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VOL XIV. SAINT PAUL MINN., FRIDAY MORNING, JANUARY 1, 1892. NO. 1.

DUBLIN DYNAMITERS.

The Irish Capital Excited by an Explosion at "the Castle."

Nobody Hurt, Little Damage Done, and Gas May Be the Cause.

Blundering Police Magnify the Affair and Spread Terror.

Travelers Under Grave Suspicion of Being Bombs in Disguise.

DUBLIN, Dec. 31.—A decided sensation was caused in this city today by a report that the "physical force" party had resumed operations here, and that their first attempt had been made against Dublin Castle, the official residence of the Earl of Zetland, viceroy of Ireland. It transpires that a number of workmen have been employed in making alterations lately in and about the castle. One of the places which was being overhauled was the office directly under the room in which the privy council holds its meetings. The workmen were being hurried in their labors, so that all the changes proposed might be completed in time for the opening of the "Castle season."

Whether or not it was the object of those who caused the explosion to originate a scare that would put a damper on the vice regal festivities is not known. The fact remains, however, that while the workmen were pursuing their occupation there was suddenly a tremendous report in the office above referred to, which shook the building and caused every one to

Turn Pale With Fright.

Fortunately no one was hurt, but the force of the explosion was so great that several of the windows of the castle were badly shattered. The police were immediately notified of the occurrence, and began a close and searching investigation. The mystery would be readily cleared up were it not for the obstinate manner in which the police refuse to give any explanations on the subject. They declare that strict orders have been issued from the highest quarters to refuse all information as to the cause of the explosion, until the official report has been drawn up, submitted to headquarters and passed upon.

This means that only the castle's version of the affair is to go to the public. Naturally, under these circumstances the wild rumors circulated immediately after the explosion to the effect that it had been caused by dynamite, and that the Fenian organization was at the bottom of it cannot be denied. One officer declared that the explosion was caused by dynamite, and that the police in their investigation have not found anything which bears out the theory that it was a simple gas explosion. This statement seems to settle the matter definitely. It is asserted that the explosion was of far greater importance than at first supposed.

Two Floors Shattered.

The floors and ceilings of the two entire floors have been blown to pieces, and some of the heavy beams of the building have been torn from their places and are now in small pieces. Several almost miraculous escapes from death are recorded upon the part of the clerks and others employed about the buildings, and much consternation prevails throughout the city.

Rumor has it that the explosion was a deliberately planned plot to blow up the Irish privy council, which was to have met this evening in regular session in the rooms immediately above the one which is now a shell of splintered wood, laths and mortar. The story is strengthened by the additional rumor that the explosion was premature and that only a portion of the explosives had been conveyed to the cellar when the actual explosion took place.

It is said also that the disaster was only one of a series planned to take place tonight at a given signal, and that a number of public buildings were to have been blown up. This report is not believed by the cooler portion of the population, but tonight all alarmist reports spread with startling swiftness.

ALARMIST RUMORS.

Revival of Fenianism Alleged to Be at Hand.

DUBLIN, Dec. 31.—Sir Charles Cameron, government inspector of explosives, has carefully inspected the debris and declares, officially, that there is no room to doubt that gunpowder or guncotton were the explosives used in shattering the finance office. This announcement tends to give strength to the alarmist rumors already circulated, and to increase the number of wild stories told in connection with the affair.

If only a portion of them are founded on truth, Dublin is to be shaken by more than one such disaster, and the terrorism of the days of the old Fenian brotherhood, when London may be said to have trembled in her shoes, are to be revived on a much larger scale. It is said, among other things, that the old physical force has determined to show the British government that it is still alive, and to back up both the members of the Liberal party and of the Conservative party, who are planning home rule measures in Ireland, with evidence of the fact that Ireland will no longer rest content under the present state of affairs.

Of course, only the wildly enthusiastic of the admirers of the advance portion of the Irish party put any faith in these reports. Nobody knows better than the level-headed Irishmen that dynamite explosions tend to postpone the granting of a home rule measure to Ireland, instead of advancing the interests of such a policy.

EXCITING IDLE FEARS.

Blundering Police Preparations Have This Result.

DUBLIN, Dec. 31.—Chief of the Finance Office Cullinan, who had been summoned two minutes before the explosion occurred to a consultation with the under secretary for Ireland, Lieut. Col. Sir J. West Ridgeway, C. B., is of the opinion that the disaster may have resulted from an attempt made upon his life. The police are not inclined to believe this, and yet seem to have no theory of their own to work upon.

The lord lieutenant, the Earl of Zetland, was presiding at a fete, given at the vice regal lodge to a number of children belonging to the different charitable organizations of Dublin when the finance office was shattered by the explosion. When informed of what had taken place he was much shocked.

