Iron County Register

BY ELI D. AKE.

IRONTON, - - - MISSOURI.

NEWS AND NOTES.

A Summary of Important Events.

DISAFFECTED New York Tammanyites have organized an Anti-Kelly General Committee.

THE New York Chamber of Commerce recommends sweeping changes in Marine laws.

THE Secretary of the Interior has instructed Indian Agents that they have power to put (white) intruders off the reservations, and may call on the military to assist them.

THE President has nominated Samuel C. Parks, of New Mexico, to be Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of Wyoming, and Joseph Bell, of New York, to be Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of New Mexico.

SENATOR VEST'S bill for the construction of a railroad bridge over the Missouri River, eight miles west of St. Charles, by the Keokuk & St. Louis Railroad, has gone to the War Department for examination and inquiry by the engineers. The bridge will be an improvement on any yet constructed in the State over the Missouri, and a favorable report is looked for from the Board of Engineers.

GEN. J. E. JOHNSTON publishes the following explanatory card:

When the article headed "Gen. Johnston's Narrative" appeared in the Philadelphia *Press* of December 18, I wrote to the editor that the conversation on which it was evidently founded was not an "interview," and the article was so inaccurate that I would not undertake to correct it. This was published by him promptly. As that article appears to be treated in the South as accurate, and I am charged with having accused Mr. Davis of appropriating the Confederate funds carried through North Carolina, I write to deny the charge. I did not use the language imputed to me. What I did say was that the President ought to have accounted for that money. It is the well-known practice in this and all other civilized countries that those having the disposal of public funds shall account for them. What I said on that occason was in an accidental conversation with one whom I considered much above the class of interviewers. Therefore I had no fear of the publication of what I might say, and said a good deal that nothing would induce me to say for publication, especially on the subject of the funds at Greensboro. That part of the conversation was in connection with the subject of the application twice made by me that a part of that money should be paid to the army I then commanded in North Carolina, which had received no real pay for many months.

THREE Oskaloosa (Iowa) lads selected as a target for rifle practice a magazine owned by the American Powder Company. Five hundred kegs were exploded with terrific noise and dire consequences. The boys were hurled several hundred yards from the magazine and all instantly killed, being burned and mutilated almost beyond recognition, their bodies presenting a sickening sight. A large number of houses were badly wrecked, and many persons injured by flying glass and wood. Nearly all the business houses in the city were damaged, show-windows being smashed in and the goods scattered about in confusion. The body of John Phillips was found fifty yards down the hill, clothing nearly all gone, back portion of the head carried away, and the body otherwise horribly mangled. John Stedman was blown through a wire fence, a hundred yards away, and fearfully torn. Gerald Joyce was found in the creek 150 yards away, with the head almost completely gone.

THE Guiteau case was opened on the 7th by Mr. Davidge. He read the prayers of the Government, which ask the Judge to instruct the jury that if the prisoner knew, at the time of the shooting, the difference between right and wrong he was at that time sane and responsible. Mr. Porter made something of a stir by reading Judge Davis's charge to the New York jury in the Coleman murder case. Mr. Scoville impatiently objected to any more such dramatic efforts to influence the jury. Mr. Reed opened for the defense, citing a number of cases, and submitting that the question of what constitutes insanity was one for the jury to decide. Jan. 9 proceedings opened with this from the prisoner: "I have received some 800 letters, a majority of them from ladies. When I get time I shall attend to them. I want to send my greetings to the ladies of America and thank them for their sympathy. They don't want me to be hanged. Public opinion is fast changing. I received Saturday a check for $1,000 from the Stalwarts of Brooklyn, and another for $500 from the Stalwarts of New York. I want this jury to understand how public opinion is on this case." Scoville concluded his argument, which was diversified by a tilt with Mr. Porter. After recess Mr. Corkhill read an exhaustive argument upon jurisdiction. Mr. Davidge followed, discussing the prayers of the defense.

THE recent tragedy in Ashland, Ky., having excited intense indignation and threats of lynching, the steamer Mountain Girl was chartered to convey the prisoners from Catlettsburg to Maysville. While making steam, the train from Ashland rolled in with about 500 determined regulators on board. The Sheriff, with a guard of ten men, by an adroit movement took the prisoners from the jail to the wharf. As soon as the crowd beheld the prisoners they started down the bank with loud yells of indignation, gathering arms and missiles ready for an assault. The Sheriff, seeing the mob descending, boarded the ferryboat with his party and turned her down-stream. The mob took possession of the Mountain Girl and commenced a determined chase. The steamer not yet having sufficient pressure, soon fell behind, but subsequently she got in shape and commenced gaining rapidly on the slow-going ferry, and in a short time approached so closely that a capture seemed imminent; but fortunately the Mountain Boy, a faster boat, appeared on the scene on her regular trip up from Ashland to Louisa. She was hailed by the Sheriff, pressed into service, and the party rapidly transferred to her. When the transfer had been successfully made, the Girl, black with an excited, enraged and howling mob, appeared in sight, and the exciting chase was resumed; but the Boy soon distanced them. Further on, some militiamen were transferred from the steamer Hudson in midstream, who took charge of the prisoners, whereupon the chase was abandoned. The murderers were lodged in jail at Maysville late at night.

