THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

SEVENTEENTH YEAR. OMAHA, WEDNESDAY MORNING, FEBRUARY 15, 1888. NUMBER 242.

THE REIGNING SENSATION.

Blaine's Withdrawal Continues to Be the Leading Topic.

"LITTLE PHIL'S" BOOM GROWING.

Public Printer Benedict's Days in Office Believed to Be Numbered—The Tariff Bill About Ready to Report.

"I Told You So."

WASHINGTON BUREAU THE OMAHA BEE, 513 FOURTEENTH STREET, WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 14.

Mr. Blaine's name has been on the lips of everybody in Washington to-day. Since the surprise of the moment wore away no one can be found who doubts his sincereness. All concede that he means to pull out of the race for the nomination and to keep out. It is amusing to note the number of prominent republicans who are saying, "I told you so." The fact is, it was the wish of many—not that they thought any less of Mr. Blaine than they did when they voted for him in 1884, but because they felt that they would not only have to support him at the polls again, but in convention and against their better judgment. Now that he is out of the way many are frank to say that they feel a sense of relief, because all that could make any dispute or discord is removed and there is nothing for the party to do but to come solidly together, select a new man upon merit and strength only and elect him. Sherman coming forward, no man has yet developed as a special favorite. Senator Sherman's name is naturally heard oftener than that of any other man. He is regarded as very strong, especially in the financial circles of New York, which state, it is conceded, can not put forth a candidate upon which the party there can unite, and then, Mr. Sherman is exceedingly strong in the manufacturing centers and in the south. An effort is to be made to make the election of the republican candidate sure outside of New York by carrying some southern states, the Pacific slope and saving all the states north which usually go republican. The friends of Mr. Sherman say he can more nearly do this than any other one who has been spoken of for the nomination. The Ohioans are enthusiastic and declare that Mr. Sherman will go into the convention with a solid delegation from his state and that he will be nominated.

BOOMING LITTLE PHIL AND SENATOR ALLISON.

The Iowans are determined to stand by by Senator Allison, who has a large and true following. Senator Allison is one of the most thoroughly popular men in congress. As chairman of the committee on appropriations he has made intimate friends of most of the democratic as well as republican senators and representatives, with whom he is brought into contact daily.

Senator Beck, of Kentucky, says Mr. Allison is one of the most thorough gentlemen he ever saw, at all times, and that he would rather see him president than any republican he knows. Mr. Beck has for years been on the committee with Mr. Allison and these personal testimonials carry a good deal of weight.

There is also a good deal of talk about ex-Senator Ben Harrison, of Indiana, and Senator Hawley, of Connecticut, but there is a reserve boom gotten up for General Sheridan that is intended to have deep and broad ratifications, and some of the old men in the field will have to look a little out or he will prove the great unknown at the last moment. It is intended that "Little Phil" shall be worked up in good shape as a dark horse and to turn him into the course, bridle off, should there become a wrangle over one of the well known men.

DORSEY'S VIEWS ON BLAINE.

Representative Dorsey said to-day: "I think it is infamous that anyone should question the sincerity of Mr. Blaine when he says that he does not desire the highest office in gift of the people, and I believe his word should be accepted the same as if he declined any other office. Some years ago, when Mr. Tilden wrote a similar letter declining to be candidate, we remember the democrats refused to credit his withdrawal, and there is no doubt that for the same reason a measure scepticism rests in regard to Mr. Blaine, for people have supposed there was no limit to his ambition, as he has been a candidate so long and has so strong a following. I can understand why Mr. Blaine does not desire again to lead the republican party in the presidential campaign, but the nomination would have been given him had he desired it. Nebraska has loyally supported him in three national conventions and his friends in that state have read his letter with great regret."

"Who will Nebraska be for now?"

"I do not think that the republicans of our state will send a delegation for any candidate, but will support the man who in their judgment is certain to carry New York, Connecticut and New Jersey."

"And Indiana, I suppose, also?"

"No, the soldiers will take care of Indiana, Sherman, Sheridan, Allison, Harrison, Hawley and Lincoln all have friends in Nebraska, but it is too early to tell how public sentiment will crystallize. One thing is certain, that the electoral vote of our state will be given to the nominee."

TROUBLE FOR THE PUBLIC PRINTER.

Public Printer Benedict is getting into deep hot water. The house has ordered an investigation into the affairs of his office, and the president has called upon him to explain the seemingly unnecessary delay in work sent there for execution. A number of senators and representatives, it is stated, have called upon the president during the past week or two and pointed out the inconveniences and losses occasioned by not only congress but all the departments of the government on account of the failure of the public printer to do work sent him within the time when it was done by his predecessor and when it is needed. A large number of reports have been delayed until the time of their usefulness had passed and there is a general clogging of wheels in some quarters. Bills are not printed for congress sometimes for a week or ten days after the usual time, and there are documents which are more than a year behindhand.

