 of their own money invested, requiring as this does careful and considerate attention and management, would they permit, as many of them seem willing to do, any other person, without their aid or assistance, counsel or advice, to handle and do with it as they please. Each member should feel it his duty and pleasure, to give sufficient of his time to lodge meetings, not only to insure the safety of his own insurance, but also to assist his brothers in looking after and caring for theirs. I hope some means may be speedily found to infuse this very necessary spirit into most of our subordinate lodges. Our method of insurance, which has so well stood the test of time, is certainly worthy of the little expenditure of time and money required to uphold it. There to-day exists in England at least one such order as ours, with a membership several times that of the A. O. U. W., which has lived a valued life, filled to overflowing with the smiles and joys of orphans and blessings of widows during several centuries. We are fighting in the ranks of poverty in the heart of civilization; we battle not for the glories of its pomp; our aim is higher and nobler; we strive to assist the poor and needy, to strengthen the weak and lift up those who fall; to wipe the tear from the face of sorrow; to soften affliction, and help to make life, at its saddest, bearable. Let the brothers of Minnesota, in this army, beat no retreat.

**CONSOLIDATION OF LODGES.**  
I desire at the same time and in the same

connection, to call your attention also to a principle which should be a basic factor in the organization of lodges as well as in the enforced retention of the lodge organization; that is that a strong, active lodge is an advantage to us; a weak inactive one, a disadvantage; one healthy lodge is of more value than many sick ones. When a lodge, as a body, becomes feeble, unless speedily revived, its feebleness will soon become characteristic of its individual members. Some easy and practicable method should be provided for the consolidation of lodges in the same town or city. Two lodges should never be permitted where one would answer, and some additional legislation might be advantageous looking to the disorganization of weak lodges and the direct affiliation of the members of such lodges with the officers of the grand lodge or other subordinate lodges. It may be that our law in this latter particular are already sufficient. But I desire you to consider the same. I also advise that our law be so changed that, hereafter, no subordinate lodge charter be granted to a less number than twenty charter members, each of which have never before been members of the order. That new lodges be charged the exact cost of supplies furnished by the grand lodge, and in addition, pay the grand lodge charter fee of \$100. That this fee be paid to the deputy who organizes and institutes the lodge, provided that it be required of him that he attends at least three nights after initiation and installation, instructing the new lodge in both the secret and business work of the order thoroughly.

I would suggest that probationary dispensations for the formation of lodges, or of any number less than twenty, be granted by the G. M. to be good for one year, or until the numbers have been increased to twenty; that the fee therefor be \$50, and that in case within the year the lodge has not obtained twenty members it be disbanded and the members thereof remain card members of the grand lodge. To this end sections 35 and 37, "Laws of General Application," would require amendment, as well as some others.

## DEATH LOSSES.

During the year ending Jan. 31, 1893, there have been fifteen deaths officially reported to the grand lodge as occurring within that time and one occurring prior thereto. Two deaths reported last year, were assessments Nos. 1 and 2 of 1892, were collected and paid during this year. We also paid during this year death loss for which assessment No. 18 of last year was made. The last one, so far known to us, in fact not yet officially reported, is that of Wm. R. Noble, of Franklin lodge No. 3, St. Paul. Both he and Bro. Geo. H. Hamilton, of Minneapolis lodge No. 12, who died during the year, were members in good standing of this grand lodge. They are at rest. We have paid during the year nineteen death losses. We have made and collected sixteen assessments for November, December or January, and will have none for February.

## PRESENT LIABILITY OF GRAND LODGE.

With the exception of the possible liability arising out of the Manson case hereinafter referred to, and the Noble death, there is now no liability upon the beneficiary department of the order in this jurisdiction.

