THE VERMONT COLUMN

HAS SOMETHING TO SAY OF LAW-BREAKERS.

The Rockingham Hotel Raided and Liquor Found—A Horse Thief on Trial in Middlebury—News of a Less Sensational Nature.

Bellows Falls, Vt., Dec. 23.—On complaint of State's Attorney Fitts, Officers Thompson and Buemond tonight raided the Rockingham Hotel, one of the largest hotels here. They secured two or three gallons of whiskey. Citizens generally will be interested in the hearing to be held tomorrow afternoon, because the proprietor was fined on October 2nd for a first offense of selling and again December 16 for 19 offenses as a common seller under the law. The latter fine was $100.

CONGREGATIONALISTS MEET.

St. Johnsbury, Dec. 23.—The 31st annual meeting of the Passumpsic Congregational club was held to-night, the recession at the museum being followed by the election of those officers:

President, Rev. Dr. A. H. Heath of St. Johnsbury; first vice president, W. J. Tucker of Dartmouth; second vice-president, F. W. Baldwin of Barton; secretary, Rev. J. K. Fuller of Barton Landing; treasurer, Homer E. Smith of St. Johnsbury. Supper was served at the North church followed by a scholarly address by ex-President Bartlett of Dartmouth, and a poem by Mrs. S. T. Brooks of St. Johnsbury. The address of the evening was by President Tucker upon "Puritanism at the close of the 19th century." Twenty members joined the club and five new members were proposed for membership.

ST. ALBANS' ARRANGEMENT.

St. Albans, Dec. 23.—The village authorities served notice Saturday night at all the places in town where liquor was sold that the bars must be closed Sunday and no liquor sold. As far as can be learned the orders were strictly observed and thirsty St. Albanians went dry. The order is to remain in force in the future. The proprietors of the places generally express satisfaction and say they are glad to close if no one else keeps open.

INTERESTING TURF DECISION.

A Middlebury Contest Settled by National Trotting Association.

Middlebury, Dec. 21.—Secretary Frank C. Dyer of the Addison County Agricultural society has received official notice from the National Trotting association of their disposition of the protest of H. M. Johnson of Brandon in the 2:35 class race at the county fair here last September. The race was a peculiarly exciting one and as there was considerable money staked on it, it created a good deal of interest. There were many kicks against the decision of the judges, and it was hard to get any two disinterested men to think alike about it. It will be remembered that on the first day of the race, Bay Billy, entered by William H. Taft of Middlebury, Richard Gillig, entered by H. M. Johnson of Brandon and Burlington Belle, entered by William Cota of Burlington each won two heats in the order named, when it became so dark that the concluding heat was postponed until the next day. In the seventh heat the next morning, Richard Gillig came in a little ahead of Bay Billy with Burlington Belle a good distance in the rear. The judges decided it a dead heat, and on the eighth and last heat Burlington Belle came in ahead with Bay Billy second and Gillig third. The judges thereupon gave first money to Burlington Belle, second to Bay Billy and third to Richard Gillig.

Not now comes the decision of the board of review of the National Trotting association, which sustains Mr. Johnson's protest in part. It gives Bay Billy first money, setting Richard Gillig back for running in the seventh heat, gives Richard Gillig second money and distances Burlington Belle for foul driving in the seventh heat, giving her no money instead of first money, as the judges awarded her here.

ADDISON COUNTY COURT.

A Man on Trial Charged With Larceny of a Horse.

Middlebury, Dec. 19.—The case of State vs. Henry Carpenter for arson came on again this morning and took up all regular time of the day. The evidence in chief for the State had been completed last evening and a beginning was made on that for the defense. There had been considerable curiosity as to what the prisoner's defence could be, and it was early gratified. Respondent Carpenter was put on the stand in his own behalf. He can't talk very good English, but testified that he did not set the fire and that the confession which he made that he did so was scared out of him by threats that in fact he was forced and intimidated into making it. The defence have got on a number of witnesses to-day to support Carpenter's story, these being for the most part relatives of the respondent. It is also claimed by the defence that the last blocks destroyed some 20,000 in number, were worth upwards of $2,500 and that the insurance of $900 on them was therefore not excessive. Evidence of a contract for the sale of a large part of them to a Massachusetts company, provided they were in good condition, was put in by the defence, who maintain that the blocks were in good and saleable condition and that it would be absurd to burn up $2,500 worth of property in order to get $900 of insurance. The evidence is not yet all in and the case will probably take up another day at least.

