Cooperstown Courier.

By E. D. STAIR.

COOPERSTOWN, GRIGGS CO., DAK.

EPITOME OF THE NEWS.

Washington Gossip.

Senator Dawes, speaking of the proposition to allot lands in severality to Indians, says that the great difficulty is that there is not a sufficient quantity of available or arable land to allot. The selection of the locations for some of the agencies, notably that of the Rosebud agency, is very unfortunate for any agricultural purposes, as there is no land in sight from which a white man can gain a livelihood. The more the Indian problem is studied, in fact said Mr. Dawes, the more difficult does it become.

Secretary Frelinghuysen, in an interview with a member of the house, said it would be better to go slow for the present in the consideration of the subject of foreign reprisals. The introduction of certain measures had already accomplished some good. The secretary was of the opinion that it would be better to wait and see if the more introduction of measures would not have sufficient effect, making actual legislation unnecessary.

The subcommittee of cattle men appointed to prepare a bill for the suppression of pleuro-pneumonia and other contagious diseases of domestic animals, having completed the proposed messure, it was submitted to the entire committee of cattle men appointed at the recent Chicago convention to propose legislation on the subject, and accepted. The bill is to be given to the house committee on agriculture.

The committee on agriculture of the house and senate are now at work on a bill, the principal feature of which is a provision for the appointment of a government inspector of meats intended for shipment to foreign parts, in the hope of compelling foreign governments either to receive American meats or state the true reason for prohibiting them.

An agent of the department of agriculture purchased some infected cattle sent from Virginia for beef, and slaughtered them in presence of the house committee of agriculture and some western stock-raisers. The lungs of the beeves, exhibiting pleuro-pneumonia in its advanced and final stages were shown the party.

The Merchants' bank of Crookston is to be changed to a national organization, with a paid up capital of $100,000 to be in working order as soon as the necessary steps are consummated, with power to increase to 500,000.

If all the pension claims presented were passed it would take $1,295,729,000 to pay the pensioners.

Railroad News.

The following directors and officers of the Lake Superior, Wilmar & Dakota road, were elected at the annual meeting held at Wilmar last week: Directors, John M. Spicer, H. R. Gale, John Paulson, Andrew Larson, L. O. Thorpe, George A. Perkins, Wilmar; Dennis O'Brien of Kandiyohi; N. P. Clarke, D. B Searle, W. P. Gillis of St. Cloud; Herman F. Long, R. D. Mallet, W. J. Tranah, L. Greiser of Duluth. Officers: President, John Spicer; vice president, Herman E. Long; secretary, H. R. Gale; treasurer, B. F. Jenness

Crimes and Criminals.

Chicago Special: M. D. Ridgeway, said to be a wealthy citizen of Minneapolis, was arrested here recently on complaint of a brother-in-law, Mr. Depuy of 2210 Wabash avenue, charged with using violence in entering his house. Depuy was arrested at the same time on a warrant sworn out by his wife, who charged him with threatening to kill her. Ridgeway was released but Depuy was kept in the station all night. The cases were both dismissed for want of prosecution.

Dr. Benjamin Hamil, superintendent of the University hospital, at Philadelphia shot and seriously wounded Dr. Edward Martin, resident physican at the institution. Hamil suspected Martin of paying improper attention to Mrs. Hamil, who has charge of the table at the hospital; but since the shooting Hamil stated that his suspicion were unfounded. He is said to have left the city.

For being too free with the charms of a brother Hungarian's wife, M. Pohlet was driven out of town at Streator, Ill., and the bed of his paramour burned according to the theory of the Hungarians. Pohlet is hereafter supposed to be a sort of Wandering Jew.

Anna Offt, a young German actress recently from Saxony, shot herself at Erie, Pa., after a rejection of her hand by Max Droeler, to whom she, taking advantage of the bissextile privilege, proposed. The wound will not prove fatal.

Personal Gossip.

