GOVERNOR VETOES HOUSE BILL 342

He Is Sustained in Declaring That Railroad Measure Is Unconstitutional.

VOTE CAST WAS UNANIMOUS

New Bills Introduced—Senate Disposes of Routine Work—Governor Talks to High School Students.

Montpelier, Dec. 5.—When the House convened this evening, the first half hour was devoted to the introduction of new bills an abstract of which may be found in the official report.

The Governor returned to the House without his approval House bill 342, "an act to provide for the ascertainment of damages in the event of the change of motive power by railroad corporations and street railroad companies," for the following reason:

"The bill entitled H. 342, an act to provide for the ascertainment of damages in the event of the change of motive power by railroad corporation and street railroad companies, seeks to delegate the right of eminent domain to the railroads operating under the provisions of this bill. But the bill makes no provisions for the ascertainment to the exercise of such power. Further, the bill contains no provision for the payment of damages when the property rights are taken. Therefore, in my judgment, the bill is in violation of article two of the constitution of the State of Vermont and hence unconstitutional. I therefore respectfully return this bill to the House of Representatives without my signature."

Mr. Amey of Brighton, who introduced the bill, stated that in his opinion the measure was unconstitutional. The House voted unanimously not to pass this bill over the Governor's veto, 159 being present. This is the bill that was introduced to save S. 12, the bill that provides for a change of motive power on railways now known as the bill to allow the New York, New Haven & Hartford road to run its trains into Bennington.

Senate 12 met with so many objections from the Governor that he refused to sign it until it was agreed that the bill he has now vetoed should be passed. Whether this bill actually corrected the objections raised by the Governor or whether it did not contain all he supposed it would is not known, at any rate S. 12 is safely a law.

WORK OF THE SENATE.

The Senate held a session of an hour and a quarter this evening and disposed of a lot of routine business that cleared the president's desk. Twenty-three senators were present. Senator Norton of Chittenden offered a joint resolution providing for the appointment of a commission to consist of the Governor and two other members to consider and report to the next Legislature on the part the State should take in the proposed semi-centennial of the battle of Gettysburg in 1913. Among the bills passed was the one giving the public service commission power to order the erection of a union station at Burlington. John D. Spellman of Rutland, who was one of Elroy Kent's counsel at his trial, is in Montpelier and will endeavor to get the opportunity to address the House when Kent's case comes up again to-morrow morning.

Upon the invitation of Principal Abbott Governor Mead this afternoon visited the high school here and gave a talk to the students. The Governor and Major Kingsley, secretary of civil and military affairs, were met at the Pavilion by the presidents of the four high school classes and escorted in a carriage to the school. In his talk Governor Mead spoke of the possibilities the future holds for every young person, told them something of the advantages of an education on agricultural lines and related his experience in teaching school in Montpelier. At that time the Governor was a medical student in Burlington and was called to Montpelier by his uncle, who was then principal of the school, and taught it for a week while his uncle was absent.

The Governor was met near the school building by the famous school fife and drum corps and when he reached the school eleven hundred children gave him cheer after cheer. The class presidents, who escorted the Governor were Masters Harold Pape, Ryland Taisy, Henry Colton and Henry Laird.

The status of business when the House met this evening was 222 bills in committee and 65 on the clerk's desk awaiting action.

OFFICIAL RECORD OF THE DAY

SENATE—EVENING

Called to order by president. Devotional exercises by chaplain.

Joint resolution that the pay of chaplain of the Senate and House be $4 per day and mileage was adopted on the part of the Senate.

Senator Coolidge asked that H. 126, relating to homicide, be laid on the table. This was agreed to.

Senator Archibald asked that H. 337 be ordered to lie as friends of the bill wish to add an amendment. Senator Lyford asked that H. 92 be ordered to lie. This was agreed to.

BILLS INTRODUCED.

S. 118.—By Senator Barden of Rutland, an act relating to orders of town road commissioners. Provides that all money expended upon highways, except in cities and incorporated villages, shall be drawn from the town treasury upon the order of town road commissioner to the party entitled thereto. Commissioner to keep a duplicate of same. General committee.

S. 117—By Senator Tuttle of Rutland, an act relating to licensing of dogs. Provides when a person becomes the owner of a dog after May 15, if the dog is four weeks old or more on April 1, shall pay license even if the dog is not in the State before May 15.

PASSED IN CONCURRENCE.