A democratic member says the president has called upon the public printer for an explanation; that it has been made, but is not satisfactory, and that the president has in contemplation the appointment of another public printer. It seems that Benedict has made a failure all around to please those for whom he does the most work, and the prospects are that he may retire before the end of the present investigation.

GETTING READY FOR TARIFF ACTION.

Chairman Miles is paving the way for his tariff bill on the floor of the house. He went to Mr. Dockerp, of Missouri, to-day, who has a special order on the calendar, and asked him to get it disposed of at once, remarking that it was not improbable that the tariff bill would be reported within a week and that it would crowd everything else out of the way. Another member has been asked to hurry through his measure with a view to clearing the deck for tariff action. It is understood that as soon as the democrats who are compiling the tariff bill get through with their work they will write a report and lay the bill and report before the full committee on ways and means at the first meeting and send them into the house on two hours notice. As tariff measures are privileged, they can be called up at any time, and this bill will crowd out everything else.

GORMAN ON THE TARIFF AND BLAINE.

Going up to the capital this morning I asked Senator Gorman, of Maryland, who was chairman of the executive committee of the national democratic committee in the last campaign, and who is said to have brought about Mr. Cleveland's election, and who is the best authority on political matters on his side of the senate chamber, what would be done on the subject of tariff at this session. He said: "A compromise tariff bill will be passed by both houses. It will reduce the revenue about $75,000,000 a year and will equally effect the customs and internal taxes. There is no doubt of this. Both parties want such a measure and it is going to be reported to the house one of these days from the committee on ways and passed. We will not delay it much in the senate. Neither party can afford to haggle over this thing. The country has decreed that the tariff should be removed, and it is only a matter of the men in congress doing what their constituents have demanded. Yet, I think Mr. Blaine is out of the way now, but the republicans have lost the strongest man they have, after all. The element in a candidate to insure success is that of commanding an enthusiastic following. I never saw a man who could do that better than Blaine. His followers would go to death for him. They would commit political suicide when he led them and were consoled in their loss by the admiration they felt for their leader."

TO OPEN THE SIOUX RESERVATION.

The bill opening to settlement the Sioux Indian reservation in Dakota was reported to the house from the committee on Indian affairs to-day. The bill is on the calendar of both houses of congress now with favorable recommendations from the committee.

PERRY S. HEATH.

Entirely Out of the Race.

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 14.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—The Record publishes the following: Charles Emery Smith, editor-in-chief of the Press, who is universally recognized as Blaine's closest and most confidential political friend in this state, talked without reserve last night upon the question of Mr. Blaine's letter. During the absence of Blaine from the country he has been in constant correspondence with Smith, and there are few men in the United States better able to measure the full significance of Blaine's remarkable letter than is the editor of the Press. "At the outset," said Mr. Smith, "I may as well say that I regard this letter as a finality. Blaine, in my opinion, has purposely and absolutely taken himself out of the contest for the republican presidential nomination, and his purpose will not be shaken by any circumstances that could possibly be foreseen. The letter, in my opinion, means just what it says, and there is no reason for insinuation or hope that there may be a hidden meaning between the lines. Blaine is no longer a factor in the race for the presidential nomination.

At this point Mr. Smith was interrupted by the inquiry: "Do you mean to say that there are conceivable circumstances under which Blaine would consent to be a candidate for the presidency?"

"No," replied the editor. "My opinion is that no man ever has or ever will refuse to accept a nomination for the presidency which is spontaneously and unanimously offered to him. Viewed merely as a hypothetical case I think that if such an unlikely thing should happen as that, under the circumstances the convention, finding all other candidates out of the question, should unanimously tender the nomination, Blaine could not refuse. But I am convinced that no such remote possibility suggests itself to Mr. Blaine, and the best evidence that he is entirely sincere is that his best friends in the country, who have a right to feel that they know something of him, are convinced that it is useless to consider him as at all in the field, and they are at liberty, and will exercise that liberty, to shape their course without regard to such a thought as that Blaine is in any manner a candidate, or that he hopes, expects or desires to be a candidate for the presidency."

Blaine's Retirement.

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 14.—Interviews with prominent politicians with regard to Blaine's letter of declination show that republicans and democrats alike were taken by surprise in general. The republicans express deep regret. Ex-Senator A. P. Williams, chairman of the republican state central committee, says: "The demands of the party frequently rise superior to individual judgment. If the republicans want Blaine they call him, and I think he will respond." General W. H. L. Barnes, president of the republican state club, spoke in the same strain.

THE ROCK ISLAND ROAD.

President Cable Interviewed Regarding Some Rumored Extensions.

DENVER, Colo., Feb. 14.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—President R. R. Cable, of the Chicago & Rock Island road, who is in the city, in an interview to-night regarding the Associated press telegram from New York stating that the company would extend the road 1,200 miles to the Gulf of Mexico and Denver and issue $30,000,000 in bonds for that purpose, said that while the company would push the road on to Denver and other Colorado points as rapidly as possible, he was not aware that the company had any intentions of issuing bonds for such amounts for these purposes.

