

By E. D. STALL.

COOPERSTOWN, GRIGGS CO., DA.

Over 400 applications have been filed in the patent office since the adoption of standard time in this country for clock dials and other devices intended to present the 24 hours in convenient form.

Brockway, the great counterfeiter, lately arrested in New York, was a man with an exceptionally good education; yet almost his first venture in life was in the ways of crime, as far back as 1853.

The official treasury statement on the 1st of December shows that the reduction of the public debt in November amounted to less than \$1,750,000.

The secretary of the treasury has transmitted to congress estimates of appropriations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1885. The amount estimated required for all expenses of the government is \$283,125,305, which is \$22,323,282 less than the aggregate appropriations for the present fiscal year.

There were 7000 bills introduced in the last congress, most of which found their way to the paper makers. And there will be as many more introduced in the present congress.

From the annual report of the surgeon general of the army it appears that the general belief that colored soldiers do not endure military service so well as whites is erroneous. Four of the regiments in the army are composed of colored men.

The Indianapolis Journal makes the recent lynching at Oxford in that state, a text for some very pointed criticisms of the legal fraternity. It declares that one of the main reasons why justice has become so uncertain, and the people are so frequently moved to take the law into their own hands, is that the lawyers always stand ready to use their talent and skill in preventing the conviction and punishment of any kind of criminal on technical grounds.

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EPITOME OF THE NEWS.

Washington Gossip.

The following are the changes in the chairmanships of a majority of the senate committees: Foreign relations, Miller, California, vice Windom; manufacturers, Riddleberger, vice Conger; agriculture, Miller, New York, vice Mahone; postoffices and postroads, Hill, vice Ferry; pensions, Mitchell, vice Platt; mines and mining, Wilson, vice Hill; revision of laws, Conger, vice Miller, California; engrossed bills, Allison, vice Saulsbury; improvement of Mississippi river, Van Wyck, vice Mitchell; transportation routes to seaboard, Aldrich, vice Harrison; examining branches of civil service, Culom, vice Sawyer; Nicaragua claims, Maxey, vice Davis of West Virginia; public buildings and grounds, Mahone, vice Rollins; revolutionary claims, Jones of Florida, vice Johnston; Sherman and Wilson were placed on the committee of foreign relations.

The bill introduced by Mr. Belford to regulate railway traffic between states and territories provides for the establishment in the department of the interior of a bureau to consist of three commissioners appointed by the president to receive a salary of \$10,000 each with necessary expenses, and within ninety days after the appointment of the board the railway companies are required to forward statement of franchises and present condition of the roads. Power is conferred upon the commissioners to examine books and records of any person or company operating any railway. They are also empowered to prescribe maximum rates and make regulations touching the manner of packing transportation of freight and accommodation of passengers.

In conversation recently with a prominent senator Arthur spoke of the proposed English expedition to the Arctic regions as "more of this Arctic insanity." He said that while he was willing that everything that could be done for the relief of Greely and his party should be done, he would prefer that a whaling crew should be sent instead of a big government expedition. He thought that after Greely was brought back there would never be an other sent by this government to the Arctic region.

Mr. Strait has made the following recommendations to the postmaster general for reappointment of postmasters: V. M. Hall of Glencoe, and J. H. Morris of Litchfield. Their appointments expire next month. Mr. Brown of Blakely, Minn., has been appointed postmaster vice Brinker, deceased.

The bill introduced by Gen Rosecrans for the encouragement of building of American iron and steel steamers provides postal subsidies of not more than \$5,000,000 a year to owners of steamers built after the passage of the act in the United States iron and steel manufactured in the United States.

Postoffice Established—Dakota, Ida, Clark county. Postoffice Name Changed—Dakota, Camba, Billings county, to Medora. Postmaster Commissioned—J. S. Frazier, Hatton, Iowa.

Postoffices established—Minnesota: Suerdum, Lyon county. Postmasters commission ed—John McAuley, Danville, Wis.; William Henry Dufraze, Scranton, Wis.

The government disposed of 19,430,622 acres of land during the year, getting therefor \$11,713,883.

Representative Warner will soon introduce a bill in the house for the retirement of trade dollars.

Railroad News.

The Northern Pacific land sales in the Montana districts for the month of November were 2,193 acres for \$10,000. The town-site sales amounted to \$9,960.

Crimes and Criminals.