## THE REPORT OF BRO. WM. CHENEY, GRAND RECORDER.

It deserves, as it will receive, your most careful and considerate attention. Showing, as it does at a glance, the present status and prosperity, and the past growth and success of the order in this jurisdiction, as well as its prospective future advancement, it is a document worthy of the able, efficient and zealous officer from whom it emanated. Very much of our past success, of our present prosperity, and of the assurance of our future well-being, is due to the very valuable and untiring efforts of our present grand recorder. Entirely familiar with the duties of his office, always ready to work *himself* for the good of the order, the business of his office has suffered no neglect at his hands. With the completion of the new beneficiary register, upon which a great deal of his time and labor has been expended, he will have brought order out of chaos. I think no Cimmerian night could have been darker than were the incomprehensible mysteries and affairs of that office when Bro. Cheney first took possession. Bro. Cheney has prepared at my request, and with considerable labor, a statement, showing the number of members in good standing in each lodge, in this jurisdiction, and the average age of each lodge, as well as the average age of the order in the jurisdiction. The average age of the order, 38.6, is one of which I feel we need not be ashamed or afraid, especially when we find the average of the new material brought into the order this year in new lodges to be 32.8.

I desire to call your special attention to the report of our

## MEDICAL DIRECTOR.

Dr. Talbot Jones. It evinces that careful, conscientious and able consideration of the important duties of his office, which have so signally marked his tenure of this position. His consideration of the importance of careful medical examinations, and the manner of their attainment, meet with my entire approbation. More especially those with regard to the manner of conducting the examination, and the payment of medical examiners, the compensation of the state medical director and restrictions he advises as to the conduct of special deputies in the organization of lodges. I desire to impress upon you the importance of increased compensation of the medical director. The one at present is paid a mere pittance.

I commend also to your careful consideration and to that of every member of the order in this grand jurisdiction, the comments of the medical director upon the dangers attending a careless or negligent attempt to increase our members at the expense of the death rate, and more especially from those dangers arising from taking into the order promiscuously or without careful scrutiny, persons whose habits, avocations or hereditary predispositions are liable, according to the best scientific and statistical lights we have, to lead to a shortening of the expectancy of life and to a consequent increased average of deaths and assessments. That portion of his report which deals with the result attained in this grand jurisdiction in the reduction to a minimum of death losses, and our comparative standing in this regard, with other grand jurisdictions of our order, and with other orders and old line life insurance companies, and his suggestions concerning the same will not fail to challenge your attention. It is certainly gratifying to me, as I know it will be to you, to note that while the percentage of rejections by the medical director has increased to 7½ per cent, the death rate per 1,000 has decreased to 6, and that we now stand in this latter particular equal to the first among our sister grand lodges and best assurance associations, and superior to most of them. As Dr. Jones' scholarly attainments in medicine entitle his suggestions to your most careful consideration, I hope each of them will receive the same at your hands.

I would advise you, by law, to take from the grand master the right to make of himself an organizer of lodges. Let him always exercise this power by deputy. You will find that it will conduce to your interests and the welfare of the order. Let him, however, be responsible for the

material his deputies bring in, for the morale, the health and the financial status of the order, and give him power in accordance with this responsibility. At the same time give him substantial assistance and support, and a sufficient fund at his disposal to command ability in deputies. On mature reflection, I am not able to agree with my worthy predecessor, that the grand master should receive a salary. I believe you will always be able to find good men willing to take the office, and do their best for the order, if you will provide simply for all proper and necessary expenditures. Let the office seek the man.

## Report of the Grand Receiver.

Herewith I have the honor to submit for your inspection this my sixth annual report of the condition of affairs in this office:

**BENEFICIARY FUND.**  
To balance on hand at last report.....\$7,463 45  
To amount received during the year.....\$4,014 00

Total.....\$11,477 45  
By vouchers paid.....\$8,500 00

Balance on hand.....\$2,977 45

**GENERAL FUND.**  
To balance on hand last report.....\$1,210 55  
To amount received during year from G. R.....4,871 52  
To amount received on deposits.....110 00

Total.....\$6,092 07  
By vouchers paid.....\$3,768 63

Balance on hand.....\$2,323 44

**RECAPITULATION.**  
To balance Feb. 1, 1892, in beneficiary fund.....\$7,463 45  
To amount to credit of same fund during year.....\$4,014 00  
To balance Feb. 1, 1892, in general fund.....1,210 55  
To amount to credit of same fund during year.....4,871 52

Total cash receipts.....\$147,175 52  
By vouchers paid B. F. \$38,500 00  
By vouchers paid G. F. \$3,768 63

Total balance.....\$42,968 89

Which belongs to the following funds:  
Ben. fund.....\$2,977 45  
Gen. fund.....1,931 44

There has been received for interest from "The Bank of Minnesota," and its predecessors, the sum of \$226, of which \$116 was handed the grand recorder for credit of general fund. The balance, \$150, which is less than one-third of 1 per cent of the cash received during the term just closed, is allowed the grand receiver as a salary. Respectfully submitted,  
J. J. McCORMICK, Grand Receiver.