"Our road," he said, "will be eventually extended to the Gulf of Mexico, as has been the plan of the company for some time, but the work will be done only as the business justifies it." With regard to the extension of the road to Colorado Springs, Mr. Cable said that it was for coal purposes exclusively. The company wanted to pay the interest on the money expended in the construction of the system of the Missouri and for this purpose the line was built by which coal may be hauled from the Denver & Rio Grande system to Kansas for distribution and sale as a part of this plan. President Cable has a contract which is to be signed between the Rock Island and the Denver & Rio Grande by which coal is to be furnished the Rock Island at Colorado Springs and Denver. Mr. Cable thinks his road will be able to handle about all the coal shipped by the Denver & Rio Grande.

"There has never been any intention on the part of the Rock Island to overlook Denver," said Mr. Cable. "At present our company is not going to build west of the Denver & Rio Grande systems, but the intentions of the company are to push the line overland in the near future, and in that case Denver would be its objective point, and thence across the mountains."

Charged With Heresy.

BOSTON, Feb. 14.—A bill in equity was filed to-day in the supreme court at Salem by the trustees of Phillips' academy, against the attorney general of the commonwealth, the visitors of the theological institute in Phillips' academy, and five professors whose cases come under investigation by the board of visitors, upon accusations of heresy. This is another step in the celebrated heresy trial of Prof. Smythe and others, and is brought to determine the rights in equity of all parties concerned.

Weather Indications.

For Nebraska: Fair weather, slowly rising temperature, light to fresh variable winds, generally shifting to southerly.

For Iowa: Fair weather, slowly rising temperature, light to fresh winds, shifting to east and south.

For Eastern Dakota: Slightly warmer, fair weather, followed in northern portion by snow, light to fresh variable winds.

For Southwestern Dakota: Warmer, fair weather, light to fresh variable winds, generally southerly.

Mrs. Robinson Starving Herself.

BOSTON, Feb. 14.—Mrs. Robinson, the convicted poisoner, since the close of her trial has positively refused all nourishment. The jail officers have tried in vain to induce her to eat, and are persuaded that her iron will can not be broken if it be her intention to starve herself to death.

The Gould-Sage Larceny.

NEW YORK, Jan. 14.—District Attorney Fellows announced to-day that he would submit the Gould-Sage matter to the grand jury this week.

Cutting Lumber Rates.

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn., Feb. 14.—The Chicago, St. Paul & Kansas City railroad has cut its Minneapolis-Peoria lumber rates from 12½ to 8 cents.

DETERMINED TO HAVE A WIFE

How a Young Nebraska Farmer Found His Better Half.

FELL HEIR TO THIRTY THOUSAND.

Good Fortune of a Prisoner in the Dakota City Jail—An Old Man's Sudden Death—Other State News.

Got a Wife Anyhow.

NEBRASKA CITY, Neb., Feb. 14.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—Edwin Watson, a well-known and wealthy young farmer, residing south of this city several miles, returned a few days ago from a visit through the east, bringing with him a handsome and accomplished young wife. There was nothing especially surprising about this single fact, as he had made it known before starting east last November that his trip was taken with this object in view; but there is an incident connected with it that was not at the time upon the programme, and which has just leaked out through a friend to whom the story was confided.

Mr. Watson, it appears, formed the acquaintance of an interesting young lady through the medium of a correspondents' column in a Kansas City paper some four years ago, and since which time the mail service between Nebraska City and a small postoffice in Floyd county, Virginia, has been well patronized. The correspondence must have proven exceedingly pleasant, as it led to an engagement, subject to a personal acquaintance, and subsequently a trip to Virginia to claim the fair correspondent for a bride. Mr. Watson is a college graduate and one of the wealthiest young farmers in this county, and before starting on his journey had furnished a handsome home for the wife that was to be. He, however, did not know the young lady as well as he had imagined, and committed an error in leaving her uninformed as to his financial standing, as it might have balanced any disappointment she might have met with in a personal acquaintance.

The day for their first meeting arrived and the young man appeared at her home and was very cordially received by the lady and her family. The wedding, which was set for Christmas, however, did not take place, for, after a short personal acquaintance, she frankly informed him she had changed her mind, as she did not at all like the brusque ways of the "poor farmer." He was disappointed, of course, but lost no time in bidding good bye to the young lady and her home. He stopped at Cincinnati on his return to visit friends and think over his perplexing situation. To return home alone after all the preparations made for receiving the bride, was something he had not bargained for, and it was not until some days later, while reading the personal columns of the Cincinnati Enquirer, that he hit upon a way out of his dilemma. He wrote the following personal which appeared in that paper the next morning:

PERSONAL—An intelligent and wealthy young gentleman desires to form the acquaintance of a refined and accomplished young lady with a view to matrimony. Address E. W. P. O.

