

# The Alert,

DAILY AND WEEKLY

MARSHALL McCLEURE.

For the first time, perhaps, in his public career, the course of Senator Edmunds is being criticised by the press of his own party. The cause of this is the aid he gave in reviving the franking privileges. His action is considered unwise and impolite.

The Dominion government has decided to increase the northwest mounted police force from 300 to 500 men. Fort Walsh, the present headquarters, will be abandoned, as being too near the frontier, and some point on the Canada Pacific road will probably be selected.

According to Gath, the foreign ministers at Washington regard Mr. Arthur's administration as a very weak one. It is said that he is solicitous only to please the New York newspapers, under the impression that if they are favorably impressed with him the whole country will support him.

In no other place on earth are railroads being constructed with the vigor that characterizes the work in the wonderful Northwest. They are shooting across the prairies in every direction, and the day is at hand when nearly a quarter of the townships in Northern Dakota will be cut in two by railroads.

The house of representatives has passed a bill making St. Vincent, Minn., a port of entry in lieu of Pembina, D. T., the friends of the bill claiming that the construction of railroads on the east side of the Red River has made it inconvenient to transact custom house business in Pembina, which is quite a distance from the railroad.

Yankton Press: Sitting Bull's overweening desire to be instructed in the rudiments of agriculture by squaw proxy, will be taken in sentimental circles as an evidence that he is succumbing to the influences of civilization. The squaws haven't been heard from on the subject and as they are the ones upon whom the degradation of labor is to descend, they are entitled to an audience.

Dakota can get up fire horrors equal to a state of the first class. At the burning of the territorial insane asylum at Yankton on Sunday, of the 64 inmates four were burned to death. The loss to the territory will amount to about ten thousand dollars. The building destroyed was a temporary wooden affair for use while the brick asylum, now nearly finished, was being constructed.

Lo Sneur Sentinel: "There appears to be something contagious about the moral, or rather immoral atmosphere of Minneapolis, for, as a state paper lately remarked, not only the married people of the city are frequently violating their marriage vows, but if a couple within a thousand miles of there conclude to go on an illicit rampage they invariably seek Minneapolis as a place of refuge."

Maryland and West Virginia have an unsettled dispute of long standing involving the right to 500,000 acres of fertile land. Charles II. made a grant in 1669 of a large tract, "bounded on the north by the Potomac." There are two branches of the river, and the northern one was taken as the line, which became the boundary of the States; but Maryland has never given up his claim, and a new attempt is now being made to get the territory.

Governor Ordway or one of his friends has published a circular headed "Division and Admission," and under the pretense of discussing some points of the enabling act providing for the admission and organization of South Dakota as a state, proceeds to give us another chapter of his interminable quarrel with Delegate Pettigrew. The document should have been labeled Division and Admission. The people are tired and disgusted with the wrangle, and pray that they may soon hear the last of it.

The work of constructing a tunnel under the channel between France and England is actually begun, and the syndicate which has raised the enormous capital to carry on the work is said to be in earnest. It is proposed to use the tunnel for road traffic only, and if it is ever completed it will be the wonder of the world. The tunnel under the Alps was twenty-four years in building, and the Hoosac, which is the next largest, was nearly as long, so that the present generation can scarcely expect to cross from England to the continent.

The second edition of "Reasons why Dakota should not be admitted as a state at the present time," has been published, and, we presume, distributed pretty freely throughout the country. The present pamphlet contains editorials taken from papers of national reputation, all of which are unfriendly to the admission of South Dakota. They are, in substance, simply a re-hash of the arguments contained in the first edition, but in the present pamphlet more attention has been paid to head lines which are printed in large type and are of a sensational character. The following are among the choicest specimens. "Let Dakota wait for a century if need be until its people are ready to pay their debts." "It seems as though the repudiation chickens were coming home to roost." "Repudiation of honest debts has never been popular in this country, and is never likely to be." "Dakota people hardly know how to meet the charge of repudiation." "Let the bond question be settled first, and then the application of Southern Dakota for admission may be considered."