Court came in this afternoon at 2 o'clock in order to hear a divorce case, the first one of the term. It was Ida Irving vs. Albert W. Irving, and the causes alleged were refused to support and adultery. Judge J. N. Slade appeared for the petitioner and there was no defense. Decision was reserved.

Middlebury, Dec. 20.—The arson case again occupied nearly all the time of the court to-day. The respondent himself was on the stand for an hour and a half this morning and denied everything which the State claimed to have proven against him except that he had made the confession of his guilt as charged by the State, but that it was made under advice, inducements offered and threats made by other parties. The prosecution put on several witnesses in rebuttal and the evidence for both sides was closed at 2:15 o'clock this afternoon.

William H. Biles of Burlington made the opening plea for the prosecution, Charles W. Wilds, for the respondent, presented to the court five requests to charge the jury. D. J. Foster of Burlington followed and Mr. Wilds closed the argument for the respondent. A recess was then taken till 9 o'clock to-morrow morning, at which time State's Attorney Fish will make the closing argument for the State and the case will probably get to the jury by 10:30 o'clock.

John Munger of Orwell, who lives three miles from the village, came into court just before the noon recess and pleaded guilty to an information filed against him a year ago charging him with selling cider contrary to law. The respondent was fined $20 and costs, which he paid.

Middlebury, Dec. 22.—Considerable business was done in the County Court yesterday. In the morning State's Attorney Fish made the closing argument for the State in the case against Henry Carpenter for arson. The jury came in at 2 o'clock and brought in a verdict that the prisoner was not guilty.

When the above case was given to the jury yesterday forenoon, Judge Taft announced the decision of the court in the divorce case of Ida Irvings vs. Albert W. Irving. The count for adultery was dismissed and the bill was granted for wilful and cruel neglect to support. Judge J. M. Slade for the libellant, no appearance for the petitioner.

Edward Garro, whose home is in Essex, N. Y., was in court and plead guilty to an indictment charging him with burglarizing freight cars and larceny therefrom at Vergennes while he was a brakeman last summer. Garro pleaded guilty and was remanded for sentence. It is understood that he has a wife and children residing in Essex.

Two more respondents then entered their plea. They were George and William Vanderburgh of Port Henry, N. Y., who were jointly indicted at this term for illegal fishing in Lake Champlain at Ferrisburgh in August last. Both pleaded guilty. The court fined them $200 each without costs, which was all he could do under the statute.

Before the jury in the Carpenter case came in Charles Ware, alias Charles Warren, was brought into court and pleaded not guilty to an indictment charging him with the larceny of a horse, buggy, robes, harness and whip from Austin Booth of Ferrisburgh several weeks ago. W. W. Bixler of Bristol was assigned to defend Ware, and the case will come on the latter part of next week.

There will probably be five or six more criminal cases to come to trial during the term.

The first respondent up for sentence was Edward Hart, who was convicted last Tuesday of having been found with burglars' tools in his possession at Vergennes in November, 1894. The court then sentenced the respondent to serve 10 years at hard labor in the State prison at Windsor to pay a fine of $1 and to stand committed until the sentence was complied with.

This afternoon upon the opening of the court there were four respondents in court to await their fate from Judge Taft. Alexander Fuller, an 18-year-old boy pleaded guilty to an indictment charging him with the larceny of a watch and chain from a lady in Addison for whom he had been at work some months ago. He was sentenced to serve one year in the House of Correction in Rutland.

Next came the King brothers, Clayton and George King of East Middlebury, who a week ago last Saturday were convicted of impeding Officer W. S. Tisdale of East Middlebury in the discharge of his duty October 31 last, and the sentence was that each of the respondents should be confined in the House of Correction in Rutland for a period of six months, pay all costs of prosecution and stand committed until sentence is complied with.

In the present condition of business it looks as though there will be no recess over Christmas.

Middlebury, Dec. 23.—The County Court resumed business at 10:15 this morning and another criminal case was at once started. It is State vs. William Hardy, and the respondent stands indicted for the larceny of a horse, buggy and equipments from O. C. Huntley of Leicester Junction on the 5th of July last. It is claimed by the State that Hardy hired the rig from Huntley on the understanding that he was to go to Chipman's Point on this side of the lake in Orwell and get his wife and bring her back to Leicester, the woman being supposed to be on the other side of the lake. Instead of carrying out this programme, Hardy tried to trade the horse at least twice before he got to the lake and then went along to Port Henry and from there to North Hudson, N. Y., where two of Mr. Huntley's sons found him the next night with the rig in his possession. The defence claims that the respondent was simply out on a drunk and had no intention of stealing the property. The evidence was closed this afternoon and the jury will get it for consideration sometime to-morrow forenoon. State's Attorney Fish is prosecuting and the Button brothers of Middlebury appear for the prisoner. He has been in jail here under bonds since the time of the alleged larceny.