P. T. Barnum is a stockholder in two sewing machine companies, owns three newspapers, two of which are in Ridgeport; about 400 houses, numerous vacant lots, and a cattle ranch. He has 1,000 vacant lots in Denver. A building owned by him in New York pays him a rental of $65,000, a year.

Theodore Van Alin, of Syracuse, N. Y., celebrated his 104th birthday anniversary on Saturday the 12th. Mr. Van Alin's father was accidentally killed at 105 years of age; his grand father lived to be 112 and a brother of the latter was 115 years old when he died.

Mrs. Kilmer, who died at Ballston, N Y., on the 9th inst., had kept house in the Kilmer mansion since 1813, the year she was married.

Dr. Tanner, the faster, accused of practicing illegally by the physicians, of Jamestown, N. Y., has been vindicated by the courts.

Judge John Brady, aged eighty-one, father of Gen. Thomas J. Brady, died at Muncie, Ind. He was an old resident.

Lucca will accept one of two offers of $1,600 and $2,000 per night for a visit to America next year.

Francis Hall, the well known English engraver, is dead.

Casualty Record.

The bodies of Capt. Thomas, his wife and five of the crew of the bark Elmira, were washed ashore on the 12th inst., on the barred reef which stretches from life saving stations No. 18 to No. 21 on the New Jersey coast. The crew of the Scalon heard the bark's guns early on the 9th. A few moments later the vessel struck the reef head. Six or seven attempts were made to shoot a life line to the sinking ship but before the line could be made fast the sea, which was running mountains high, threw the vessel broadside upon the beach. It was only the work of a few minute to crush her in a thousand pieces, and all on board, including the captain, wife and child and eleven seamen, were lost while plainly visible to the coast guardsmen before the swollen sea swallowed them up.

David Bell, superintendent of the Bozeman Coal company's mine, was thrown from a trestle-work Monday the 14th by a loaded coal car, was badly mangled, and died that night. He leaves a large family, and was highly esteemed by the company.

Four three-story brick dwellings, known as Klaus block, at Green Bay with their contents, were totally destroyed by fire. The buildings were owned by the Northwestern Life Insurance company of Milwaukee.

Several persons were badly hurt while coasting at Fitchburg, Mass. Nellie O'Neil, aged sixteen, Timothy Leary, aged twenty, and Martha Malley, aged sixteen, were most seriously injured.

The Baptist church at Janesville, Wis. burned on the evening of the 13th. Loss $40,000; insurance not known.

Foreign Items of News.

William Morton, the celebrated Arctic explorer, died in Sitka Dec. 3. Deceased served in the Mexican war and in the rebellion. He accompanied the Franklin Arctic search expedition in 1849, and received the thanks of congress. He returned to the North with the Kane expedition, and was with the doctor until his death. Morton was second officer of the Hall expedition in the Polaris.

Gladstone has issued a circular to the Liberal members of the commons, requesting their attendance at the opening of parliament on the 34 of February. He says it is the desire of the government to submit to the commons, at the earliest day possible after its opening, proposals of much public interest and importance.

There is much excitement at the Glasgow stock exchange, owing to a decline of the leading English and Scotch railways and Canadian securieties being expected. The collapse of railway stock in the New York exchange, together with the threatened railroad war, directly affects Glasgow markets, which are heavily involved.

Great alarm has been caused at Montevideo, Uruguay, by immense tidal waves, one of which caused the death of a woman bather. They are attributed to volcanic movements. Each wave is preceded by a large, dark cloud.

The Inman Steamers, the City of Paris and the City of New York were offered a auction at Liverpool recently. The City of Paris was withdrawn without a bid. The City of New York was also withdrawn after a bid of £26,000.

The nihilist, Prince Krapotkin, has been transferred from the prison at Claiwonir to an infirmary in Paris. The transfer is made on account of the prisoner's ill health.

The millitary tribunal at St. Petersburg has sentenced a number of public officials to from eight to fifteen months' imprisonment for malfeasance in office.