"Senator Hale gives notice that when the bill admitting Dakota comes up he will move an amendment deferring admission until the record of the territory is cleared." Pioneer Press: Among the bewildering multitude of tables and figures contained in the report of Mr. Carrol D. Wright, of the Massachusetts bureau of statistics, one fact stands forth pre-eminent, as measuring and defining what is meant by an "era of prosperity." From 1878 to 1881 the average rate of wages increased nearly 7 per cent., while the average cost of groceries, provisions, fuel, dry goods, boots, rent, and board increased 21 per cent. This is enough to explain deep discontent among the laborers. An addition of about one-fourteenth to wages and of one-fifth to cost of living is another turn of the screw, and what does it mean? It means primarily that once more the philanthropy of the high tariff men is proved a sham; that when in the last three years business revived, the protected manufacturers absorbed the gains; that while throwing a sop to the workmen in the shape of a small addition to wages, the price of commodities was so advanced as to diminish purchasing power and leave him far worse off than before. This is not the way to reconcile capital and labor; it is not the way to improve and elevate a people; it is not the way to build up a strong, homogeneous, contented State.

Ex-Senator Alex Ramsey, of St. Paul, was recently interviewed in New York by a Tribune reporter as follows: "What is your opinion in regard to the proposed admission of Dakota as a state?" asked the reporter. "I have no reason," said Mr. Ramsey, "to doubt but that the resolution to that effect will become law. If Dakota hasn't the requisite amount of population now, it will have very soon. There is no part of the United States that is advancing so rapidly as Dakota. And it has been so for years. I do not think there will be any difficulty in getting it in as a state. It is a great agricultural country, and as much entitled to admission as some other states which have been admitted. In my section we hope it will be, and we think congress is unnecessarily particular in insisting upon taking a census first. Everybody can see how rapid the growth has been there."

"What is the condition of the great northwest generally?" "Very prosperous," the ex-senator replied. "The great roads into Dakota and Montana and Manitoba pass through St. Paul and Minneapolis, and thus there is an opportunity of seeing immense crowds of people going up into those countries every day. Our trade with those sections is already very large, and is rapidly increasing. If the southern part of Dakota is admitted this year, the northern part will have population enough in a few years to be admitted also. The people there are of the most enterprising and excellent character, and the same is true of those constantly pouring into those places."

The New York Tribune has the following to say on the proposition to abolish the taxes on spirits and tobacco: "It cannot be said that the taxes on liquors and tobacco hinder any legitimate business. For these branches of business, whatever may be thought of them, have certainly not been hindered in their development by the taxes now imposed. The production of spirits last year reached the unprecedented aggregate of 117,758,150 gallons, against 56,193,053 gallons in 1878, so that the production has more than doubled in three years. The increase in the production of fermented liquors has been, during the same time, 9,470,000 barrels in 1878 to 12,287,000 barrels in 1881, an increase of 30 per cent., while the increase in population has been less than 10 per cent. The increase in the production of tobacco has been from 119,400,000 pounds in 1878 to 161,631,108 pounds in 1881, or nearly 40 per cent., but that in the manufacture of cigars and cigarettes has been more than 50 per cent. No one can say that these branches of business have been depressed by excessive burdens. "But it is proposed to take off taxes amounting to about \$65,500,000 from the manufacture and sale of these articles. If the government can spare so much revenue are there not other industries, at least equally useful and meritorious, which might fairly come in for some part of the benefit? The whole revenue from duties on sugar and molasses of all kinds is only \$48,000,000, but the industrious and temperate workmen throughout the land would be helped, to the extent of at least \$5 a year for each family, by the removal of these duties, if so large a revenue could be spared. A large proportion of them, who use neither liquor or tobacco, would gain absolutely nothing by the proposed reduction of \$65,500,000 in the taxes on these articles. Ought not the benefit of removal of burdens to be distributed as fairly as possible, without special discrimination against those who practice an honorable economy for the happiness of their families?"

"It is a sound rule of political science to impose necessary burdens in such a manner that those who wish to practice self denial can in a measure avoid them. It is not statesmanship to cheapen luxuries if thereby it is necessary to render the necessities of life so much more costly. Whoever pleases can avoid the payment of taxes on liquors and tobacco, or can so regulate his indulgence as to render those taxes as light as he pleases. But no family can avoid the burdens imposed by duties on sugar or salt, spices or imported drugs, or many other articles upon which duties might be reduced without detriment to industries."