PERSONAL AND GENERAL.

JULIEN SCOTT, a prominent citizen of Scott County, was drowned while attempting to ford the Emory River, in Morgan County, East Tennessee.

MRS. MARTIN, a farmer's wife, living near Northup, O., subject to fits, fell into the fire and was fatally burned.

N. C. OLSEN, a drunkard who was sobering up in a Chicago police station, hanged himself in a cell. He was a carpenter by trade. He leaves a wife and five children.

STATE, an employee in a Boston banking-house, attempted to kill his employer with a revolver. He was intoxicated.

MRS. MARY HELMSMAN threw herself in front of an approaching locomotive on the C., B. & Q., in Davenport, Iowa. Her head was severed from her body. She was insane.

NELLIE and Eddie Goozie and Georgiana Hart were drowned at Brookfield, Mass.

THE Port Jervis (N. Y.) Board of Health have closed all churches on account of small-pox.

AN old man named Fred Deske, of Milwaukee, Wis., beat his son's brains out with an ax helve and club. The boy was 18 years old and was named Reinhold. After the murder Deske tried to hang himself, and was in fact suspended when an officer came to arrest him. He was cut down, and then stated that his son came home drunk and a quarrel ensued.

IN his report for the Department of Dakota, Gen. Terry says the Indian outlook in Northern Montana is unfavorable. Buffaloes are rapidly diminishing. The Indians are making raids on cattle and the ranchmen are organizing for protection. Dispatches from Hermorilla, Sonora, confirm previous reports of the murder of Superintendent Woeberling of the Lampazos Mine, fourteen men, six women, and five children.

JULIUS ALBRIGHT, an employee of the Milwaukee, Lake Shore & Western Road, coupling cars, was run over and killed at New London, Wis. He was struck on the shoulder and cut in two lengthwise.

DEFREES, the Public Printer, recently sent a communication to Senator Plumb, of Kansas, asking if a certain newspaper account of an alleged interview between the two was true. Plumb replied that he declined to be dragged into a newspaper controversy. Defrees then wrote Plumb an open letter in which he is reported to have said:

"No one asked you to engage in a newspaper controversy; you were simply requested to say yes or no to a question I had a right to ask. Your refusal to answer it is a confession of your guilt. No one reading your notes can doubt the fact that you prompted the publication of the paragraph. You thus stand before all honorable men self-convicted of having falsely boasted that you had grossly insulted, without cause and in a manner becoming the lowest blackguard, a man almost thirty years older than yourself. I am very sure those acquainted with me will regard the paragraph as a lie on its face, as they know that I do not cringe to any one, and that such an insult would have been resented by me on the spot."

THE walls of a recently burned building at Syracuse, N. Y., fell upon an adjoining restaurant and fifteen or twenty persons were buried in the ruins. Eugene Fitzgerald and Martin Fenton were killed, and a number were injured.

F. PERFETTI called on Francisco Massa, a Brooklyn (N. Y.) shoemaker, to collect a bill. A quarrel followed, and Perfetti was fatally stabbed.

A BATTLE took place at Westport, La., between J. W. Moore and party and a mob of belligerents. The windows were shot out of Moore's house, and three men were killed.

JOHN WALTON, a wealthy farmer living near St. Paul, Ind., was shot and mortally wounded while reading near a window. The assassin, who is unknown, used a shotgun.

FORTY-SEVENTH CONGRESS.