Richard Newsman of Preston, England, who died recently, left to that city his collection of pictures, valued at $350,000.

Canadian bay shippers want $1,000,000 for alleged illegal duties paid in the United States.

Miscellaneous News Items.

New York Special: An investigation has been instituted in the postoffice in New York by Col. Sharp on the allegations of Robert Newman, a broker, who alleges that during August, September and October an English spy named Richards, alias O'Brien had obtained access to the postoffice and inspected the mail of some of the prominent Irishmen, of the dynamite party in that city. He had made Inspector Newcombe's office his headquarters. His bills are said to have been paid and money furnished him by the British consul. After this attempt was made to kill McDermott he sailed for England. It is understood that on the 6th inst., proofs of O'Brien's operations in the postoffice in the shape of letters and affidavits may be submitted to Col. Thorpe. Col. Newcombe said recently that O'Brien had been introduced to him as an English detective, by Fred Jarnia, a Scotland Yard detective, and had frequented his office as much as possible. He did not believe that he could have obtained any information from the employes of the postoffice.

Mrs. Alma L. Burnett of White Plains N. Y., is suing her mother-in-law, Mrs. Charlotte Burnett, for $50,000 damages, for enticing her husband away. The defendant is a well-known society woman of Brooklyn, and was much opposed to the marriage of her son Clarence to the plaintiff two years ago. The alleges she induced him to go to Europe last winter and has since prevented him from seeing his wife.

Judge Simons of St. Paul, filed his decision in the case of the state of Minnesota ex rel. David P. Powell vs. The State Medical Examining Board of Minnesota. The case has attracted a good deal of interest, Powell being known as White Beaver, and a history has already been published. The decision sustains the law.

The schedules in the insolvent assignment of William B. Higgins and W. J. Fowler, soap manufacturers, New York, show liabilities $53,527, nominal assets $22,360, and actual assets $8,912.

The affairs of Gen. Longstreet, United States marshal of Georgia, are in a very unsatisfactory condition, owing to his ineptitude in the management of business details.

Adolph Adler, clothing and dry goods, Huntsville, Ala., has assigned. Assets, $2 000; liabilities, $12,000, mostly in Cincinnati.

George Rothmuller, editor of the New York Figaro, has been sued for $200,000 libel by Gustave Amberg of the Thalia theater.

Gov. Robinson of Massachusetts is superintendent of the Unitarian Sunday school at Chicopee.

E. W. Coleman & Co., and J. M. Fuller & Co., New York grain men, hang out the failure flag.

Minnesota has 15,631 traders against 6,330 in 1873.

Portland, Oreg., claims 25,336 population.

Fargo Merchant Jailed.

Fargo, Dak., Special.—The opinion is expressed that the shackles of the law are tightening around P. V. M. Raymond, and the action of the court in refusing to vacate the order of arrest has done more to bring public opinion against him than anything that has previously occurred. The judge was very pointed in refusing to vacate the arrest. He said that an honest failure was no discredit to a business man, but he was convinced that the failure of P. V. M. Raymond & Brother was not an honest failure. Deception had been practiced by the defendant, as was clearly shown. He thought it strange that the bank had given the firm credit on so extensive a scale, but it was because of misrepresentation on the part of the defendant. Tuesday the 15th another order of arrest was issued against P. V. M. Raymond on the same charge as the previous one and by the same parties, the German American National bank. The claim was for about $5,000, it being the amount of paper that is due. His bail was increased $5 000, making it $9,000. Raymond spent last night in jail, the sheriff having taken him into custody.

Republican Congressional Committee.

