

RUSKIN A MANIAC.

England's Leading Literature Has Wholly Lost His Reason. HIS MIND A HOPELESS BLANK. The Malady Has Been Growing on Him For Ten Years Past. INTIMATES KEPT IT SILENT. He Was First Attacked While Lecturing at Oxford. HOME LIFE OF THE WRITER. Interesting Information Regarding His Domestic Arrangements and His Wealth and Valuable Collection of Books and Curios.

There has been a great deal of whispered talk in the upper art circles of London for months past concerning Mr. Ruskin's condition and the peculiar circumstances by which it is environed. There has been no public comment on the matter because of the general desire among his most intimate friends—Swinburne, Burne, Jones and others—to have their names said about it. Now, however, the removal of his publisher from Orpington to London and the change in the sale of Ruskin's books from the "no discount" system which he instituted to the ordinary methods prevailing in the book trade, together with other circumstances, make further secrecy impossible.

The story of the great man's breakdown, as told yesterday by a gentleman who for many years has been on business and private relations with Mr. Ruskin, is as follows: Mr. Ruskin's mind has been gradually failing for seven or eight years. The first public suspicion of the fact occurred at Oxford in 1886, when, after delivering several lectures of a series, he broke down during the delivery of one, became incoherent on the platform and greatly excited the feelings of the sympathetic audience. He delivered no more lectures there and the matter was hushed up. His health improved and in 1888, on the occasion of his last visit to London, he went to the Anatomy, Grosvenor and other galleries in company with Oscar Wilde and was seen more prominently in comment or brilliant conversation. At this time he had not returned to Brentwood, his residence in Cumberland, and he took a place at Sandgate in Kent. He then went to France and after spending some time at Amiens went thence to Florence on a visit to Mrs. Alexander, and seemed in good health. At Venice, however, he had a mental attack and broke down mentally. Mr. and Mrs. Severn, living at Brentwood, were sent for. In company with them and two physicians he was brought home.

Of his life at Brentwood since his return very little is known. In July last, however, Miss Kate Green, who had visited him, but her stay was brought to a sudden termination by an unfortunate occurrence. In company with Mr. Ruskin she went out on the moor back of Brentwood to make some water-color sketches. In the midst of her work she noticed her companion was acting and looking strangely and talking incoherently. She immediately seized his coat and hat and ran back to the house and informed Mrs. Severn, who sent an attendant after him, she having had an attendant in waiting on him ever since his return.

Since that time Mr. Ruskin has been necessarily confined to his own home, and one outside of Brentwood people has seen him since August. In November the report reached London of his having had a violent paroxysm during which he broke all the windows in his room. Since that time he has lain in bed continuously. He refused all except liquid food and manifested no desire to get up. He is steadily growing weaker and the probability is that if he ever leaves his bed at all events he will never go out of the house again.

His doctor is Charles Dowers, a local practitioner of Middlesex. There has been some rather critical comment among the specialists of London over the fact that so eminent a man, whose condition is undeniably demands the care of a specialist in mental diseases, should have a physician who, while capable as a general practitioner, has not the special ability which the case imperatively needs. Mr. Ruskin's family physician is Dr. Acklands of Oxford, a life long friend, but a difference of opinion between them in 1875 deprived him thereafter of Dr. Acklands' services. Mr. Severn, Dr. Powers and other attendants now have him in charge, and all being returned in the matter very little is known here as to what goes on.

Mrs. Severn, whose name has been mentioned so frequently of late, is a lady of fifty. She was the adopted child of an elderly lady cousin of Ruskin and on the decease of the cousin became Ruskin's only relative with the exception of another cousin, Captain Ruskin, of the army. The two cousins have, however, not been on speaking terms for many years. On the occasion of Mrs. Severn's marriage with Severn, a water color artist, Ruskin settled £1,700 on Mrs. Severn. He conceived a dislike to Severn soon afterward and for years Severn has not been permitted to live at Brentwood. Though his wife has lived there continuously they have dwelt together only during the periods of Mr. Ruskin's visits abroad.

