THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

EIGHTEENTH YEAR. OMAHA, FRIDAY MORNING, FEBRUARY 15, 1889. NUMBER 245

OMAHA'S POSTOFFICE SITE.

Proposals In Order Till Midday, February 23.

A CORNER LOT IS PREFERRED.

Propositions Should Be Addressed to the Secretary of the Treasury—Nebraska's Undrawn Property—Territorial Matters.

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

Senator Manderson was in receipt to-day of a reply to his recent letter to Supervising Architect Freret in regard to the selection of a site for the Omaha postoffice. The inquiries concerning the method in which the location would be made and when it would take place were so numerous that the senator determined to make the earliest possible discovery of the intentions of the government in regard thereto, and to make public his information. The answer of Architect Freret is as follows:

WASHINGTON, Feb. 13.—To Honorable Charles F. Manderson, United States Senate—Sir: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 12th inst., with reference to the proposed public building at Omaha, Neb., and in reply, I desire to inform you that the advertisements have been authorized for insertion in the daily newspapers published in Omaha, inviting sealed proposals for the sale of property suitable for a public building site, a copy of which is enclosed herewith for your information. No commissioners will be appointed to locate the site, as this custom has been dispensed with by the department, and in lieu thereof an agent from this office has been selected who will visit Omaha on the 23d inst., with a view of inspecting the different properties offered for sale. It is expected to obtain a suitable site by purchase, and not to resort to condemnation, but this question cannot be determined until after the proposals are opened. Any suggestions you may wish to make in relation to this subject will be gratefully appreciated. Respectfully Yours,

W. A. FERRET.

FORM OF PROPOSAL.

The following is the form of the proposal referred to in the above letter:

OFFICE OF THE POSTMASTER, Omaha, Neb., Feb. 1889—Sealed proposals will be received until 12 o'clock noon, on the 23d day of February, 1889, for the sale of property suitable for a site for the public building authorized to be erected in your city. A corner lot is preferred, and the dimensions should not be less than 200 feet by 250 feet; if not a corner lot the dimensions should be not less than 200 feet by 290, the 290 feet to be street frontage; any building on the property selected to be retained and removed by the owner. The department reserves the right to reject any and all proposals. Proposals should be marked "proposals for the sale of property for a site for the public building at Omaha, Neb.," and should be addressed to the secretary of the treasury. This information will doubtless relieve the minds of the anxious real estate people in Omaha, and indicates that there is to be no delay in pushing the work.

NEBRASKA'S UNDRAWN PROPERTY.

Under two old statutes, passed in 1836 and 1871, each state on its admission is entitled to a set of the customary and metric standards, and they are very valuable. Nebraska never secured these, and Senator Manderson has recently applied to the secretary of the treasurs for the same. The reply is that they will be delivered to the state on requisition of the governor, when provision shall have been made for their safe keeping.

TWO GOVERNORS.

The reports from West Virginia indicate that there are likely to be two governors in that state from and after the adjournment of the legislature, which soon expires by limitation, and President Harrison will be compelled to recognize one or the other of them. There is very little probability that any one will be elected to the senate, in which case each governor will fill the vacancy by appointment, and two sets of credentials will be sent in. Thus the titles of the governors will be submitted to the senate of the United States for its decision.

TERRITORIAL.

Chairman Springer has made a miserable "list of it" in all of his work on the omnibus territorial statehood bill. He has been compelled to back track and vacate every position he has taken on the subject of creating new states. In the first place, he attempted to have Dakota admitted as a whole. Then he proposed to submit the question of division to both the north and south half separately. Then he proposed to permit South Dakota to come in under proclamation of the president, and the north half to be given an enabling act, provided the territory as a whole voted for division. Then he proposed that the submission of the question of division to a vote of the people should be left out, and an enabling act should be given North Dakota and an absolute admission, by the president's proclamation for the southern half. Each one of these concessions, coming nearer and nearer the position taken by the president, was forced upon Mr. Springer by pure popular opinion in the house of representatives, which is democratic. As Mr. Springer evacuated each of the positions he had occupied, he began to hedge. He first demanded that Utah should come in with Dakota. Then he dropped Utah and took up New Mexico, which was to come in with the two Dakotas and Washington and Montana territories. To-day every element of Springerism was thrown out of the omnibus bill by the house and republicanism was substituted. Sunset Cox, who has proven himself to be the most liberal minded democrat in the house, led the principles fought for by the republicans, and succeeded in securing even more than the republicans hoped to get. It was agreed by the republican conferees, on the part of the two houses, that the question of division and admission and the election of new states and federal officers should be again submitted to Dakota. New Mexico was to be thrown out of the bill. The democratic conferees conceded that New Mexico would have to go out, but they contended for further voting in Dakota, for the sole purpose of securing further delay for statehood. When the report was laid before the house, Mr. Cox moved as a substitute to the republican proposition, a resolution instructing the conferees to agree to strike out New Mexico, divide Dakota, and admit to statehood North and South Dakota, Washington and Montana territories upon proclamation of the president. This was a little farther than the republicans had hoped to go. It was what they wanted, but they were afraid to ask for it. Mr. Springer antagonized the proposition as bitterly as possible, and was seconded by Breckinridge of Kentucky and other ultra-anti-statehood democrats. As soon as the debate was over it was evident that Mr. Cox's proposition would be adopted, as twelve or fifteen democrats had indicated that they would vote for it. Breckinridge of Kentucky asked for a division on the question, so that the house might first vote upon the proposition to strike New Mexico out of the bill. This was carried by a vote of 135 ayes to 106 nays. Breckinridge changed his vote from no to aye, so that he might move to reconsider. As the vote upon the motion to reconsider was being taken, Breckinridge, McMillan, Springer, Craine, and others, rushed over to the democratic side, asking the members there to stand together. Others hurried around the capitol to drum in the absentees. Their labors did no good. The former vote was sustained by a vote of 137 ayes to 109 nays. Then a vote was taken upon the latter clause of the Cox proposition to grant admission upon the proclamation of the president, without any further expressions from the people in the territories. This also carried. Then Breckinridge changed his vote and moved a reconsideration.