In consequence of the explosion all the public buildings are guarded by extra watchmen and by extra police tonight. A feeling of uneasiness and alarm prevails in all quarters. Nobody seems to be satisfied that the explosion of today is merely the work of a crank, or of some isolated members of the Fenian brotherhood.

The entire detective force of this city is ferreting about Dublin and its suburbs, and, according to report, the force of Scotland Yard detectives who did duty in this country at the time of the London dynamite scare has been sent for. Secret instructions have been telegraphed all over the country, and especially to the seaports. All the railroad stations are carefully watched, and the troops are held in readiness to turn out at the first signal of further trouble.

These preparations have caused the citizens of Dublin to retire to rest with the expectation of hearing of additional occurrences before morning, but it is likely that these are only the ordinary precautions which the authorities would take under the circumstances.

VERY SMALL DAMAGE.

Cool Search May Show Gas to Be the Cause.

DUBLIN, Dec. 31.—Evening.—The castle officials state that after the first feeling of alarm had passed away the consequences of the explosion were found to be less serious than they had feared. An expenditure of a few pounds, they say, will repair the damage. The privy council met as usual after the explosion. Chief of Police Mallon says that the force of the explosion was exerted chiefly in an outward direction, and that it was possibly an explosion of gas.

All recent arrivals from England are being watched, however, and travelers from the United States have again fallen under the ban of police suspicion. Should the explosion turn out to be the work of the Fenian brotherhood, it is believed that it will do most serious injury to the home rule prospects, which have recently seemed so bright.

It is hoped that the police investigation will show that the disaster was caused by some crank suffering from an imaginary grievance. But people recall the London dynamite explosions, and the worst is feared. People had begun to look upon the "physical force" party as a party of the past, and it was hoped that dynamite would never again be employed in Irish politics.

Since the time the explosion was explained to the authorities here there has been an almost constant exchange of telegraphic messages with London, and it is reported that the police of this city have obained an important clue to the mystery.

A LUXURIOUS MAHDI.

Extension of Power Shunted for the Harem.

CAIRO, Dec. 31.—Father Ohrwalder, who recently escaped from Omdurman, is strongly in favor of reconquering the Soudan. In an interview today he declared that Mahdism has been expiring ever since the death of the so-called mahdi, the latter's followers realizing that he was not the true mahdi, and that his successor, Mahdi Khalifa, pretended to be a believer because he had been nominated to power. Mahdi Khalifa, who is now forty-three years old, is losing his energy. He leads a luxurious life, possessing a harem with 150 inmates. He has abandoned all designs to extend his power northward. Ohrwalder attributes the failure of the mahdi's operations beyond Dongola solely to the presence of the British in Egypt. The mahdi means to attack the Italians at Bishaw, first organizing an expedition of 4,000 troops to take Kassala.

DIED OF LA GRIPPE.

A Nephew of Queen Victoria Falls a Victim.

LONDON, Dec. 31. — Prince Victor Ferdinand Hohenlohe, nephew of the queen of England, died today. He had been suffering for sometime past from a cancer, but the immediate cause of death was influenza. Hohenlohe was born Nov. 11, 1832, and was a retired admiral in the royal navy and governor of Windsor castle. Prince Hohenlohe's mother was the half sister of Queen Victoria, the Duchess of Kent. His father was Emich Charles, Prince of Leiningen, first husband of the Duchess of Kent.

French Petroleum Duty.

PARIS, Dec. 31.—The chamber of deputies today rejected the duty of 24 francs placed on petroleum by the senate, and agreed to a duty of 12 francs on refined and 7 francs on crude petroleum, the new tariff to go into force on Oct. 1, 1892. The tariff bill was then finally passed, and the chamber adjourned until Tuesday next, when the petition of the Panama canal shareholders will be discussed.

A MALICIOUS RUMOR.

Unfounded Report of Pope Leo's Assassination.

MONTREAL, Dec. 31.—There was agitation in Catholic circles here tonight over a report that Pope Leo XIII. had been assassinated. The rumor was traced to the house of the Jesuits, and Father Drummond was appealed to. He admitted having heard it from an old and intimate friend, who would have no motive for deception. Telegraph and newspaper offices were besieged by anxious inquiries, and apparent credit for the rumors was received in two or three quarters. It is not known how the report originated. Drummond has since received an official denial of the report.

Kirby Smith Burned Out.

NASHVILLE, Tenn., Dec. 31.—The residence of Gen. T. Kirby Smith at Sewanee, Tenn., was burned this morning about daylight from unknown causes. He had an insurance on the building, but loses the contents, and is practically penniless. His friends have already started a movement looking to the raising of a sum sufficient to reinstall the old veteran and his family of nine children in their former comfortable surroundings.

Van Zandt Balked.

PARIS, Dec. 31.—The tribunal has declined to either award damages to Marie Van Zandt, or to compel the newspaper Le Petit Parisien to publish in the American papers the apology it makes for stating that she was drunk on the stage during a performance in the St. Petersburg opera house.