We were glad to publish Yankton county's answer to the charge of repudiation as appeared in the Alert of yesterday, and believe that the statement will give our territory a better standing before the world, but why don't the Press go at the root of the matter and explain the alleged disgraceful proceedings of Yankton county's officials in evading the collection of a judgment affirmed by the United States supreme court, and also the part that the county played in securing from the legislature, such laws as enabled them to carry out their little game. The Press must know that the most serious charge made by the bondholders is the determined resistance of county officials aided by a legislature, to the enforcement of judicial decrees. The people may feel, as the Press asserts, they are under no moral obligation to fulfill their share of an agreement by reason of a failure to receive that for which they gave their promises to pay, and no one will deny them the right to feel this; but when the highest court of our land steps in and says their feelings are wrong, and that they are under a legal as well as moral obligation to fulfill certain promises, all "feeling" must stop and any opposition to the court's decree is subversive to all government. Right here is the gravest charge that is made, and the Press has not touched it. It is in substance, persistent determined and disgraceful resistance to the decrees of the highest tribunal in our land. If this isn't repudiation of the blackest kind, pray what is it? It will be folly for Dakota to let this wrong go undressed. The cheapest way out of it is to pay all claims in full, and that right off. Any other policy is expensive, for as long as we stand before the world as abettors of repudiation, capital will be slow to flow into our territory.

We hope that the bondholders' charges of resistance to judicial decrees are without foundation. If they are substantially true, it is folly to try to gloss over the affair. In any event the more respect our counties pay to the law and the law's decrees, the better will be our standing before the world.

## YANKTON COUNTY BONDS.

Yankton county has at last replied to the howl of repudiation raised by the owners of her railroad bonds in their frantic efforts to collect debts. The Press and Dakotian gives the people's side of the question in a lengthy article, the most important items of which we cheerfully lay before our readers:

"The people do not forget that, in giving the corporation vote for \$200,000 in aid of a railroad to Yankton, they did it with the distinct understanding; 1st, that the railroad was to run from Le Mars to Yankton; 2d, that the charter of the company was to be for a line from the Big Sioux to Yankton; 3d, that the company was to immediately invest \$50,000 in shop facilities and a depot at Yankton; 4th, that the general offices of the company were to be in Yankton. All this was to be given in return for Yankton county's investment in the enterprise. The county actually received: 1st, a railroad from Sioux City to Yankton, thus giving into the complete control of our most malignant enemies the eastern terminus of the line; 2d, a charter was granted, which gave permission to extend the road forty miles west of Yankton; 3d, the company has never built a depot in Yankton and has only constructed some cheap sheds which it dignifies by the name of 'shops'; 4th, the general offices of the company never have and never will be located at Yankton. Had the Dakota Southern railroad company (which gave bonds for the faithful performance of these requirements) kept its agreement, there would have been no cause for a cry of repudiation. The voters of Yankton county took a business view of the situation. They know that the investment of \$50,000 in appliances for the employment of mechanics would in twenty years' time bring a return of much more than \$200,000 to the farmers and business men of the county. Not receiving that for which they gave their promises to pay, they do not feel that they are under any moral obligation to fulfill their share of the agreement."

In the face of all these circumstances there was a large and influential element in favor of paying the bonds, both principal and interest, rather than have it go forth to the world that the county leaned toward repudiation. While they were laboring earnestly to bring about this result, the bondholders have seen fit to advertise us all over the country as repudiators. That which we desired to avoid, even at a pecuniary sacrifice, has occurred through the unwise action of the creditors of the county. As they have assumed entire management of the business, they now have the field to themselves and can work out their own salvation.

## CORN AND WHEAT.

The following statement relative to the corn and wheat crop has been furnished by the department of agriculture: There are seven states that produce a surplus of corn. These states together yielded 1,043,000,000 bushels in 1880, and 737,000,000 in 1881. On the 25th of March returns, estimating the quality of corn of the last crop in the hands of farmers, were made from over four hundred counties of these states to the department. They represent more than two-thirds of the entire area of the percentage of product by these states, as follows: Ohio, 21; Indiana, 27; Illinois, 26; Iowa, 23; Missouri, 15; Kansas, 46; Nebraska, 28. The average is nearly 24 per cent. of the amount on hand Nov. 29, 1881. The crop of 1880 was: In Ohio, 33 per cent.; Indiana, 33; Illinois, 49; Iowa, 39; Missouri, 30; Kansas, 30; Nebraska, 38; average, 37 per cent.—or 288,000,000 bushels. The same states produced 256,000,000 bushels of wheat in 1880 and 169,000,000 in 1881.