J. B. Seeley, a prominent contractor and builder of Joliet, Ill., was arrested on a charge of bigamy, on receipt of a telegram from Chief Campbell of St. Louis. The case excites considerable interest, as this is the third time he has been hauled up on this charge by his avenging nemesis, V. S. Jordan, the divorced husband of Seeley's present wife. Seeley threatens to kill his persecutor when he sees him.

Dr. John S. Matthews of Cleveland, Ohio, who decoyed Mr. George A. Gordon into an unoccupied house and robbed him, was sentenced at Sandusky to two year's imprisonment in the penitentiary.

Personal Gossip.

Joseph Beach, who gained notoriety by kidnapping his divorced wife's child and fleeing with it to Canada, whither she pursued him, recovered the child and brought it back to New Hartford, Winona county, in this state, is again in trouble. He was arrested recently on a warrant for assault sworn out by Mrs. Clow, sister of Mrs. Beach. He pleaded guilty and was sentenced to jail for fifteen days.

Col. Allen of the Merchants hotel was arrested and tried in St. Paul for keeping his bar open on election day. A detective testified that the bar was open and liquor sold, but Col. Allen and a dozen others denied the story. The jury was out but three minutes and on their return announced a verdict of not guilty.

William I. Weld, Jr. of Boston, has sailed on a six month's tour, accompanied by Dr. Royal Whitman, Patrick Grant, Jr., and Richard Sears, in the yacht Gitava. They are bound first to Bermuda, Madeira, Sicily, and the Canary Islands.

Jack Sturges, the old Chicago speculator is the managing man of Henry Clew & Co., Wall street, now. He makes \$1,000 a week as a broker.

Rev. Dr. John O'Mears corresponding secretary of the American board of foreign mission, died in Boston on the 9th.

Mrs. R. B. Hayes is visiting in Chicago, and on the 5th inst. was given a reception by Mrs. John N. Jewett.

Rev. W. H. Hoyt, of St. Ann's church, New York, was stricken with apoplexy, at mass recently.

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Casualty Record.

The young men who were drowned in attempting to cross from Lake City to Stockholm on Sunday evening, the 2d inst., were named Andrew Barger, nineteen years of age, and John Johnson, about seventeen years old. They came from Stockholm, on the day they lost their lives, in a boat mounted on a sled, which was drawn by Louis Lundgren, who was on skates. The parties visited a saloon in Lake City and became more or less intoxicated. Lundgren declined to return with the others, so they started back without the boat or sled, and went down not far from the shore. Their bodies have not been recovered. The parents of Johnson live in McGregor, Iowa.

At Chattanooga, James Gillespie, a workman at the Lookout mill, while boiling brick clay in a huge vat, missed his footing and fell into the seething liquid up to his shoulders. His body was stewed, and the skin hung in huge flakes, and in parts of his body the flesh was cleaned from the bone.

The Athens worsted mills in Milbury, Mass., burned on the 7th. Loss estimated at \$100,000. The stock and a portion of the machinery was owned by Keating & Briggs of Milbury. Their loss is estimated at \$50,000.

On the night of the 8th inst., the Catholic church at New Richmond, Wis., was burned to the ground. Loss, \$10,000; insurance, \$5,000.

James F. Gein, a spiritualist, died suddenly of heart disease in St. Louis, while giving an exhibition.

Foreign Items of News.

A meeting of Orangemen, to express indignation at the suspension of Lord Rossmore's commission was held at Monaghan, Ireland. A carriage containing Lord and Lady Rossmore was unharnessed and drawn by the crowd to the place of meeting. A resolution was passed condemning the removal of Rossmore. The latter said that what he had already done he was ready to do again. The hall meeting of the grand lodge of Orangemen of Ireland passed a strong resolution addressed to loyalists of the British empire, resenting the insult offered to loyalists in Ireland through the suspension of Rossmore's commission, and asking all to stand by and for the integrity of the empire and honor the throne against rapine and rebellion.

The British Columbia house recently passed a resolution instructing the government to introduce a bill to restrict Chinese immigration. The startling statement is made by the provincial government that there are 3,000 destitute Chinese on the mainland, who can only subsist by murdering or stealing, which they have already begun.

An immense throng of poor people in Moscow gathered before the house of a merchant lately deceased to receive money usually distributed from the estates of wealthy persons. The pressure was so great that several persons were crushed to death, and four severely injured.

Miscellaneous News Items.

The point will be raised that the jury in the O'Donnell trial should have been composed of six British subjects and six Americans, American citizens of Irish birth or parentage, resident in London, are about to visit upon Lowell to urge him to use his influence with the British government to obtain a respite for O'Donnell even if proofs of his American citizenship do not arrive before the day fixed for his execution. O'Donnell continues calm in demeanor, and pays marked attention to priests who visit him. He seems prepared for the worst.