Mr. Baker, of New York, moved to lay the motion to reconsider on the table, pending which the house adjourned with an understanding that the question would be finally disposed of at 1 o'clock to-morrow. There is now no doubt that Springer has been effectually "turned down," and that there will be four new states admitted to the union by act of this congress—North and South Dakota, Washington and Montana. Mr. Breckinridge in his filibustering was not supported by a single republican. The object in laying the question upon the table over night was to drive into line the refractory democrats, who voted with the republicans. There is no indication, however, that Mr. Springer and his crowd will meet with any degree of success.

INDIAN COMMISSIONER OBERLY.

Evidently Indian Commioner Oberly is afraid of being removed from office for insubordination. He said the other day to your correspondent that the law was being grossly violated, and orders disregarded in the cutting of timber from certain Indian lands in Wisconsin; that his requests for the removal of Indian Agent Gregory had been refused by Secretary Vilas, who knew that the agent was permitting the law to be outraged, and that he would expose the whole business when called before Senator Chandler's committee on Indian depredations. To day Mr. Oberly had an opportunity to make the expose, but he refused to do so, and evidenced a strong desire to shield Mr. Vilas. He said to the committee that the only thing that was being done which he did not approve of was the retention of Agent Gregory, who was allowing the timber to be cut without the approval of the secretary. Evidently Mr. Oberly was reminded since his announcement of an intention to tell all he knew about Vilas of the summary treatment of Land Commissioner Sparks and Civil Service Commissioner Edgerton, who were summarily relieved for insubordination and talking about their superior officers. Oberly did a good job of "crawling into his hole and pulling the hole in after him" to-day. As a reformer he has proved a dead failure.

MISCELLANEOUS AND PERSONAL.

Carroll D. Wright, of Boston, has been confirmed as commissioner of labor.

C. N. Deitz and wife, F. Colpetzer and wife and C. H. Gulon and wife, of Omaha, who have been at the Ebbitt for a couple of days, will leave to-morrow for Richmond and other sections of Virginia.

S. H. M. Byers, of Iowa, author of "Sherman's March to the Sea," and consul at Zeurich during the administrations of Grant, Hayes and Arthur, is in the city, stopping at 603 F street.

George C. Baker and E. A. Robertson, of Des Moines, are at the Ebbitt.

Hon. J. P. Dolliver, congressman-elect from the Tenth district of Iowa, is at 924 Fourteenth street. Mr. Dolliver will be the youngest member of the Fifty-first congress.

ARMY ORDERS.

Leave of absence for four months, to take effect on or about March 1, is granted Second Lieutenant Charles D. Clay, Seventeenth infantry.

First Lieutenant G. S. Young, Seventh United States infantry, on leave from Fort McKinney, Wyo., is at present with his parents, Captain and Mrs. D. J. Young, at 1320 Corcoran street.

PERRY S. HEATH.

COMMISSIONER OBERLY.

His Statement Regarding the Timber Contracts on the La Point Agency.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 14.—Indian Commissioner Oberly, before Senator Chandler's special committee on Indian traders to-day, submitted correspondence relating to timber cutting contracts in the La Point, Wis., agency. On March 13, last, 731 such contracts were suspended by order of the commissioner. On January 29 the operations under 500 of them were ordered resumed by the commissioner under instructions from Secretary Vilas, who suggested, in view of the imminent danger of loss to both contractor and Indians by delay at that season, and because of the large expenditure to which the contractor had gone in preparing to carry on his work, and because the work done under contracts has not yet been approved, that the commissioner approve such contracts as had been made with the owners of allotments approved by the president.