H. 316—To incorporate the Second Congregational Church in Bennington with proposed amendment.

H. 321—To incorporate the Ascutney Mountain association.

H. 354—Relating to confinement of persons acquitted by reason of insanity.

H. 366—Relating to discharge of mortgages.

H. 424—Ceding to United States jurisdiction of certain lands in this State.

H. 440—To incorporate the Orange County Electric railroad.

To pay O. E. Williams a certain sum.

READ THIRD TIME AND PASSED.

S. 31—Relating to certificates of appointment of notaries public and masters in chancery.

S. 62—Relating to indexing documents filed with town and city clerks.

S. 104—To provide a union station in the city of Burlington.

S. 114—Relating to admission and discharge voluntary patients of the insane hospital.

PASSED IN CONCURRENCE.

H. 458—To incorporate the New Haven West Cemetery association.

H. 461—To pay certain claims for cattle.

KILLED.

H. 480—To pay town of Chelsea a certain sum.

H. 485—To pay certain town treasurers certain sums.

H. 489—Concerning certain record evidence.

HOUSE BILLS REFERRED.

H. 6—Relating to free transportation. Committee on railroads.

H. 190—Relating to taxation of Masonic Building association. Committee on grand list.

H. 290—Granting certain powers to Jeffersonville. Committee on municipal corporations.

H. 216—Relating to toll bridges. Committee on highways and bridges.

H. 303—Relating to certificates of teachers. Committee on education.

H. 327—To legalize the grand list of the town of Morristown. Committee on grand list.

H. 368—Relating to probation of prisoners. Judiciary committee.

H. 373—To legalize the appraisal of the town of Grand Isle. Committee on grand list.

H. 385—To legalize appraisal of town of Highgate. Committee on grand list.

H. 440—To legalize appraisal of town of Newark. Committee on grand list.

H. 407—Granting additional powers to Springfield Electric railroad. Committee on railways.

H. 414—To incorporate Fraternal Aid society. Committee on corporations.

H. 464—To incorporate the Northern Traction company. Committee on street railways.

H. 472—Relating to cards of instruction. Committee on electricians.

H. 493—Relating to polls and tax inventories. Committee on grand list.

THIRD READING ORDERED.

H. 378—Relating to annual meeting of Milton graded school district.

On motion of Senator Butler, the Senate adjourned.

APPROVED BY THE GOVERNOR.

S. 26—An act relative to the transportation by street railway companies of pupils of public and private schools.

S. 75—An act to amend section 4093 of the public statutes as amended by section 6 of No. 59 of the acts of 1908 relating to scales for motor cycles.

Joint resolution originating in the Senate, entitled a joint resolution relating to adjournment out of respect to Matthew H. Buckham.

HOUSE—EVENING.

Devotional exercises were conducted by the chaplain.

BILLS INTRODUCED.

H. 538—By Mr. McHugh of Weybridge, to repeal section 551 of the public statutes, relating to deposits to avoid taxation. To judiciary committee.

H. 539—From committee on grand list, relating to the time within which certain duties required by chapters 30 to 34 inclusive of the public statutes shall be performed. Ordered to lie and be printed.

H. 540—From committe on claims, to pay Charles H. Powers the sum therein named. (Sixty-four dollars and fifty cents for capture of a horse thief). Ordered to lie and be printed.

H. 541—From committee on State and court expenses, in amendment of Sec. 6105 of the public statutes, relating to boards of employment. Ordered to lie and be printed.

H. 542—From committee on street railways, to amend Section 16 of No. 174 of the acts of 1898, as amended by Sec. 1 of No. 175 of the acts of 1902, and by Sec. 1 of No. 336 of the acts of 1906, relating to the Lake Dunmore Power & Traction company. Ordered to lie and be printed.

H. 543—From committee on grand list, to legalize the quadrennial appraisal of the town of Woodford for 1910. Ordered to lie and be printed.

H. 544—From committee on claims, to pay William A. Decker the sum therein named, (eighty-seven dollars and ten cents while acting as commissioner on Stannard monument). Ordered to lie and be printed.

H. 545—From committee on election. To amend section 538 of the public statutes, providing additional questions in taxpayers' inventories. Ordered to lie and be printed.

H. 546—By Mr. Pittridge of eLicester, to amend section 4005 of the public statutes, relating to expenditure of money on State roads. To committee on highways and bridges.

SENATE BILLS REFERRED.