CONGRESS reassembled on tho 5th. In the Senate, bills were introduced: By Mr. Anthony—To promote the efficiency of the Navy; by Mr. Maxey—To increase the efficiency of the Signal Service of the Army; by Mr. Plumb—To provide for the disposition of a portion of Fort Hayes Military Reservation, Kansas.....In the House, Mr. Orth rose to a question of privilege, stating it grew out of and affecting the recent appointment of committees of the House. Before stating the question specifically, he said: "I ask indulgence to announce that it is my purpose at an early day to introduce for consideration and action a proposition to change the method of selecting committees. The vast and diversified interests of the country are all more or less affected by Congressional legislation, and this legislation, as is well known, is almost exclusively controlled by the action of the committees. For this reason their formation assumes importance and is invested with responsibility too great to rest in the hands of a single individual, however capable and honest and patriotic such individual may be. As now exercised it is emphatically a one-man power, and such power is always dangerous and in conflict with the principles of republican government. It is our duty to see that it may not at some future period be used to the detriment of the best interests of the people. And now as to the question of privilege. You have seen fit, sir, to assign me two committees, namely: second place on Rules, and Chairman of the Committee on Civil Reform. By the kindness and unwavering confidence of my constituency, I have been for twelve years a member of this House, and I am now entering on my seventh term of service here. With two exceptions there is not another Republican member who has thus long represented his people. During that time that I have served as member and Chairman on the Committee on Private Land Claims, as a member of the Committee on Ways and Means, and for ten years as a member of the Committee on Foreign Affairs, part of that time as its Chairman. With one exception, possibly two, I am the only Republican member who, at any time prior to this session, has ever served as Chairman of any committee of this House. In view of this fact I submit that the Speaker in his recent action has done an injustice to me and my constituents, for the relations between a Representative and his constituents are so clearly interwoven that injustice to one is necessarily an injustice to the other. They naturally feel a pride and interest in the proper recognition of their Representative, and especially when such recognition is regarded by custom as attaching to long years of service. For this injustice there is, however, no remedy. All that can be done is to protest against it, as I do now for myself and constituents, and for reasons that do not require specification, I respectfully ask the House to excuse me from service as a member of the Committee on Rules." The Speaker: "The Chair does not understand that it is necessary for him to vindicate himself by speaking in reply. It must not, however, be inferred that because the Chair does not undertake to challenge the statements charging him with injustice, that the Chair acquiesces in the views taken by the gentleman from Indiana." Mr. Orth's request was granted. Mr. Hewitt (N. Y.) was relieved from service on Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds. Mr. Hewett (Ala.) offered a resolution reciting the fact that the Khedive of Egypt had presented to the United States the obelisk known as Cleopatra's Needle, and tendering to his Highness the Khedive the thanks of the people of the United States for a gift which only the oldest of nations could make and the youngest could most highly prize. Adopted.

In the Senate, on the 6th, Mr. Davis vacated the chair for the day to Mr. Garland. A resolution by Mr. Maxey, instructing the Secretary of the Interior to furnish a report of the survey of the United States and Texas Boundary Commission, made under act of June 5, 1858, and if no final report of said commission was made to report that fact, together with maps of surveys, and report of the work so far as it was prosecuted, was adopted. Mr. Windom introduced a bill appropriating money for the selection of a site and location for a Government building in Minneapolis, Minn. Mr. Hale's resolution for a special committee on the mode of electing the President and Vice-President, and of counting and certifying the vote, was disposed of by reference to the Committee on Privileges and Elections. The resolution relating to pension frauds, offered by Mr. Davis (W. Va.), Dec. 13, having been called, discussion ensued upon the amendment by Mr. Edmunds, striking out the direction to the Secretary of the Interior to give his opinion on such legislation as he thought advisable. Mr. Edmunds argued that the President alone had power to recommend legislation. Mr. Hill (Ga.) contended that while it was the duty of the President to do this there was no limitation on the power of Congress to get opinions from others. Mr. Davis (W. Va.) in the course of debate said the Secretary had estimated that one hundred millions would be required for this year to pay the pension-roll, and this estimate he learned had been increased by the Commissioner to $120,000,000. Nobody knew where the increase would stop, and, next year, for aught we know, it would reach $150,000,000. He (Davis) had stated last year the arrears of pension bill would cost the Government a sum greater than the national debt, and the statement was laughed at. Present indications seemed to fully justify the statement he then made. Mr. Logan said statements not based on accurate information should not be allowed to go to the country uncontradicted. The assertion that the pension arrearages would cost more than the national debt was certainly not based on a very reliable basis. The inference from what had been stated would be that our pension roll would continue to cost $100,000,000 a year right along and will probably increase. Yet the report of the Commissioner showed that, with the force at his command, the arrearages of pensions could be paid in two years, and that after these were paid the roll would be reduced to forty or not over fifty millions. The Senator from West Virginia could not help knowing this, for the report was before him. There was, therefore, no reason to alarm the country by a statement such as the one the Senator had just made. The resolution, as modified by Mr. Edmunds' amendment, was adopted. After executive session the Senate adjourned till the 9th.

