

GRIGGS CO. COURIER.

PUBLISHED EVERY FRIDAY MORNING. By FRED'K H. ADAMS.

The New York Commercial Bulletin estimates the fire losses in the United States and Canada during July at \$9,000,000, an increase of one-third over the average July fire waste for the past ten years.

Two acts of the present administration have met almost unanimous approval. One is the proclamation warning the great cattle syndicate to leave the Indian territory; and the other is the absolute prohibition of fences on the public domain for private use.

The German talk of a closer alliance with England continues, and it is rumored in London that Bismarck and Salisbury will soon meet at Varzin. All this appearance of closer union between the greatest military and the greatest naval power is highly interesting to European diplomats.

Professor Hilgarde, of the Department of Geodesy in Washington, has been allowed to resign. He has held the position for over forty years. The investigation into his management showed him to be a drunkard and a fraud.

A suggestion upon what shall be done with our ex-Presidents has been made in the Century Magazine, to the effect that, when a President's term of office expires, he shall become a Senator of the United States for life.

The legislature of Massachusetts at last session, passed an act which has now gone into effect authorizing the formation of cremation corporations. This act provides that any five or more persons may form such a corporation, with a capital of not less than \$6,000 nor more than \$50,000.

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THE NEWS SUMMARIZED.

Victoria's Speech Interpreted. Smalley's cable to the Tribune says: The queen's speech is an epitaph by the present ministry on the acts of the late ministry.

Alleged Libel in Dakota Census Returns. Bismarck Special.—Hon. George Rice, late speaker of the house of representatives, now attorney general of Dakota, while visiting the census office, as a matter of curiosity glanced at the returns from Plaudron, Moody county, his home.

Decision on Pre-emption Entries. The general land-office has received information that Judge Dealey of the Oregon circuit court has decided that pre-emption entries can only be cancelled by proceedings in the courts.

From Washington. At the state department in Washington it is denied that Mr. Kelly will receive any appointment there upon his return.

Pension Commissioner Black says: Eugene Smith, who was said in a recent Indianapolis dispatch to have been appointed a special examiner of the pension office, has not been appointed to or recommended for any office.

The following appointments have been made: Bennett M. Sims of New Orleans, to be chief of special agents division of the general land office, vice Alfred G. McKenzie, who has been appointed a special agent.

Secretary Bayard has directed United States Minister Winchester to attend the international copyright conference in Berne, Switzerland, Sept. 7, it being understood that his presence does not bind the government.

The secretary of war has instructed Gen. Miles, in command of the department of the Missouri, to hold troops in readiness to enforce the president's recent proclamation in relation to cattlemen on the Cheyenne and Arapahoe reservations.

It is announced unofficially that Gen. Luther M. Meley of Lima, Ohio, has been appointed assistant commissioner of the general land office, and will assume the duties of the position upon Sept. 1, the date when the resignation of Luther Harrison takes effect.

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The losses of the New York Central company by wash-outs, it is stated, will exceed \$100,000. Philip Esterbrook of Gambier, Ohio, was killed while walking on the railroad in an intoxicated condition.

James Barry, a saloonkeeper of Dyersville, Iowa, fell from the stone steps in front of the Dyersville hotel and broke his neck.

By the breaking of her walking beam, while mid lake between Milwaukee and Grand Haven the steamer City of Milwaukee was damaged to the extent of about \$20,000.

Gen. Hancock returns thanks to all who took part in the Grant funeral.

Hon. George H. Jerome died suddenly at his residence in Niles City, Mich., of apoplexy.

Hon. John H. Lindsey, a prominent citizen and well known attorney, died at his residence in Chester, Ill.

Gov. Hubbard of Texas is to supersede Gen. Bingham as United States minister to Japan, and the latter will probably return to congress from Ohio.

The Rev. Dr. Talmadge of Brooklyn preached Sunday the 16th in the City Road Westlyn chapel, London. Hours before the opening of service the doors of the chapel were besieged by a throng clamoring for admission, and more than 1,000 persons were turned away for lack of even standing room in the edifice.

The Criminal Calendar.

Oliver C. Fox of Findlay, Ohio, has sued his father-in-law to recover \$2,000 damages because the latter charged him with stealing \$280.

An incendiary fire at Farwell, Mich., destroyed the store of W. A. Carpenter & Co., with contents. Loss, \$17,000; insurance, \$12,000.

At Little Rock, Bourbon county, Ky. Burton Terry shot and killed Mark Lauderback. The trouble had been of some months' duration.

Hiram Franz, a notorious character charged with highway robbery at Lancaster, Pa., was fatally shot by officers while resisting arrest. The officers left town to avoid the vengeance of the rolling mill hands.