As to the removing of Agent Gregory, the secretary wrote that he (Gregory) had asked several times to be relieved, but until the nomination of his successor was confirmed by the senate there had been no change made. Agent Gregory's replies to Commissioner Oberly's communications regarding illegal cutting, were very unsatisfactory to that official, and finally the commissioner telegraphed him as follows:

"Your evasive replys to my telegrams have convinced to met hat you have been very direlect in regard to this matter."

In one of his replies the agent said, in effect, that he presumed cutting was still going on, despite the orders to stop it; that the camps were so far apart that he could not reach some of them in fourteen days. Before the committee last year Gregory testified that he could reach any point in the agency within twelve hours. On Feoruary 5 Mr. Oberly recommended to Secretary Vilas that Clerk Allen, in the commission office, be detailed to visit the agency and investigate the condition of things, but the correspondence does not disclose any action on this recommendation.

The examination of the commission was concluded, and Senator Chandler will now begin the preparation of his report.

THE YORKTOWN'S TRIAL.

It Proves Eminently Satisfactory in Every Particular.

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 14.—The United States gunboat Yorktown returned this morning from a trial cruise down Delaware bay and out into the ocean. Commodore Fitzhugh spoke generally in high praise of the craft. On Wednesday a run was made straight away out to sea, and in coming back the Yorktown made the run in four hours with a forty knot breeze "dead on," and behaved admirably. Captain Steele says that she did not roll or pitch, and he never had a vessel that was more plumb and steadier. In another four hours run she made an average of 15.85 knots per hour, or about twenty miles, thus proving her to be a very fleet ocean craft, as well as a remarkably steady one.

The engines of the Yorktown proved to be perfect marvels for steadiness and power. Each engine on its regular test recorded 25.7 revolutions per minute, implying a horse power far ahead the contract requirements, but the exact sum of which cannot be given for some days, or until all the indicators can be computed and differentiated.

The ship was tried in every conceivable way, in river, bay and ocean, and was particularly maneuvred by Captain Steele under the direction of Commodore Fitzhugh as if engaged in battle. She answered every movement of the helm promptly, and moved with the most satisfactory celerity, all the time steady and solid so that guns might be used with the very best effect in action.

One of the marvels of these maneuvers was starting the Yorktown ahead at full speed. This feat was accomplished in one minute and fifty-seven seconds, an extraordinary result under any circumstances. While at sea the sails were tested and it was found that in this particular the ship was as trim and complete as in any other. The officers and crew, from the commodore down to the stokers, are loud in their praise of the Yorktown, and believe that she will prove the pride of the new American navy, at least until the mammoth cruisers Baltimore, Philadelphia and New York shall come forth to bear the American flag.

Commodore Fitzhugh promptly announced the general result to the secretary of the navy. There seems to be no doubt that his report will be entirely favorable, and the gunboat Yorktown will be accepted and prepared at once to receive her command.

Presidential Nominations.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 14.—The president today sent the following nominations to the senate: Commodore George B. Belknap, to be rear admiral; Captain John G. Walker, to be commodore; Commander L. A. Casey, to be captain; Lieutenant Commander James Forsythe, to be commander.

HAS SILENTLY STOLEN AWAY

Superintendent Chase, of the Indian School.

HIS ACCOUNTS WERE CROOKED

The Shortage Estimated at About $25,000 By the Government Inspector—He Robbed Even the Children.

A Chase For Canada.

GENOA, Neb., Feb. 14.—[Special to THE BEE.]—As the investigation at the Indian school progresses, it becomes more and more evident that Superintendent Chase commenced to swindle the government from the very first of his administration, four years ago. His methods have been varied, and, in nearly every transaction he has made since he became superintendent, he has managed to rob the government of sums ranging from $5 to $200.

Inspector Mollett is authority for the statement that $25,000 will not cover the stealings.

Chase has even robbed the Indian children of their little earnings to the extent of several hundred dollars, and also pocketed nearly all of the $8 per month which the government allows the children for spending money.

In nearly every case where parties have been employed to do work for the school they have been presented with blank vouchers, which they have carelessly signed and which now turn up in the hands of the government for, in many cases, ten times the amount of their bill. The case is reported of one man who signed a voucher for what he supposed to be $7. He was somewhat astonished when Inspector Mullett presented him with one bearing his signature calling for $150.

Some of the citizens have also been surprised to learn that they have been drawing salary as regular employes of the school.

Chase's personal indebtedness in this town is estimated at $4,000, which taken together with the $25,000 he has stolen from the government, and $9,000 salary himself and family have drawn, makes a nice little pot.

There is a rumor on the streets to-day that, in the temporary absence of the inspector yesterday, Chase seized his grip and quietly stole away to parts unknown.

Special Indian Agent White arrived yesterday and took charge of the school.

Cattle Thieves Captured.

