

THE NEWS IN BRIEF.

GOSSIP FROM WASHINGTON.

A reporter asked adjutant Gen. Drum if any further steps were contemplated toward court-martialing Maj. Nickerson. "First catch your fish," was the reply. It is said that Mrs. Nickerson, who is at the Arlington hotel, will apply to the war department for a portion of her husband's pay. Secretary Lincoln said that no such application has been made and that he had received no information on the subject. A prominent officer of the department said that it would be difficult to give her any of the salary without giving the remainder to Maj. Nickerson. It is reported that Maj. Nickerson is in the city, but no information of his whereabouts has been received at the war department.

Considerable comment is being indulged in about the departments on the information that certain lists of questions have leaked out of the hands of the civil service commission. If the questions are to be given out beforehand to favorites, those who anticipate going into the competitive examination want to know whom the favorites are against whom they must compete. The government printing office has just completed the questions for the classified customs service, and the job has been delivered under seal. In the case where the questions have leaked out new ones must be prepared.

The Chinese legation, which has occupied the handsome residence of ex-Governor Shepherd, on Farragut square, for several years, is about to remove to an humble home on H street. Shepherd's \$100,000 residence was rendered disagreeable by the fact that his creditors were trying to get their hands on it. The presence of a foreign legation prevented an actual ejectment, but the legation wearied of acting as a buffer between two claimants.

The president had another consultation with Secretary Folger recently, upon the subject of the proposed condition of internal revenue districts. It is understood that for all the states, except Indiana and New Jersey, plans of reorganization have already been agreed upon.

The findings of the Wasson court martial have been received by the judge advocate general. The result has not been made known, but it is thought that his sentence is at least dismissal, otherwise the department commander would have acted upon it.

Ex-Detective Wood has written Secretary Folger, stating that the secretary is in danger from the ex-convict, Mason. Mason denies ever having threatened anybody.

Senator Sabin arrived in Washington last Friday night from New York. He will remain some days.

President Arthur has recognized Arata Tatsuta as consul of Japan at San Francisco.

RAILROAD RUMBLINGS.

According to the Bismarck Tribune, the Milwaukee & St. Paul and Northwestern roads have secured all the land they want for terminal and other facilities in that town. The amount purchased is something over 2,000 acres. Superintendent Clark, of the former road, who was in St. Paul recently, said he did not think it likely that the Milwaukee & St. Paul would build to Bismarck at present, but for the time being would make the necessary connections with Northern Pacific trains.

W. S. Alexander, general traffic manager of the Manitoba, has issued a circular to agents of the road, instructing them to sell for the Fourth of July, round trip excursion tickets to all stations and return, at one fifth more than the regular fare. The sale will commence July 3, and the tickets will be good for return until the 5th.

The gross earnings of the St. Paul & Duluth for the second week in June were \$26,704.43, against \$29,678.10 for the same period of last year, an increase of \$6,026.63.

GENERAL NEWS GOSSIP.

It is beginning to be believed that an understanding was arrived at by Major Nickerson and Mrs. Nickerson No. 1, under which the major failed to appear to defend the suit to set aside his divorce and subsequently disappeared in order that Mrs. Nickerson No. 1 might obtain a divorce on the ground of desertion. The supposition is that the major will remain out of sight until Mrs. Nickerson No. 1 gets a divorce when he will reappear and remarry Mrs. Nickerson No. 2, if he can. Meantime there seems to be some uncertainty as to what the war department can and will do.

Reports received during the past few days as to the general condition of the crops and adjacent states have been very meagre, but are sufficient to show that all sorts of grain have suffered much from the wet weather of the past week or two. The bad weather has extended generally through southwestern Minnesota and the adjoining portions of other states.

The Monongahela association of the Baptist church at Conneville, Pa., after hearing the charges against Rev. R. C. Morgan, alleging malicious and general lying, sending the church into two parties by unjust and unscriptural ruling, indecorous and grossly immoral conduct, unanimously sustained the charges and excluded Morgan from the Baptist church.