The first strike of the locomotive engineers that ever occurred in Manitoba took place on the 11th inst., when 300 Canadian Pacific railway engineers stopped work on the same day. Up to that morning everything was running as usual, and now the entire business of the road was at a standstill. Three hundred firemen are also on a strike. The cause of the trouble is, that when the Canadian Pacific made a general reduction, on the 1st inst., a reduction was also made of the wages of engineers and firemen.

Negotiations between Marquis de Mores and the citizens of Billings, Montana, have culminated in a written agreement being entered into by which the marquis agrees to erect a slaughtering and refrigerating establishment in Billings, of a size and style similar to those at Little Missouri, and to carry on a general slaughtering business at that place.

Flora Gulpe, sixteen years old, the daughter of one of the wealthiest citizens of Elkhart, Ind., eloped with a hackman named McGowan, who is about forty years old. A telegram was received the 9th from Sturgis, Mich., announcing that the pair had been married at that place.

Thomas Evans, an aged and wealthy citizen of Erie, worth over \$100,000, has disappeared mysteriously. He is nearly blind, is the sole occupant of a large homestead, and has a reputation for keeping valuables.

Rev. Anna Olver, lately in charge of the Methodist church, Brooklyn, was muled in \$860 at the suit of Rev. Edward Jones. She claimed the money was a gift to the church. He said it was a loan to the lady.

William Conlin's suit against Daniel Newhall at Waukesha, for \$5,000 damages, came to a sudden end by the plaintiff's withdrawing. Conlin accused the defendant of having caused his wife to leave him.

Edward Malley, father and uncle of Jennie Cramer's persecutors, was beaten in his suit for \$150,000 against the Fireman's Fund Insurance of California for the burning of his dry good store at New Haven.

Business of the Fargo land office for the past week: Homesteads, 52; tree claims, 23; declaratory statements, 31; soldiers' declaratory statements, 3; final proofs, 91. Total, collections, \$22,260.60.

In the Vermillion region there is plenty of snow or lumbermen, and lakes are frozen so teams cannot cross.

San Francisco is shipping nearly 1,000,000 feet of hard lumber this month.

The St. Paul postoffice is now handling 70,000 pieces of mail per day.

The agricultural report puts the wheat crop at 400,000,000 bushels.

Chicago put up 2,684 buildings last year, worth \$15,648,700.

Castle Garden received 24,444 immigrants in November.

CONGRESSIONAL.

Monday, December 10. SENATE.—Mr. Cameron of Wisconsin introduced a bill regulating elections for members of congress.

A resolution of Mr. Voorhees was agreed to authorizing the committee on military affairs to inquire into the expediency of purchasing encampment grounds occupied by the revolutionary army at Valley Forge for a national park. He also offered the following which he asked to have printed: Resolved, That in the judgment of the senate, the public debt is not a public blessing, and any measure of financial policy looking to the perpetuation of the present interest-bearing national debt for purposes of national banking or any other account meets the disapproval of this body, and should be viewed with alarm by taxpayers of the United States.

HOUSE.—An immense number of bills was introduced, the following being the principal ones: Repealing the pre-emption and timber culture laws; amending the homestead law; preventing undue discrimination in railway transportation; declaring forfeited land grants to the Northern Pacific, Houghton & Ontonagon, North Wisconsin, St. Vincent extension and Brainerd branch, Hastings, & Dakota and other railroad companies; appropriating \$6,000,000 for Mississippi river improvement; establishing maximum rates of fare on the Union Pacific and Central Pacific railways; abolishing the postage of second class matter and reducing drop letter postage to one cent; putting salt and agricultural implements on the free list; regarding the presidential succession; for a civil rights amendment to the constitution; appropriating \$25,000,000 annually for common schools; for a postal telegraph; prohibiting special legislation; a prohibition amendment to the constitution; relieving the merchant marine; repealing internal revenue laws; limiting the disposal of public agricultural lands to actual settlers; granting women suffrage; repealing the silver dollar coinage act; removing taxes on national bank circulation and fixing the amount of such circulation. The call of states was not finished. A resolution was adopted calling the attention of the president to the case of Patrick O'Donnell.

Something of a breeze was raised just before adjournment, when Mr. Hewitt of New York asked unanimous consent to offer a resolution asking the president to request the English government to delay the execution of O'Donnell's sentence until the facts in relation to his trial could be ascertained whether or not O'Donnell was an American citizen, and whether he had been tried in accordance with English and international law. The resolution was passed without discussion and without dissent.