AINSWORTH, NEB., Feb. 14.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—The vigilantes, about five hundred strong, have captured six or eight leading members of an organized band of cattle thieves. Some of the captured ones have made confessions implicating many others, and developements are awaited impatiently. The gang has infested this part of the state for three or four years, stealing cattle and shipping by the car load. The vigilantes are quiet but determined, and it is not known whether they will hand the captives over to justice or to Judge Lynch.

Dr. Kelly's Assailants.

NORFOLK, Neb., Feb. 14.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—The preliminary examination of Soudier, Barne and Oliver was commenced at Madison before Judge Duncan, yesterday, and concluded to-day. Several of the witnesses introduced by the government saw more or less of the shooting and identified the prisoners. The defense called no witnesses. Oliver was discharged. The two others were held in the sum of $2,500 for their appearance at court.

Indian Payments.

OMAHA AGENCY, Neb., Feb. 14.—[Special to THE BEE.]—Judge Crawford, of West Point, is here to-day taking the census preparatory to paying the Omaha Indians $35,000. He expects to pay them some time this month. This $25,000 is half of the balance of $70,000 due the Omahas in seven equal annual payments. This is to be divided among 1,250 indians, giving them about $27 or $28 each. The Omahas have been practically self-supporting for many years.

Stores Burglarized.

DAKOTA CITY, Neb., Feb. 14.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.] Burglars entered Schrieter Bros'. and Stinson & Henweg's stores, gaining an entrance to both places from the cellar doors on the outside. The booty secured was trifling. While many believe it was the work of parties acquainted with the town, others pronounce it professional work.

Skipped Just in Time.

BEATRICE, Neb. Feb. 14.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE]—Gilbert, alias Moore, an employe at the sewer pipe works, skipped yesterday. To-day parties from Shelton, Neb, are here with Underwood, deputy sheriff of Buffalo county, looking for him. He is said to have committed forgeries of notes and mortgages amounting to $1,000. He is supposed to have gone to Rockford, Ill.

An Ocean Steamship War.

NEW YORK, Feb. 14.—In regard to the war between the ocean steamship companies, the evening papers say that the first blow at freight rates has been struck by the White Star companies. It is the same with the steamship lines as with the railroads. They have had an understanding with each other to maintain high rates, but one of the companies has kicked over the traces and broken the tacit agreement. The representatives of the Guion, Anchor, Inman, and National companies are prepared for the fight. If oil is not speedily thrown upon the troubled waters the public may expect to witness the most bitter warfare that ever broke out between trans-Atlantic lines. There are indications that the trouble may extend to passenger traffic also.

Looks Bad For the Agreement.

CHICAGO, Feb. 14.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—The main topic of conversation among the railroad men to-day was the meeting of the presidents next Tuesday, at which the famous agreement will again be discussed. President Hughitt, of the Northwestern, and Receiver McNulta, of the Wabash, are as certain as ever of the ultimate adoption of the agreement, but a protracted search disclosed the fact that they were nearly alone in their opinion. Seven out of the twenty-two roads have refused, at least temporarily, to sign the agreement, and it is the prevalent opinion that not more that fifteen will be presented at the meeting.

New Mexico Memorials.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 14.—President pro tem Ingall to-day laid before the senate two petitions of the citizens of Albuquerque, New Mexico, denouncing as misleading and false the allegations contained in the memorial recently presented to the senate protesting against the admission of the territory as a state.

A memorial from the legislative council of New Mexico was presented to the senate today, praying that all agricultural lands in the territory be opened to settlement at $1.25 an acre, and the price of coal lands within fifteen miles of a railroad be fixed at $10 an acre.

For Protection at Panama.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 14.—The house committee on foreign affairs to-day instructed the chairman to report favorably the senate bill appropriating $250,000 for the protection of American interests and citizens at the isthmus of Panama. In view of the fact that work on the canal ceases to morrow, the committee resolved to make an effort to secure immediate action by the house.

THE HERD LAW.

Citizens of Sioux County Strongly Favor Local Option.

HARRISON, Neb., Feb. 14.—[Special to THE BEE.]—The bill in the state legislature known as house roll 95, killing that part of the existing statutes leaving it optional for counties to decide for themselves whether herd or fence laws shall obtain within their boundaries, has awakened interest. In January of 1887 this (Sioux) county, availing itself of the privilege accorded by the laws, suspended the herd law. At the last election the county commissioners granted a petition for a new vote on the question of suspension, and it was again carried. There were polled in the county at this election 561 votes, and the majority in favor of suspending the herd law was nearly a hundred.

The people here are farmers, combining stock raising with tilling the soil, and the vote maintaining the suspension of the herd law was a fair index of the sentiment of the majority. But the question having been raised has since served as a topic for agitation, and efforts have been made accomplish by act of legislature what the majority of the people have discountenanced. To effect this, avowals have been made that the county is overrun with range cattle; that stock from Wyoming and Dakota have made aggressions upon the crops grown in this county, and that the United States land laws relating to timber culture cannot be complied with by reason thereof. Such avowals are not in harmony with the facts in the case. There are no range cattle in the county. The day of range cattle is over in this county, and stockmen in Wyoming and Dakata have line riders who restrain the cattle from entering the state along the line. Divided among the residents of Sioux county, as indicated by the total vote last fall, are about 3,400 cattle and 2,764 horses. The county contains 2,100 square miles, and of this area there are cultivated about 2,000 acres—less than one acre to the square mile.