The report of the grand recorder was submitted and adopted. From this it appears that during the year 1892 there were fifteen deaths and there were sixteen assessments issued. Three of these assessments, viz.: Numbers 1, 2 and 3 were for deaths which occurred in 1891, and two of the deaths were paid from surplus without an assessment, so that there have been only thirteen assessments for deaths occurring during the year. Warrants have been issued for the payment of all the deaths covered by these sixteen assessments, and also for the two paid from surplus. We have paid nineteen death claims during the year, amounting to \$38,000, four of these being for deaths which occurred during the year. This is the lowest mortality since the first year of our existence as a separate beneficiary jurisdiction, and is a testimony to the value of our present system of supervision by grand lodge medical director, and also an indication that we are getting rid of our unhealthy risks.

The report of the grand medical director, Dr. Talbot Jones, recounts his work during the year, showing fifty-five applicants rejected for cause, mostly intemperance or predisposition to consumption. He concludes with a number of recommendations designed to increase the efficiency of the examinations and decrease the death rate in the order.

The grand lodge adjourned till this morning in order to allow the committees time to examine the several reports. The new officers will be elected and installed to-day. The session will begin at 10 o'clock.

## Effects of Cigarette-Smoking.

Dr. J. C. Mulhall, who is connected with the dispensary of the St. Louis Medical college, has an article in the *Courier of Medicine* on the subject of "Cigarette Smoking," which has more than a passing interest for those addicted to the practice. He considers the subject as distinct from other forms of the tobacco habit. The cigarette-smoker, he says, inhales the smoke, which passes into the respiratory passages, and it is this one and sole fact which is at once the pleasure and vice of cigarette-smoking. The pleasurable irritation caused by contact of the smoke with the larynx and windpipe differs greatly from the kind of tobacco used, and cigarette smokers usually have strong likes and dislikes in choosing. Dr. Mulhall says that from his own experience, and from a great number of observations made upon others, he is satisfied that the smoke in process of inhalation is taken as far as an inch into each bronchus, coming in contact therefore with four "cough-spots," the bifurcation of the trachea, its posterior wall, the under surface of the vocal chords, and the inter-artery commissure. It is estimated that the smoke thus comes in contact with four times the extent of mucous membrane that it does in ordinary smoking, and hence the absorption of nicotine is excessive. The desired narcotic effect is obtained by the use of much less tobacco than in other methods in which the smoke alone is ordinarily used as a smoke chamber.

From examinations of the respiratory passages of many smokers, the conclusion is drawn that inhalation is the chief evil. Morbid signs are more marked in those who use cheap cigarettes, and the doctor remarks parenthetically that all the cigarettes manufactured in this country belong to the class that is cheap and vile. He does not consider the constitutional effects of this vice more serious than that of tobacco as ordinarily used, except that tobacco there is economy of time and tobacco, more nicotine is apt to be consumed. The chief evils of the cigarette habit are considered to be that its mildness and cheapness induce the habit of smoking in the young; that its enormous demand has led to adulteration; that it establishes in smokers the habit of inhalation, and thereby intensifies the narcotic effect.

## Kansas Legislature.

**TOPEKA, Kas., Feb. 6.**—The senate this morning adopted the house joint resolution instructing the attorney general to begin proceedings in the supreme court against the Union and Kansas Pacific railways, with a view to breaking up the consolidation of these companies. A concurrent resolution asking congress to pension military prisoners was adopted. Another asking that Mexican war soldiers be pensioned, was defeated.

The London Crystal Palace company has assumed entire control of the Handel festival in June next, when the chorus will include 3,500 voices, and the orchestra will consist of about 425 picked players, fifty-eight cellos and about fifty double basses, the wind being, as usual, doubled, and in some instances, trebled. The festival will be conducted by Sir Michael Costa, the veteran who directed these celebrations ever since they were first organized.