Shooting the Commons.

LONDON, Dec. 31.—The police today arrested a man named Borlas, who is a graduate of Oxford university, and who holds the degree of bachelor of arts. He was arrested on Westminster bridge, whe he was amusing himself by bombarding the house of commons with a revolver.

The schooner Catharine Richards was wrecked off Trales, Ireland, yesterday, and five of the crew were drowned.

FAVORABLE TO CHILI.

Chilian Minister Matta's Account of the Valparaiso Killing.

Only Two North Americans Accused the Police of Brutality.

Minister Montt Anxious to Gain Time for Peaceful Settlement.

Reports of Murder of Gen. Garcia Unconfirmed and Denied.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 31.—Senor Montt, in an interview with Secretary Blaine today, laid before the secretary the following translation of a telegram from Mr. Matta, the minister of foreign affairs, bearing on the inquiries between the Chilians and the sailors from the United States vessel Baltimore:

Santiago, Dec. 31, 1891.—To the Minister of Chili, Washington—Dear Sir: From the summary of proceedings it appears that the struggle commenced between two sailors in a tavern at the Ward Arrain; that it was continued in the street with the accession of numbers of inhabitants and transient parties from the streets called Del Cave, San Francisco and Alamos. The disorder continued and extended to the streets Del Arsenal and San Martin, where the police force succeeded in restoring order.

All the North Americans except two state that the police did their duty, and from the voluminous proceedings it appears that the court has done its duty. Whenever the prosecuting attorney renders his opinion and the time for producing evidence shall have expired sentence will be given, and the establishing of how many are the guilty parties may only be presumed at present. Whoever they may be, they will be punished. The legal proceedings are being actively carried forward to their proper termination.

MATTA.

Favorable to Chili.

The minister, when asked for an opinion respecting the statements made in the telegram, called special attention to the statement that all the North American excepting two had said that the police did their duty. He regards this as favorable to the Chilian side of the controversy. It is noted that the Chilian minister of foreign affairs promises that when the due process of law according to Chilian jurisprudence be observed, those found guilty will be punished, and says that these judicial proceedings are being carried forward actively.

This, in connection with the statement that the police did their duty, is significant in showing that the Chilian government does not wish that the action of individuals belonging in Chili shall be confounded with the actions of those connected with the government and having official station. These lawless acts on the part of individuals, as the dispatch says, are being inquired into under the judicial proceedings of Chili, which are conducted secretly and it is said with the cumbersomeness attaching to all courts deriving their authority and precedents from Spain.

This government has never asserted a right to interfere with the ordinary judicial methods of other nations. It is, however, watchful to see that customary judicial methods are followed, regarding, of course, the extraordinary character of the offense, and is meantime making provision for the always possible occurrence of some untoward event, such as undue delay or a final response not consistent with the dignity of the United States.

WAS GARCIA KILLED?

Rumors of Murder and Desertion Unconfirmed.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 31.—No confirmation of the reported assassination of Gen. Garcia, the commander of the Mexican forces operating against Garza, the revolutionist, have been received at either the state or war departments or by Senor Romero, the Mexican minister. Senor Romero had a lengthy conference with Secretary Blaine today on the matter. He says he places little credence in the report that Garcia was killed by his own men, or that they have joined the forces of the revolutionists. Ex-Congressman Hare, of Texas, was asked if the Garza emuete would amount to anything. He replied: "It will amout to nothing, unless to the premature ending of Col. Garza by means of a hempen necktie. The movement is only a border foray, with nothing back of it worthy so dignified a name as a revolution. There have been very hard times on the Mexican side of the Rio Grande for many months, occasioned by an almost total failure of the crops, and this condition has stirred up the discontented element. The rebellion cannot last long. President Diaz is a man of blood and iron and prompt to quell such outbreaks. It won't take him long to put a quietus on Garza and his gang."

The officials at the war department are watching the situation on the Rio Grande with deep concern, but are without news from Gen. Stanley this morning. They are apprehensive that Capt. Bourke's force may be very much outnumbered by the revolutionists, but they feel confident that the officer will conduct himself with all necessary prudence, and that he will soon be reinforced.

CITY OF MEXICO, Dec. 31.—Gen. Escudero, assistant secretary of war, said last night the report that the government was moving troops from interior garrisons to the frontier was true. In reference to the whereabouts of Garza the general said he was crossing and recrossing the frontier, which made it an impossibility to capture him and his band with the present troops in the field, but with the soldiers that are now being moved to the border he expects that if Garza crosses into Mexico again he will be captured. It is now estimated that there are fully 3,000 soldiers guarding the long frontier from Laredo to Matamoras. The extra troops are being sent to further protect it from Garza.