The free range existing here for the past two years has proved acceptable to the people, who corroborate the opinion expressed by Mr. Burnham, of Keya Paha county, when the bill was being discussed in the house, he affirming that a fence law was to the best interests of his county. There are rough portions of the county unsuited to agriculture, but affording good pasture, and the large areas of uncultivated land are utilized in this way, farmers fencing their fields. The canyons and banks of streams abound in timber, furnishing posts free for the taking from government land.

Sioux county is receiving a goodly influx of settlers from the east, who unite with older residents in protesting against the killing of the optional herd law now in our statutes, desiring to determine for themselves whether the law be suspended or revived. The action to be taken by the senate is looked forward to with considerable interest.

At a meeting of the republican county central committee, resolutions were adopted condemning the action of L. W. Gilchrist, representative from this district, in advocating the repeal of the optional herd law, and censuring him for his insulting language toward one of the citizens of this county.

SOUTHERN COLORED MEN.

They Hold an Impartial Conference at Indianapolis.

INDIANAPOLIS, Feb. 14.—An important conference of colored men was held here today. It gathered at the instance of Prof. J. M. Langston. Seven states were represented by the delegates present, South Carolina, Georgia, Virginia, Tennessee, Kentucky, Florida, and Missouri, and letters were read from other southern states. The conference was held with closed doors, and an address to General Harrison was formulated. In substance, the address says that they are loyal to the republican party and residents of states in which a fair election would give the electoral vote to the republican party by a large majority, but such undue influences and frauds are brought to bear against the voters that scores of the republican masses are constantly defeated. "We cannot doubt that you agree with us that the fifteenth amendment should be maintained with fairness and vigor, and that you desire that such object shall be accomplished in the interest of seven millions of American citizens who to-day in the south are practically disfranchised, and whose cause we represent and plead. In view of our present and prosperous condition under your administration of the government, we are profoundly interested in the construction of your cabinet, especially as concerns the attorney generalship. The importance of the absolute necessity for the appointment which we name of a man who, in addition to great learning in law, is free from undue feeling and bias, becomes apparent in a single moment's reflection. Such being our opinion, we have ventured to bring it formally and earnestly to your consideration."

During the afternoon it was presented to the general. It was supposed that the conference would oppose the appointment of General Mahone to the cabinet, but nothing of the kind was done.

The general had a number of callers, Among them were Dan McCauley, Senor H. F. Guzman, Nicaraguan minister at Washington, and Milton B. Butler, who was president of the electoral college of Nebraska.

Missouri Railroad Legislation.

JEFFERSON CITY, MO., Feb. 14.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—There are pending, both in the senate and the house, a number of bills proposing to reduce passenger fares in this state over main lines from 3 to 2 cents per mile, and on branch lines from 4 to 3 cents per mile. The committee on railroads and internal improvements of both houses met this afternoon and listened to an argument in opposition to the proposed reduction by Mr. P. S. Eustis, general passenger and ticket agent of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy. Mr. Eustis reviewed at length the passenger business of all the roads in the "Q" system for the past three years, and contended that the business had been done at a loss. During 1887 it cost 20 per cent more per mile to carry each passenger than the rate in the proposed bill, which, if passed, would prove oppressive to the roads and make a corresponding entailment of expenses, facilities and wages necessary. This address will be printed and be ready for delivery to the members of the committee next Wednesday. The committee will meet again to-morrow.

Changes of Naval Officers.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 14.—Captain F. Ramsey was to-day ordered by the secretary of the navy to duty as commandant of the navy yard at New York.

Secretary Whitney to-day issued an order detaching Commodore George Belknap from his duty as commandant at the Mare island navy yard, Cal., and ordering him to duty in command of the Asiatic station, to take the place of Rear Admiral Chandler, who died last Sunday.

Western Postal Changes.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 14.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—L. K. Sutton has been appointed postmaster at Paxton, Keith county, Neb., vice John J. Cartright, resigned, and Lavina C. Ruby at Goshen, Ringgold county, Ia., vice M. P. Benson, resigned. A postoffice has been established at Lakeport, Woodbury county, Ia., with Robert L. Hammon as postmaster.

Denied by Governor Alger.

MINNEAPOLIS, Feb. 14.—The Journal's Gladstone (Mich.) special says that Governor Alger denies that he is connected in any way with the proposed Twin City & Escanaba railroad, as has been affirmed.

Burglars at Boone.