S. 73—An act to change the name of Lyndon Academy and graded schools. To committee on corpuorations.

S. 74—Relating to the rating of automobiles and motor vehicles. To general committee.

S. 105—Relating to ballots cast at caucuses to committee on election.

S. 109—Relating to the liability of employers to employes. To judiciary committee.

APPROVED BY THE GOVERNOR.

H. 258—An act creating a board of armory commissioners and authorizing the purchase, construction and maintainence of armories for use of the Vermont National Guard.

H. 264—An act to incorporate the North Underhill Cemetery association.

H. 278—An act to incorporate the Troy Cemetery association.

H. 297—An act to amend the charter of the E. & T. Fairbanks & Co.

H. 304—An act securing to a town its share of public school money, although it has not maintained a legal school or schools the required number of weeks.

H. 356—An act to protect muskrats in Addison county.

H. 358—An act to amend section 2659 of the public statutes relating to liens on colts.

THIRD READING ORDERED.

H. 506—Authorizing the city of Burlington to issue bonds in the amount of $50,000.

H. 523—To incorporate the Fireside Insurance company.

H. 525—To provide for the disposition of deer when found injuring crops or fruit trees on cultivated land.

H. 526—Amending an act incorporating the Alpha Sigma Pi fraternity.

H. 527—To legalize the quadrennial appraisal of Searsburg for 1910.

H. 528—Amending an act relating to appeals in cases of insufficient school accommodations.

H. 529—Relating to exemption of soldiers' homesteads from taxation.

H. 536—Relating to the election or appointment of town road commissioners.

H. 521—Relating to inheritance taxes and taxable transfers.

S. 8—Relating to licenses.

S. 17—To provide for the indexing of probate records.

S. 53—To incorporate the City Trust company of Burlington.

S. 56—Relating to publication known as court procedure.

S. 68—Relating to the duties of the supervisor of the insane.

S. 84—Relating to hearings before a superior judge.

ORDERED TO LIE, SPECIAL ORDER FOR TUESDAY AFTERNOON AT THREE O'CLOCK.

H. 241—Granting a bounty on black bears.

SENATE BILL REFERRED.

S. 112—Providing for investigating divorce cases. To judiciary committee.

Joint resolution. By Mr. Corry of Montpelier, granting the use of the hall of the House of Representatives for a mock session to be held at a date to be later named. Adopted.

On motion of Mr. Warner of Cornwall the House adjourned.

BURY BOY WHERE LONG FALL ENDED

Wreck of His Home Made Aeroplane Burned on the Rocky Grave.

Salida, Colo., Dec. 5.—Beneath the rocks on which he fell from the 700 feet plunge in his "home made" aeroplane Saturday, the body of Walter Archer, the 17-year-old boy inventor, was buried by his parents yesterday and on the grave they burned what was left of the wrecked machine. The burial of the lad at the spot where he met death was in accordance with his own wishes, expressed to his mother a few days before the accident when hinting of a surprise he had in store for her.

"Just you wait, mother," Mrs. Archer says he told her, "and I'll give you a great surprise. But if anything should happen to me I don't want you to make a fuss. If any of my inventions should be my death, don't tell the world, for it might make fun of me. Bury me right where I drop."

Young Archer was the son of H. J. Archer, a miner. He had evidently been working secretly on his device for some time, for not a soul except his mother knew of his operations until he suddenly soared into the air from a point in the hills near the power plant of the Electric Light company.

Flying steadily and at great speed he soared upward until he seemed likely to make a record, then suddenly his engine stopped and the machine fell.

When the few spectators of the amazing flight reached the spot where he struck they found his crushed and shapeless body, and near it a wrecked electric motor, some heavy tarpaulin and a great tangle of wire.

Archer had evidently constructed his airship from strips of hickory and pieces of tarpaulin he took from old machinery packing cases found at the electric light plant. He had then lifted into it a small motor which had just been rewound at the plant and set aside. He had attached to the motor a coil of wire which the manager of the light plant says contained about 700 feet. This wire he arranged on pulleys, probably figuring that he would go up the length of the wire and then return.

Evidently he misjudged the distance or was unable to control and turn his machine, for when the end of the wire was reached it broke, the airship stopped and after several queer dips and wabbles fell.

The motor was evidently detached from its flimsy fastenings by the same jerk which snapped the wire from the drum, for it fell first, burying itself deep in the earth a few feet from the pile of rocks on which Archer alighted.