SAN ANTONIO, Tex., Dec. 31.—The anxiety at military headquarters here today over the situation with regard to the United States troops was very great. There was no official dispatch of any kind received from the seat of war. The telegraph wires between Fort Ringgold and Brownsville are still down, and it is impossible for any late dispatches from the seat of war to get through, which greatly inconvenienced the direction of the operations from headquarters here.

TOBACCO PRODUCTION.

Census Bulletin Containing Statistics of Interest.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 31.—The census bureau today issued a bulletin giving the statistics of tobacco production in the United States. The entire crop of the country amounted in 1889 to 488,255,895 pounds, the number of planters being 205,862, and the area devoted to tobacco culture, exclusive of counties cultivating less than one acre, 692,990 acres, or 1,082.80 square miles.

The area in cultivation was, however, very unequally distributed, Kentucky having 39.62 per cent of the total acreage, and producing 45.44 per cent of the entire crop, and the six states next in rank of production, 56.16 per cent of the acreage and 42.49 per cent of the crop, while the twenty states and territories having the smallest production had less than 900 acres in tobacco, and included an aggregate of only 451,025 pounds, or less than one-tenth of 1 per cent of the entire crop. The average production per acre of the entire country was 705 pounds, ranging among the seed leaf states producing 5,000,000 pounds or upward.

The total value of the crop of the producers, estimated on the basis of actual sales, was $34,844,449, an average of 7.1 cents per pound, $50.28 per acre. The average price per pound received by the producer in states producing 5,000,000 pounds or upward ranges from 4.5 cents in Missouri and 4.7 cents in Maryland to 12.8 cents in Connecticut and 14.0 cents in North Carolina. The product of Louisisana averaged 25.2 cents per pound to the producer.

Although the reported acreage in tobacco shows an increase of 8.48 per cent upon that in 1879, there is a decrease of 91 in the number of tobacco producing counties, there being now only 1,674, as compared with 1,765 in 1879. It is likewise worthy of note that the proportion borne by the crop of Kentucky to the entire production of the country is steadily increasing, having advanced from 24.90 per cent in 1850 and 36.20 per cent in 1879 to 45.44 per cent in 1889, as already stated.

PATENOTRE PRESENTED.

The Frenchman and the President Give Greeting.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 31.—M. Patenotre, the newly accredited minister of France to this government, was presented to the president this morning by the secretary of state. Upon being presented, M. Patenotre made the following remarks:

"Mr. President: I have the honor to place in your hands the letters whereby the president of the French republic accredits me to your excellency in the capacity of envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary. I could not feel otherwise than highly flattered at the high mission which has been confied to me to represent my country in the capital city of the great American people, whose wonderful energy is a constant subject of admiration to our old Europe.

"I should be glad if my residence in the United States could contribute to strengthen and develop the traditions of esteem and sympathy which have never ceased to exist between our two nations, even when they were separated by the diversity of their political systems, and we cannot now fail to be still further strengthened by the similarity of our institutions. It shall be the object of all my efforts to draw closer these bonds of friendship; and I feel assured in advance that these sentiments will be reciprocated, and that I may rely upon your kindness in facilitating the accomplishment of my task."

The president replied as follows: "I have great pleasure in welcoming you as the envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary of the French republic and in receiving from your hands the letters whereby the president of the republic accredits you in that capacity to the government of the United States. The affection of the people of this country for the great nation you come to represent lies very deep. Born of the generous sympathy and timely aid accorded to our forefathers in their hour of need more than a century ago by your government and people, the passing years have strengthened the bonds between the two countries, so that now by the traditions of unbroken unity, by the grateful remembrance of the illustrious Frenchmen who have shared our fortunes and our history, and by the mutual influences of like forms of popular government, our race and yours have become closely and lastingly akin.

"I cannot doubt that this marked spirit of unity and esteem will grow stronger, and that France may look to our country, in the community of our interests and our aims, as we look to France, for enlarged intercourse and cordial and enduring friendship. Certainly no efforts on the part of this government will be wanting to those ends.

"For yourself, Mr. Minister, I bespeak the same kindly feelings which your distinguished predecessors have so justly won among us; and I tender, through you, to the president of your republic my earnest desire for his welfare and to the people of France the sincere wishes of the people of the United States for their continued happiness and for the prosperity and advancement of their noble country."

REDUCED REVENUES.

Two Millions and a Half Short for December.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 31.—The revenues of the government for December were $28,500,000, or $2,500,000 less than the expenditures during the same period. This has had the effect of reducing the treasury cash balance to $30,405,749, including $14,000,000 in subsidiary silver and $12,356,927 on deposit with national banks. The balance Dec. 1 was $39,126,917. There has been a decrease in the bonded debt to the extent of the 4½ per cent bonds redeemed, but the cash balance available for the payment of the debt is less than on the 1st inst. The principal item in the disbursement for the month was $13,125,000 on account of pensions.