BOONE, Ia., Feb. 14.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—The residence of George W. Barnett was entered by burglars yesterday and property, consisting of jewelry and other valuables to the amount of $250, was taken. The robbery was not discovered till evening, and in the meantime the burglars escaped, probably by the afternoon train. No clue has yet been found.

CONGRESSIONAL PROCEEDINGS

A Disagreement Reported On the Territorial Bill.

ANOTHER CONFERENCE ORDERED

With Instructions to Exclude New Mexico From the Provisions of the Measure—A Prohibition Argument.

Senate.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 14.—The resolution heretofore offered by Mr. Stewart for the selection of a committee of seven senators on the irrigation and reclamation of arid lands, with a clerk at $8 per day, was agreed to.

Senate bills granting a right of way to the Cherokee Central railroad company through the Indian territory, and to the Jamestown & Northern railroad company throughout the Devil's Lake Indian reservation, were reported and placed on the calendar.

The house bill for the allotment of land in severalty to Indians on the Elda reservation, Wisconsin, was reported back adversely and placed on the calendar.

Mr. Morgan offered an amendment to the resolution reported from the committee on privileges and elections, which was laid on the table and ordered printed. It instructs the committee to frame legislation on the subject of elections, that it shall not apply to any state whose constitution and laws provide ample security for the honest exercise of the right to vote, for a just and impartial count and return of votes, and for a just, impartial and true ascertainment and certification of results in those states where these requirements have not been honestly complied with.

Mr. Wilson, of Iowa, addressed the senate in support of the bill relating to imported liquors introduced by Mr. Frye on December 21, 1887, and reported back adversely from the judiciary committee March 18, 1888, and then placed on the calendar. The bill reads:

"The consent of congress is hereby given that the laws of the several states relating to the sale of distilled and fremented liquors within the limits of each state may apply to such liquors when they have been imported, in the same manner as when they have been manufactured in the United States."

Mr. Wilson dwelt at considerable length on the beneficent effects of the anti-saloon laws in Iowa, quoting opinions of the judges as to the reduction of crime since the law had gone into operation. He quoted one of the judges as saying, in regard to his judicial district: "In many counties the jail is an almost unnecessary building. In the last three counties visited there is not an occupant in the jail." He spoke of the illiteracy of Iowa having been brought down to 1 2-10 per cent, Iowa being thus placed (he said) "at the head of the educational column, not only of this country, but of the world." Such a state might hopefully ask congress to remove a judicial construction which alone stood as an obstruction in the way of the rightful exercise of her police powers, by which removals she could successfully suppress crimes within her borders.

No action was taken on the bill, which still remains on the calendar.

A conference committee was ordered on the legislative appropriation bill, and Messrs. Allison, Dawes and Cockrell appointed as conferees.

The senate then resumed consideration of the resolution reported from the committee on privileges and elections and was addressed by Mr. Cake. He declared that the committee was unjust, one-sided, and partisan. The senate and country should recollect in reading the report that it was politics. It was based, principally, on the testimony of three memorialists—Hackworth, Moore and Schutze—and took no note of the testimony of twenty-seven witnesses to the effect that Hackworth and Schutze were men of infamous character and unworthy of credit, and that Moore was about as bad as the others. These three tried to make it appear that they were forced to leave the county because of their politics; while the fact was that they had left it because they were regarded as moral lepers, unfit for the decent association. He declared that when memorialists lost the public office which they had held in the county they had been covered all over with indictments for official malfeasance.

Mr. Coke sent to the clerk's desk and had read aloud a counter-memorial of the citizens of Brenham, painting in very dark colors the characters of Hackworth and Schutze, denying all their material allegations, and presenting the democratic side of the troubles in Washington county.

Without concluding, Mr. Coke yielded for other business.

After a brief executive session the senate adjourned.

House.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 14.—In the house to-day the senate amendments were non-concurred in to the legislative and executive appropriation bill, and conferees were appointed.

The bill to divide a portion of the Sioux reservation in Dakota, and to secure the relinquishment of the Indian title to the remainder, was passed after various attempts at amending it.

The committee on appropriations reported back the fortification appropriation bill with senate amendments, and asked for its present consideration, but on a point of order raised by Mr. Townshend of Illinois, it was referred to the committee of the whole.

Mr. Springer of Illinois called up the conference report on the senate bill for the admission of the state of South Dakota. The report, which reports a total disagreement, was agreed to.

Mr. Springer moved that the house insist on its amendments and ask for another conference.

This motion having been agreed to, Mr. Baker of New York offered a resolution giving the house conferees the following instructions: First, to exclude the territory of New Mexico from the bill. Second, to amend the bill so as to provide for the admission of South Dakota by proclamation of the president under the Sioux Falls constitution, to be resubmitted to the people of South Dakota, with a provision for a new election of state and federal officers and without a new vote on the question of division. Third, that the proposed states of North Dakota, Montana and Washington shall be admitted on the same basis, either all by proclamation of the president or by formal acts of admission.