The boy evidently clung to the wreckage until the last and a moment after the motor struck the earth was dashed on the rocks amid the remains of the machine.

He told his mother that he had made several experimental flights and had his machine under perfect control, but the must have lost it when he reached the end of the wire, either through fright or by the tearing apart of the machinery. He dropped with the speed of a plummet and broke every bone in his body on a pile of rocks.

To buy to "best advantage" was never more important than now—when "the cost of living" is growing greater and greater. The ads grow in importance.

HOUSE BILL 342 CAUSES TROUBLE

Passed under Suspension of the Rules and Supposed to Have Governor's Approval.

Montpelier, Dec. 6.—Considerable feeling has been stirred up in the Legislature by H. 342 which was declared to correct the bill allowing railroads to make a change of motive power and which was vetoed by Governor Mead, and it may result in the introduction of a bill to repeal this law. There is a suspicion that the Governor was imposed upon in the matter by those that urged him to sign the other bill and that it was known all the time that this bill did not remove the objections he had to signing the first bill. On the other hand it is pointed out that the bill was hurriedly drawn to meet the emergency and that there was nothing intentional about its provisions not meeting the Governor's views.

As a matter of fact the bill being passed under a suspension of the rules was never printed, so few members of either House knew anything about it. The committees that handled it were guided largely by the fact that it was understood to be a bill that the Governor wanted put through and it was very likely, for that reason, not given the careful scrutiny that it would have otherwise received.

It is held by some that the repeal of this law is not necessary as it is clearly unconstitutional, but it is pointed out that it is evidently satisfactory to the interests that secured its passage and that it would be an expensive job for a person who felt that his property was damaged by reason of a change of motive power by a railroad to establish the unconstitutionality of the law in the courts. It is considered by some that a man who has built a home on a trolley line as a matter of convenience would be very likely to feel that his property was damaged if mogul engines drawing freight trains were allowed to run through his door yard, yet the bill as passed gives him no recourse except the courts.

Possibly the most chagrined by the Governor's veto are the members whose names were connected with the bill in the House. Mr. Amey of Brighton appears as the father of the bill and he felt the situation keenly enough to explain to the House that he was away when it was introduced and never even read the bill, trusting to the assurances of a gentleman of "unquestioned legal ability" that the bill was all right and what the Governor desired. Mr. Chaffee of Rutland, who explained to the House when the bill was introduced the purpose of it and asked for its passage under a suspension of the rules to meet an emergency, also went on the assurance that the bill was all right and a matter that the Governor was anxious to have hurried along.

AGRICULTURAL SCHOOL PLANS.

It is the expectation now that the bill granting the Champlain Realty company the right to run logs down the Ottauquechee river, which will be reported adversely by the committee on conservation, will be fought out on the floor of the House and an effort is now being made to line up the members by counties for the passage of the bill.

Active preparations for the location of the new State agricultural school at Randolph are going on and options have been obtained on the Maplewood Hotel property situated near the normal school which is all furnished and can be very easily converted into a fine dormitory for the school. Negotiations are also in progress for the purchase by the State of several different parcels of land which will give the school a farm of about 65 acres for experimental work and pasturage. About the only building that it will be necessary to erect is a barn which is to be a model of its kind.

At the Governor's request Mr. Hatch of Strafford, Mr. Brenson of Hardwick and Commissioner of Agriculture Martin have spent some time looking over the ground and these gentlemen feel satisfied that if all their plans work out and the school is definitely located at Randolph, the State will have a location and a plant that it will be proud of. Some opposition has been expressed to locating a school of this nature three miles from a railroad but others consider that this will be an advantage.

NEW NORMAL SCHOOL BILL.

The bill which is to be introduced tomorrow providing for the location and maintenance of a State normal school, provides for a commission consisting of the Governor and four persons to be appointed by him to locate and establish the school in any town, city or incorporated village selected by the commission which shall furnish a site. The commission is given power to purchase land or buildings and to receive any gift or donation of land or buildings and proposals in writing may be made to the commission to aid in the establishment and equipment of the school. Such proposals are to state whether the offer is made in money, or in buildings and grounds, or both. The funds must be not less than $40,000, paid to the treasurer of the State to secure the location of the school, or the donation may be in land or buildings or both aggregating in value $40,000.

The State is asked to appropriate $25,000 in addition to the $40,000 donation to establish the school. Before the location of the school in any place, the authorities must agree to the use and maintenance of schools for observation and practice in connection with such normal school. The entire charge and supervision of the school when established shall rest with the State board of education.