## To School District Officers.

Your attention is invited to section 36th of School Law, which requires that an annual school meeting for each district shall be held on the first Tuesday in April of each year for the transaction of such business as is specified in sections 29, 38 and 55. All the officers should attend the annual meeting of the district prepared to furnish a definite report of the past year, and to present an intelligent estimate for the coming year.

The meeting to organize a district preceding annual meeting and has all of its powers. The time from that to the next annual meeting is a technical school year as to terms of school officers then chosen. Hence all new districts organized since the last annual meeting, must elect one new officer at the coming annual meeting, which will be a director for the term of three years.

Section 25 is important. Sections 52, 53 and 55 help explain it. There are three funds. The school house and all things in and about it are permanent, belong to the school house fund. All things that are temporary, that are consumed or used up, like fuel, crayons, records, blanks, etc., belong to the contingent fund. And all that is paid to teachers, to the teacher's wages fund.

The rate of tax to be voted for these funds, is varied by the particular use made of each paragraph, as for instance paragraph 6 and 8. Paragraph 5th is exclusively for the school house fund and can be used for no other purpose, but paragraph 6 may be used in part for teacher's wages, and in part for incidental expenses or wholly for either and none for the other. Thus by the 5th and 6th combined the school house fund may be fifteen mills at most, or any lower rate. By the 5th fifteen mills may be levied for teacher's wages, and by the 6th added, twenty mills it none be voted for contingent fund.

By like use twenty mills may be levied for contingent fund and none for wages. No power can be used more than once in all, and the total (not counting the 11th,) can not exceed thirty mills, unless the board under 177 levy an additional tax to pay a judgment.

The school district treasurer must make a full and complete report in triplicate at the annual meeting said report to be accepted and approved and vouchers cancelled. The vouchers being cancelled by order of the meeting (by the clerk, director or committee) by writing "cancelled" across the face thereof or otherwise. Immediately upon the approval of the treasurer's report he hands two of three to the clerk who receipts to him for it, stating that it is in duplicate. The other copy the treasurer retains. Then the clerk is ready to report to the county superintendent. He attaches one copy of the treasurer's report to his and mails it or causes it to be delivered safely and promptly to this office. The other copy of the treasurer's report he keeps in his record, and files in his office. He records his own report and files the retained copy. Officers are urged to consider their obligations to their districts, the public and the law. Unless they report and secure approval, taxpayers remain responsible in their pockets will be enforced. Clerks must report the number of children in their respective districts on the last day of March (previous to the date of such report) over the age of five and under the age of twenty years which must be transmitted to the county superintendent on or before the first day of May, in order that the district may receive their share of money from the county fund, which is apportioned in each district. Sections 41-52 require that each district provide proper books for the clerk and treasurer for their records may be intelligently kept.

It is the duty of school district officers to secure a set as soon as they have qualified. The treasurer's book may be drawn and kept in the clerk's book of record. The clerk should report the names of school district officers for the coming year that circulars and blanks may be properly distributed among the districts.

## Correct.

Chicago Herald. The rush of immigrants to Dakota exceeds all former calculations. A citizen of Chicago who has just returned from that territory says the settlers are going in by colonies individually so numerous that the railway companies are troubled to find the necessary cars for transportation. Foreigners, New Englanders, Middle State people, Illinoisians and representatives of nearly all the states of the northeast are among the proposed settlers. The territory embraces 96,000 acres. On the eastern boundary it is about 454 miles in a straight line from north to south, and the territory embraces about 150,860 square miles. The wheat belt extends from the forty-fourth degree of north latitude to the northern boundary. In the northern portion of the territory the ground freezes in the winter to a depth sometimes of five or six feet, but the frost furnishes moisture for the roots of the wheat stalks, so that a crop could be raised successfully with little or no rain. For spring wheat there is probably no better soil or climate in the United States than can be found in this portion of Dakota.