Mr. Cox of New York offered a substitute for the resolution, differing only from Mr. Baker's proposition in that it provides for the admission of North Dakota, Montana and Washington by proclamation of the president. He earnestly favored immediate admission of the territories.

Mr. Springer insisted on retaining in the bill a provision for the admission of New Mexico.

Mr. Symes did not see why the people of New Mexico should be forced into the union by having the provision tacked on to the Dakota bill for political purposes.

Mr. Breckinridge of Kentucky, argued against the exclusion of New Mexico.

Mr. Joseph of New Mexico, spoke for admission.

Mr. Baker accepted the Cox resolution as a substitute for his own.

Mr. Breckinridge of Kentucky, demanded a division of the instructions, and a vote was first taken up to that portion of the resolution instructing the conferees to eliminate New Mexico from the bill. It was agreed to yeas 135, nays 106—but at the last moment Mr. Breckinridge changed his vote from the negative to the affirmative for the purpose of moving a reconsideration.

A motion of Mr. Baker to reconsider was laid on the table.

The next clause of the resolution which was voted upon was that instructing the conferees to so amend the bill as to provide for the admission of South Dakota by proclamation without further vote on the question of division. Agreed to.

Motions to reconsider and lay on the table were made by Mr. Baker, and the yeas and nays were ordered on the latter motion.

Mr. Breckinridge interjected a motion to adjourn, but this was voted down.

Mr. Baker appealed, in the name of the appropriation bills, to Mr. Breckinridge not to filibuster against this measure.

Mr. McMillan of Tennessee, then interpolated another motion to adjourn, and demanded the yeas and nays, which were ordered, but the motion was voted down.

Mr. Breckinridge followed it up with a motion for a recess until 11:30 to-morrow, and raised a point of no quorum.

Messrs. Baker and Breckinridge then attempted to reach an arrangement by which a vote on the motion to table the motion to reconsider should be taken now, but a demand for the "regular order" from the republican side cut short any agreement, and Mr. McMillan again moved adjournment.

The motion having been voted down, an arrangement was affected whereby a vote on the resolution shall be taken to-morrow at 12:15, and the house adjourned.

THE PARNELL COMMISSION.

Another Times Witness Placed on the Stand.

LONDON, Feb. 14.—Soames, solicitor for the Times, testified before the Parnell commission to day that he visited Dublin in May, 1888, in quest of evidence. He interviewed a person who was introduced to him as a former employe in the office of the league, and who produced a slip bearing the signature of Anna Parnell, specimens of Patrick Egan's handwriting, and a bundle of documents. These documents were brought to London in 1888 and embodied in an affidavit in O'Donnell's suit against Walters for libel.

Attorney General Webster, in arguing in favor of the admission of the letter alleged to have been written by Parnell, let slip the fact that they were received from a man named Phillips, said to be the accountant of the league. The court refused to admit the letter. Soames, continuing, produced five letters, including the letter, a fac-simile of which was printed in the Times.

The witness submitted genuine specimens of Parnell's signature. Soames said he had obtained specimens of the writing from Henry Campbell, Parnell's secretary.

Soames said that he believed the body of the letter was in Campbell's writing, while the signature was Parnell's. When he discovered the Parnell letters he also came across documents which he supposed to be Egan's. Three of Egan's letters were found in Carey's house, where two letters in Campbell's writing were also discovered. The witness produced these letters, together with others, as specimens of Egan's writing.

Sir Charles Russell said: "We are only to give these documents cursory glances. The court must not assume that all will be unquestioned."

Soames further testified that Richard Pigott gave the Parnell letters to Houston, secretary of the Irish Loyal and Patriotic union, who handed them to McDonald. On cross-examination Soames said he was not consulted regarding the publication of the articles on "Parnellism and Crime," though he knew they were being prepared early in 1887. Mr. Flanagan, son of an Irish judge, co-operated with gentlemen on the staff of the Times in preparing the articles. Up to January, 1888, twelve letters had been obtained from Pigott. Later more letters, written by Egan, O'Reilly and Davitt were obtained, making a total of seventeen. He did not know precisely what was paid for the letter. Probably whatever was paid passed through him. The first payment of $1,000 was made to Houston. It was partly for his expenses in going to America and partly for payment to Dr. MaGuire and other assistants. The successive subsequent payments to Houston were £200, £30, £40, £12, £180, £550, £342 and £400. Witness paid Mosers about £2,000, Kirby £250 and another agent named Thompson £300.

Touching Davitt's letter, witness said he took pains to form a conclusive opinion, and he decided that it was genuine.

THE SAMOAN CONFERENCE.

A Probability That It Will Not Be Held Under the Cleveland Regime.