JANUARY 9th was a busy day for Congress. Some of the measures introduced in the Senate were: By Mr. Teller—For the deposit of silver bullion at the Treasury of the United States, and the issue of certificates therefor; by Mr. Rollins—For the organization of the Territory of Oklahoma; by Mr. Butler—For the creation of a body of parliamentary attorneys; by Mr. Garland—Donating 380 acres of public land to each survivor of the Mountain Meadows massacre or their heirs; by Mr. Voorhees—Granting pensions to prisoners of the war; by Mr. Logan—To appropriate and expend the entire income derived from internal revenue taxes on the manufacture and sale of distillers' spirits for the education of the children of the United States. It provides that the national school fund thus created shall be distributed among the several States and Territories pro rata, according to census statistics of illiteracy, but prohibits any State or Territory from receiving proposed benefits which does not provide by local enactment that all children between the ages of 7 and 12 years shall attend school at least six months each year. Mr. Hoar's pending resolution for a select committee on the rights of woman, to whom are to be referred all petitions and resolves relating to woman suffrage, was adopted by a vote of 35 to 23. A message was read from the President, transmitting various papers relating to a bill providing for the right of way through the Indian Territory for the St. Louis & San Francisco Railroad. Ordered printed. On motion of Mr. Sherman, his bill to provide for the issue of 3-per-centum bonds was taken up without a formal vote. Mr. Vest offered an amendment, which was ordered printed, adding to the bill a section identical with the fifth or compulsory, vetoed 3½-per-cent. bill of last session, but modified to cover provisions for $200,000,000. It makes bonds the sole basis for circulation. Mr. Sherman said that in view of the very full discussion of the general propositions of the bill in debates upon the vetoed measure, and as he believed every Senator had made up his mind on it, he would confine himself to a brief statement of a few facts, and hoped before the day ended a decisive vote would be taken and the bill passed or defeated. The bill presented, except as to details, a purely business question, whether it was advisable or not to place at a lower rate, at any time, any part of the debt that now stands redeemable at the pleasure of the Government. Mr. Bayard spoke of the exceptionally favorable condition of the Government with reference to its currency at this time, and questioned the confidence of holders in the security of the bonds. He was averse to assuming any risk that would tend to disturb this security, even for the sake of an apparent reduction of ¼ of 1 per cent in interest. Amendments to the bill reported by the committee were agreed to. Messrs. McPherson and Beck exchanged views, and then Mr. Vest secured the floor, whereupon the Senate went into executive session.....Chief among the large number of bills introduced in the House were measures for suppression of polygamy; providing that citizens of each State shall have the right to vote directly for President and Vice-President; defining the law of insanity in criminal cases; providing a sound and uniform paper currency.

LATE NEWS ITEMS.

POLYGAMY and the Morrill tariff claimed the attention of Congress on the 10th. The bill for a Mint at St. Louis was referred to Committee on Coins, Weights and Measures.

MR. PORTER began his argument in the Guiteau trial on the 10th, and soon fixed the attention of every one in the room. He reviewed the conduct of the prisoner and the conduct of counsel, and the whole action of the court. The crime in all its hideous ugliness was held up to the detestion of his hearers. The silence became oppressive, and the presence of an avenging justice in the near future was suggested with a force of conviction that swept from the court-room every vestige of that levity which has so long attended every utterance of the prisoner. The prisoner winced and nervously twisted in his place, and for several minutes was unable to say anything, but finally yelled out, "I staked my life on the issue, and I'm willing to go to the gallows to-morrow if it is the Lord's will. I'm sick of this, Judge Porter. I wish you would get your $5,000 and go home."

M. H. THOMAS, who one year ago was a prominent hardware merchant at Abbottstown, Pa., but who since then, through drinking to drown sorrow, had become a beggar and a tramp, was killed by a locomotive at South Bend, Ind.

AN unknown tinner applied for lodgings at a hotel in Carver, Minn., and being denied admission, stepped out to the sidewalk, drew a revolver and blew his brains out. The body remained on the sidewalk all night, the citizens not feeling authorized to take any steps during the absence of the Coroner. The unfortunate man had been in town two days, soliciting work without success.

WHILE Mr. Terrill, of Union County, N. C., was engaged in inclosing the graveyard in which his little child had just been buried, he tripped on a bush and fell, his neck being broken by the fall. He fell across his child's grave.

AN explosion in a Denver (Colo.) drug store caused a conflagration during which John Townsend was killed.

AT Akron, O., Mrs. Duarmier died from a dose of oil of bitter almonds furnished by a mistaken druggist.

RILEY LEHM, aged 30, on his way home after a spree in Coldwater, Mich., drove into a marsh. While endeavoring to extricate the horses he became entangled in the harness. He was found dead next morning, his body in the water and his head and shoulders on the ice, one of the horses lying across him.

WARRANTS for the arrest of thirty-one mail contractors have been issued at Washington. A. E. Boone was held in $15,000, several were released on $2,000, and three more jailed in default of bail.

MISSOURI STATE NEWS.

St. Louis tobacco market (Jan. 5): Dark lugs, common to good, $4.00 to $5.25; bright smoking, common to good, $5.00 to $6.00; dark red leaf, $6.00 to $7.75; half-bright wrappers, common to medium, $10 to $18.