## COMMON COUNCIL.

**Street Improvements Ordered—Awards of Contracts Confirmed—The Police Headquarters—Bids for the Iron Span of the Wabashaw Street Bridge.**

The city council held a regular meeting last evening and transacted the following business:

## BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS.

This board was directed to do the following work: To construct a sewer on Seventh street, from Minnesota to Robert street; also to construct a sewer on Fourth street, from Robert to Minnesota street.

The same board is to investigate and report as to widening Grove street from Broadway to St. Paul street, to a width of fifty feet; also as to grading Whithall street from Westminster street to Payne avenue; also as to grading Edgerton street from Nellie street to Maryland street; also as to constructing a sewer on Stillwater street, from Grove street to Somerset street; also as to grading Eighth street, from Locust to Kittson street; also as to grading Magnolia street, from Burr street to Edgerton street; also as to grading Aurora avenue from Jackson street to Canada street; also as to widening the street on the south side of De Bow, Risque & Williams' addition to St. Paul; also as to opening a street fifty feet wide through lot 3, block 1, Warren & Winslow's addition; also as to change of grade of Franklin street from Jackson street to Irvine park; also as to grading Fourteenth street from Jackson street to Canada street; also as to grading Niagara street from Magnolia to Maryland street.

## CONTRACTS CONFIRMED.

The council confirmed the following contracts, awarded by the board of public works: To J. J. Palmer, paving Seventh street; to Andrew Jaicks, for paving Jackson street from Seventh to Ninth streets, \$5,190; to Andrew Jaicks, for paving Sibley street from Sixth to Seventh street, for \$5,790.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

A communication was read from the mayor recommending that steps be taken to remove the police headquarters to Market hall, and the same was referred to a special committee consisting of Aldermen Dowling, Johnson, Roberts, Starkey and Smith.

The request of D. D. Merrill for a lamp in front of the Baptist church, and one in front of the Mission chapel in East St. Paul, was referred to the committee on gas.

The request of Richard Chute et al., to vacate an alley in block 13 of Ewing & Chute's addition was referred to the committee on streets.

The city engineer having reported that the first pier beyond the island supporting Wabashaw street bridge was in a bad condition, the council directed that the engineer have the pier repaired.

Joseph Guston resigned as constable of the First district, and William Snelly was selected to fill the vacancy.

The award of the board of public works of the contract for paving Wabashaw street to A. H. Perkins, was confirmed.

The fire commissioners were directed to purchase one four-wheeled hose cart to replace hose cart No. 4.

The fire commissioners were directed to make certain changes and repairs in hook and ladder house.

A fire alarm box is to be placed on the corner of Fourth and Sibley streets, and on the corner of Carroll and Josette streets.

Forty-five dollars are to be returned to Caroline Nelson for the payment of an erroneous assessment.

The city clerk is to give the necessary notice for the excavation of Franklin, Hancock and Madrid streets in Bell's addition to West St. Paul.

The council determined to purchase the lot on the northwest corner of Eighth and Minnesota streets for \$9,000 for an engine house.

An oil lamp is to be placed on Lafayette avenue bridge, and a gas lamp is to be placed in front of Armory hall.

The following bids were received, and referred to the committee for constructing the iron span of the Wabashaw street bridge next south of the three new spans ordered a short time ago to be constructed: Horace E. Horton, \$8,745; Wisconsin Valley Bridge company, \$9,150; and with some changes the same company offered to do the work for \$8,850; Milwaukee Bridge and Iron works, \$8,850; Raymond & Campbell, \$9,850; Canton Bridge company, \$9,650; Pennsylvania Bridge company, \$9,500.