BALTIMORE, Feb. 14.—A Washington special says: It looks now very much as if the Samoan conference at Berlin will not be held by representatives of the present administration. Count Arco-Valley, the German minister, called upon Secretary Bayard yesterday and informed him that the latter's answer to Bismarck's proposal for a conference had been sent to Berlin by mail. It will reach Berlin about the 29th. The German foreign office will probably take several days to consider Bayard's suggestions, and its answer, if sent by mail, would hardly reach this country before the beginning of Harrison's regime. There would seem to be no good reason why the correspondence should not have been conducted by telegraph. The assumption is that Bismarck's resort to the mails is simply a trick to gain time in which to punish the Samoans before negotiations at Berlin will begin. In well informed quarters here there is a suspicion that Germany has already sent a reinforcement to Samoa to revenge the killing of a number of men in a recent fight with Mataafa, and it is not at all unlikely that we will ultimately hear of another bloody battle.

If, however, Bismarck is playing fair and accepts Bayard's proposal of a truce in good faith, a commissioner will be sent by Bayard to represent this country at Berlin, provided, of course, Bismarck's reply is received in time. It is thought to be quite possible that Bismarck will insist upon reprisals by way of asserting German prestige in the Pacific and satisfying national pride, which has been touched in a tender spot by the defeat of the German landing party by Mataafa. Bayard, however, has made a most vigorous protest against such a course, and has already hinted that it would be scarcely worth while to hold a conference unless Germany gives practical evidence of a sincere desire to promote the restoration of peace in the islands by foregoing her desire for vengeance.

The Situation Unchanged.

AUCKLAND, Feb. 14.—Latest advices from Samoa say that there has been no change in the situation since the last report. There has been no fighting and Tamasese and Mataafa remain in their strongholds. The British consul has warned British subjects not to supply the natives with arms, and to maintain strict neutrality. The British warship Calliope has replaced the warship Royalist. The German and American warships remain stationary. Herr Brandero, the leading partisan of Tamasese, has been recalled to Berlin.

Notes From Creston.

CRESTON, Ia., Feb. 14.—[Special to THE BEE.]—Miss Kate Vincent, of Omaha is visiting here.

Mrs. O. S. Morrow, who has had a prolonged illness, died at her home in this city at 4 a. m. Tuesday, of heart disease. The remains were taken to Greenwood, Mo., for burial.

There are several cases of scarlet fever and diphtheria in the city. Extra precautions have been taken to prevent a spread of these dreaded diseases.

Prohibition or no prohibition, all the "joints" are running just the same, the mayor and the common council, the citizens and the state of Iowa to the contrary notwithstanding.

Molloy Committed for Trial.

LONDON, Feb. 14.—In the Bow street police court to-day, Patrick Molloy, who is charged with committing perjury when testifying before the Parnell commission, pleaded not guilty and reserved his defense. He was committed for trial.

Never Heard of Le Caron.

OTTAWA, Ont., Feb. 14.—In commons last evening, McMuller inquired whether the report in the newspapers was true that Le Caron, the informer, had received secret service money from the dominion government for several years. Premier McDonald, in reply, said that the dominion government had been unaware of the existence of Le Caron until he appeared before the Parnell commission.

THE CHARGES UNFOUNDED.

Result of the Iowa University Investigation.

A VICTORY FOR THE REGENTS.

Hinrichs' Pamphlet the Creature of a Disordered Imagination—The Moral Atmosphere a Trifle Out of Order.

The University All Right.

DES MOINES, Ia., Feb. 14.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—The legislative committee appointed by the last general assembly to investigate the affairs of the state university at Iowa City is in session here, and this evening has about finished its report. The committee consists of Senators Dodge and Meservey and Representatives Wilber, McFarland and Hotchkiss. It will be remembered that the prohibitionists and some others stirred up a great rampus over the removal of three professors of the university, charging that their removal was due to the fact that these men were active prohibitionists. Then Prof. Hinrichs, the professor of chemistry, who had been removed for other reasons, published a pamphlet attacking Dr. Peck, of Davenport, the dean of the medical department, charging him with cruelty and indifference to the interests of poor patients in the hospital, etc. These charges were reiterated by one or two unfriendly newspapers, and so much fuss was made that the legislature determined to sift the charges to the bottom. So this committee was appointed with full power to take testimony and prepare a report to the governor and clear away, if possible, the atmosphere of suspicion that has been around the university so long.

The committee sat continuously at Iowa City for over sixty days last summer, then held another session in December, and is now finishing its work. The report in general fails to sustain the charges against the university or its individual officers. As to the charge that there was a bargain between the regents and certain anti-prohibition members of the Twenty-second general assembly to vote liberal appropriations to the university on condition that certain obnoxious professors were removed, the committee report that they find no evidence to sustain the charge. This was the great point on which the prohibitionists relied. They claimed that the regents came to Des Moines during the session of the legislature and made a deal with some anti-prohibition members who wanted to see Profs. Follows, Leonard and Parker removed because they had been very active against the saloons of Iowa City, but the committee refused to sustain the charge, and for the most part approve of the removal of the professors, for other and valid reasons.

It is understood that Dr. Wilbur, one of the house members of the committee, is