Mr. Ruskin has made a will leaving Brentwood to Mrs. Severn. The house is a wonderful treasure of art and other valuables whose value cannot be estimated. The owner in twelve years last past has spent over £100,000 on artistic goods of various kinds, and this in addition to his many presents from friends make a wonderful collection. There are contributions from many great English and foreign artists, sketches by Rembrandt and other masters, and a collection of precious stones. Among his remarkable possessions are 3,000 missals, some of them illuminated and the rest on gristable, which are worth a small fortune in themselves, as they comprise one-fourth of the number in existence.

Brentwood and its contents comprise about Mr. Ruskin's estate; all his money has been expended there. The income from his books is from £40,000 to £50,000 per annum.

WEAVER'S ULTIMATUM.

The Willy Greenbacker Appears on the Legislative Scene. DES MOINES, Ia., Jan. 18.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—A new whirl was given to legislative politics today by the appearance of the gloved hand of General James B. Weaver, the only greenback congressman. Weaver is now the dictator of the union labor party in this state, and his party has one representative in the legislature, a man by the name of Ewart, from Potosi county. He has just leaked out that Weaver is trying to use Ewart as a club over the heads of the democrats from his district, threatening that if they don't promise to renominate him for congress this summer he will turn the organization of the house over to the republicans. Ewart is almost mesmerized by Weaver, whom he most devoutly admires, and has the deciding vote in the house. If he would vote with the republicans they can organize the house.

Weaver has discovered his opportunity and grabbed it with both hands. It has just become known that last night he made his demand of some prominent democrats from Ewart's district and told them in so many words that they must agree to renominate him for congress or the republicans should organize the house. The demand was not kindly received and the democrats are disposed to refuse to point blank and defy Weaver's power. He has pretended to be living in Oklahoma for the greater part of the last year, and it was supposed that he was out of Iowa policies for good in every sense of the word. But his sudden appearance just at this time puts a new phase on the situation. Ewart has gone home to consult with his party men, and on Monday it will be seen whether Weaver has won his demand or is able to carry out his threat. Ewart is a great prohibitionist, and the republicans are trying to have him see that he can best serve his party by helping them to break the deadlock and organize the house. When this proposition was made he modestly agreed, on condition that the republicans would make him speaker. At that the subject was dropped.

Governor Hoies is patiently waiting at his home for the embargo to be raised, so that he can be inaugurated governor. Senator Allison, who has received every republican vote in the legislature on renomination, is also resting easily and awaits the election with great confidence.

A Democratic Proposition. DES MOINES, Ia., Jan. 18.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—The democrats have prepared another proposition for the republicans to consider in the house on Monday. It will not be given them until Monday morning, and all the provisions cannot be leaked until then. It is rumored that the committee on the suppression of intemperance is conceded to the republicans if the democrats can still have the speaker. The matter will be presented both to the republican caucus and to the house.

The House. DES MOINES, Ia., Jan. 18.—There was considerable fun in the house this morning. The republicans made an attempt to attract Ewart (union labor) from voting with the democrats by withdrawing Jan. Steinberg from the house, and Mr. Wilcox of Des Moines as the republican nominee for temporary clerk. Blythe made a speech in which he said the republicans were more numerous than any other party, and did not propose to yield to the minority; that the republican policy on temperance legislation had a clear majority in the house, and the democrats had no right to demand the chairmanship of the committee on the suppression of intemperance. Dayton, replying, said that the republicans plainly had not a majority, and should not demand so much as they did. Five ballots were taken, all resulting in a tie. The house then adjourned until 2 p. m. Monday.

Crushed by a Log. DES MOINES, Ia., Jan. 18.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—James Hutton of Elk-hart township in this county, was killed while loading logs Thursday. He and his father were in the woods and had just raised one end of a log to place it on the wagon, when it slipped and fell, crushing his head. He lived but thirty minutes after the accident, and did not regain consciousness.