Tuesday, December 11.

SENATE.—Senator Anthony was present and took the oath. Bills were introduced promoting commercial relations between the United States and Mexico and Central and South America, and determining presidential disability.

Senator McMillan introduced a bill for public buildings at Wisconsin and Duluth. A similar Cameron of Wisconsin introduced a bill to provide for places of deposit and distribution of public documents.

The president sent a large number of nominations to the senate mostly recess appointments. Among them were:

Walter Evans, commissioner of internal revenue; Benjamin Butlerworth, commissioner of patents; Albert U. Wyman, treasurer of the United States; Martin S. Chandler, surveyor general, Minnesota. Collectors of internal revenue; James H. Stone, first district of Michigan; John W. Burlette, fourth district of Iowa; William W. Carter, seventh district of Indiana; Jacob Wheeler, eighth district of Illinois; Edwin Farley, second district of Kentucky.

The senate confirmed Walter Q. Gresham postmaster general.

The president has nominated William Livingston, Jr., to be collector of customs at Detroit, Mich.

HOUSE.—Bills and resolutions were introduced for a postal savings deposit branch of the postoffice department; enlarging the powers and duties of the agricultural department; establishing a bureau of animal industry and preventing the spread of cattle diseases; making snar free of duty; calling on members of the cabinet for information concerning our relations with Great Britain; abrogating the Clayton-Bulwer treaty; authorizing the secretary of the treasury to purchase and cancel 4 and 4 1/2 per cent. bonds instead of calling in 3; establishing a board of interior State commerce as a bureau of the interior department; putting lumber for house, fence and ship building on the free list; reorganizing the legislative power of Utah; for general amnesty; for the relief of Fitz John Porter; fixing the postage an first class matter at two cents per ounce; establishing the Territory of North Dakota; of the admission of Utah and Arizona into the Union; regarding the duty on wool; retreating trade dollars; limiting the coinage of silver dollars; repealing internal revenue laws; civil rights amendments to the constitution; suppressing polygamy; increasing pensions of one-armed and one-legged soldiers; punishing violation of the election laws; regulating inter-State commerce, transferring the Indian bureau to the war department, for the election of Territorial governors.

Delegate Raymond introduced a bill to establish the territory of North Dakota by dividing the recent territory on the forty sixth parallel. He also introduced a bill to provide two additional judges of the federal court of Dakota, one for the north and another for the south part of the territory; also, a bill to vacate the Fort Randall and Fort Rice military reservations.

Wednesday, December 12.

SENATE.—A long discussion took place on the sinking fund, participated in by Messrs. Beck, Sherman and Plumbo. Mr. Wilson's proposed civil rights amendment was debated by the author and Mr. Garland.

The following nominations were made by the president:

Royal A. Johnson, New York, surveyor general of Arizona; Lawrence Welton, Illinois, judge of the court of claims; John R. Tanner, United States marshal for the Southern district of Illinois.

Confirmations.—Seth Ledyard Phelps, envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary to Peru; William W. Thomas, Jr., minister resident to Sweden and Norway; Henry White, second secretary of legation, London; Edwin Farley, collector of internal revenue second district of Kentucky.

HOUSE.—Not in session.

The Case of the Rev. R. C. Ambler.

The trial of the Rev. R. C. Ambler of Sauk Center, Minn., charged with raving Mrs. Keith of Casselton, Dak., took place at Casselton and resulted in finding the charge not fully sustained, but enough to suspend him from the ministry until the annual conference. Rev. W. W. Saterlee of Minneapolis conducted the prosecution and Dr. S. G. Smith of St. Paul the defense.

Mr. Keith, the alleged injured party, states that evidence was brought out showing Ambler had previously been a horse doctor in Illinois, and that one of his previous wives had dropped dead in a southern Minnesota town, under circumstances pointing strongly to foul play by the accused. Mr. Keith has not decided on what course he will pursue in view of the verdict. It was on the 4th of October last, while Rev. C. Ambler of Sauk Center was attending the Methodist state convention in St. Paul, that Bishop Sampson was given an affidavit signed by D. E. Keith of Casselton charging Ambler with having attempted to rape his wife. It was stated that on January the 19th Keith sent for Ambler and charged him first with indecent proposals, afterward with attempted outrage and finally with the commission of rape. He wanted Ambler to sign a confession; but the clergyman denied the whole matter. Mr. Ambler was formally both a physician and lawyer, practicing in Iowa and this state and it was while attending Mrs. Keith as a physician that the alleged offense was committed. After the adjournment of the state conference at St. Paul, Ambler was arrested at Casselton and gave bonds. He is fifty-three years old and has preached, having previously held a pastorate for two years at Casselton.