The sum of $10,000 annually is appropriated for the maintenance of the school. Graduates of high schools and academies of the first-class approved by the State superintendent of education are to be admitted to the school and after a two years' course may receive certificates to teach for 10 years. Special courses are to be provided, the competition of which shall entitle the graduate to five-year certificates.

SECOND SCHOOL PLANNED.

The commission is given power in its discretion to establish a second normal school in another place if the entire cost of establishing, constructing and equipping such school is provided by the place wherelocated. When the second school is fully established without cost to the State, it is to come under the supervision of the State board of education. If the second school is given to the State, $10,000 is annually appropriated for its maintenance. If the commission does not establish the second school it shall report to the next General Assembly concerning the desirability of establishing and maintaining a second normal school.

Governor Mead says there will be no trouble in securing a location for the school as already he has been assured that two places are ready to put up the $40,000 the State requires.

LEGISLATORS ARE NOT MARKING TIME

Hard Week's Work Shows Evident Desire to Adjourn before Christmas.

IMPORTANT BILLS TO COME

Amendments to State Constitution Will Probably Come before the Senate This Week—Other Bills.

Montpelier, Dec. 4.—When the Vermont legislators went to their homes Friday evening and yesterday morning, they went with the satisfaction of knowing that they had given the State a hard, honest week's work, and had disposed of a large amount of business, important and otherwise. They are evidently making an honest effort to reach final adjournment before Christmas. It is impossible at this time to say whether this can be done, but if they work as faithfully during the coming three weeks as they have since they returned from the Thanksgiving recess, no fault can reasonably be found with them if they are asked to return after the holidays to complete the work of the session. From the time they struck in last Monday evening until the adjournment late Friday afternoon the committee work and the work on the floor of the two houses was diligently prosecuted from eight o'clock in the morning until midnight, and it is doubtful if 50 men could be found throughout the State who worked harder during that time for their own private interests than did the members of the Legislature in the service of the State.

The files of the chairmen of the several committees are still bulging with important bills yet to be considered, very many of which will provoke hot discussions when they are reported back to the houses in which they originate. There is an evident intention to do the work of the session thoroughly and well, and to do it in the shortest possible time consistent with such thorough work.

FULL TIME IN KENT CASE.

Several matters of the gravest importance are scheduled for this week. The question of commuting the death sentence of Elroy Kent, which was discussed all Friday forenoon in the House, will come up again Tuesday morning at 10:30 as a special order. Inasmuch as several members are known to have speeches prepared on this bill, it is probable the further discussion of the question and the final vote on the bill will take at least a half day, and probably longer. There is a deep feeling in the House on this question and an evident intention to give every man who has anything to say the right to be heard. Attempts were twice made Friday to demand the previous question and cut off debate, but this was voted down by a large majority, and it can safely be predicted that every member who wishes to speak for or against the bill to commute Kent's sentence will be given an opportunity to be heard before the yea and nay vote on the question is reached.

The bill taxing premiums paid to non-resident insurance companies, which was killed in the House Thursday afternoon and was resurrected Friday, will come up as a special order Tuesday afternoon. Many members who voted against the third reading of this bill now declare they did not thoroughly understand the measure, and a long discussion on this bill seems likely.

The proposals of amendment to the State constitution, which on Friday were tabled in the Senate until they could be printed, will probably come up for action in that body this week. As before stated, these proposals of amendment are almost identical with those proposed by the commission appointed two years ago, with the exception of two additional amendments which came from the Senate committee. One of these is that the yea and nay vote in the House may be demanded by five members instead of one, and the other is that a majority of the Senate may confirm these proposed amendments.

IMPORTANT AMENDMENTS.

The most important of these 16 proposals of amendment are that the State election shall be held in November instead of September, and that the biennial sessions of the Legislature shall convene the first Wednesday in January.

A two-thirds vote of the House or Senate, where a bill originates, shall be necessary to pass it over the Governor's veto.

The Senate at any session of the General Assembly may by a two-thirds vote make proposals of amendment to the State constitution, thus removing the time lock.

Sentences upon conviction for murder are not to be commuted, mitigated or remitted by the General Assembly.

Members of the Legislature to be ineligible to appointive or elective offices by the General Assembly to which they belong.