Another Deserted Child. DEBUIQUE, Ia., Jan. 18.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—Justice Sharon, a farmer living across the river, in Jamestown, Wis., found the cry of a babe at his front door a couple of nights ago. He went out and found a little stranger about one month old, having a note attached to its clothing asking that the finder take care of the child, and promising that he would be rewarded with a monthly remittance from Dubuque. He can not keep the child, but will send it to some institution in Dubuque. There is no clue to the child's identity.

THE CHAMPION CRANK.

Fred Hall Tries to Wreck a Train For Mere Curiosity. CLEVELAND, O., Jan. 18.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—Fred Hall, the son of an Ashtabula county, Ohio, farmer, has been arrested for making obstructions on the track of the Lake Shore railroad by which a fast passenger train was nearly wrecked. Hall has made a confession admitting his guilt saying in excuse that he did it for fun. He had never seen a train wrecked and he had hid behind a tree and waited for the crash which must have come had not the obstruction been discovered. The young man, who is in jail at Ashtabula, is unusually intelligent and nobody can understand his conduct.

Horsepower of the Baltimore. WASHINGTON, Jan. 18.—The actual horsepower performance of the new engines built more on the recent trial trip was today made known by the navy department. The trial board stated that the aggregate indicated horsepower developed by the vessel was 10,644. This gives Champus a power premium of \$106,443.80.

Murdered in Bed. DENVER, Colo., Jan. 18.—A telegram from Fort Duchesne, Utah, says William Whitney Seymour, a prominent cattle ranchman in the Ashley valley, was found dead in bed, where he evidently had been shot while asleep. It is believed the murder was committed by Danites. Seymour went to Utah in 1882 from Michigan and was a post trader at Fort Worth.

Kane's Dime Museum Attraction. CHICAGO, Jan. 18.—John Kane, who was among the four men found guilty of the murder of Dr. Cronin and whose punishment the jury fixed at three years in the penitentiary, is a free man again. His bail, \$5,000, was today furnished by a dime museum manager. It is not at all likely the states will prosecute Kane again.

DIVIDED ON AFRICA.

German Leaders Earnestly Discuss the Subvention Bill. BISMARCK AN UNKILY PATIENT He Insists on Going to Berlin to Fight the Socialists. THEY ARE IN A DEFIANT MOOD. NEUTRAL ATTITUDE OBSERVED.

Figaro's Story of an Appeal by the Portuguese Government to Bismarck Ridiculed—Westphalian Miners Strike. African Subvention Discussed. [Copyright 1890 New York Associated Press.] BRUSSELS, Jan. 18.—In the reichstag the budget has passed the second reading. The proposition to exempt from military service all theological students was rejected, but the propositions for mitigating the terms of service of such students was accepted. There was great interest taken in Friday's debate on the subvention of the African steamship line. Dr. Hamberger, for the German liberals, Dr. Windthorst and Prof. Virchow energetically opposed the bill. Ex-Minister Bobrecht practically insured its passage by promising the support of the national liberals upon the second reading of the bill. Hamberger opposed it on the ground that the condition of Africa did not promise a fair field for commercial enterprise, and he cited in support of his views the establishment of German communications with Samoa and Corea. He said the government might better give the money at once to Major Wisman or the East Africa company, as in that way the nation would at least reap some solid advantage out of its expenditure.

Dr. Windthorst spoke from the midst of a fragrant and beautiful bank of flowers placed around his seat. It was his seventh birthday, and the congratulations of his personal friends and political admirers had come to him in this pleasant form. He said he thought the bill was being unduly hastened; that it should be submitted to the country and further consideration of it be left for the next reichstag. Prof. Virchow denied that it was possible to colonize Africa with the men of Europe because of the deadly climate. Dr. von Stephan, the minister of posts and telegraphs, argued in favor of the bill and said it was a measure toward augmenting and completing the already successful work of Major Wisman. He announced that lines of telegraph would soon be constructed in east Africa, and declared that the Transvaal, or South Africa Republic, was so much interested in the projects they had under consideration that it was prepared to defray a portion of the subvention upon the condition that the steamer touched at a port accessible to them.