Ralph Warren Disappears.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 31.—Ralph Warren, of New York city, a Princeton college student and a well-known football player, left the house of friends Wednesday morning and has not been seen since. Yesterday morning he complained of headache and dizziness and started out for a walk. He failed to return and his friends are greatly alarmed over his disappearance.

Advancing in Religion.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 31.—The commissioner of Indian affairs has received a letter from C. F. Ashley, agent of the Cheyenne and Arrapahoe Indians, in which he says that no trouble can come from the dance now being indulged in by his Indians. He says it is religious exercise, which he thinks is really an advance over their old religious customs.

Crisp May Preside.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 31.—Dr. Walsh, Speaker Crisp's physician, says that Mr. Crisp is making rapid progress toward recovery, and he thinks that he will be able to preside over the house Tuesday. The speaker, he said, had no symptoms of pneumonia.

Willie McDonald, while skating yesterday at Grand Rapids, Mich., broke through the ice. Walter Dolan attempted to rescue him. Both boys were drowned.

SHERMAN'S EASY WAY

Ohio's Iceberg Statesman Appears on the Scene of Conflict.

Quietness and a Neat Finish Marks His Methods of Working.

The Kansas Senatorial Fight Is Likely to Be Settled Today.

Kentucky's Governor Alert and Decided--Chapleau Bucking.

COLUMBUS, O., Dec. 31.—Ohio's senatorial fight has now reached its hottest degree and the next few days will witness the most exciting conflict of the kind this state ever experienced. Senator Sherman arrived at 7:10 o'clock this morning accompanied by his secretary, Mr. Babcock. He proceeded at once to his headquarters at the Neil house and the day has been spent meeting and greeting members of the legislature.

There was no demonstration on the arrival of the senator, and quietude is the noticeable feature of his work among the legislators. There are no new developments in the situation up to this time. The Sherman managers claim two accessions to their ranks, but they refuse to divulge the names. It is now evident that there will be a split in the Cuyahoga delegation, which has been counted solid for Sherman. It is claimed that Foraker will get two of their eleven votes and probably four.

NOW FOR THE NAME.

Humphrey Believed to Have Made Up His Mind.

TOPEKA, Dec. 31.—The most sanguine applicant for senatorial honors this morning is Bishop W. Perkins, ex-congressman from the Third district. Maj. E. N. Morrill seemingly leads the field, for the impression is growing more and more that no Topeka man will be honored. The governor will give no information except that he will make the appointment this week. Perkins expects the appointment tonight as a New Year's present, and thinks all he will have to do will be to hold the ground today which he recovered yesterday.

The most surprising strength has been shown by the Morrill men. The claims of the ex-congressman from the First district were hardly taken in account until a delegation from his district arrived in town and began to press his claims. Then it was discovered that Morrill had strength in all the other districts, and no fight was being made upon him.

Ben Simpson, the dark horse, crawled out of his hiding place and interviewed the governor this morning. Mr. Perkins called on the governor at 2 o'clock and made the last presentation of his claims at that time.

Senator Schilling was seen immediately after an interview with the governor, and said "It will be either Perkins, Morrill or Peck. I do not think the appointment will be announced today, but it is certain to be made this week." Among the state senators now in this city, the impression is almost universal that either Morrill or Perkins will be named, with Perkins as the favorite.

Maj. Hudson's friends still consider him in the race, but lack a great deal of having the confidence which he showed yesterday. The governor has, in all probability, made up his mind. He has examined into every charge that has been preferred against Congressman Perkins, and even gone to the trouble of having men brought here from remote parts of the state. If Perkins had not been his favorite from the start, such a course as this would have been unlikely.

All the other candidates have united in the fight against Perkins, but there is little doubt that he will receive the appointment tomorrow.

GOV. BROWN ALERT.

Kentucky's Chief Executive Has Some Ideas.

LOUISVILLE, Ky., Dec. 31.—In his message to the legislature today Gov. Brown points out the probability of a deficit of nearly $500,000 at the close of the fiscal year and indicates that it will be met by using the $600,000 of war tax to be returned to the state by the federal government. This money belongs to the public schools by enactment of last winter and a bond for it will be issued in favor of the schools. He calls attention to $8,922,022 of railroad property that has not paid taxes, and says the law exempting roads for five years from their construction seems unconstitutional and the tax should be collected. He finds only eight counties have collected county tax on intoxicating liquors, and asks that the tax be collected and negligent officials punished. He finds lotteries still in operation and asks for their suppression. The legislature completed its organization and adjourned till Monday.

CHAPLEAU BUCKS.

French Conservative Leader in Canada Makes Threats.