The Harper high license bill passed the Illinois senate on the 15th, thirty to twenty. Edwards (Dem.) of Haulton voted aye, and Needles (Rep.) of Washington voted no. With these exceptions it was a party vote. The governor signed the bill soon afterward. The general appropriation bill passed the house with nineteen votes in opposition.

At Pittsburg, eighty-five per cent. of the creditors of Groff, Bennett & Co. held a meeting and decided to grant the firm an extension of three years. A statement made by one member showed the liabilities of Groff, Bennett & Co. to be \$1,282,752, and liabilities of the Grafton Iron company, for which they are responsible \$320,000. Their assets greatly exceed liabilities.

The Chicago Bicycle club starts on its Canadian tour June 30. Among the wheelmen from outside who will go with them are Ben E. Melvin of Winona, Minn.; John S. Wilson of Winona, Dr. H. F. Pringle of Northfield and Capt. Ham of Faribault.

The Massachusetts senate refused by a vote of 21 to 11, to memorialize the Massachusetts senators and representatives in congress for such an amendment to the constitution that the right of suffrage shall not on account of sex be denied to women.

Three suits have been substituted against

Washburne, Moen & Co., at Joliet, Ill., to restrain them from collecting royalties from local barb wire manufacturers, and a fourth to recover \$800,000 of royalties already paid by H. B. Scott.

The Cincinnati Chamber of commerce has \$400,000 in its treasury. A magnificent building for the use of the chamber will be erected on the postoffice corner as soon as the new government building is completed.

The total receipts for the Garfield monument in Cleveland are \$130,758.63. Most of this is drawing 4 per cent. interest.

Among the city failures in Chicago are George Stewart & Co., for \$200,000; Samuel Day & Co., \$100,000.

A chamber of commerce edifice is to be erected in St. Paul at a cost of \$200,000.

The Chicago Parnell fund in the hands of Hon. J. F. Finerty amounts to \$5,000.

Sweden sent us 12,163 immigrants the last five months.

CRIMES AND CRIMINALS.

Mrs. Wheeler, wife of a prominent Bridgeport, Ala., divine, went to the orchard, climbed to a suitable limb, and pruned the leaves and small branches off. She then dressed in her best suit of clothing and arranged her toilet as carefully possible. Being unable to procure a rope she made one of a hank of yarn. This she securely tied to the limb of the tree, formed a noose at one end, and encircling her neck, sprang forward. She fell five feet and died of strangulation.

George F. Pearson and wife of Bangor, Me., who have been doing a large and lucrative business throughout New England for a number of years in inveigling old and wealthy gentlemen into compromising situations and blackmailing them, have been arrested at Boston on the complaint of one of the men they attempted to blackmail, and are held for trial in \$2,500 bonds each.

A year ago the wife of Dr. G. Ward of Falmouth, Mass., ran away with the doctor's hired man, taking several loads of goods and driving away nearly all his farm stock. Sunday morning the doctor awoke to find that she had returned during the night, ransacked the house while he slept and taken away all his silverware, his horse and his twelve-year-old daughter.

John B. Carter, editor of the Dadeville (Ala.) People's Advocate, was shot and killed by B. B. Sturdevant, son of an ex-probate judge. Carter had made strictures on the young man's father, and when called upon for an explanation had tried to shoot the visitor.

There are 600 letters in the Reading, Pa. postoffice for Joel Dietz, who shot himself there last week. He turns out to have been a dealer in obscene pictures.

Robert Morrill, chief auditor of the Philadelphia Gas trust, charged with forgery and embezzlement, has been committed to prison.

John Devoy goes to jail sixty days for libeling August Belmont.

RECORD OF CASUALTIES.

The family of John Gribb were drowned near Seneca, Kan., during the flood of the 17th inst. Gribb attempted to leave his house with his wife and four children. The wagon was overturned by the current and Mrs. Gribb and all the children were drowned.

Samermyer & Bros.' brewery, Eau Claire with contents, was totally destroyed by fire recently, which was first discovered in the malt house. Loss \$25,000, on which there is an insurance of \$16,000 in the Tealiss agency.

At Oshkosh, Wis., Casper Smith's flouring mill was burned Friday afternoon. Loss, \$35,000; insurance \$25,000. The flames communicated to Conle's lumber yard; loss, \$4,000; insured.