Dr. Schweninger, Prince Bismarck's physician, cautions him to remain at Friedrichsruh, but he asserted he insists upon going to Berlin in hope to force the passage of the socialist bill, and to give impetus and the war cry for an electoral conflict to the government parties. The Westphalian Gazette reports the accusation of the Hamburger correspondent that the strikes throughout Germany are fomented by French agents and kept going by French money. It is not unlikely this is a sort of insinuation, as it is Bismarck himself who advances the argument related to this idea in favor of the passage of the socialist bill, because in this guise he would be asking for authority not to expel from the country Germans driven to desperation, but to expel from the country those who are making unhappy an otherwise prosperous and contented people. Everything depends, of course, upon Bismarck's presence. Unless he comes the bill will be dropped.

The passage in the royal speech in the Prussian diet that referred to the strikes is adversely criticized by the socialist organs. The Volks-Zeitung says that since that is the view the government takes of the situation of the workmen, no workmen can possibly vote for a government candidate. An active new socialist paper has appeared at Offenbach, named the Praefarer Volks-Stimme. The socialist organs at Munich, Dresden and Erfurt have been enlarged and appear daily or three times a week.

Herr Singer addressed an enthusiastic meeting of his supporters in the four electoral districts on Friday. Thousands were unable to obtain admission. Other leaders are addressing great gatherings of voters every day. The committee of the progress party, comprising Herren Barth, Herms Parvins, Richter, Koebert and Schrader, has issued an election manifesto, appealing for funds.

In addition to the Kaiser's order against the admission of the Kronz-Zeitung into any royal palace, his majesty has made a similar order against Stocker's Volk and Richter's Freinikolung-Zeitung and against the Volks-Zeitung. His majesty says, "Stop my name, to every one of these organs, now bubbling and boiling over with popular politics of a vigorous variety that naturally shocks all royal taste."

Prof. Virchow, in addressing his constituents this week, declared it was his intention to propose in the next reichstag general international disarmament as the true solution of the troubled condition of Europe and the revolt of its overburdened peoples. Prince William of Hesse-Philippsthal is dead. Leutner, the prima soprano, has died at Wiesbaden.

In all official quarters there is a general doubt of the Figaro's story that Portugal has appealed to Bismarck against England's action against the violation of the treaty of Berlin. It is asserted that the government is determined to preserve an attitude of the strictest neutrality. With England Germany desires to go hand in hand in colonial affairs as far as possible.

Soberly here can see what relation the treaty of Berlin has with England's bullying Portugal or any other little state, which she may bully with perfect safety. The people are, however, just a little inclined to wonder what would happen if a bad torpedo should explode under a British ship in Tagus. We can not decide whether the British admiral would say as Farragut did, "Damn the torpedoes, go ahead," or whether he would go to sea. If he did go to sea then England would be reduced to the extremity of making a landing somewhere with the regular 10,000 men under Lord Wolsey—an army which might cut a queer figure before the end. It appears that the only possible foundation there could have been for the Figaro's story was that the Marquis De Penafiel, the Portuguese ambassador, had an interview with Count Herbert Bismarck last week. But at this interview the subject was not the treaty of Berlin but Portugal's request that Bismarck should mediate between England and Portugal. But the marquis was not successful. The government is determined to maintain an attitude of neutrality, and it will only depart from this on the very unlikely contingency that England should also request the mediation of Germany.

The National Zeitung announces that the miners in Westphalia and in the lower Rhine districts demand an increase of wages of 50 per cent a day, and a reduction of time to be counted from the time of entering the pit to the time of stopping work. The demands are under negotiation. It is said that the Bellerophon hastened his death by persisting in taking his daily cold bath after he was attacked by the influenza. On the day before ex-Empress Augusta died she dictated seven letters and signed two of them with her own hand. One of these letters was the usual weekly one to Queen Victoria. She left 7,000,000 marks between the Grand Duke of Baden and Prince Henry of Prussia.