## The Hoosac Tunnel and Its Care.

The annual report of Manager Lookie gives the following particulars of the care taken of the Hoosac tunnel: A gang of miners take care of the roof and sides of the tunnel, and two gangs work on the track in the tunnel and one mile from the portals on either side. Under this arrangement no stones have fallen on the track for the past five years, nor has the tunnel been damaged. The amount of loose rock found is gradually diminishing, but this system of inspection will have to be continued many years to insure safety. On account of smoke in the tunnel it is difficult to arrange any signal except that which will make a noise, and for that reason none but torpedoes have been considered practicable. No train is now allowed to enter until the one preceding it on the same track has passed out, and no train is allowed in on either track while there is a passenger train in the tunnel. As business increases it will be necessary to use signals. A telegraph operator will have to be stationed at the center, dividing the tunnel into blocks. In order to carry out the above successfully, the atmosphere must be reasonably clear, and the whole tunnel must be lighted. Within a very few years the natural increase of business will require that trains shall be drawn through the tunnel by smoke-consuming cars, or by electric engines. Then the electric light, which is of little or no benefit in smoke, should, when the tunnel is kept clear of smoke, be used to illuminate every foot of the track, so that signals may be used to about the same extent as in the open air. During the year 63,578 eastern bound and 64,030 west bound freight cars were hauled through the Hoosac tunnel, making a total of 127,608. Of these 61,995 of the east bound and 36,633 of the west bound cars were loaded. A total of 12,900 trains passed through the tunnel during the year, of which 4,009 were passenger and 5,107 freight, making an average of forty-one trains a day. A total of 117,496 east bound and 110,654 west bound passengers were carried over the road during the year, and 1,043,550 tons of freight were moved.

The average birth rate per annum in France for the period between 1872 and 1880 has been calculated to be one birth for 37 inhabitants, which is by far the lowest birth rate in Europe. For the different countries the birth rate is as follows: Russia, one birth for 20 inhabitants; Germany, one birth for 25; Austria-Hungary, one birth for 26; England, one birth for 27; Italy, one birth for 27; Spain, one birth for 28; France, one birth for 37. If the yearly number of births for any thousand inhabitants be calculated, we have, for instance, the same result. We have, in France, 26 births per 1,000; Belgium, 32; England, 35; Austria, 38; Prussia, 38; and Russia, 50.

## CAPITAL NOTES.

[Western Associated Press.]

WASHINGTON, Feb. 6.—The president has withdrawn the proposed treaty with Mexico, providing for the retrieval of the Well and LaBrea claims.

Secretary Chandler has informed the committee of naval affairs, that in his judgment nothing at the Annapolis academy demands the attention of congress. He had no official information of any trouble. The resolution of inquiry was thereupon tabled for the present.

The senate sub-committee on education and labor began this morning taking testimony concerning the relations between labor and capital, and the condition of the laboring classes. The only witness examined was Robert D. Layton, grand secretary of the Knights of Labor, an organization embracing, he said, some 67,000 members, and having branches all over this country and Canada. All who are or have ever been "wage" workers are eligible for membership, and none are excluded except lawyers, bankers and trustmen. Mr. Layton did not conclude his testimony to-day. The condition and grievances of working women will be inquired into by this committee.

Miss Alice Blaine, daughter of ex-Secretary Blaine, was to-day married at her father's residence in this city, to Brevet Col. John G. Coppinger, United States army. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. Dr. Chappell H. Matthews, at the Catholic church, and was witnessed by a brilliant assemblage of ladies and gentlemen prominent in Washington society, among them President Arthur, all the members of the cabinet in the city, the justices of the supreme court, a large number of senators and members of the house of representatives, and nearly all the members of the diplomatic corps, together with the ladies of their respective families, and many officers of the army and navy. Col. Coppinger, now on Gen. Pope's staff, is inspector general of the department of Missouri, with headquarters at Fort Leavenworth. His army position is major of the Tenth regiment, infantry.

## THE RIVER AND HARBOR BILL.

The house committee on commerce has practically completed the river and harbor bill, though some matters of detail and arrangement remain, and the item for the Mississippi river will not be finally fixed until the bill in advance until the report of the Mississippi river commission is made.

## LAST YEAR'S RIVER AND HARBOR BILL.

The commerce committee has carefully examined each of the ninety items objected to in the report of the secretary of war concerning last year's river and harbor bill, and in some cases recommended appropriations for the same objects. The committee does not make recommendation for beginning new works, but favor appropriations to carry forward improvements on which the government has already expended large sums, as for instance, at the harbors of Baltimore, Savannah, Galveston, Oakland and such other points as appear from the engineers' report to demand appropriations. With the exception of the Mississippi improvements the amounts recommended do not exceed 30 per cent of the engineers' estimates. The whole amount called for by the bill will be about \$6,000,000, exclusive of the Mississippi river appropriation.