A joint republican caucus of senators and representatives was held on the night of the 16th inst., to appoint a congressional campaign committee for the preparation and circulation of documents concerning the subjects pending before congress and also political information, and the execution of such other campaign work as may be agreed upon by that committee and the Republican national committee. The members of the committee agreed upon by the representatives of the states were:

California, Senator Miller; Florida, H. Bisbee; Illinois, G. R Davis; Iowa, Senator Allison; Kansas, Thomas Ryan; Massachusetts, Senator Hoar; Minnesota, W. D. Washburn; Mississippi, Judge Jeffords; Nevada, Senator Jones; New Hampshire, Senator Blair; New Jersey, Senator Sewell; New York, F. Hiscock; North Carolina, James, E. O'Hara; Ohio, William McKinley, Jr; Pennsylvania, J. M. Campbell; South Carolina, E M. Mackey; Vermont, C. W. Stewart; West Virginia, Nathan Goff, Jr; Wisconsin, Senator Sawyer; Dakota, J. B. Raymond, Idaho, Theodore Singiser; New Mexico; F. Luna; Wasniagton Territory, T. H. Breats.

Condition of Gen. MacKenzie.

The war department is informed that the condition of Gen. McKenzie is considerably improved. The report was made by a staff officer who recently visited him at Bloomingdale. The medical officers of the asylum refrain from the expression of an opinion as to his chances of recovery. It is generally believed that the present is but the temporary reaction that follows. His restoration to the command is regarded an impossibility, and a vacancy will soon occur in the grade of brigadier general. Gen. Wesley Merrill, Superintendent of the West Point academy, and Col. D. S. Stanley, of the Twenty second infantry, are prominently mentioned as likely to receive the promotion.

A Bad Lot of Officers.

Brewster Cameron appeared before the house committee on expenditures of the department of justice again on the 14th. He gave a list of all persons discharged from the service of the department the past few years on account of fraudulent action on their part; also a list of those who resigned under other pressure brought to bear. He said a man named Wilson, an attache of the United States marshal's office in Alabama, threatened a special examiner investigating the accounts of the office. The same man, Cameron said, was nominated for another office. Another Alabama official named Bingham, reported to have offered resistance, had been nominated for another office. Cameron said probably an investigation would soon be made of nineteen United States officials in South Carolina for alleged official misconduct.

Ellendale's Defaulting Postmaster

Ellendale, Dak., Special—A. H. Tyner received notification that he had been appointed postmaster at Ellendale in the stead of defaulting Postmaster Finch. The amount of Finch's defalcation is not yet known, but $1,400 has thus far been discovered to have been stolen, about one-half having been taken faom registered letters from this office. Finch's bond was $3,000, and one of the bondsman says that they would doubtless have to pay the amount. Finch's wife is thought to be partly to blame for his crime, as she is extravagant, and is said to have spent money very freely. She is the daughter of a wealthy board of trade operator in Milwaukee.

Commercial.

Chicago. Wheat, No. 2 spring, 91¼@91½c. No. 3 spring, 75@80c; No 2 red winter 95@97½c. Corn, cash, 53¾@54¼c. Oats cash, 32⅝@32¾c. Rye, 58c. Barley, 59c Flaxseed, $1.41. Pork, $14.50@14 62½ Lard, cash, $8.80@8.85. Bulk meats, shoulders, $6.35; short ribs, $7.75; do clear, $8.

Milwaukee. Wheat, No. 2, spot, 91½c. Corn, No 2, 55c. Oats, No. 2, 33c. Rye, No. 1, 61½c; No. 2, 58½c. Barley, No. 2, 59½c. Provisions, mess pork, $14.55. Lard, prime steam, $8.87½ Sweet-pickled hams, 10@10½c. Dressed hogs, $6.50@6 65.

Minneapolis. Wheat, No. 1 hard, 98c; No. 2, 85c. Corn, 5 @53c. Oats No. 2 32c. Rye 47@48c. Barley, No. 3, 35@55. Bran, $11@12 per ton. Shorts, $13@14. Hay, $6@8 for wild; $8 50@10 for timothy. Ground feed, $20@20.50.

St. Paul. Wheat, No. 1 hard, 97c; No. 2, 80@83c. Corn, No. 2, 51c. Oats, No. 2 mixed, 30c. Barley, No. 3, 60c. Rye, 47c.