The Kaiser is supervising the preparation of an account of his travels. It will be an edition de luxe and will be splendidly illustrated by Dr. Salzmann. Herr Lenbach is to paint a new portrait of the Count Von Moltke for the national gallery. The Vienna Presse, Count Taaffe's organ, denies the report that Count Tann and other Austrian ministers are to resign. The Bohemian conference met today and discussed the establishment of a national committee in the Bohemian diet and the revision of the mode of elections. The final session of the diet will occur tomorrow when the terms of agreement between the parties will be formally recorded.

ITS TERROR LOST.

La Grippe's Hold on Paris Growing Gradually Less. THE DEATH ROLL DECREASING. Three Hundred Thousand Victims Are Now Convalescent. CORPSES WITHOUT FUNERALS. One in Every Ten Dead Buried Without Ceremony. MISS BISLAND IS BEHIND TIME. She Missed Her Boat and Hence Will Miss Her Date in New York—Paris' Usual Crop of Crisp Social Gossip. Influenza Dying Out.

[Copyright 1890 by James Gordon Bennett.] PARIS, Jan. 18.—[New York Herald Cable—Special to THE BEE.]—The weather continues mild, yet damp and chilly. While many are still suffering from the grippe, the mortality statistics of Paris for the second week of 1890 just published compare with the first four weeks of 1889 as follows:

Table with 2 columns: Year, and 4 rows of statistics comparing 1890 and 1889 mortality data.

While it is thus apparent that the average for the second week of 1890 is far above the average there is, nevertheless, a distinct improvement over the first week in 1890 which shows that Paris appears to be getting less than 2,000. It is furthermore encouraging to know that the figures for the third week, as far as gathered, show that a still more rapid improvement is looked for in the immediate future.

The thoughtful reader must be struck by the curious discrepancy in the figures. The number of deaths is always in excess of the number of funerals. For instance, on Tuesday there were 287 deaths, on Wednesday only 251 funerals, yet the same day 250 deaths, whereas yesterday only 237 funerals are recorded. Day after day, week after week, the same falling off of funerals. What becomes of the difference? Dissecting rooms or where? Anyhow the fact remains that in this beautiful city one corpse in ten goes without a funeral. Either that or the figures lie.

A Vienna tailor has just made a journey to Paris in a peculiar fashion. He built himself a large trunk and had himself locked in with bottles of beer and ostables and had the trunk sent on the train to Paris. On the arrival of the trunk yesterday the railway contents were discovered. The railway company will prosecute.

Whitely Reid's dinner for Mr. Tizard set for this evening was postponed on account of the death of Walker Blaine. Miss Hilsland, the young lady from New Orleans who was making a tour around the world for the Cosmopolitan, arrived at Ville Neuve, this morning at 4 o'clock, twenty miles from Paris. She was too late to sail in the La Champagne which left Havre at 7 o'clock for New York. Unfortunately the French trans-Atlantic steamer was the only one on which she could have reached her destination on the 21st, the date Miss Reid is due in New York. She leaves for Queenstown to take at 4 o'clock, which is a twelve days voyage ship, making Miss Hilsland miss her mark.

Owing to Walker Blaine's death the American minister and Mrs. Reid were not present at their opera party last evening. Their box was occupied by Count de Turonne, Miss Ellen Munroe, Julian Story, Colonel de la Roche Bonaparte, Mr. and Mrs. Augustus Jay.

Jane Hading appeared Tuesday evening at the Vaudeville as Countess Romanini in Eustace de Jolin's play of three acts. Madame Hading will be supported by Raphael Duffos. Her costumes are remarkably artistic. With the exception of an overwrap of black satin, lined with old gold and yellow silk feathers, with a Persian embroidered cape, the costumes are of white, gray and violet, the actress' favorite colors. Before "Jeanne d'Arc" was decided upon Sarah Harnhardt had Duques Nil write Madame Hading and ask her if she would play a part with her in "Angela." Hading accepted, but the managers of Porte St. Martin changed their minds and brought out "Jeanne d'Arc."