From a number of replies received he selected a modestly worded note signed, "Schoolmistress." A number of letters were exchanged in which his story and his position in life were fully told, and he learned that the name of his future wife was Carrie Lester, and that she was the daughter of a minister in moderate circumstances, living in a neighboring town. A meeting followed, which was so satisfactory to both that the parents were consulted, and the wedding day appointed and the marriage occurred on last New Years. After an extended tour through the east the young couple returned to Watson's house in Nebraska, apparently happy, and well pleased with fate's change in the original matrimonial programme.

Will Build in Lincoln.

LINCOLN, Neb., Feb. 14.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—A large number of business men and citizens assembled at the district court room this evening to receive a proposition from the New York life insurance company, through Dr. George L. Miller, relative to a building in this city. President Raymond, of the board of trade, presided at the meeting and Dr. Miller presented a proposition that if the citizens of Lincoln would furnish his company $1,500,000 worth of insurance, the company would at once erect a five story block in this city to cost $100,000. The proposition was favorably discussed and with a few amendment was adopted and accepted. A committee consisting of General J. C. McBride, J. H. McMurtry, A. J. Sawyer, J. T. Lansing, J. J. Butler and I. M. Raymond was appointed to represent the meeting in the work of securing the insurance and in perfecting other arrangements with the company.

A Newspaper Changes.

PAWNEE CITY, Neb., Feb. 14.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—J. G. P. Hildebrand, a man well known in newspaper circles, sold his interest in the Pawnee Press to-day and retires from the business to seek a new location. The Press, which is the only democratic pater in the county, was established by him four years ago. His brother succeeds him.

Selected a Site.

LINCOLN, Neb., Feb. 14.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—The committee having in charge the location in the city of the university of the Christian church in Nebraska held a business meeting this evening in the Capital hotel at which a definite location was agreed upon and active steps taken for building. The members of the committee in attendance were: Ex-Governor Saunders, George S. Smith, and E. T. Eadd, of Omaha; W. P. Aglesworth, of Fairfield. C. C. Nimson, J. Z. Briscoe, P. Hedges, G. E. Bigelow and C. L. Van Duyn, of Lincoln.

Holdrege Blooming Again.

HOLDREGE, Neb., Feb. 14.—Holdrege is on the boom again. The work on the new system of water works will begin March 1, and over one-hundred men will be employed all summer on the work.

A new line of railroad is expected through Holdrege going southwest. Kearney is very much excited, as the line of road passes through that city.

Bit By the Bumpers.

CREIGHTON, Neb., Feb. 14.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—While coupling cars at Plainview, last evening, about 8 o'clock, O. P. Smith, a brakeman on the north bound train, got his right hand caught between the draw bars and it was badly smashed. Amputation of the thumb and three fingers will be necessary. Mr. Smith is one of the oldest employes of the company.

Found Dead in His Field.

PLAINVIEW, Neb., Feb. 14.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—This morning the dead body of H. McClintock was found about sixty rods from his house, where his team had stopped in a corn field. He was seventy-seven years of age and it is supposed he chilled to death. He was on his return from town.

A Prisoner's Great Luck.

DAKOTA CITY, Neb. Feb. 14.—Charles Springlorn, who is in jail here on the charge of grand larceny, has received word of the death of his father in Germany, and that he will at once come into possession of $30,000, his share of the paternal estate. He is charged with stealing a fat steer, which he sold to a butcher. He has telegraphed his situation to his mother, and hopes to get out through the influence of his new-found wealth.

Edgar to Have Waterworks.

EDGAR, Neb., Feb. 14.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—At a meeting of the city council of this place this evening a contract was let to A. A. Richardson, of Lincoln, for plans and specifications for a complete system of waterworks to cost $20,000. The meeting was largely attended by the citizens, and expressions were unanimous in favor of the project for better fire protection for the city.

Colfax County's District Court.

SCHUYLER, Neb., Feb. 14.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—District court for Colfax county convened yesterday, with Judge Marshall on the bench. There are no very important cases on the docket.

A MEETING LEGALIZED.

International Range Association Abolishes Technical Possibilities.

DENVER, Colo., Feb. 14.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—In the absence of the president and all the vice presidents the third annual meeting of the International Range association was called to order at 10 o'clock this morning by the secretary, J. C. Leary, in the Colorado Cattle Growers' chambers. Owing to a previous announcement that the meeting would be purely formal and for the purpose of legalizing the special meeting called for the 28th of March, few delegates were present. Sufficient, however, were in attendance to accomplish the purpose for which it was called and to secure a compliance with the requirements of the constitution.

After calling the meeting to order the secretary suggested the selection of a temporary chairman, and, upon motion of Mr. C. M. Hampson, Governor Routt was chosen to preside. The governor's speech of acceptance was brief, but it outlined the formalities necessary to be observed in order to legalize the coming special meeting and whatever may be sought to be done at that time, and at its close the regular order of of business was taken up.