## Tree Planting.

By the following circular sent out from the office of the general manager of the N. P., it will be seen that the company intend to push the work of planting trees along the line:

## NORTHERN PACIFIC RAILROAD COMPANY'S OFFICE OF GENERAL MANAGER.

ST. PAUL, MINN., April 1, 1882. CIRCULAR NO. 23. Mr. Leonard B. Hodges has been appointed superintendent of tree planting on the Northern Pacific Railroad. As the operations to be conducted under the charge of Mr. Hodges are of great importance and must be performed with the utmost expedition at such seasons as are favorable to them, all officers, agents and employees of the company are requested to facilitate the work of Mr. Hodges to the greatest possible extent, and afford any assistance that may be in their power. Mr. Hodges will be allowed free transportation for his men and supplies, and the telegraph between stations on the line, for the necessary business in which he is engaged. Heads of departments will give instructions accordingly to their subordinates and especially to afford rapid transit, and give special care to all plants, cuttings, and young trees offered for transportation, and to avoid exposure to the sun on platforms or elsewhere,—a single day of such exposure often being sufficient to destroy the vitality of the plant. Where plantations are gardens or flower-beds are located at or near stations, they will be placed under the special charge of the agent, who will be responsible for them, and will be expected to conform strictly to all instructions that may be given by Mr. Hodges in reference thereto. It is desired that all officers and agents of the Northern Pacific Railroad company shall take a special interest in promoting the success of the operations under the charge of Mr. Hodges, and assist him in every possible way in procuring labor, supplies and prompt transportation.

## H. HAUT, General Manager.

A Squaw Murders Her Buck. Bismarck Tribune. A young squaw murdered her buck, or husband, with an ax at the Standing Rock agency last Tuesday. The circumstances of the killing as they were yesterday gleaned from Billy Bruigher, Gen. Miles' noted scout, who had just arrived from the scene of the tragedy, are substantially these: The murdered buck and also the squaw, belonged to the hostile camp. They came into the agency headquarters last Monday in order to be on hand for the issue of beef, etc., which occurred on the following day. Monday night the Indian attended a dance, and during the excitement of the gyrations, and in presence of prettier faces he "threw his squaw away." The white discards, abandons, or "shakes" his wife when he becomes tired of her, but the red man has a different mode. He calls it "throwing her away," and generally does it in some such public manner as above stated. While engaged in the dance he announced the fact that he then and there "threw her away," that anybody who wanted her could have her "without money and without price." This was a disgrace to the woman, and the next day,

while her heartless husband was bending over the carcass of a deer, she stealthily approached him with an ax in her hand and laid him out dead under a snail-cutting his head wide open with two blows from the ax. When the Tribune's informant left there the squaw was still running at large. In answer to the questions as to what would be done with the murderer Bruigher said, "Oh, nothing, I guess unless the whites interfere."

This is another instance demonstrating the fact that trouble, deep, despondent provoking affairs of the heart, and all the other disturbing elements of the mind are not exclusively borne by frontier journalists and the rich generally, but in the camp of the poor, untutored savage Cupid holds his sway so solidly as to goad the fittest to the commission of the greatest crime of the decalogue.

The Fraternity. The other day I stood within the composing-room of a great daily newspaper. There was nothing to delight the eye—no pictures, statues, or sumptuous furniture. Serious-looking men were standing before their cases so fixed that nothing less than the falling of the roof would have distracted the attention. Scarcely a sound was audible but the faint click of the type falling into place. I never before realized so forcibly the cause why newspaper printers are, as it is said, naturally cynical. To-day they set up the type that tells the world of rejoicings and festivity, to-morrow the same type is made to proclaim disaster and mourning; the same type which carries to 10,000 homes the inaugural message of the ruler of 50,000,000 of people has not time to lose its sharpness by use before it is employed to report the funeral oration in the capitol in memory of the same man. The momentary contraction of the forefinger of a despicable wretch levels exalted hopes and robs the whole civilized world in sable. If there be a spot on earth where the instability of human affairs is epitomized hourly, it is in the composing room of a daily newspaper.

Engineer Thompson. Mr. Fred Thompson has sent a communication to the Pioneer Press, claiming that injustice has been done in charging him with the responsibility of causing the accident on the Northern Pacific at Spiritwood, March 26. The reports made were taken from official dates, and hence were presumably correct.