A French Paper in Trouble. [Copyright 1890 by James Gordon Bennett.] PARIS, Jan. 18.—[New York Herald Cable—Special to THE BEE.]—It is mooted among those best informed in newspaper circles that the new paper, Galligann's Messenger has got itself into rather a serious tangle. The recent syndicate evidently was going to war without counting the cost. The poor little Morning News, which in reality started the matter, had a special wire to London and the last named paper profited by it. When, however, the News came to grips Galligann's Messenger stopped into its place and still continued to file special contracts. Now it wants to come in on the same terms and the postal authorities say it cannot. Why the government never stopped the wire partnership with the original Galligann's has often been a matter of discussion, but it is evident that it does not like a new comer warring other people's shoes.

Our Marines Have the Grip. [Copyright 1890 by James Gordon Bennett.] GAITHERSBURG, Jan. 18.—[New York Herald Cable—Special to THE BEE.]—The United States evolutionary squadron arrived here yesterday, having steamed from Gibraltar at a late hour. All on board are well barring the influenza. The squadron will stay two days.

Minister Lincoln's Return. [Copyright 1890 by James Gordon Bennett.] LONDON, Jan. 18.—[New York Herald Cable—Special to THE BEE.]—United States minister Lincoln returned today from Paris with his son Abraham, who is now convalescent, after a long illness at Versailles.

He Filtered the Mails. CHICAGO, Jan. 18.—V. Devine, clerk in the inquiry department of the postoffice here, was arrested today. He had been pilfering from the mails for eighteen months.

File in An Insane Asylum. WORCESTER, Mass., Jan. 18.—The state asylum for insane was seriously damaged by fire this evening. All the inmates were removed in safety, though amid much excitement. The fire was caused by the carelessness of an attendant in throwing burning paper into a cistern.

THE CURTAIN DRAWN.

The Heavy Villain Plotting Brutal Assaults. INCONTROVERTIBLE TESTIMONY. Curry Was Merely Playing Catspaw For Vandervoort. THE "OIL ROOMS" THROWN OPEN. Members Debauched With Liquor Flowing Free as Water. MIDNIGHT ORGIES REVEALED. A Chapter From the Inside Councils of Conspirators' Combine to Defeat Proper Legislation—Starting Revolutions.

There was the usual large attendance of interested spectators in Judge Healey's court yesterday morning at the continuation of the preliminary hearing of the case of the state against Mr. Rosewater, charged with having criminally libeled Paul Vandervoort. The defense, in confirmation of the statements made in THE BEE, endeavored to show that Vandervoort was a lobbyist and "oil room" operator at Lincoln during the legislature of 1887, and the evidence introduced was steadily interesting, revealing much of the inside workings of the secret caucuses by which proper legislation is defeated and the disreputable methods employed in such work.

The first witness called was Sumner Johnson, a reporter on the Denver Republican. His testimony was as follows: By Mr. Gannon: Q.—Have you ever resided in Omaha? A.—Yes, sir; I have lived in Omaha. Q.—When was the last time? A.—In 1887. Q.—Were you in the newspaper business? A.—Yes, sir. I worked for THE OMAHA BEE. Q.—Where did you work? A.—I was employed both in Omaha and in Lincoln. Q.—When was it you were employed in Lincoln? A.—I was employed in Lincoln from about the 1st of January, 1887, from the convening of the legislature until the latter portion of the regular session of the legislature. Q.—While employed by THE BEE what was your business? A.—That of a reporter; I had charge of the legislative report from Lincoln. Q.—That is you furnished the reports of the legislative doings for THE BEE? A.—Yes, sir. Q.—Each day? A.—Yes, sir. Q.—Both by letter and telegraph? A.—Yes, sir. Q.—State whether or not you became pretty well acquainted with the members of the legislature? A.—I did to a certain extent; yes, sir. Q.—Did you become acquainted with the third estate—those who were not members of the legislature? A.—Well, my acquaintance with those commenced at the time that I left the employ of THE BEE; it was during the period that I was temporarily employed by the Republican.