OTTAWA, Dec. 31.—Hon. J. A. Chapleau is again, and this time most determinedly, at variance with Premier Abbott. Not long since he demanded a more important office than the one he now holds, secretary of state, that he should be leader of the French Conservatives in the house of commons. These terms were acceded to, though his new office was not decided on, and peace was restored to the cabinet. Chapleau, who has absented himself for some time from Ottawa, has, it now appears, taken umbrage at the course Lieut. Gov. Angers has pursued, and demands that Angers shall on no account be taken into the Dominion cabinet, as was recently suggested; that Sir Adolphe Carron, minister of militia, shall be dismissed, and that he, Hon. J. A. Chapleau, shall be given the portfolio of railways and canals.

Unless these terms are agreed to by Monday next, when the nomination for Richelieu county takes place, he threatens to nominate Mr. Tache for that constituency in opposition to Mr. Morgan, the government candidate, and prove to the premier that Chapleau is stronger in Quebec than the government, even at the risk of both candidates being defeated and a Liberal elected. This crisis is considered a very grave one for Premier Abbott's position, unless, as on former occasions, Chapleau proves weak-kneed.

A Mere Matter of Form.

NEW ORLEANS, Dec. 31.—The regular Republican state committee, of which H. H. Herwig is chairman, called a convention to meet in this city Jan. 10 for the purpose of nominating a full state ticket. The bolters from the committee have named the third Wednesday in February as the day of the assemblage of the Republican state nominating convention.

SOPER'S SHORTCOMINGS.

No Evidence for a Successful Prosecution.

LANSING, Mich., Dec. 31.—The committee appointed to investigate the conduct of ex-Secretary of State Soper made an exhaustive report this morning, finding that Soper had distributed contrary to law 942 volumes, costing the state $1,613. He made purchases of folding beds, springs, mattresses, rugs, towels, blankets, typewriters and desks to the amount of $921, all of which is declared unnecessary and extravagant. There is practically no evidence showing that he has profited personally by these purchases or received any money for distributing the books.

Soper bought 61,199 pounds of paper at a cost to the state of $3,112.89, which will not be used until after the legislature of 1893 meets. He took $200 for expenses of a trip to the upper Peninsula as a member of the state board of equalization, while other members drew but $88.30. He charged and was wrongfully allowed per diem compensation while upon business of the state. The demand upon Deputy Rowley for $500 was in fact made, but no examination is made as to whether it was the result of agreement or not. It is said there is nothing in the result of the investigation upon which to base a probable successful criminal prosecution.

THE EMPIRE CITY.

Figures of General Interest From Reports.

NEW YORK, Dec. 31.—With the close of the old year the various departments of the city government rendered their reports. The net funded debt of the city, up to Dec. 33, 1890, was $97,857,230. Today the net debt is $97,521,003.93; a decrease of $336,226.09. The general tax rates for the closing year was 1.90 per cent, the lowest since 1860.

The health board handed in a report with the following statistics: The estimated population is 1,680,716, against 1,631,232 in 1890. The police census in 1890 was 1,710,715. There were 834 deaths due to the grip during the closing year, against 314 in 1890. In the supreme court 4,555 persons declared their intention of becoming citizens and 9,068 persons were naturalized.

FIVE ACRES OF FLAMES.

An Immense Barrel Works Is Reduced to Ashes.

BAYONNE, N. J., Dec. 31.—The great barrel works of the Standard Oil company at Constable Hook are burned down. The fire started at 9:30 last night. The night watchman said it seemed to spring up in all directions. The building was filled with barrels, both completed and unfinished, there being hundreds of thousands of them. There were also great stacks of cut lumber ready to be converted into barrels. It is estimated that there were between one and two million barrel heads in the building, and from ten to fifteen million barrel staves. The structure was about 360 feet long, 200 feet wide and three stories high. When the firemen, the police and the crowd reached the scene the structure seemed wrapped in flames.

A dozen streams were immediately directed upon it, but the contents burned like tinder, and the building went, too. Over 500 men, including the police and firemen, were fighting the flames, but they soon found out that they could not control them. The building stood in an inclosure of about six acres, and great stacks of lumber were piled about. These caught fire and burned fiercely, and soon there were five acres of flame lighting up the surrounding country. Next to the barrel factory were the chemical works, and all efforts were directed toward saving them. After a long and hard fight, during which the firemen worked in constant peril of their lives, as a single spark falling among the chemicals would have been enough to have caused an explosion which would have blown them all into eternity, their efforts were successful, and the chemical works were saved.

The machinery in the burned building was most complete. There was a fine Corliss engine worth $50,000, and forty-eight other pieces of machinery, some of them having been put in in September last. This was very valuable, $150,000 being hardly sufficient to pay for it. The loss is stated at $500,000. The company carries its own insurance.

Coast Fortifications.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 31.—For several months past a large force of men has been at work on Military bluff behind Fort Point, on the Presidio reservation. Work has being going on quietly but diligently, it being the beginning of the long-planned military fortification of the harbor and its approaches, and is being performed under the direction of the engineer corps of the army.