Duluth. Wheat, No. 1 hard, $1; No. 2 hard, 92c.

Superintendent Prior, of the Milwaukee & St. Paul, left for California on Friday the 11th, accompanied by his daughter. Conductor Phelps will follow for the same destination in a few days.

During the year ending October 15, 780,405 salmon, weighing over 9,000,000 pounds, were taken from the Sacramento river and its tributaries.

DOINGS IN WASHINGTON.

Friday, January 11.

SENATE.—Mr. Van Wyck, from the committee on improvement of the Mississippi river, submitted a joint resolution appropriating $1,000 000, to continue the improvements begun by the Mississippi river improvement commission. After debate it was amended to give it in the form of a bill, which passed.

Bills were introduced for postal savings banks and a medical university at Washington under the auspices of the government.

Senator Cullom, of Illinois, made his maiden speech, speaking in support of his bill reorganizing the legislative power of Utah. He vigorously assailed Mormonism.

Mr. Cullom argued that while the Edmunds commission bill had done some good, it was entirely inadequate, and a more radical policy is needed if the evil is to be eradicated. If the Mormon question is not soon settled, he predicted that war would result.

Senator Brown, on the other hand, opposed the measures, and declared that it and all recent legislation of congress regarding Utah affairs was unconstitutional. Congress had no right to destroy territorial government, and to concede the power would be an exceedingly dangerous precedent. The Christian church, he claimed, was the true medium to deal with the Mormon question. If the millions sent every year for the conversion of polygamists in far off India and China were applied to Utah, the result would soon be apparent.

Senator Garland closed the discussion for the day by comparing the Edmunds bill to the prescription of corn plaster for a case of consumption, but pointed out that the supreme court has laid down the doctrine that people cannot shelter themselves from the consequences of crime by pleading the requirements of religion. The remainder of the new rules were adopted.

Confirmations:

Consuls—Frank H. Mason, Marseilles; Robert J. Stephens, Palermo; George Gifford, Basle; Bollivar J. Pridger, Piedras Negras.

Samuel W. Ferguson, of Mississippi, a member of the Mississippi river commission, vice James B. Eads, resigned.

Registers of Land Offices—Nathaniel Clark, Reed City, Mich.; William H. Brown, Larned, Kan.; Harwell P. Myton, Garden City, Kan.; Alonzo L. Patcher, Oberlin, Kan.

Andrew J. Harrington, receiver of public moneys, Garden City, Kan.

Adjourned till Monday.

HOUSE.—Not in session.

Monday, January 14.

SENATE.—Senator Anthony was elected president pro tem., but declined whereupon Senator Edmunds was re-elected and sworn in. A bill was introduced repealing laws granting a pension to ex-soldiers without proof of loyalty.

The following nominations were sent to the senate: Myrus H. McCord, Wisconsin, register of land office Wausau, Wis.

Postmasters: Edward S. Renne, Marshfield, Wis.; Robert H. Johnson, Wausau, Wis.; Henry H. McGraw, Whitewater, Wis.; Wm. E. Delap, Boscobel, Wis.; David E. Welch, Baraboo, Wis.; Seth Smith, Manning, Iowa; Elias Skinner, Manson, Iowa.

HOUSE.—Bills were introduced regulating transportation by railroads and preventing discrimination; reorganizing infantry regiments; establishing a department of commerce; for 2½ per cent. forty-year bonds; putting sugar, molasses, wood pulp, lumber and salt on the free list; abolishing the postage on newspapers; repealing the civil service act; for bridges across the Missouri at Omaha and the Mississippi at St. Paul; against importation of foreign labor; to retire trade dollars; improving the lower Mississippi and providing for the redemption of national bank circulation.

Tuesday, January 15.

SENATE.—A resolution from citizens of Kansas was presented asking a constitutional amendment granting woman suffrage; also a petition from citizens of Minnesota praying that colonies of families be allowed to lay out villages on public lands in order to establish co-operative industrial societies.