At Birnam wood near Appleton, Wis., the boiler in the saw-mill of W. A. York had exploded, tearing down the entire mill and killing the watchman.

Prof. Daniels, of the Wisconsin Agricultural college, who has studied chemistry all his life, took strychnine for quinine and is at the point of death.

In Leon, Minn., Erick Anderson was thrown under a harrow by a runaway team one tooth penetrating the brain, causing instant death.

FOREIGN NEWS NOTES.

John Bright, responding to the speech of Granville at the banquet given the former at Birmingham on the 15th dwelt upon the necessity of extending the freedom of trade and franchise, and redistribution of seats in the commons. Referring to India he said he hoped the marquis of Ripon, viceroy, would be supported in carrying out his policy of wisdom and justice. He reprised the course of obstructionists in the commons, who, he said, allied with the Irish rebel party, were doing their utmost to make it impossible for the house to do any work.

Mr. Nicolay Grevslad, a young Norwegian until recently editor of the Dagblad, organ of the Liberal party in Norway, is in Minnesota for the purpose of studying the political systems and institutions of this country, with a view to agitating a republican form of government in Norway. Since his arrival he delivered an address on the political condition of Norway to 500 of his countrymen, who were deeply interested by his clear exposition of the situation.

Dr. Bergin, M. P. for Cornwall, is in Ottawa in connection with Ontario & Atlantic railway. He met some American capitalists and arranged a basis on which they are to undertake the construction work and purchase the bonds of the company. The line will run from Cornwall, Sault Ste Maria via Ottawa, Eganville, Valley of Bonnehoe, and when completed will shorten the distance to New York via Montreal by 149 miles.

The London Truth prints the following: The queen, for two months, has been in a state of mild melancholia, which in the course of time, if not relieved, will probably become very difficult to treat. Her condition naturally has caused great anxiety because of the tendencies of her family to insanity. Her majesty and Princess Beatrice will in the autumn, go to the vicinity of Florence, Italy, where they will stay two months.

Chinese firms are quiet y buying or leasing a large quantity of real estate at Victoria, B. C., on which to erect extensive business houses. The transactions are regarded

as significant of the intention of the Chinese to monopolize the trade in Chinese and Japanese goods with Eastern Canada on the completion of the Canadian Pacific railway.

The imports of France for five months show an increase of 21,000,000 francs compared with the same months of 1882. Exports the same months decreased 19,000,000 francs as compared with the same months of 1882. Imports of food increased 31,000,000 francs, but both imports and exports of manufactures heavily decreased.

At a meeting in Paris to commemorate the death of Garibaldi, several members of the chamber of deputies made speeches, advocating the erection of a monument to Garibaldi on the Franco-Italian frontier as a symbol of the feeling of harmony between the two nations.

Healy will resign his seat in the commons for Wexford and will contest an election in County Monaghan for the Home Rulers.

Sir Charles Tupper's appointment as high commissioner in England for Canada is gazetted.

Rev. W. J. Irons of London, religious writer, is dead.

Oxford will give Dr. Schliemann the degree of D. C. L.

PERSONAL MENTION.

Ex-Gov. Boynton and party of Georgia arrived in Albert Lea in a special coach over the Fort Dodge branch of the Minneapolis & St. Louis road Monday. The party was met at the depot by Mayor Hall, the brass band and a number of prominent citizens. After partaking of dinner Mayor Hall introduced J. R. Berry, general passenger agent of the Albert Lea route, who in turn introduced Gov. Boynton, who made a short address relative to the kindly feeling entertained by the people of Georgia toward the people of the great Northwest. His remarks were received with many expressions of approval, the applause making it necessary for him to quit speaking two or three times.

The famous Livingstone-Fleming breach of promise suit has at last been settled. When Miss Livingstone was awarded \$75,000 Fleming's counsel made application to set aside the verdict on the ground of newly discovered evidence and excessive damages. Subsequently overtures looking toward a settlement were made. The result is that the suit is compromised, it being understood that Miss Livingstone receives about \$50,000. Miss Livingstone has had several offers of marriage since the trial, receiving as many as three proposals a day.