DEATH OF MRS. PHELPS IN BARRE.

Barre, Dec. 23.—Mrs. H. M. Phelps of Reading, Pa., widow of the late George W. Phelps died very suddenly at the residence of S. S. Ballard in this city, about noon to-day. Mrs. Phelps, who had been making an extended visit in this State having left her home five weeks ago, had just arrived from St. Johnsbury. She walked from the station to Mr. Ballard's residence, and upon her arrival appeared to be in excellent health. She had been there only a very few moments and had not removed her wraps when she sat down in a chair, and almost immediately expired. Dr. J. Henry Jackson was summoned and pronounced it a case of heart failure. Mrs. Phelps was 62 years old. She was a native of Cambridge and was, before her marriage, Miss Hattie M. Chadwick. In early life she lived in Burlington, where her father was proprietor of what is now the Sherwood House. Mrs. Phelps left no children. Her funeral will be held at Shelburne Thursday at 1:30 p. m.

VERMONT DAIRYMEN'S MEETING.

The 26th Annual Gathering at Rutland Next Month.

Rutland, Dec. 23.—The 26th annual meeting and dairy exhibit of the Vermont Dairymen's association will be held in this city January 7, 8 and 9. The officers of the association are making every effort to make the meeting one of interest and practical value to every farmer and dairyman who may attend. Practical dairymen from different parts of the country have been engaged to address the people on the most important subjects pertaining to dairying.

Among the speakers are Prof. L. L. Van Slyke, New York Experiment Station; Prof. J. L. Hills, Burlington; Hon. Z. A. Gilbert, North Greene, Me.; Prof. W. O. Atwater, Middletown, Conn.; Hon. C. M. Winslow, Brandon; Hon. C. J. Bell, Walden; Hon. V. I. Spear, Braintree, and other prominent speakers. The Ladies' Auxiliary meeting will be held on Tuesday evening, January 7.

The sum of $50 in cash prizes is offered as premiums in the different classes named in the dairy exhibit, also many other valuable prizes, including a valuable Baldwin refrigerator, gold watches, etc. Every prize winner in butter and cheese classes is sure of receiving at least two valuable newspapers for one year.

Special reduced fares will be given on the railroads in Vermont and reduced hotel rates of $1.50 per day will be given by the Bardwell and Berwick hotels to people attending the meeting.

NO APPROPRIATION VOTED.

Bellows Falls, Dec. 23.—A largely attended meeting to-day of the voters of the town of Rockingham refused to appropriate $5,000 for a new High school building, but appointed a committee to investigate the necessities and report at a later meeting.

A NEW GAME BIRD.

Shelburne, Dec. 23.—N. P. Leach, chairman of the committee on new game, has received a consignment of West Virginia quail for distribution throughout the State. These birds, besides being one of the finest of game birds, are great destroyers of the farmers' pest—the potato bug—which should make their introduction here doubly welcome.

HOLMES APPEALS TO SUPREME COURT.

Philadelphia, Dec. 20.—An appeal to the Supreme Court was taken yesterday by Attorney Rotan of counsel for H. H. Holmes, the convicted murderer. The argument in the case before the Supreme Court is set down for Monday, Jan. 20, 1896.

CHOSE THE BEST MEN.

SENIORITY DISREGARDED IN SPEAKER REED'S COMMITTEES.

New England Well Remembered in Chairmanships—Dingley Heads the Ways and Means—H. H. Powers Chairman of Pacific Railways.

Washington, Dec. 22.—Speaker Reed has appointed his committees, and the House is organized. The selections will cause surprise in many respects, but in none other more than that the principle of seniority has been so conspicuously disregarded. The keynote of the policy in accordance with which the committees have been framed, may, perhaps, best be discovered in the committee on appropriations and ways and means. Speaker Reed has made Mr. Dingley of Maine chairman of the committee on ways and means, and Mr. Cannon of Illinois, chairman of the committee on appropriations. Neither of these gentlemen, if the principle of seniority controlled, would have been made chairmen of these committees. Yet the choice of both of them is eminently fit, and will meet the sincere judicial approval of the House and of the country. Mr. Dingley was not even a member of the committee on ways and means in the last Congress, and consequently was not in the republican remnant of the committee.