The calling of the roll and the reading of the minutes of the last meeting were dispensed with, upon motion of Mr. Niblock, and the orders "reports of officers and committees," and "unfinished business" were, at the suggestion of the secretary, passed over. The next order, the election of officers, was taken up, and, upon motion, nominations were declared by the chair to be in order.

C. M. Hampson, seconded by Mr. Goulding, nominated the old directory in its entirety, and in the absence of other nominations Mr. H. B. Cullom moved that the secretary be instructed to cast the ballot of the association for these nominees. The motion was carried and the secretary, depositing the ballot, said: "Mr. chairman and gentlemen, as directed by this meeting under the motion which has just prevailed, I hereby cast the ballot of the association for the following gentlemen to serve as officers of the International Range association for the ensuing term, or until their successors are duly elected and qualified: For president, R. G. Head; vice president, J. L. Brush; secretary, J. C. Leary; treasurer, J. A. Cooper."

Chairman Routt declared these gentlemen duly and regularly elected.

The object of securing a directory to serve until after the organization of the special meeting having been accomplished in this election, Mr. Hampson offered the following resolution:

Whereas, The officers of this association have, at the request of the board of directors, called a special meeting to be held on the 28th of March next, the general assemblage having been postponed until that date; and

Whereas, The terms of the old officers expire on this date, and without re-election they could not legally serve until the coming special meeting; and

Whereas, The contingency threatened in the postponement of leaving the association without a legal directory has been guarded against by the re-election, as consumated by this meeting; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of this meeting that the resignations of the directory of the International Range association be requested at once, to take effect after the organization of the coming special convention, and that they be presented to the latter on the 28th prox. by some gentleman now present, whom this meeting shall designate before adjournment.

Unanimously adopted and on motion of Mr. Goulding Mr. Thompson was designated to receive and tender the resignations as provided.

M. H. B. Cullum offered the following, which was adopted:

Resolved, That section 3 of the constitution, which fixes membership in this association, be so amended as to make membership therein and representation in all meetings thereof upon an individual or popular basis.

Resolved, That all debate and final action upon the change proposed be deferred until the special meeting and that it be considered under the order of unfinished business at that time.

Unanimously adopted.

The following by Mr. Hampson was also adopted.

Resolved, That the date of the annual meeting of this association be changed from the second Tuesday of the month of February to one later and more convenient, the said date to be fixed by the special meeting to be held March 28.

No further business having been introduced, the meeting, upon motion of C. M. Hampson, then adjourned until 10 o'clock March 28, prox.

A MEASLEY MADMAN.

Love, Lunacy, Murder and Suicide.

BERLIN, Wis., Feb. 14.—Last evening J. W. Hacker, of Danville, Ill., shot and killed Mabel Steike, of Belle Plaine, Ia., and then blew out his own brains. Hacker was nineteen and his victim one year younger. The tragedy was the result of a love affair. It seems that young Hacker and Miss Steike met some time ago and fell in love with each other. The marriage was opposed by the girl's parents and to separate the young people she was sent to Berlin to visit at the home of her grandfather. In some manner Hacker learned of the girl's whereabouts and went to Berlin and took rooms in a hotel there. While there he was taken down with the measles, when Miss Steike prevailed on her grandparent to take the young man under his roof. About 9:30 last night the young man called the girl from the fireside to the door of his room, when the tragedy occurred. The family rushed to the scene upon hearing the shots and found young Hacker dead and the unfortunate girl in a dying condition. She survived only a few minutes after the shooting. It is thought Hacker asked Miss Steike to marry him and on being refused took her life and his own in a frenzy of distraction.

Will Contest Compromised.

LOUISVILLE, Feb. 14.—The suit of Mrs. Sarah E. McIntosh, wife of the deputy collector of internal revenue, Alex McIntosh, of New Albany, to break the will of her father, M. C. Depauw, the great glass manufacturer, who died last fall, has been compromised. Mrs. McIntosh is to receive property worth $200,000, as nearly as can be estimated. Depauw left $10,000,000 in manufactories, iron works, stock and real estate.

The Italian Ministry.

ROME, Feb. 14.—Coppino, minister of public instruction, and Sarracco, minister of public works, have resigned.

The Tribuna states that the war department ordered provisions and accoutrements to be held in readiness in full supply as if the army were to be mobilized.

Business Troubles.

NEW YORK, Jan. 14.—William G. Negus & Co., hardware, made a general assignment with preferences amounting to over $20,000.

FAVOR AN EARLY CONVENTION

Probable Effect of Blaine's Withdrawal on Iowa Republicans.

PUSHING ALLISON TO THE FRONT.

Robb's Alien Bill Engrossed—The War Record Resolution Answered—Billings Indicted For Murder—Powell Captured.