Gen. Wallace, American minister, has sent such a note to the port absolutely declining to accept the proposed license tax on foreigners trading in Turkey. This action of Gen. Wallace has removed all chance of the adoption of the measure as of the ambassadors who had accepted it had only done so on condition that the assent to it should be unanimous.

Col. W. Chatterton president of the Union Trust company, died in Philadelphia. He was well known in the financial world, and was president of the Pennsylvania railroad from 1849 to 1862.

The widow of the late William G. Fargo will, in August, marry Francis Fargo, a Buffalo newspaper man, who is no relation. The bride will be sixty-three, the groom sixty.

Rev. J. C. Bracy, a convert from Catholicism, was ordained to the ministry of the First Baptist church, Burlington, Vt.

Ex-Congressman George Bridges Rodney the oldest lawyer of the Delaware bar, recently died at New Castle, Del.

Ex President Hayes is to deliver an address at Henry C. Bowen's Woodstock (Conn.) 4th of July.

Mr. Windom's mind has veered around to the original intention of sailing for Europe in July.

An Appalling Panic.

A terrible calamity, involving the death of 173 children; occurred in Sunderland, county of Durham, Saturday. From details received it appears that an entertainment was given at Victoria hall by a conjurer, attended almost altogether by children, several thousand being in attendance. The accident occurred at the close of the performance. The body of the hall had been entirely cleared of occupants, when some 1,200 of the little ones came rushing down stairs from the gallery. At the top of the first flight of stairs was a door which opened only twenty inches, and thus but one child was permitted to pass through at a time. At this point, while the mass of children were pushing forward, one of them fell and was unable to rise, owing to the others crowding. No effort could stop the mad fury of the frightened children. They came on pell mell, though strangely without much shouting, and soon 173 children were knocked down and suffocated to death by others trampling upon them. The greater number of bodies, which were badly mangled from trampling, laid seven or eight deep. Many victims and others who were not killed had their bodies torn from their bodies, and this together with the bleeding bodies of the unfortunates, shows the terrible nature of the struggle. The ages of the 173 children ranged from four to fourteen years. The excitement in town, when the news spread, was terrific. Great crowds rushed to the scene until 20,000 persons surrounded the hall. The feeling was so intense that the authorities ordered out the Sixty-eight infantry to preserve order. The work of getting out bodies began immediately. They were laid out in the halls. The parents of those killed were admitted to identify the bodies of their children. Most heartrending scenes transpired while identification was in progress.

Embezzlement in Boston.

Arthur H. Blaney, cashier and head-book-keeper of the Massachusetts Loan and Trust company, has confessed to embezzling \$44,000 of the company's funds owing to mining and other stock speculations. The first intimation of anything wrong was on the afternoon of the 18th inst., when it was found that Blaney was \$7,000 short in his accounts. His attention being called to the discrepancy, he said he had taken it for temporary use and would restore it the next morning. He did so, and being questioned about other possible discrepancies, assured the president of the company that his deficit did not exceed \$7,000. It was deemed best to suspend Blaney. Experts soon discovered the defalcation. His mode of covering up discrepancies was when a customer drew \$5,000 to charge him as having re-

ceived \$10,000 or more, and pocket the difference.

NATHAN FORD'S ENTERPRISE.

Knabe by Telephone. Several hundred of the prominent citizens of St. Paul had the unusual privilege of listening to the musical treat afforded by Mr. Titcomb's recital last Thursday evening through the telephone. The piano was owned by Nathan Ford, at 97 East Third street, were connected by telephone with sixty-five residences in different parts of the city. The eagerness of those who received invitations to this telephone treat to insure connection in time, showed their appreciation of the labor and enterprise of those having the matter in charge. Their assurance that the magnificent tones of the Knabe pianos retained their richness notwithstanding the many miles of metallic circuit, add another to the many laurels won by the Knabe this season.

Truly marvelous are the wonders of electricity, and the privileges conferred by its use multiply daily. It now becomes possible not only to order Knabe pianos by telegraph but to listen to their tones at a distance of miles by telephone. Intending purchasers of "the best pianos made" can hereafter "ring for connection" with Mr. Ford's music store and select their pianos and order them sent to their residences without stepping outside their doors, for electricity in tones, like sunlight in photography, tells the truth.