Q.—When did you become temporarily employed by the Republican? A.—The 1st of March, I think, when the extra session was commenced; when they extended the time of the session. Q.—Who employed you on the Republican? A.—Mr. Rothacker. Q.—Were you at that time and previously acquainted with Mr. Paul Vandervoort? A.—Well, had met Mr. Vandervoort here in 1881-82, occasionally, but I merely had a passing acquaintance with him; I do not know whether he knew me or not; I was acquainted with him. Q.—State whether or not you had seen him around the legislature? A.—I never had previous to that session; in the session of 1887 I saw him as soon as I got there and continuously during the session. Q.—What about the extra session? A.—He was there also during that month. Q.—What was his business there? A.—I do not know positively; my information was—counsel for state objected to the information as here said.

A. The information came from Mr. Vandervoort, who was there for the purpose of assisting in the location of the Grand Army home, I think, or soldiers' home. I think he was there also for the purpose of assisting in railroad legislation. Q.—When you got upon the Republican, did Mr. Rothacker give you instructions to see anybody, and if so, whom? A.—Mr. Rothacker—well, I am not sure, but I would like to detail the circumstances of my employment on the Republican, in order that I may be able to explain matters. Towards the latter part of February Hugh J. Mohan, whom I had known at several sessions of the other legislature to be a lobbyist of a certain stamp—a sort of a hanger-on around legislators—asked me if I wanted to see what the legislature was doing. I wanted to quit THE BEE; and, acting in accordance with that hint, I suggested to Mr. Rosewater the advisability of my ostensibly leaving the employ of THE BEE and trying to see whether I could not ascertain something of the methods by which legislation was being enacted. I had a short talk with Mr. Rosewater and he consented to my doing so. Three or four days after I had left the employ of THE BEE and another man had been substituted in my place in the house, Mr. Rothacker came to me in the Capitol hotel—I am under the impression it was in the reading room—and offered me a position upon the Republican. I accepted somewhat about according to my place as that, but I subsequently reconsidered my intention, at that time and I did take the place. I think I accepted it the first or second day afterwards; and then when I accepted the place I was instructed by Mr. Rothacker to write a semi-weekly letter every day in which I would cover the work of the legislature, and particularly to give THE BEE and Mr. Rosewater and Mr. Rosewater's friends, as Mr. Rothacker expressed it, I was also instructed by Mr. Rothacker to refer to Mr. Vandervoort for information or for pointers if I wanted any, and anything which Mr. Vandervoort told me would be all right. That was about the substance of my instructions which I received from him. Q.—In pursuance of those instructions did you see Mr. Vandervoort? A.—I did, sir, upon some occasions. Q.—Did you receive instructions from him? A.—I did upon two or three occasions, that is explicit instructions, that is if they might be called such. They were indications.

DEKE OF A... DEAD.

He Was King of Sp... Between 1870 and 18... TRINIS, Jan. 18.—Prince Deke, duke of Aosta, a brother-in-law of Italy and former king of Spain, died today at the age of 70. He was conscious at the moment of his death and received the pope's blessing from Cardinal Almada. The duke died of pneumonia and had been ill but a few days. All theaters in the kingdom are closed and state festivities discontinued. The duke of Aosta was forty-five years old. He was king of Spain from December, 1870, until February 11, 1873, when he abdicated.

Died in the Court Room. New York, Jan. 18.—Thomas Crehan, seventy years old, is the father-in-law of Actor Oliver Donn Byrne. He died this morning in Justice Tighe's court room. The deceased had been on a spree and his son caused his arrest. An officer brought him into court this morning, but he was taken suddenly ill and died. Crehan's oldest daughter is the well known and accomplished actress, Miss Ada Rehan. Oliver Donn Byrne, a married second daughter, who is also a matter of reputation. The youngest sister is in private life. His two sons are among the active business men of Brooklyn. The old man had become a confirmed drunkard.