Mr. Reed has departed from the precedent that has been followed by probably all of his predecessors, and has constituted his committees on the principle of fitness and merit and without regard to the ancient usages of the House, or to personal, party or political preference. He has shown a great deal of courage in this respect, in that he has not only defied the usages of the House, and of the Congress, but has disregarded the strongest ties of personal comradeship and friendship. The selection of Mr. Cannon of Illinois as chairman of the committee on appropriations is one of the typical feats of the method which has been adopted in the organization of the House. Mr. Cannon, because of the mere accident that he was not elected to one Congress, by reason of a Cleveland tidal wave, although he has been 20 years a member of Congress, was not the ranking republican member of the remnant of the appropriations committee. Gen. Henderson of Iowa was 12 advance of him. Moreover, Gen. Henderson was a very close personal friend of the speaker, and has never been brought into antagonism with him. Mr. Cannon, on the other hand, in consequence of his independence, and the courage with which he avows and adheres to his opinion has on different occasions when he has differed with the speaker, publicly said so, and has not shrunk from the avowal of his opinion because of the commanding position of Mr. Reed.

The more important committees in full are:

Rules—The speaker, D. B. Henderson of Iowa, John Dalzell of Pennsylvania, C. F. Crisp of Georgia, Benton McMillin of Tennessee.

Ways and Means—Republicans 11, democrats 6: Nelson Dingley, jr., of Maine, Serene E. Payne of New York, John Dalzell of Pennsylvania, Albert J. Hopkins of Illinois, C. H. Grosvenor of Ohio, Charles Russell of Connecticut, J. P. Dolliver of Iowa, George Steel of Indiana, M. N. Johnson of North Dakota, Walker Evans of Kentucky, J. A. Tawney of Minnesota; Charles F. Crisp of Georgia, Benton McMillan of Tennessee, Harvey G. Turner of Georgia, John G. Tarsney of Missouri, James Wheelock of Alabama, J. J. McLaurin of South Carolina.

Foreign affairs—R. R. Hitt of Illinois, W. E. Draper of Massachusetts, R. Adams, jr., of Pennsylvania, Leonard E. Quigg of New York, Robert Cousins of Iowa, Charles P. Taft of Ohio, William A. Smith of Michigan, Joel P. Heathole of Minnesota, Richmond Pearsons of North Carolina, J. E. McCreary of Kentucky, Andrew Price of Louisiana, H. St. G. Tucker of Virginia, Hugh A. Dinsmore of Arkansas, Hernando D. Money of Mississippi, F. G. Newlands of Nevada.

Banking and currency—Republicans 11, democrats 6; Joseph H. Walker of Massachusetts, Marriat Broome of Pennsylvania, H. N. Johnson of Indiana, Henry C. Van Voorhis of Ohio, J. H. McCleary of Minnesota, Charles M. Fowler of New Jersey, Jacob Leferve of New York, George Spaulding of Michigan, W. A. Calderwood of Kansas, E. J. Hill of Connecticut, E. D. Cooke of Illinois, Jackson Cox of Tennessee, Seth W. Cobb of Alabama, J. C. C. Black of Georgia, Francis G. Newlands of Nevada, John K. Rowen of Maryland.

Merchant marine and fisheries—S. E. Payne of New York, chairman.

Rivers and harbors—W. B. Hooker of New York, chairman.

Coinage, weights and measures—Republicans 9, democrats 6: Charles W. Stone of Pennsylvania, Marion N. Johnson of North Dakota, C. A. Hartman of Montana, Henry C. Loudenslager of New York, W. F. L. Hadley of Illinois, Addison S. McClure of Ohio, Ben T. Fairchild of New York, H. C. Loudenslager of New Jersey, delegate Frank J. Cannon of Utah, John W. Allen of Mississippi, J. H. Bankhead of Alabama, Thomas C. McRae of Arkansas, S. M. Sparkman of Florida, James G. Spencer of Mississippi, B. H. Clark of Alabama.

Judiciary—Republicans 11, democrats 6, D. B. Henderson of Iowa, chairman.

Postoffice and post routes—Republicans 8, democrats 2: E. L. Loud, California, chairman.