Mr. Ford is to be congratulated on this latest enterprise of his, and the gratitude of the citizens of the northwest is daily manifesting itself by their actions.

An Important Life Insurance Decision.

The recent Minnesota Supreme court decision in the case of Annie D. Manson against the grand lodge of the Ancient Order of United Workmen, is of interest to societies who incorporate a system of insurance upon the lives of their members or the use of beneficiaries named by the insured, said insurance fund being maintained by assessments upon the surviving members.

It appears that Mr. Manson was a member of the above order, and was behind in dues, but that there was a provision in its by-laws that the payment of the same within three months of the time after their due would restore a member to full rights and privileges in the insurance benefits of the order. Mr. Manson within this prescribed time, handed his dues to the person appointed by the lodge to receive the membership assessments and dues in the street, but they were rendered back to him by the lodge and he refused to take them. On his death the above suit was brought, which culminated in a judgment for the \$2,000 benefits which as a member of the order, fulfilling the requirements of the by-laws, he was adjudged by the court to be legally entitled to. Decision of district court affirmed.

A Rancho Larger Than Rhode Island.

From the Galveston News. The largest rancho in Texas is that of Charles Goodnight, located at the head of Red river. He began buying land four years ago, securing 270,000 acres at thirty-five cents an acre. In the meantime the price has advanced from \$1 to \$2 per acre, but he is still buying and now controls 700,000 acres. To inclose his landed possessions 250 miles of fencing is required. Mr. Goodnight has a herd of 40,000 cattle. When it is considered that the whole state of Rhode Island contains only 674,944 acres, it will be seen what an immense amount of land this man's possessions cover. Miller & Lux own as much land in this state as Mr. Goodnight does in Texas. They have 600,000 acres in San Joaquin valley alone.

MEN UNDER THE RAZOR.

Types of Men Found in Barber Shops.

Of all the types seen in barbers' shops, says the New York Times, probably the man in a hurry is the most multitudinous. He tears open the door, glares wildly around the room at the comfortably filled chairs, mutters a gentle imprecation, and with a despairing look, fires himself out into the street again. Or if he is not in quite so much of a hurry, he hastily examines the stage at which each patron has arrived in the tonsorial process, compares his time with his plans, asks when his turn will come, as if he didn't know that would be as soon as the chair was empty, and finally, after fidgeting around and making everybody miserable, he leaves the shop just before "next" is called. The thin-skinned man is a tender little body and wants the barber to be "Oh, so careful," and to play lightly over his cuticle or he may break through. And the barber reflects a delicate weapon, goes only "once over" his victim, and when he swabs him with a towel drenched in bay rum, the thin-skinned man starts and shrinks like one who is dosed with a strong hair tonic on a shampooed recalc. The Man-with-a-Tough-Shin rarely deigns to reply to the inquiry: "Does the razor suit you?" He wants to be shaved as close as Shylock, "right up to the roots," and his stubby beard yields slowly to the best steel and with disastrous effect upon its edge. He is dreaded by the most artistic shavers, but he does not belong to a small contingent and has to be put up with. The bald-headed man does not cost an establishment much for hair oil, but the muscular energy expended in making the top of the cranium shine like a billiard ball takes off all the profits. The highest degree of polish is attained by a rotary motion of the right hand, wrapped in a towel, while the left holds the victim steady. Going asleep in the barber's chair is the favorite habit of apoplectic individuals who are not afraid of losing flesh or blood while the tonsorial artists scrape the soap off their faces. They will nod until there is imminent danger of a casual ear disappearing in their blissful ignorance of their environment, and yet the papers have not recently reported any cases of fat men getting their throats cut in respectable barbers' shops. There may have been such cases that have escaped the vigilance of the reporters, but probably they were few in number. A special providence seems to wait on fat men in barbers' shops when they sleepily shake their heads at the agile razor as it plays around their expansive countenances.

Maud S. weighs 995 pounds and is scant sixteen hands high. She is in fine condition, but not up to her famous record of 2,101.4.