Governor Crittenden on the 3d refused to commute the sentences of the condemned murderers, Ellis and Kotovsky. Ellis' case was briefly disposed of as being a cold-blooded murder, without anything whatever to call for clemency. In the case of Kotovsky the Governor gave his reasons for declining to interfere, his conclusions being mainly these found in the opinion of the Court of Appeals. He said, in substance, that the only defense on the trial was insanity; that failing to establish that, or to ask for an instruction as to murder in the second degree, it was too late to ask for a reversal of the verdict in the appellate courts, because the trial court of its own motion failed to instruct the jury for murder in the second degree. He commended the decisions of the Court of Appeals and of the Supreme Court, and said those courts had done a large amount of good work; that the laws were being enforced and are generally respected. He also referred to the frequency of the murder of women, and said that it is a woman's privilege to decide whose attentions she shall receive, and that, too, without her life being placed in peril by the rejection of her suitor. The defense of insanity, he said, was becoming too frequent. A man shoots down a woman or another man to gratify his feelings of revenge or malice or hatred, and immediately sets up a defense of insanity or "crankism," and the whole past history of his family for generations is ransacked for examples of insanity to sustain the defense, although before the commission of the crime no one would suspect him of being mentally deranged in the least. The defense was a flimsy one, and he was glad the courts refused to sustain it. Kotovsky had a fair trial; had exercised the right of appeal to the highest courts of the State, where the testimony and findings in his case had been thoroughly examined, and the sentence of the trial court affirmed. He further said that he could discover no reasons for interference with the decisions of the courts, supported as they are by the testimony brought out in the trial and the sound rules of law laid down in the Supreme Court and Court of Appeals decision.

J. C. Van Blarcom, Cashier of the Bank of Commerce, thus explains the connection of the State depository with the $3,000,000 received from the Hannibal & St. Joseph Railroad. He purchased the bonds in which the $3,000,000 was invested. The bank had become the State depository by paying three-fourths of 1 per cent. on all deposits, and the Fund Commissioners were compelled by law to place all money received in that bank, while the bank was compelled to invest the $3,000,000 in Missouri State or Government bonds. Mr. Van Blarcom went to New York and placed $2,400,300 in Government 4 per cents, worth 118, and yielding 3 per cent. Out of that the bank pays 3-4 per cent. interest to the State, and a United States tax of 1-2 per cent., making 1 1-4 per cent. The banks expenses on the transaction are alleged to be 3-4 per cent., and aside from the total of 2 per cent. the bank receives 1 per cent., handling the State's exchange at par and making all collections free. The Government bonds are guaranteed 1 per cent. The remainder is invested in Missouri 6s, which net 4 per cent. at the price purchased, so that out of those the bank receives 2 per cent., guaranteeing the bonds.

The Odd Fellows of Sedalia District, No. 57, held a grand public service on the 4th, to commemorate the death of James L. Renley, Grand Secretary of the Sovereign Lodge of Odd Fellows for forty-one years. He died recently in Baltimore, aged 74 years. The hall was beautifully decorated with mourning emblems, and all the members were in full regalia, draped with mourning. A volunteer choir, composed of some of the finest voices, furnished the music for the occasion. There was a large attendance and the services were very impressive. An eloquent and able address upon the life and character of the venerable and honored deceased was delivered by Past Grand P. H. Sangree.

Col. W. R. Carson has been re-elected Superintendent of the Buchanan County Poor Farm and Insane Asylum, and Dr. J. M. D. France County Physician. The annual report shows: Paupers admitted during the year, 55; discharged, 51; births, 3; deaths, 2; sent to asylum, none; on hand, January 1, 1881, 39; on hand now, 38; insane patients in asylum January 1, 1881, 29; admitted during year, 14; discharged, 10; died, 2; in asylum now, 31. Amount received from county for support of above, $7,266.50. This sum includes all the county has paid for its poor and insane for the year.

A meeting of the officers of the Ladies' Memorial Home, of St. Louis, together with a number of ladies interested in the charity, was held for the purpose of turning into definite shape the idea held in mind for some time of giving a grand entertainment for the purpose of raising funds wished for to properly devolop proposed improvements and additions to the Home. The officers are Mrs. C. R. Springer, President; Mrs. J. P. Fuller, Vice-President; Mrs. Joseph W. Branch, Treasurer, and Mrs. Miles Sells, Secretary.

Isaac Lowden, a prominent and wealthy farmer living some seven or eight miles south of St. Joseph, recently met with a painful accident. When about a mile from town his team became frightened and ran away, throwing him out. He struck his head upon a large stone, which rendered him insensible. He was taken up and conveyed to his home in a very feeble condition. A year or so ago a son of Mr. Lowden was killed in the same way near the same spot.

It is estimated that 150,000 emigrants found homes in the State since the census of 1880.

Two more St. Louis gamblers indicted.