## GRANT TO BE PLACED ON THE RETIRED LIST.

The house committee on military affairs, has practically agreed upon the terms of the bill to place Gen. Grant upon the retired list of the army, with the rank of general. The chairman has been instructed to prepare a report in favor of the bill, to be submitted to the committee on Thursday. The minority report will probably be signed by two or three members.

## SENATOR FERRY AND BROTHER.

*Joseph about the Ferry Boys, Who Have Just Made a Political and Business Failure.*

[Chicago Tribune, Feb. 4.]

The firm of Ferry & Brother is composed of Thomas W. Ferry, United States senator from Michigan, and his brother, Edward P. Ferry. They are manufacturers and dealers, wholesale and retail, in lumber, lath and shingles. They conduct extensive mills at Lake Harlow, Montague, and Muskegon, Mich., and employ about 600 men. The firm was organized in 1842, the title then being Ferry & Son. They manufactured last year about 35,000,000 feet of lumber, 5,000,000 lath and 5,000,000 shingles. The firm owns immense tracts of pine timber, a silver mine at Parker City, Utah, some ore beds, and large quantities of real estate. They are interested in the Grand Haven Steamboat line, and are supposed to be the owners of the Michigan barge line. Their mines were fully equipped at a great outlay of money.

Senator Ferry began his political career in 1850 in the Michigan legislature. He was afterwards a member of congress, serving four terms. He was elected United States senator to succeed Jacob M. Haward. Senator Ferry has also served as vice president of the United States. As speaker of the house he became acting vice president upon the death of Vice President Johnson, serving from Dec. 20, 1875, to March 4, 1877.

## "THE FATHER OF THE FERRY BOYS."

said a gentleman who knows the family well, "came to Chicago a great many years ago as a missionary. He made a trip to Mackinaw, and on his return told Mr. B. W. Raymond that he saw an open store there, and Mr. Raymond trusted him for a stock of goods. That store was the foundation of his fortune. He made money, and invested it in pine lands—bought an immense acreage in the course of time, but a good deal of the timber was near the water, and was not as good as that inland. He established himself in the lumber business in Chicago, and for a long time the firm was Ferry & Son. When the father died, he left a very small estate, and the boys went to work for themselves. They owned two or three vessels, which brought their lumber here, and also a mill at Black River and another at Grand Haven."

A Tribune reporter had a talk last evening with a gentleman who is pretty thoroughly posted on the business done by the Ferry Bros., in Michigan. Said he: "Only Edward and United States Senator Ferry constitute the firm. I predicted this failure five years ago, and I think it will

prove a very bad one. The agents of the firm here were E. P. and T. W. Ferry, who acted as cashier and manager. The property here and about \$100,000 worth of lumber was sold to Cutler of Grand Haven, some time ago, to secure him the money which he loaned them from his bank. You couldn't expect anything else than failure from the manner in which they did their business. One neglected it and sailed into politics; the other, Ed, went into Utah and started in mining, which proved a mine for the burial of a good business. Lumber is a branch of trade that demands close attention. It is a business that can't stand neglect, and it will not run itself. The Ferrys had enterprise. They built the little town of Montague, opposite Whitehall, where they had an interest in two mills and a store. I am afraid that the bequests left by their father will never realize a cent. It is the natural outcome of neglecting a profitable business. They owned a mill on Black lake, between Muskegon and Grand Haven. They were cutting the last of their pine on their land on White river this winter. They own immense tracts of timber lands which are now exhausted. You will find that Senator Ferry, though he is a first-rate man, has run his career, and that he has reached the end, and that the boys have wasted a handsome patrimony left by their father. The only thing I am afraid of is that innocent parties are seriously hurt by this failure. There are others interested with them in business, and the Ferrys went on issuing notes, for which their associates are equally liable, and no one knows to what extent these notes have been issued, and where is here the rub comes in."

DETROIT, Feb. 6.—A dispatch from Grand Haven says Edward P. one of the firm of Ferry & Bro., while refusing to make any statement concerning the affairs of the firm, declares the report concerning them greatly exaggerated, and declares he shall devote himself to the senator's reelection, after which he will make a public statement of the liabilities of the firm, which will present the matter in a much more favorable light. He claims to have ascertained that the banks at Flint hold \$30,000, two-thirds secured by good indorsements, and the balance by attachment levies.

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