An Old Californian Gone. SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 18.—General M. G. Vallejo, one of the most conspicuous figures in the history of California, died at Sonoma today, aged eighty-one. General Vallejo was born in Mexico, this state, and was identified with all the public events during the Mexican occupation of California and was at one time military governor of the country.

Died of Congestion of the Lungs. SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 18.—Addison Childs, ex-judge of the supreme court of California, died here of congestion of the lungs last night.

WALKER BLAINE'S FUNERAL. The President and Cabinet Attend the Obsequies. WASHINGTON, Jan. 18.—The funeral of Walker Blaine took place this morning. A large number of friends of the Blaine family, members of the diplomatic corps and people in official life were in attendance. Private services were held at the home of Secretary Blaine at 10:30. President and Mrs. Harrison, all the members of the cabinet, E. W. Halford, several members of the diplomatic corps and some intimate friends of the family attended these services, which were conducted by Rev. Dr. Hamlin, pastor of the Church of the Covenant. At the conclusion the remains were taken to the Church of the Covenant, followed by the family and friends in carriages.

The attendance at the church was very large, many persons being unable to get in on account of the large crowd. The house of representatives did not meet until 1 o'clock in order to allow the members to attend the funeral, and the department of justice, with which the deceased was officially connected, was closed during the time of the funeral. While the department of state was not formally closed, all officers and employees who were to attend the funeral were permitted to do so.

RAILROADS WON'T REDUCE. Governor Thayer's Memorial Likely to Prove Futile. CHICAGO, Jan. 18.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—The secretary of Governor Thayer of Nebraska to the ten railroads entering the state, requesting them to reduce their rates as given at least 5 cents per 100 pounds, is not likely to have any effect. Interviews were had today with the officials of some of the roads interested in Nebraska traffic and they all declared that to comply with the request would be out of the question.

H. G. Burt, general manager of the Fremont, Elkhorn & Missouri Valley road, was in the city this morning. He said he had seen Governor Thayer since the memorial was issued and had endeavored to satisfy him that rates on grain from Nebraska points are as low as the roads can reasonably be expected to make them. The present rates on grain from central Nebraska are 22 cents to Chicago and 17 cents to St. Louis, which is much lower than it has been for years. Governor Thayer's request was made at the instance of the Nebraska grangers, who complain that the transportation charges are out of proportion to the crop and that the farmers have cause to complain of the price of grain the way clear that they do not see their way to insist to reducing rates below their present basis.

Omaha's Cattle Rate May Go Down. CHICAGO, Jan. 18.—The Western Freight association closed a five days' session this afternoon. The committee on western and northwestern roads to take precautions against the crumbling of cattle rates in that territory as a result of the reduction in the southwest has looked over the ground and the members are not assured. The cut rate will be more seriously felt by the Iowa roads than at first supposed, and the attempt to maintain the 35 cent rate from Omaha seems impossible. None of the roads, however, will be much hurt after February 1, when the cattle boom is expected to begin. Some of the officials profess to believe that the Alton will restore the rates before then, but the Alton people are emphatic in denying this.

Crazy From Patent Medicines. ATCHISON, Kan., Jan. 18.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—The coroner's jury which investigated the cause of the death of Henry Schoon, who, while crazy, ran naked into the storm last Sunday night and perished, has returned a verdict laying the blame upon the manufacturers of a certain patent medicine who do business in New York city. Schoon had been troubled with a throat affection which local physicians could not cure and he sent for a patent medicine which he saw advertised. This he used according to directions and he immediately began to show signs of insanity. His friends will be appealed to to investigate the New York quack.

A Quarantine Frock Motion. DENVER, Colo., Jan. 18.—Governor Prince and the New Mexico has issued a quarantine proclamation on account of pleuro-pneumonia, against the state of New Jersey, the counties of Kings and Queen, New York, and Great Britain, Ireland, France, Germany and Belgium.

Bought by an English Trust. TRENTON, N. J., Jan. 18.—A cablegram was received today announcing the acceptance by the English trust of the terms offered for the sale of five Trenton potteries. Eleven potteries at East Liverpool, Ohio, are also embraced in the transaction.