The attorney of the Hannibal & St. Joseph Railway Company has served notice on Governor Crittenden that an application will be made to Judge McCrary, at Keokuk, for an order restraining him from advertising the road for sale. The Governor admits the payment of $3,000,000 as the principal of the bonds, but claims that the road made no provision for the payment of the coupons, which have eight to sixteen years to run.

Building permits issued in St. Louis during 1881 numbered 1,938, of an aggregate value of $4,921,884.

Saloon business at Kansas City is not remunerative.

CANE CULTURE.

Convention of the Mississippi Valley Cane-Growers' Association.

The Mississippi Valley Cane-Growers' Association met in Convention at Polytechnic Hall, St. Louis, Jan. 3. A large number of delegates represented a wide territory. The following were elected permanent officers: Isaac Hedges, of St. Louis, President; Col. Norman J. Colman, Corresponding Secretary; F. K. Gillespie, Recording Secretary. Prof. Bishop gave some interesting statistics regarding the manufacture of sugar in the North, showing that wonderful progress in that direction has been made in the past few years. Mr. Hedges read a lengthy communication, touching in a general way upon the great interest that is being taken in the cultivation of sugar-cane all over the North, and alluded to the generosity of Southern growers in coming forward and aiding in every manner the production in the North. The Secretary of the Louisiana Cane-Growers' Association entertained the Convention with some interesting facts concerning the growth of cane in his State; Mr. Nicoll, of the same association, following with some remarks on the result of experiments with Northern cane in Southern territory. Prof. Henry made a few remarks touching upon cane culture, after which reports from different States were read, the Convention then taking into consideration the advisability of sending delegates to represent them in the National Convention, assembling at that city on the 10th inst. Prof. Scoville delivered a very practical address, in which he detailed the results of a series of experiments, on the subject of sugar-making from amber cane. An analysis of cane produced on different soils showed the following results: Old prairie soil, 11.28 per cent. sugar; virgin prairie soil, 12.79; timber land, 12.87; Mississippi sand soil, 12.3. The effect of manure was shown to be detrimental by the fact that manured land gave a percentage of 10.89 sugar, while unmanured land produced 13.37. A general discussion was indulged in as to whether glucose is injurious or not.

SECOND DAY.

At 8 p. m. members of the Convention met at the Laclede Hotel and proceeded on a visit to Belcher's Sugar Refinery on the levee. A number of samples of sugar were examined, and the process of manufacture noted.

At 11 o'clock the Association reassembled at the Polytechnic and after a few remarks by Prof. Wylie, of the Indiana State Agricultural College, President Hedges introduced Mr. C. Bozarth, of Cedar Falls, Iowa, one of the largest cane-growers in his State, having cultivated over 100 acres of amber cane each year for the last twenty, and his experience in the practical management of the sorghum plant was listened to with especial interest. It was stated by a member from Louisiana that in the South sulphurous acid is used before the defection takes place. Prof. Wigley urged the use of turmeric paper as a test to indicate the amount of lime in the juice, an excess of lime turning the yellow turmeric paper brown. Letters were read from Prof. Culbertson of Nebraska, who stated that he was in full accord with objects of the convention, after which a general discussion was engaged in as to the uses to which the cane bagasse may be put. It has for years been used in the manufacture of paper, and for that purpose sold for 75 cents per ton. As a food for stock it also has considerable value, especially when the leaves are not stripped. In many parts of the country it is used as fuel with first-class results, and a Kansas gentleman thought it has a great future as material for mattresses. Prof. Wiley, of Indiana, spoke of the subject of sugar adulterations. Water is one of the principal of these and forms 1-2 to 10 per cent. of many sugars. Another form of adulteration is invert sugar. This kind of sugar differs from glucose, and may be produced in various ways. It does not crystalize, and is very difficult to distinguish. A third, and perhaps the most important adulteration, consists of starch sugar. This sugar is perfectly dry and white, and is mixed with cane sugar to the extent of from 25 to 50 per cent.

Mr. Thombs, by request, gave the following figures as to the cost per day of manufacturing 100 tons of cane, upon the basis of 467 cane juice:

100 tons cane at $200	$200 00
10 men at cane carrier	15 00
4 firemen	6 00
2 tank men	3 00
2 clarifiers	3 00
2 evaporators	3 00
1 sirup-filler	15 00
Removal of bagasse	5 00
8 tons coal at $3.50	28 00
30 brls at $1.50	45 00
Incidentals	10 00
Total cost per day	$323 00

The following resolutions were then adopted:

WHEREAS, The profitable culture of the sorghum sugar-cane in the Northwest and the manufacture of sugar therefrom has awakened an interest in its further increase, and already capital and labor are largely embarked in the enterprise;

Resolved, As the sense of this Convention, that, in any revision of the revenue laws, the sugar industries of the North, East, West and South be given that fostering care which the sugar-growers of the country, who are struggling against frauds and contending with foreign slave-grown sugars, are entitled to at the hands of our Government;

Resolved, That our representatives in Congress be requested to give that encouragement to this growing agricultural development in the Northwest which its importance demands.