Mr. Thompson states that he left Fargo at 9 p. m. of Saturday with an extra freight train. Before arriving at Valley City a dense fog began to settle, so that by the time he left he could not see two car lengths ahead, even by the reflection of the headlight. Between Sixth Siding and Spiritwood there are buildings on either side to serve as landmarks. The fog was so thick he could hardly discern the telegraph poles. Before reaching the station he became uncertain as to his whereabouts and while attending to his engine, missed the whistling post. Judging he was near the station he says he shut off steam and reversed. He judges he was running at the rate of fifteen or eighteen miles per hour, and when the collision occurred that his speed was six or eight miles per hour. Mr. Thompson alleges that he is made the scape goat for the blame, and claims that the responsibility for the accident should be shared by others. He concludes by asserting that he was arrested for misdemeanor and not for manslaughter.

## Shanty Town Shook.

Grand Forks Herald. A buxom grass widow weighing some 150 or 175 pounds came here from Southern Minnesota and took up her abode in the winter palaces of shanty town. At present she is the figure head in a scandal which is agitating the shanty townsmen severely, and shaken that quarter of the city from center to circumference, with a shake of virtuous and righteous indignation. It seems that she made the acquaintance of a nice young man, who lives in a shack during the winter time and farms it on his claim during the summer. Their acquaintance ripened into a fervid intimacy, which excited the suspicions of their neighbors. The woman was in the habit of visiting her man at unseemly hours and then remaining all night. During a visit Sunday night, some of those watching the progress of affairs, fastened the door of the young man's shack on the outside. When the time for the fair one's departure came, she was forced to make her exit through a small window, being boosted up by her Lothario. The young man in question has borne an irreproachable reputation heretofore and is quite prominent in church circles.

Getting Homes. The past week has been a lively one at the United States land office in Fargo, and the entries in each class have been much larger than usual. The receipts for the week ending March 31 were \$13,591.45. The following is the business of the week:

|                                  | No. | ACRES. |
|----------------------------------|-----|--------|
| Homesteads                       | 66  | 10,560 |
| Tree claims                      | 55  | 8,000  |
| Declaratory statements           | 70  | 11,200 |
| Soldiers' declaratory statements | 17  | 2,200  |
| Final proofs                     | 38  | 6,080  |
| Total                            | 246 | 30,300 |

## Dakota Republican: The average eastern editor knows about as much about Dakota as he does of the country at the North Pole.

The New York Sun is very patriotically opposed to the admission of our sparsely settled country, with all our rascality, iniquity, etc. Our unholy political ambitions, our wonderful facility for getting hold of Uncle Sam's land, and our particular facility for impoverishing school lands, and then stealing them out, right, are very reprehensible in the eyes of Mr. Dana. Of course our legislative assembly, Lawrence county, Yankton county, Pembina county, etc., all figure in the picture of the Sun. It seems as though there was something familiar about all this.

Col. Steele, of Cheyenne, informs the Deadwood Times that one hundred miles of the Black Hills branch of the Union Pacific railroad would surely be built this season.

St. Louis, April 3.—Brief dispatches from St. Joseph, Mo., state that Chas. and Robert Ford, who at one time belonged to the James' gang, and who were engaged in the Blue Cut train robbery have been in St. Joe for a week; the purpose of arresting Jesse James, but are afraid, as is alleged, to make the attempt, shot him down at 1.30 on Lafayette street and then surrendered to the authorities and were lodged in jail there.

St. Louis, April 3.—This afternoon the ice in the Missouri broke and commenced running out slowly. The river is between twenty and twenty-five feet lower than it was at the break up last year, and no trouble is anticipated. Steamboat men report that if no gorges form the river will be pretty well cleared of ice in twenty-four hours.

St. Louis, April 3.—Information has just reached here that Jesse James, the notorious train robber, was killed to-day at or near St. Joseph, Missouri. Particulars will be forwarded as soon as they are received.

Poplar River, April 3.—The ice in the Missouri river at this point broke up this morning and the river will soon be clear.