Big Fire in St. Paul.

Tuesday, at midnight, an alarm called the entire department to quench a fire in the five-story pressed brick block of E. F. Drake, Numbers 178 and 180 East Third street, St. Paul. The fire caught in the lower basement, and either in the engine room or in the wine room of George W. Magee's place which occupies nearly the whole of the ground floor. At 1:30 Magee's restaurant, which, with the bar at the lower corner, occupies nearly all of the first floor, was seen to be in flames. It was the handsomest restaurant west of New York, its fittings costing \$30,000.

Mrs. Magee, who was on watch at midnight, had just finished counting the cash and put it in the safe when she smelled the smoke and immediately sent a waiter to give the alarm. She then warned the ten girls and as many men's servants, who sleep in the basement, and they readily escaped, some of them taking a few of their effects, though in the hurry but little salvage was secured. There were some fifty tenants in the building, which was completely gutted. Magee's fittings cost him fully \$30,000, and his insurance amounted to but \$13,000.

E. F. Drake says his insurance is between \$50,000 and \$60,000, but how much he cannot tell, neither can he tell his loss.

At 2:50 o'clock the burning roof of the Drake building fell in, forcing the flames through into the Hardenbergh building adjoining. The fire made rapid headway, in spite of the efforts of the firemen, and in a few minutes the flames reached the upper floors and burst through the windows, breaking the glass as if struck by a heavy instrument.

P. R. L. Hardenbergh & Co., leather and findings, lose \$115,000, fully covered by insurance in various companies.

Arthur, Warren & Abbott, notions and furnishing goods occupying the second floor of the Hardenbergh building, lost their entire stock, estimated in value at \$50,000. They are also fully covered by insurance and will lose nothing. Loss on Hardenbergh building \$40,000. The total losses will amount to \$253,000.

Romance in Texas.

Houston Special.—J. W. Rose, a wealthy carriage manufacturer, disappeared on the 23. His wife and her supposed step-son tell the grand jury Rose is Cornelius Kaum, who in Kingston, N. Y., in 1866, committed a heavy forgery, deserted his wife and three children, came to Texas, made money and married Mrs. Bagnall. Rose returned to Kingston in 1876, after the charge of forgery was outlawed and promised to bring his first wife to Texas. Failing, the son followed him a few months ago and threatening exposure Rose shot him six times. The son showing signs of recovery, was sent to Alabama, Rose assuring him that his second wife was only his mistress, and at the same time inducing her to say he did the shooting. The boy is now at Houston, but his father's whereabouts is unknown.

An Interesting Patent Suit.

An interesting case, involving a very ingenious and economical device, has just been decided by the courts, the particulars of which will bear brief mention. Nelson Lyon of Albany, N. Y., has recovered judgment of \$8,447.10 besides cost and interest against G. L. Fisher & Co., in the United States Circuit Court at Detroit, Mich., for an infringement of what is known to the trade as Lyon's Patent Metallic Heel Sifter. This contrivance is one of the most useful of modern inventions, and has achieved a remarkable sale—over three-quarters of a million dollars worth, the testimony in the present suit showed having been disposed of since the patent was granted, being a grand total of 273,478 pounds, or 3,888,000 pairs. At one time the Attorney General of the United States declared the Lyon patent invalid, simply on account of an informality in the application, but this was afterward corrected by the Commissioner of Patents, in accordance with a special act of Congress authorizing such correction. Fisher's main improvement consisted in elongating the screw-hole fastening the plate, and as defendants rely based their main defence in trying to show the special act of congress was unconstitutional and that plaintiff's invention was not new. Action was commenced in May, 1880, a perpetual injunction was obtained in December following, and the case was referred to a master to ascertain the profits made by defendants and the loss sustained by Mr. Lyon. The master reported the sum as \$3,384, but on motion the court doubled the same, and directed judgment to be entered against defendants for such double damages, with interest from the date of the master's report and costs.

Joseph Proctor, the actor, well known through his performances in "Nick of the Woods," first appeared on the stage in Boston on November 29, 1833, and his fiftieth anniversary is to be celebrated in that city by a special benefit matinee at the Boston Theater.

Senator Miller of California is president of the Alaska Fur Seal company and a millionaire.