An Early Convention Favored.

DES MOINES, Ia., Feb. 14.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—The republican state central committee met here to-day, at the call of Chairman Beardsley, to fix a time for holding the next state convention. Since the appearance of Mr. Blaine's letter of withdrawal public sentiment, so far as can be gathered from representative republicans now in the city, is in favor of an early convention with a view of presenting Mr. Allison's name to the nation at once backed by the party and the enthusiastic support of Iowa.

"The sooner the convention can be held the better," was the common expression among republicans. The following are a few of the remarks on this subject heard in a moments' conversation:

Governor Larrabee—I think Iowa has but one thing to do now and that is to take up Mr. Allison and put him forward with a strong and resolute backing that will win. I am in favor of an early convention and think it ought to be held while the legislature is in session so as to give us the assistance of the many leading republicans who are now here.

Chairman Beardsley—We must move forward at once for Mr. Allison, and I think there will be no question but that the state is enthusiastically for him. I am in favor of a convention much earlier than I should have favored had Mr. Blaine not withdrawn from the fight. I think now the sooner it can be got together the better. It will take some time to get the notice out and hold the county conventions to elect delegates, but we ought to have it just as soon as we can.

Senator Hutchison—I think there is no question now as to the duty of Iowa. We must give Mr. Allison the backing and the support that he deserves, and we ought to lead off at once, so that the rest of the country can see that his own state is heartily and enthusiastically for him. In view of the fact that we have to begin at the bottom and work from the ground up without the help of any outside organization I think we should lose no time in beginning. Other states will soon be holding conventions and we can't afford to wait till many delegates are chosen before we get to work.

Committeeman Swolm—I am for an early convention, the earlier the better. We have got to take our coats off and go to work.

Senator Young—I think that Iowa is all ready to take up Mr. Allison and give him an enthusiastic backing. I should favor an early convention and think we should select our strongest men and best workers and let them begin the fight at once.

Hon. M. S. O'Connell—I have completely changed my idea of the time of the convention. I was in favor of a late convention, sometime in May, but since Blaine's letter was received I am in favor of a convention just as soon as it can be got together, so as to give Mr. Allison the early benefit of a hearty state support.

Ex-Representative Meservy—Let us have the convention just as soon as the notice can be served and give Allison a booming send-off at once.

Senator Sweeney—I think there is but one thing for Iowa to do now and that is to take up Mr. Allison as the most available man in the country and present him with the strongest enthusiasm and support possible. Let us have an early convention and begin the work.

The Iowa Legislature.

DES MOINES, Ia., Feb. 14.—The bill passed the senate authorizing the governor to arrange with General W. W. Belknap for his services in prosecuting the claims of the state against the general government on account of raising and enrolling troops for the service of the United States during the war of the rebellion. The amount of outstanding claims is about $35,000, this being outside the war tax.

The bill passed changing the times of holding the supreme court, providing for three terms a year, one beginning on the third Tuesday in January, another on the second Tuesday in May and the third on the first Tuesday of October.

Most of the afternoon was spent in the discussion of the Gatch bill, which provides for cutting down peremptory challenges of jurors in criminal cases to ten for the defendant and ten for the state. An amendment by Price to make the challenges five for the defendant and five for the state was killed by a speech from Senator Dodge. Messrs. Bolter, Clark, McCoy and Finn spoke at length favoring the present law and against the bill. The discussion continued until 6 o'clock, when the whole matter was made a special order for Wednesday afternoon.

The resolution that the house hold two sessions daily after February 16 was reconsidered and amended by a substitute fixing the date as the 20th of February. The entire matter was laid on the table, subject to call.

The senate bill was considered providing for a board of trustees of five members for the hospital for the insane at Clarinda, one of which may be a woman, one a resident of Page county, two to be elected by the general assembly for two years, two for four years and one for six years, such board to take charge of the institution on the second Wednesday of March, 1888, instead of the present board of commissioners. The senate amendments were agreed to, and the bill passed the house.

The senate bill providing for the issue of water works bonds by cities of the first class, with the senate amendments, passed the house.

The Woolson substitute for the resolution on the Des Moines river land question was referred to the house committee on federal relations.

The other bills passed were:

The bills for printing the reports of state mine inspectors.

The bill authorizing boards of directors of independent school districts to change boundary lines.

The senate bill fixing the terms of the supreme court.

The bill by Mr. Robb restricting non-resident aliens in title to acquire and hold real estate, and repealing sections 1908 and 1909 of the code, was engrossed. The bill provides that non-resident aliens holding real estate in Iowa shall dispose of it within ten years but may hold 320 acres or city property to the amount of $10,000, provided such property is placed in the actual possession of relatives and such relative or occupants become naturalized citizens within ten years. It further provides that lands acquired by foreclosure of mortgage or collection of debts must be sold within ten years.

The War Record.