The other amendments refer to a general corporation law, workmen's compensation, judges of the supreme court to be designated as justices, and these judges to revise and rewrite the amendments into the constitution when they shall be finally adopted.

The income tax amendment has been almost forgotten. This proposal of amendment to the federal constitution is still in the hands of the committee and a report may be expected at almost any time. This question has not interested the Legislature to any large extent, but the prevailing sentiment seems to be against Vermont sanctioning such an amendment. The matter is sure to be thoroughly discussed when it comes up in the two houses.

The free transportation, or mileage bill, which passed the House Friday, has gone to the Senate and will be carefully considered there. Its friends believe it will be favorably considered in that body, and will eventually become a law.

OPENS TAXATION QUESTION.

The bill introduced in the House late Friday afternoon by Mr. Ives of Mount Holly, amending the public statutes relating to inventory officers, is one of the important measures of the session and opens up the whole taxation question. This bill provides that there shall be no deduction for debts owing within the State, but that the listers shall deduct from the appraised value of personal estate a sum equal to the excess, if there be any, of debts owing by a taxpayer over the total amount of the stocks and bonds he holds which are exempt from taxation, including the exemptions of his deposits in savings and national banks.

House bill 163, providing an appropriation for the care and education of defective children, which carries an appropriation to match the Austine fund made possible by a bequest of Col. William Austine of Brattleboro, is yet in the hands of the special committee to which it was referred. The proposition is to use the State appropriation and the Austine fund to erect a building at Brattleboro to care for such defective children who are now provided for and kept outside the State by State aid. This measure is not well and generally understood in the House, and it is probable some day this week the House will go into a committee of the whole to discuss the matter and to familiarize the members with what the State proposes to do if this bill becomes a law.

ADDISON COUNTY COURT.

Cases Set for Trial by Jury—Grand Jury Charged.

Middlebury, Dec. 6.—The December term of the superior court for Addison county opened here at ten o'clock this forenoon with Judge Zed S. Stanton of Roxbury presiding. The following cases on the jury calendar were marked for trial: H. C. Potter vs. I. N. Chase; Ezra C. Dike vs. Jennie Sweet, appellant; C. L. Lefoeuf, executor of Mary P. Le-Boeuf's es' -- -- W. H. and Mary E. Norton; American Agricultural Chemical company vs. Louis N. Kellogg, Ferdinand M. Crosby vs. the Vermont Accident Insurance company, appellant; in re. will of Mary E. Wellington, Henry C. Roscoe, appellant and contestant, in which a motion for continuance was made and E. Goss, appellent vs. E. Burt. The cases of Mable Collamer vs. Samuel Taft, appellant, and Ben. H. Collamer by his guardian vs. Samuel Taft, appellant, were entered settled and discontinued. The cases of Charles Marston vs. John Madigan, Isaac Shapiro vs. Moses Vincent, appellant, and Henry Merritt, appellant, vs. Edward A. Burt were taken from the jury calendar and set for the court.

On the court calendar these cases were entered for hearings: R. H. Leonard vs. Newton J. Wilcox and trustees, Elizabeth A. Waters vs. Arthur J. Waters, and James Peterson vs. Frank D. Meehan, judgment to account was rendered in favor of the plaintiff in the case of Ernest Crowning Shield vs. Walter E. Clark, and in the case of Martin E. Hall & Co. vs. George V. Farr, judgment by default was rendered for the plaintiff.

Court took a recess from twelve o'clock until 2:00 p. m. at which time the members of the grand and petit jury panels were called and sworn and given the usual instructions by the court. Gustavus R. Walker of Bridport was appointed foreman of the grand jury. At 2:30 o'clock, as there was no case ready to be brought to trial, a recess was taken until nine o'clock to-morrow morning.

HOLDING COURT IN BALL ROOM.

Hyde Park, Dec. 6.—The December term of Lamoille county court opened here to-day with Judge W. H. Taylor presiding. The forenoon was taken up in going through the docket and many cases were either settled, continued or discontinued. At the afternoon session the petit jurors were called and charged. Some minor court business was transacted, after which adjournment was taken until Wednesday morning at which time the civil case of M. J. Leach vs. Cassius Guyer, Wolcott parties, will be taken up. This is an action to recover value of a horse. There are half a dozen cases set for jury trial and about a dozen divorce cases to be heard, which with the court cases will occupy probably two weeks. This term of court is held in the ball room of the hotel, but it is expected that the June term will be held in the new town hall, during the erection of the new county buildings.