THIRD DAY.

The morning session was devoted to a discussion of vertical and horizontal mills, from participation in which manufacturers were excluded. In the afternoon an election of officers for the ensuing year was held, with the following result: President, N. J. Colman, of St. Louis; Vice-President, S. K. Stout, of Kansas; Corresponding Secretary, Prof. Scoville, of Champaign, Ill.; Recording Secretary, T. K. Gillespie, Edwardsville, Ill.; Treasurer, J. A. Field, Missouri; expert, Prof. Wiley, of Lafayette, Ind. The Executive Committee will consist of the officers of the association.

Col. Colman took the chair, and in a neat speech thanked the members for their action. He would endeavor to build up the association and make it a tower of strength throughout the land. The speaker paid a glowing tribute to the work of Isaac P. Hedges, the retiring President, and said that his name would always be indissolubly connected with the sugar interests of the North. He prophesied that next year would witness an unprecedented growth of the sugar interest. A resolution of thanks was adopted, commending the zeal with which Mr. Hedges had served the interests of the association. Mr. Stuart, of Wisconsin, thought that Mr. Hedges should receive some compensation for his services, and, upon motion, it was ordered that the funds of the association, after defraying the expenses of the convention, be turned over to Mr. Hedges.

The subject of fuel being brought up, a general discussion was had. The greater number of members favored the use of bagasse, as the cheapest and best fuel that can be found. Several Ohio members had not been successful in using bagasse in their furnaces, owing probably to its dampness. Corn-cobs had been used with success by several members.

Resolutions were adopted thanking the St. Louis press, the School Board for use of room in which the Convention was held, and the various railway corporations extending courtesies to delegates.

Prof. Wiley, of Indiana, invited the Association to hold its next convention in Indianapolis. This matter was left with the Executive Committee, with the probability that St. Louis will be the place selected.

The Convention then adjourned sine die.

—A curious case of animal instinct has lately come to light in the behavior of the Cape Cod deer, which, as the hunters report, are accustomed when hunted to make their way to the sheep ranch, not far from Snake Pond, and, leaping the wire fence, seek their safety among the sheep, where neither dogs nor guns are allowed to come.

—In some parts of England the season is unusually open. In Kent primroses are in bloom, violets perfume the dells, and the song-birds have not lost their summer notes, while on the commons the heather is purple and the furze resplendent with golden bloom.

FITZ JOHN PORTER.

General Porter's Appeal in His Own Behalf—General Grant's Recent Letter to the President.

The following correspondence, of general interest, has recently been made public:

GENERAL PORTER'S APPEAL TO THE PRESIDENT.

NEW YORK, December 23, 1881.

To the President, Washington, D. C.:

SIR: I respectfully represent that, in January, 1863, by court-martial, I was most unjustly declared guilty of charges against me, and sentenced "to be cashiered and forever disqualified from holding any office of trust or profit under the Government of the United States." From the promulgation of the verdict of that court I have protested my innocence of all wrong done, and asserted the injustice of the sentence, and, presenting sustaining evidence, I have from time to time urged a rehearing. In 1878 the President, in order to be fully informed of the facts of the case, and to be enabled to act advisedly upon my application for relief, appointed a board of army officers to examine into the merits of the case, and report what action, if any, in their opinion, justice required should be taken on my application. That Board, after thorough examination into the facts of the case, vindicated me in every respect, and reported that, in their opinion, justice required at the hands of the President such action as may be necessary to annul and set aside the findings and sentence of the court-martial, and restore me to the positions of which that sentence deprived me—such restoration to take effect from the date of dismissal from the service. And I now respectfully and urgently represent that the sentence is a continuing sentence, and so long as it exists it is within the reach and under the control of the Executive power; that, harsh and burdensome originally, and lasting through many years, it is, for stronger reasons, a subject for consideration and action of the Executive, now that it is proved to have been founded in error and to be unjust; and I respectfully ask you, if convinced of the justice of the recommendation of the Advisory Board, to annul and set aside the findings and sentence of the court-martial, and nominate me to the Senate for the restoration of my rank in the army under the act of Congress of 1868, allowing that mode of redress of the wrong committed by the court-martial. And this I ask not merely in justice to me and those most dear to me, but in justice to the army to which I belonged, and which has ever believed in me, and to the Government which honored and trusted me. Very respectfully yours,

FITZ JOHN PORTER.

GENERAL GRANT TO PRESIDENT ARTHUR.

NEW YORK, December 22, 1881.