Mr. Anthony's resolution concerning the prohibition of the importation of healthful meats was considered at length.

The select committee on Mississippi river improvement reported. A bill was introduced reducing rates on the Union and Central Pacific railways.

In executive session Mexican treaty was considered and the following nominations confirmed:

Reuben A. Allen, Indian agent, Blackfoot agency, Mont., Thomas Wrong, receiver of public moneys, Concordia, Kas.; James Lewis, surveyor general, Louisiana; John B. Everett, register, Mitchell, Dak.; David S. Hoffman, register, Lake City, Col. Walter S. Hurlburt, receiver of public moneys, Cheyenne. A. G. Lenning, register Dardanelle, Ark.; Abram O. Whipple, receiver of public moneys, Creelsburg, Dak.

Postmasters—Edmund M. Coveler, Pembina, Dak.; Ervin Johnson, Bellevue, Idaho; P. O. Babcock, Monticello, Iowa; Benjamin I. Kenzy, Harlan, Iowa; Jonathan Maxson, West Liberty, Iowa; Walter A. Moel, Adel, Iowa; James De Wolf, Vail, Iowa; Richard L. Bigger, Lisbon, Dak.; Charles T. Hollenbeck, Parker, Dak.; James E. Williams, Tower City, Dak., William Hooper, Walnut, Iowa; John R. Stebbins, La Porte City, Iowa; Thomas L. Stephens, Glenwood, Iowa; W. H. H. Learned, Port Townsend, Wyo; Henry Schmidt, Mazomanie, Wis.

HOUSE.—Live stock dealers, through Representative Hatch, submitted to the house a petition asking legislation to protect their interests. The memorialists ask congress to provide means for the extinction of pleura-pneumonia. This they say can only be done by the slaughter of all infected cattle. The estimated expense of such a measure is $1,500,000.

The house did not quite pass a bill, but it laid several bills on the calendar aside to get at the Mississippi river million dollar appropriation, and then talked all around it for the rest of the afternoon without final action. This was the first regular committee day, and the propositions of committees were received by the speaker, eliciting quite a number of reports mostly unfavorable. The dead ducks were filled away on the speaker's table, in legislative parlance, to lie there until called for by Gabriel. The call of committees was followed by the introduction of bills and resolutions for reference.

Wednesday, January 16.

SENATE.—Mr. Hoar called up his bill providing for the electoral vote, being the same as the bill passed by the senate of the Forty-seventh congress. It was again passed without debate.

A bill introduced in the senate to-day by Senator Beck authorizes the establishment of special bonded warehouses for distilled liquors. It provides that whenever a distillery is discontinued permanently or distilling has been suspended for twelve months, and the quantity of distilled spirits held in a distillery warehouse does not exceed 4,000 gallons, the distiller may pay the tax on such spirits or cause them to be removed in bond from the distillery warehouse to a special bonded warehouse.

When the rule forbidding the sale of liquors in the capitol was reached, Mr. Bayard moved to strike out the words "or malt," so as to except malt liquors from exclusion.

Mr. Bayard called for the yeas and nays on adoption of his amendment, but the differences were adjusted without a vote by striking out the words "spirituous and malt," and inserting the word "intoxicating." This word Frye said was as satisfactory to him as was the language of the prohibitory statute of Maine.

HOUSE.—Bills were introduced for the issue of 2 per cent. bonds, their deposit as security for national bank notes and remitting tax on circulation of bank notes when secured by deposits of these bonds; appropriating annually $1,000,000 for the maintenance of the Erie canal; putting jute on the free list; building a ship canal around Niagara Falls. A large number of resolutions were offered calling upon the cabinet officials for information. Debate on the $1,000,000 appropriation bill for the Mississippi was resumed but no final action was taken, though general debate was closed, several amendments made by apponents of the measure voted down and the bill reported to the house.

Thursday, January 17.