Elections—Charles Daniels of New York, chairman.

Elections No. 2—H. N. Johnson of Indiana, chairman.

Elections No. 3—Samuel McCall of Massachusetts, chairman.

Appropriations—Cannon, Illinois, chairman. This committee includes Grout of Vermont.

Military affairs—Republicans 9, democrats 6: John A. T. Hull, Iowa, chairman.

Public buildings and grounds—Republicans 10, democrats 5: Seth L. Milliken of Maine, chairman.

Pacific railways—Republicans 9, democrats 6: H. Henry Powers of Vermont, chairman.

Interstate and commerce—Hepburn of Iowa, chairman.

When the reading of the committees was concluded, the committee on appropriations and ways and means were authorized to sit during the holiday recess, and the House then at 12:35 p. m. adjourned until Monday.

Expenditures in the war department—Republicans 7, democrats 3: W. W. Grout of Vermont, chairman.

Education—Republicans 7, democrats 3: Galusha A. Grow of Pennsylvania, chairman.

Pensions—Republicans 8, democrats 5: Henry C. Loudenslager of New York, chairman.

Committee on naval affairs—Charles A. Boutelle of Maine, chairman.

J. O CUMMINGS ARRESTED

Charged With Shooting Into a Neighbor's Window.

Grafton, Vt., Dec. 20.—Officers Clarke of Grafton and Wright of Saxton's River arrested John Q. Cummings last night in Cloughsville and lodged him in the Newfane jail. Cummings has been indicted for deliberately shooting through a window of the dwelling of D. A. Thomas of this town, on the night of July 2. He escaped from the officers July 13 and they had been unable to locate him since. He was a merchant and his store has been closed out at auction to pay his fines for selling liquor, to which pleas of guilty were made by his attorney since his disappearance. He was found at the home of his brother.

COL. B. B. SMALLEY SPEAKS.

Thinks it Would be an Easy Thing to Capture Canada.

New York, Dec. 23.—The man who attracted most attention and was the centre of a group of prominent men who were discussing the effects of Cleveland's message, was Col. Bradley B. Smalley, collector of the port of Burlington, Vt. He knows all about the defenses of Canada and Nova Scotia. "England," he said, "would, of course, sweep us from the seas, but that would be all. We would capture every foot of English territory in those waters. Canada would be captured easily."

"How about the fortifications of Montreal and Quebec?" asked several.

"They amount to nothing. Why, with one regiment of Clausen's and a small Fourth of July cannon we could sweep away the alleged fortifications of Montreal. And as for Quebec, it has a wall on a hill, but that is all. It could easily be captured. I know Canada well, because I have railroaded it there for nearly forty years. Nova Scotia has probably the best fortification, but a small effort would easily capture it. All this talk about England having gunboats on the great lakes now is nonsense. There are a few measly, ramshackle revenue cutters, which could do little or no damage. The capture of Canada could easily be effected. England after the war was over would be minus every possession on this continent save Demerara, which is too far south for us to care anything about it."

SMUGGLING CHINAMEN CAPTURED.

Four Chinamen, who attempted to smuggle themselves across the border, were caught on Wednesday of last week by C. M. Fletcher, the deputy collector of customs stationed at Canaan, Vt. The team used in bringing the Celestials from Canada was seized by Mr. Fletcher at Canaan, and he then followed the trail of Chinamen to Northumberland, N. H., across the river from Gilfillan, Vt., where they were arrested and taken to Lancaster, N. H., for safe keeping.

GEN. GROUT'S BILLS.

Wants Fourth Class Postmasters Elected His Other Measures.

Washington, Dec. 21.—Gen. Grout has introduced a bill providing for the election of fourth class postmasters. It provides that no person whose appointment as postmaster is vested in the head of the postoffice department shall be eligible unless recommended by a majority of the legal voters for electors of president and vice-president, who are patrons of such office and reside within its delivery. The bill provides how the election shall be held and makes it unlawful for the appointing powers to refuse to appoint any such person so elected.

Gen. Grout has also introduced the following bills: A bill for the erection of a public building at Newport, Vt.; a bill to make oleomargarine and all other imitations of dairy products subject to the laws of the State or Territory into which they are transported. Also a bill providing that all soldiers who are now drawing or may hereafter draw pensions for disability incurred in the war of the rebellion shall receive for each and every 30 days' confinement in confederate prisons the sum of $2 per month in addition to the sum they may be entitled to under existing law. Also several private pension bills.