The President, Washington, D. C.:

DEAR SIR: At the request of General Fitz John Porter I have recently reviewed his trial and the testimony furnished before the Schofield court of inquiry held in 1879, giving to the subject three full days of careful reading and consideration, and much thought in the intervening time. The reading of the whole of this record has thoroughly convinced me that, for these nineteen years, I have been doing a gallant and efficient soldier very great injustice, in thought, and sometimes in speech. I feel it incumbent upon me now to do whatever lies in my power to remove from him and from his family the stain upon his good name. I feel this more incumbent upon me than I should if I had been a corps commander only, or occupying any other command in the army than the one which I did; but as General I had it possibly in my power to have obtained for him the hearing which he only got at a later day; and, as President, I certainly had the power to have ordered that hearing. In justification for my injustice to General Porter, I can only state that, shortly after the war closed, his defense was brought to my attention, but I read it in connection with a sketch of the field where his offenses were said to have been committed, which I now see, since perfect maps have been made by the Engineer's Department of the whole field, were totally incorrect, as showing the position of the two armies. I have read it in connection with the statements made on the other side against General Porter, and I am afraid, possibly, with some little prejudice in the case, although General Porter was a man whom I personally knew and liked before; but I got an impression, with many others, that there was a half-hearted support of General Pope in his campaigns, and that General Porter, while possibly not more guilty than others, happened to be placed in a position where he could be made responsible for his indifference, and that the punishment was not a severe one for such an offense. I am now convinced he rendered faithful, efficient and intelligent service, and the fact that he was retained in command of a corps for months after his offenses were said to have been committed is in his favor.

What I would ask in General Porter's behalf from you is, that, if you can possibly give the time, you give the subject the same study and thought I have given it, and then act as your judgment may dictate. But, feeling you will not have time for such investigation (for it would take several days time), I would ask that the whole matter be laid before the Attorney-General for his examination and opinion.

Hoping you will be able to do this much for an officer who has suffered for nineteen years a punishment that never should be inflicted upon any but the most guilty, I am very truly yours,

U. S. GRANT.

Railroad Building in 1881.

The *Railway Age* of a recent date gives the following statistics of railway construction during last year:

State.	No. lines.	Miles.	State.	No. lines.	Miles.
Alabama	1	14	N.H'pshire	2	7½
Arkansas	4	109	Nevada	2	133
Arizona	1	97	N. Carolina	7	149
California	2	73½	New York	15	223½
Colorado	15	493	Nebraska	5	247
Dakota	10	430½	New Jersey	8	66½
Florida	4	103	N. Mexico	4	339½
Georgia	6	54½	Ohio	10	417½
Iowa	14	486½	Oregon	2	38
Illinois	14	341	Pennsylv'a	10	94½
Indiana	11	375	R. Island	1	1½
Kansas	6	159	S. Carolina	2	67
Kentucky	5	143½	Texas	20	1,411
Louisiana	2	246	Tennessee	5	37
Michigan	12	289½	Virginia	8	273½
Mas'chus'ts	7	49½	Vermont	1	2
Minnesota	9	182	W. Virginia	1	12
M'ssouri	11	229	Wyoming T.	1	25
Maine	2	32½	Wash. Ter'y	4	269½
Montana	2	156	Wisconsin	7	281
Mississippi	3	68			
Maryland	2	25	Total	258	8,242

It will be seen that the work of railway extension has been carried on in forty-two States and Territories, the only State in which no new track is reported laid being Connecticut and Delaware, and the only Territories thus distinguished being Idaho, Indian Territory and Utah, although it is probable that a few miles were laid in the latter. The remote possession of Alaska, of course, does not come into this category. Texas leads the country in respect of railway building, having added last year, by our table, 1,411 miles, which final returns will probably increase to 1,500, or more. Colorado appears to come next, with about 500 miles, of which no less than 370 are officially reported to us as laid by that enterprising narrow-gauge railway company, the Denver & Rio Grande. This company built during the year no less than ten different lines or portions of lines. Iowa comes next, with nearly 500 miles, and Dakota and Ohio also show thus far between 400 and 500 miles. Indiana, Illinois, New Mexico and New York appear to have added between 300 and 400 miles.

The narrow-gauge makes no insignificant showing in the list of railway mileage constructed in 1881. Of the 258 different lines thus far reported to be built during the year, not less than forty-three, or over 17 per cent. were of three-feet gauge; and of the 8,240 miles of new track which we already repor, 1,490 miles, or about 14 per cent., were of that gauge.

—A fastidious Poughkeepsie girl has written to the presidents of all the principal colleges in this country to inquire whether she should say "mumps is" or "mumps are." Some of the presidents spoke feelingly of "one mump," while others were tenacious of "one mumps." It is strange that authorities differ on such vital questions.

—The daughter of Jefferson Davis is a tall young woman, with an expression of great reserve, a pale face, and dark hair and eyes.

—Contempt should be the best concealed of our sentiments.