SENATE.—The chair laid before the senate a memorial from William Pitt Kellogg, denying all imputations against him contained in recent documents transmitted to the senate.

By Mr. VanWyck, to secure reasonable rates of transportation for the people over railroads aided by the government.

By Messrs. Bayard, Frye, Miller (N. Y.) and Morrell, from various temperance organizations, for a constitutional amendment prohibiting the manufacture or sale of alcoholic liquors as a beverage.

The president sent the following nominations to the senate. Richard Lambert, California, United States consul at San Blas, Mexico. Postmasters—William P. Forsythe, Jefferson, Wis.; Solomon H. Keller, Medford, Wis.; George W. McNulty, Bellevue, Iowa.

HOUSE.—The house settled the Mississippi river bill the first thing after the morning hour by the decisive vote of 215 to 64 for the appropriation, the bill going through without amendment. It appropriates $1,000,000 as a temporary matter, to carry on the work.

The president transmitted a communication from the secretary of war and secretary of the navy setting forth the necessity of another expedition to Smith's sound for the relief of the Greely party, and a special message recommending an immediate appropriation for the purpose. Secretaries Lincoln and Chandler, in their letter to the president, state that the relief board recommend the purchase and fitting out of two steam whalers to leave New York May 1, and reach Upernavik about May 20. A smaller advance ship, which may take greater risks is also suggested.

A part of the day was devoted to business on the house calendar. Very little, however, was accomplished, beyond the recommittal of a bill to amend the patent laws, passing another of minor importance.

The New Railroad President.

Mr. Villard's successor as president of the Northern Pacific has at last been appointed. The directors of the company met on the 17th at the office in the Mills building, New York. J. Pierrepont Morgan, Frederick Billings, B. P. Cheney, August Belmont and John C. Bullitt, the committee, stated that, after giving the matter the most careful consideration, the committee had unanimously decided to nominate Robert Harris, at present vice president of the New York, Lake Erie & Western railroad.

The report was accepted and Harris unanimously elected. Harris thanked the directors for the honor and assumed the duties immediately. It was decided that Vice President Thomas F. Oakes, who had been acting general manager since the resignation of Herman Haupt, should continue in that office. He will leave for St. Paul and take up his residence at that point.

Although for the past six years the general executive officer of the Erie railway, Mr. Harris is really a Western man, and first achieved prominence in the great West. His first important trust was that of superintendent of what is now the Western Union railway of Wisconsin. Later he became superintendent of what was then the Galveston, Houston & Henderson railroad of Texas.

Becoming a resident of Massachusetts at the outbreak of the rebellion, he enlisted in a Massachusetts regiment and served with distinction as a regimental staff officer until the close of the war, when he was called to the assistant superintendency of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy railroad, of which company he became superintendent and afterward president.

Startling Pension Figures.

The commissioner of pensions has been examining the pension bills which have been introduced. His investigations show that if all the bills should be enacted there would no longer be any question of surplus revenue. The amount required to pay the pensions to the soldiers of the war of the rebellion alone under existing law, provided all claims shall be filed before July 1, 1888, is $1,295,729,000. This sum exceeds the interest bearing public debt. The amount required in the event of passage of the pending bills is incalculable. Under the various classifications of the pension population there are nearly 2,000,000 of persons who by some one of the proposed bills would be entitled to a pension. The number of applications for increase of pensions has more than doubled since the publication of the list.

Death of a Prominent Railroad Man

W. G. Swan, formerly superintendent of traffic of Milwaukee & St. Paul railway, died in Milwaukee on the 16th. Mr. Swan had been in the employ of the Milwaukee & St. Paul company for a number of years, confining his labors to the traffic department. After filling various positions, he was several years ago superintendent of a freight traffic. This position he held until June last, when he was compelled to resign on account of ill-health. The resignation was in the hands of the company fully a month before it was accepted. When the company did finally accept it, several months' pay was granted him in recognition of his valuable services.