DES MOINES, Ia., Feb. 14.—The secretary of war to-day made answer to the resolution passed by the house calling upon him for information as to the scope of the compilation of official records of the rebellion. Secretary Endicott encloses a report from Lieutenant Colonel Lazelle, in charge of the war records publication office. The secretary says since Colonel Lazelle assumed the office, June 13, 1887, no change from the instructions and plan adopted in 1880, and required by the provisions act of July 3, 1886, had been made, ordered or contemplaied.

In reply to so much of the resolution as requests information as to whether persons have been refused access to the records, and if so, by whose authority, the secretary says several months before Colonel Scott's death a circular was issued to the department republishing paragraph 721 of the army regulations of 1881, prohibiting the giving of official information to any person not on duty in the department, without proper authority and it applied to all bureaus of the department, as well as to the war records office. The reason for the order was to prevent the improper use of information irregularly obtained and to provide for the orderly and methodical transaction of government business. Subject to the restriction imposed by the regulation, the privilege of inspecting war records had been freely granted by Colonel Lazelle to applicants for historical matter within the respective limits of their inquiries, except two cases, in which not deeming himself authorized to give the information asked for, the applicants were referred to the secretary of war, who gave one of them the information desired. The other made no further effort, although informed at the publication office that favorable action would probably be taken upon the request if addressed to the secretary of war.

Banqueting the Legislators.

DES MOINES, Ia., Feb. 14.—The programme of toasts for the banquet given by the Des Moines Press club at the Aborn house to the members of the legislature this evening was as follows: "The Iowa Press," Hon. J. B. Harsh; "St. Valentine," Hon. W. W. Dodge; "Free Lance," Mr. Morgan Bates; "Our Best Hold—the Advertiser," Mr. Norman Lichty; "Bigger Waste Baskets or Longer Columns?" Hon. N. V. Brower; "The Leap-Year Prerogative," Miss Rose Ankeny; "The Overworked Third House," Hon. Lafayette Young. The march to the dining room was headed by President Elboeck and lady and Lieutenant-Governor Hull and lady, the latter gentleman acting as toast-master. A dance programme of six numbers followed the banquet.

Powell Arrested.

MASON CITY, Ia., Feb. 14.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—A. F. Powell, the supposed stock swindler, was arrested late last night at a farm residence twelve miles east of here. Since his sudden disappearance on Saturday the officers have been in search, but up to Monday night nothing had been heard from him. A telephone message from Nora Springs states that such a man had been seen near there during the day and officers from this city went and made the arrest. To the officer he had but little to say. He freely surrendered all the agreements and receipts he had in his possession, covering all the purchases he made here. He was arraigned for a hearing at 5 p. m., but upon his urgent request the hearing was postponed for twenty-four hours. He talks freely, but as if he was telling as little of the truth as possible. To the BEE representative this evening he said: "The contracts I made with the farmers for the purchase of their cattle were made in good faith, and they could bear no other interpretation. The receipts I took from them were mostly written on plain paper furnished by the farmers themselves, with no chance of them signing a promissory note as reported. The day I arrived here I went to the bank and told them that I expected a draft from Powell & Co., Tonica, Ill., for $10,000, but in case that did not reach me in time, I expected to check upon the bill of lading. I was disappointed in getting my money and the bank refusing to advance on the agreements I was let down. I left the city on the day the cattle were to be delivered because I thought the parties would give me trouble.

"In relation to family matters at Friabalt I would say that all reports have been true and that is partially what has caused delay in my money matters. My parents reside in Perry, Ia. My brother I expect to-morrow and he will clear matters up."

It is generally believed that if his statement as made above in regard to contract and agreements be true he has an accomplice and it was their purpose to beat the bank.

Legislative Notes.

DES MOINES, Ia., Feb. 14.—The senate ways and means committee reported favorably on the Kegler's bill providing for the distribution among counties of the revenue arising from the taxing of telegraph and telephone lines.

The senate insurance committee recommended the passage of the substitute providing that no policy be written for more than three-fourths of the value of the building insured.

The house temperance committee listened to Attorney General Baker on the merits of the Custer bill this morning and Judge Henderson, of Marshalltown, this evening made an argument for the Rodman bill.

Probably Murdered By Thugs.

DES MOINES, Ia., Feb. 14.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—Peter M. Hanson, a Norwegian painter and paper hanger, was found frozen to death in the river near the Wabash railroad bridge to-day. His watch and chain were missing and from bruises upon his body, there is suspicion that he was sand bagged and thrown in the river. The coroner's jury is taking the measurements of the tracks found on the ice and sandbar and are making all possible efforts to sift the matter to the bottom. In view of the fact that the band of sand-baggers looked up a temporary abode in this city within the last few days there are strong probabilities that Hanson met his death at the hands of thugs.

Billings Indicted For Murder.