Japs Making Conquests.

MADRID, Dec. 31.—A sensation has been caused here by advices from Manila, the capitol of the Philippine islands, to the effect that Japan has occupied some of the islands near the Mariana islands. The government organs declare that a Spanish squadron will visit the principal ports of Japan and then dispersing proceed to the Marianas for the purpose of re-asserting Spanish supremacy over the islands.

Small-Pox Scare.

NEWARK, N. J., Dec. 31.—Small-pox cases are still turning up in different parts of the city, and the health authorities are now thoroughly alarmed. Considerable excitement was caused in the city today when it became known that a Canadian suffering from a pronounced case of the dreaded disease had rode in several crowded street cars on his way to the city dispensary, and it is feared that several of his fellow passengers have contracted the pest.

The California Storm.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 31.—Although the weather has cleared here, it is still raining in many parts of the state. The rainfall during the storm has been phenomenal. The wires are still down and no word has been received from Eureka for nearly a week, nor for two days from Point Reyas. In the Sierras snow has been falling for two days, and a blockade of the Central Pacific is feared.

The Radiator Trust.

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 31.—The reported formation of a radiator trust is confirmed by St. Louis dealers interested, but no St. Lous firms are members. Local business men are in receipt of a circular announcing the consolidation of the Michigan, Detroit and Pierre companies and believe that the purpose is to force prices upwards.

STANDING BY AIKENS.

The Lawyers of Sioux Falls Pass Resolutions in the Judge's Favor,

At the Same Time the Preachers Are Rapped Over the Knuckles.

Sioux Falls People Busy Discussing the Very Serious Charges.

Minot and Devil's Lake Excited Over a Small Bank Failure.

Special to the Globe

SIOUX FALLS, S. D., Dec. 31.—"Is Judge Aikens guilty of the charges made by Rev. Skillman?" was the question asked a thousand times today in this city. Skillman is one of the leading officers of the state enforcement league. He is known as a Prohibitionist crank, and for months has been hunting for Aikens' political scalp. He is pastor of the Reformed church and edits a weekly published in this city. Being an officer of the ministeral association he called that body together and told them stories of the assumed bacchanalian sports of the judge, which made their hair stand on end. So thoroughly shocked were they that one good member, after the statements of the accuser had been made, immediately knelt and said: "Let us pray, brothers." The rumors, Skillman claimed, were

Based Upon Facts,

and he knew it. The accusations made by the moral censor involve a number of divorce clients who are here, and there has been a hurrying to and fro by that body of mismated people who seem to fear the searching eye of the public more than anything else. Very few care to repeat the rumors, and they have not yet appeared in public print. The consensus of opinion in this city is undoubtedly in favor of Judge Aikens. He has scores of friends, who denounce a busybody, which bases its action upon scurrilous rumors. Editor Caldwell, of the Press; Hon. Robert Buchanan, Sioux Falls, member of the legislature; Melvin Grigsby and Judge Palmer all support the judge, believing that the private life of a public officer should not be assailed so long as his official acts are beyond reproach. The Bar association of this city met today and passed

Resolutions of Condemnation

of the acts of the preachers. The meeting was an animated one, and the result was a surprise to the divines. The chief resolution reads:

We heartily disapprove of and condemn the action of any individuals who have publicly attacked Judge Aikens' private character, believing that such arraignment is not the method that gentlemen representing the near interests of this city should have pursued. That in the pressing of a certain charge founded on street rumor before a meeting of ministers and others recently held in this city as emaneting from and receiving consideration by a body of Christian ministers, a grave offense has been committed.

Judge Aikens arrived in the city from Canton, but refused to have anything to do with the reporters. He had nothing to say. All he wanted to do was to meet his enemies face to face and make them prove their charges.

A SMALL BANK FAILURE.

Over Which Devil's Lake Gets Excited.

Special to the Globe.

DEVIL'S LAKE, N. D., Dec. 31.—Within a few years about ten or twelve banks have bobbed up in this state under the fosterage of E. Ashley Mears. A report that his Minot bank had failed caused considerable excitement here, and a run on his Merchant's National in Devil's Lake resulted, but was quieted by assurances that the Minot trouble was only a temporary scarcity owing to withdrawal of county funds. Local depositors were in a flurry this afternoon. Mears' bank here is custodian of the county funds, with Mears as surety.

WILL BE A RED-HOT PLACE.

How Grand Rapids Expects to Grow in the Future.

Special to the Globe.