St. Joe, Mo., April 4.—Dime Novel Mrs. Samuels, mother of the dead robber, arrived here at 4.45 this morn. from her home in Clay county. She is a large woman, about fifty-seven years of age, black hair well sprinkled with gray. She was increased upon her arrival about the dead man being the same, and was not fully convinced until she was driven to his late residence, where she was met by the widow who embraced the old lady and both manifested great emotion. Mrs. Samuels accompanied by Mrs. James and her children were driven to the undertakers, where they viewed the body of Jesse and the scene was very affecting. The mother and wife and children all joined in heart rending lamentation. Mrs. Samuels said the body was that of her son, and in great emotion exclaimed: "Would to God it was not." The mother and wife were driven to St. Joseph and was driven to the court house, where she was to testify in the coroners' inquest, then in progress.

The coroners' jury assembled at 9 a. m. The court room was crowded to saturation, there being no standing room inside, while crowds stood in the corridors unable to gain admission. The most intense interest was manifested and the closest attention paid to the testimony.

St. Louis, April 4.—The Ford brothers, who killed Jesse James yesterday, reside on a farm about two miles from Richland, the county seat of Roy county, this State. Robert, who did the shooting, is only about 20 years old. They are said to have been rendezvoused with the James gang, and that Dick Little killed Wood White, brother of Clarence White, who was recently sentenced to 25 years and is now in prison. It is said that the brothers belonged to the James gang at one time, but this statement does not seem verified. The family came from Virginia about 15 years ago and has always been considered very respectable. For some time past both brothers are believed to have been in the detective service and especially engaged in hunting out members of the notorious James gang. Their aunt, Mrs. Beal, as now reported, is supposed to be the lady who recently had the secret interview with Gov. Crittenden at Jefferson City. Gov. Crittenden at the request of the police ordered the military at St. Joseph last night to guard the body of the dead outlaw, as it was feared that an attempt would be made to capture it. He has ordered out parts of two companies at Kansas City to serve as guards.

Miles City, April 4.—Lots in the new town of Billings, Montana, have been sold here during the past week to the amount of over \$10,000. In two days \$50,000 worth of town lots were disposed of, at an average price of \$100 per lot. As high as \$500 has been offered for business lots.

A New York capitalist has donated a church and a school house, which will be erected soon. Contracts are now pending for a new hotel.

During the coming week the bank of H. Clark & Co. will be opened by Mr. G. B. Hulme, the cashier, who is now waiting here for the required books.

Engineers leave here to-morrow on behalf of the Northern Pacific to make a scientific investigation of the Maginnis gold mines. The excitement created by the reports from there and the news that congress has withdrawn the funds belonging to the Crow reservation, has created a stampede to the Upper Yellowstone country which bids fair to depopulate the Black Hills.

Washington, April 4.—The senate committee on public lands reported a bill providing that there shall be no more by the president and by advice and consent of the senate not exceeding five inspectors and surveyors, who shall each be entitled to a salary of \$2,000 per year. They shall be under the commission of the general land office. Their duty shall be to inspect the surveyor general's office and district land offices and the operations of the public land system. They shall have authority at all times to examine the records and records of the surveyor general and all district land offices.

New York, April 4.—The funeral of Cornelius Vanderbilt took place this forenoon from the Church of the Strangers. William H. Vanderbilt, his son, and nearly all the members of the family were present. A delegation of the Associated Pioneers of California, were in attendance. The services for the burial of the dead was read by the Rev. Dr. Deems, and at the close the remains were taken to the Grand Central depot where they were placed on a special train for removal to Hartford, Conn., for interment.

Washington, April 4.—The president sent a message to the senate regarding the Chinese bill. The message was received at 1:20 p. m., and was read immediately. The president said that after a careful consideration he returned the bill with his objections. He said that it conflicted with treaty obligations, and was a violation of the faith of the nation, and he hoped that congress would endeavor to pass another that would meet the wishes of the people of the United States and not conflict with the rights of China.

## WIRE WARBLINGS.

St. Louis, April 3.—Brief dispatches from St. Joseph, Mo., state that Chas. and Robert Ford, who at one time belonged to the James' gang, and who were engaged in the Blue Cut train robbery have been in St. Joe for a week; the purpose of arresting Jesse James, but are afraid, as is alleged, to make the attempt, shot him down at 1.30 on Lafayette street and then surrendered to the authorities and were lodged in jail there.

St. Louis, April 3.—This afternoon the ice in the Missouri broke and commenced running out slowly. The river is between twenty and twenty-five feet lower than it was at the break up last year, and no trouble is anticipated. Steamboat men report that if no gorges form the river will be pretty well cleared of ice in twenty-four hours.