WAVERLY, Ia., Feb. 14.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—Billings received a valentine this morning he will hardly appreciate. 'Twas no less than an indictment for murder in the first degree for killing the late W. S. Kingsley, county attorney of Bremer county. The prisoner was given one day to answer the charge. The verdict of the grand jury was unanimous. Billings will move for a change of venue and will object to trial in either Butler, Bremer or Floyd counties.

Sioux City Democrats.

SIOUX CITY, Ia., Feb. 14.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—The democratic city convention to-night nominated the following city ticket: For Mayor, M. L. Flynn; treasurer, John Hittle; police judge, W. W. Soule; auditor, W. G. Linn; marshal, James Stanley; aldermen-at-large, W. C. McNamara and W. Barnard; engineer, Henry Windland; attorney, J. Quincy. There will probably be a citizen's ticket in opposition. The question of prohibition enters into the contest and tears all party lines.

Another Big Gas Well.

HERNDON, Ia., Feb. 14.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—Men engaged in digging a well here struck gas to-day at a depth of 125 feet. It is the biggest gas well of any in the vicinity and several wells have already been found. The noise of the escaping gas was heard two miles away, and when lit the gas flamed up thirty-five feet.

Killed By a Switch Engine.

CRESTON, Ia., Feb. 14.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—William McMongle, an old resident and employ of the "Q" rail road was struck by a switch engine last night in the yards here and instantly killed. He leaves a wife and a large family.

A LAST RESORT.

Desperate Means Proposed to End the Reading Strike.

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 14.—Every indication points to most desperate means being resorte to for the purpose of bringing the strike in the Schuylkill region to an end. Three members of the executive committee of District Assembly 243—Hayes, Ford and Britton—left this morning after a fruitless effort to secure a conference with the officials of the Reading Coal and Iron company, and the belief is that they have returned to their respective localities with instructions for a general strike on or before Saturday of all eccentric engineers, firemen, pumpmen and other mining mechanics. Should the proposed strike take place it would result in flooding all its mines and cause damage which months of time could hardly undo.

ARREST OF A BOYCOTTER.

The First Case Brought Under the New Illinois Law.

A BAKER THE COMPLAINANT.

An Interview With a Butcher as to the Effect a Similar Proceeding Had on His Business Two Years Ago.

Jailed For Distributing Circulars.

CHICAGO, Feb. 14.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—Thomas Greiff owns the hall at No. 54 West Lake street, where the Haymarket riot was planned and where Parsons, his wife and children took refuge after the bomb was thrown. Greiff went security for George Simms this morning in Justice Kerstin's court. Simms is the man who was arrested for distributing boycotting circulars calling on working men and others not to patronize John Koesseler, a baker at No. 306 North Franklin street. The Central Labor union instituted the movement, and the arrest of Simms under the charge that is put against him is the first in Chicago since the adoption of the law framed by the last legislature for the control of boycotters. This law provides a punishment that may be a fine of $2,000 and five years imprisonment in the penitentiary, or both, and George Simms appears to have an excellent chance of experiencing to the full the workings of this law. He was booked on two charges—one for a violation of the city ordinance in distributing circulars, and in that case the bail was put at $200. The second charge was based on the state law and the bail was $800. Greiff gave satisfactory evidence that he owned property sufficiet to cover the amount asked for and Simms was turned loose this morning.

The circumstances that led the Central Labor union to boycott Brother Koessler easily led to a recollection of the boycott the same organization instituted against Butcher Lotholz in April, just before the Haymarket riot. It is getting along to be pretty close to two years since that boycott was declared, and just to find out how it worked in that case a reporter to-day had a talk with Mr. Lotholz.

"A boycott," said the butcher, "bothers a man a good deal. In my case the boycotters had what they called a picket—that is, twenty men were polled off to follow my delivery wagon. They used to go around to the houses of my customers and threaten them in their business with the loss of the workingmen's patronage. It bothered me a good deal."

"How did it affect your business?"

"Oh, it made my business better. The first week I had more business than I could attend to. People that never traded with me before came from all parts of the city and bought their meats at my shop. A good many wealthy people became my customers at the same time, and have remained my customers ever since. The American people don't like boycotting. I found that out. They just rallied about me and told me to count on them every time. The boycott helped my business."

"How long did the boycott last?"

"It was riddled to pieces after the bomb was thrown at the Haymarket. Spies and his crowd were responsible for it. The Arbeiter Zeitung used to print columns and columns every day about the boycott. But after the bomb was thrown and the gang locked up nothing more was done. The whole thing fell through and it has never been mentioned since. The trouble is, those men who declare the boycott are worthless fellows. They have no homes, they live in boarding houses, and none of them have a good suit of clothes.

A WOOLEN TRUST.

A Meeting of Leading Manufacturers to Form an Organization.

NEW YORK, Feb. 14.—About 200 woolen and worsted manufacturers and commission merchants from various sections of the country met this morning for the purpose of perfecting an organization started in Philadelphia on December 21.