GRAND RAPIDS, Dec. 31.—The old year is closing with a big record of growth and development for this place and this part of the country. Besides the other new towns started along the line of the Duluth & Winnipeg, Grand Rapids has more than doubled in population, in volume of business done, and in general building and in important new enterprises. One new bank opens, beginning with the new year, called the Lumbermen's Bank of Grand Rapids. President Hastings, of Minneapolis, arrived tonight with the spondulicks, for doing business, and the doors will swing open on Saturday on as neat a little banking house as can be found anywhere. The building was built expressly for it by John Beckfelt, president of the improvement union. In the firm, besides Mr. Hastings, of Minneapolis, are the Sheldons, of Owatonna, and A. M. Sheldon, of Prince, Sheldon & Co., Cloquet. Frank P. Sheldon is to be cashier. The bank has $10,000 in cash to start in with. It is a part of the arrangements effected that the bank shall pay the lumbermen's time checks, which will be a great advantage to general business, giving the men from the woods their money to spend as soon as they come out, instead of waiting to get to St. Paul and Minneapolis. That will make this a red-hot place a little later in the season, as it is estimated that there are over 2,000 lumbermen in the woods from this point or tributary to it.

HAGERTY ACQUITTED.

At the Direction of the Sitting Judge.

Special to the Globe.

ABERDEEN, S. D., Dec. 31.—Immediately after the state rested this afternoon in the case against Hon. F. H. Hagerty, charged with taking deposits when he knew the bank of Hagerty & Co., of which he was president, was insolvent, Judge Haney directed the jury to return a verdict of acquittal. This was done, and on motion of the state's attorney the indictment for embezzlement against Mr. Hagerty and the cases against W. H. Paulhemus, as cashier of the bank, were dismissed. The state failed to prove even insolvency of the bank, and it was able to invalidate only some $200 worth of securities out of a surplus of $80,000 shown by the schedule of assets and liabilities. Mr. Hagerty is now a resident of Tacoma, Wash., and will leave for home at once. Public opinion is divided on the question of acquittal.

THE NEWS BULLETIN.

Eighteen Ninety-Two.
Weather--Colder, with snow.
New Year opened with red fire.
Dublin excited over an explosion.
Lawyers stand by Judge Aikens.
Tom Bowen Resigns from Duluth News.
Enoch Holloway makes an assignment.
The auditorium to be pushed.
Elliott trying to prove an alibi.
Morris wants better railway facilities.
Important decision on passes.
Westbrook dies at the hospital.
Serious fire at Clearwater.
North Dakota bank failure.
Pulitzer to have paper in Chicago.
Banker Hagerty acquitted.
Ohio senatorial fight grows interesting.
That in Kansas not less so.
Great Northern reaches Kalispell.
Chilian correspondence is withheld.

RUN OF THE MARKETS.

Chicago grain pits were nearly deserted at times yesterday, and transactions were extremely infrequent. December and January wheat gained ⅛c and ¼c respectively at 90½c both months, and May stands at 95⅞c. December corn fell ¼c, January ⅜c, at 39¼c and 39⅝c, but May is ⅛c up at 41⅝c. In oats December lost ¾c, May lost ⅛c, and January stood at 30⅞c. The gains in pork were 20c for December at $7.70, 7½c for January at $10.47½, and 5c for May at $11.05.

The New York stock market closed the year strong and in full vim at the highest prices of the year practically.

TOM BOWEN DROPS OUT.

Change in the Management of the Duluth News.

Special to the Globe.

DULUTH, Dec. 31.—Tomorrow morning a change will take place in the management of the Duluth Daily News. After a year and a half of successful management ex-Senator T. E. Bowen has resigned his position, and Emil Schmied, formerly business manager of the Evening Herald of this city, has been chosen as his successor. Mr. Bowen, as is well known, is a Democrat, while the new manager is a Republican, so it may be safely predicted that the News, which has heretofore been independent with mugwump proclivities, will hereafter be classed among the straight-out Republican journals. The near approach of election time cuts no figure in this case, for Senator Bowen resigned of his own free will and for personal reasons alone. But as nearly all the News stockholders are Republicans, Mr. Schmied was naturally selected, being the most available man. As a token of their regard the employes in the business and editorial departments presented Mr. Bowen last evening with a magnificent gold chain and watch charm.

STEAMERS OVERDUE.

Delay Accounted for by Bad Weather.

PORTLAND, Or., Dec. 31.—There was a rumor in San Francisco today that the Union Pacific steamship Oregon, which left there for Portland Tuesday, had been wrecked off the Oregon coast. The steamer was not due here until late this afternoon, and as the weather has been stormy it is likely she has been delayed. All wires are down between here and the mouth of the Columbia river, and the Union Pacific officials in this city think the Oregon is probably lying outside the bar at Astoria. Some anxiety is felt for the Oregon Improvement company's steamer Michigan, which left Seattle Dec. 29 for here. She was due here yesterday, but her agent here thinks she put into some coast port until the storm abated.

Oregon arrived at 10:30 tonight.

Died at Fergus Falls.

Special to the Globe.

FERGUS FALLS, Minn., Dec. 31.—J. V. Horning, an old citizen of Fergus Falls, died