St. Louis, April 3.—Information has just reached here that Jesse James, the notorious train robber, was killed to-day at or near St. Joseph, Missouri. Particulars will be forwarded as soon as they are received.

Poplar River, April 3.—The ice in the Missouri river at this point broke up this morning and the river will soon be clear.

St. Joe, Mo., April 4.—Dime Novel Mrs. Samuels, mother of the dead robber, arrived here at 4.45 this morn. from her home in Clay county. She is a large woman, about fifty-seven years of age, black hair well sprinkled with gray. She was increased upon her arrival about the dead man being the same, and was not fully convinced until she was driven to his late residence, where she was met by the widow who embraced the old lady and both manifested great emotion. Mrs. Samuels accompanied by Mrs. James and her children were driven to the undertakers, where they viewed the body of Jesse and the scene was very affecting. The mother and wife and children all joined in heart rending lamentation. Mrs. Samuels said the body was that of her son, and in great emotion exclaimed: "Would to God it was not." The mother and wife were driven to St. Joseph and was driven to the court house, where she was to testify in the coroners' inquest, then in progress.

The coroners' jury assembled at 9 a. m. The court room was crowded to saturation, there being no standing room inside, while crowds stood in the corridors unable to gain admission. The most intense interest was manifested and the closest attention paid to the testimony.

St. Louis, April 4.—The Ford brothers, who killed Jesse James yesterday, reside on a farm about two miles from Richland, the county seat of Roy county, this State. Robert, who did the shooting, is only about 20 years old. They are said to have been rendezvoused with the James gang, and that Dick Little killed Wood White, brother of Clarence White, who was recently sentenced to 25 years and is now in prison. It is said that the brothers belonged to the James gang at one time, but this statement does not seem verified. The family came from Virginia about 15 years ago and has always been considered very respectable. For some time past both brothers are believed to have been in the detective service and especially engaged in hunting out members of the notorious James gang. Their aunt, Mrs. Beal, as now reported, is supposed to be the lady who recently had the secret interview with Gov. Crittenden at Jefferson City. Gov. Crittenden at the request of the police ordered the military at St. Joseph last night to guard the body of the dead outlaw, as it was feared that an attempt would be made to capture it. He has ordered out parts of two companies at Kansas City to serve as guards.

Miles City, April 4.—Lots in the new town of Billings, Montana, have been sold here during the past week to the amount of over \$10,000. In two days \$50,000 worth of town lots were disposed of, at an average price of \$100 per lot. As high as \$500 has been offered for business lots.

A New York capitalist has donated a church and a school house, which will be erected soon. Contracts are now pending for a new hotel.

During the coming week the bank of H. Clark & Co. will be opened by Mr. G. B. Hulme, the cashier, who is now waiting here for the required books.

Engineers leave here to-morrow on behalf of the Northern Pacific to make a scientific investigation of the Maginnis gold mines. The excitement created by the reports from there and the news that congress has withdrawn the funds belonging to the Crow reservation, has created a stampede to the Upper Yellowstone country which bids fair to depopulate the Black Hills.

Washington, April 4.—The senate committee on public lands reported a bill providing that there shall be no more by the president and by advice and consent of the senate not exceeding five inspectors and surveyors, who shall each be entitled to a salary of \$2,000 per year. They shall be under the commission of the general land office. Their duty shall be to inspect the surveyor general's office and district land offices and the operations of the public land system. They shall have authority at all times to examine the records and records of the surveyor general and all district land offices.

New York, April 4.—The funeral of Cornelius Vanderbilt took place this forenoon from the Church of the Strangers. William H. Vanderbilt, his son, and nearly all the members of the family were present. A delegation of the Associated Pioneers of California, were in attendance. The services for the burial of the dead was read by the Rev. Dr. Deems, and at the close the remains were taken to the Grand Central depot where they were placed on a special train for removal to Hartford, Conn., for interment.

Washington, April 4.—The president sent a message to the senate regarding the Chinese bill. The message was received at 1:20 p. m., and was read immediately. The president said that after a careful consideration he returned the bill with his objections. He said that it conflicted with treaty obligations, and was a violation of the faith of the nation, and he hoped that congress would endeavor to pass another that would meet the wishes of the people of the United States and not conflict with the rights of China.