Perry Starkey's son was slapped by Reuben Wilson in Athens, Ohio. The elder Starkey sought vengeance with a club, and a fight began between four Starkeys and two Wilsons, resulting in the murder of Starkey.

John McLain, one of the most prominent citizens of Damascus, Ga., while in one of the stores of that place, which was crowded at the time with customers, drew his revolver from his pocket and emptied four chambers into his own body before he fell dead.

Joseph Trean, who crawled out of the river at Davenport two weeks ago, representing himself as a swimmer from St. Paul to St. Louis on a wafer of \$100, proved to be a floating fraud and general deadbeat and was arrested in Davenport for thieving and general rascality.

John C. Baunceigh, alias "Johnny the Snake," a nationally notorious confidence man, and wanted in nearly every state in the Union, was found guilty at the county seat of St. Louis county of beating a passenger on the Missouri Pacific railway out of \$350 two years ago, and sentenced to two years in the penitentiary.

Burglary was attempted at four different places of business in Big Stone City. In two instances successful toward their efforts. A supply of postage stamps were taken from F. F. Welch's lumber office, and six revolvers and some money from the hardware store of the Wearing, Post & Oehler. Officers were in search but failed to find any clue to the thieves.

At the house of J. W. Carpenter of New York, a tragedy occurred recently, in which two of his grandchildren, sons of his daughters, were participants. The cousins, boys of seventeen or eighteen years, were close friends. In the course of a friendly frolic, Jasper Unberfield became angered and sent a bullet through the body of his cousin, Jonathan M. Carpenter, and then blew out his own brains.

The Princess Alexandra, wife of the prince of Wales, wears, when driving, a plain gray Turkish satin gown, fitting tightly; linen collar and cuffs; a white straw bonnet, trimmed with black velvet ribbon and a cluster of poppies pinned up by the throat.

Rev. Mr. White, the chaplain of the English Church of All Saints, at Baded-Baden, conducted a service in memory of Gen. Grant. The church was decorated with wreaths of immortelles, and many Americans were present. Mr. White delivered an earnest sermon on Gen. Grant's career.

Advices from St. Paul de Loanda, West Africa, under date of July 15, report that a petty king, Coanhamu Huilla, died recently, and the natives attributing his death to the witchcraft of the whites, massacred twenty Europeans, including three French missionaries. The same advices state that M. de Brazza is still in the interior.

In the house of commons before the proposition Lord Randolph Churchill, secretary of state for India, replying to a question, said the duties of the Afghan boundary commission had not yet been completed, and that the government did not intend to withdraw the commission. Col. Ridgeway, present chief of the commission, and others connected with him, were doing a useful work. The dispute with Russia about the Zulufkar pass, the secretary continued, was not trivial, but the government was not altogether without hope to arrive ere long at a satisfactory settlement of all the points remaining in dispute between England and Russia.

Dr. James F. Cody of Watertown, Wis., sues for divorce from his wife on the ground of adultery.

A Clearfield county, Pa., woman died on the 27th ult., whose husband died on July 27, 1873, and whose son died July 27, 1875.

The assertion of Maxwell that the body found in the Southern hotel, St. Louis, was not that of Preller, meets with little credence.

The seventeenth annual reunion of the Society of the Army of the Cumberland will be held at Grand Rapids, Mich., Sept. 16 and 17.

Mr. Mike Alred, owner of the Grant home-stand at Point Pleasant, Ohio, has not yet sold it. He has been offered \$7,000, and wants \$10,000.

DAKOTA TERRITORIAL NEWS.

Dakota Civil Service Examination.

In accordance with instructions from the U. S. Civil Service Commission, an examination of applicants for the Departmental service at Washington, will be held at Bismarck, Dak., Sept. 8th, 1885, beginning at 10 a. m. The examination will be conducted by a special Board of Examiners appointed by the Commission, under the supervision of Commissioner Thoman, who is expected to be present. The Classified Civil Service is in three branches, the Departmental, the Customs, and the Postal Service. The examination at Bismarck is for the Classified Departmental Service at Washington, only, unless the Commission otherwise request.

The Dakota commissioners are C. A. Lounsbury, Geo. Hughes and A. J. Conover, who will furnish all necessary information, by addressing Civil Service Examining Board, Bismarck, Dakota.

The daughter of James Howard, who is sojourning among and teaching Sioux Indians at one of the agencies, denies the imputation from Dakota that she is so fascinated with a lazy buck as to intend to marry him.

The assessment of Cass county reaches over \$13,000,000, according to the completed and equalized list.

At Grand Forks, a motion to quash the indictment in the Miller murder case was denied by the court.

The following presidential postmasters have thus far been made: Huron, G. J. Love, July 22; Sioux Falls, W. P. Carr, May 5; Yankton, L. D. Palmer, July 16; Larimore, G. T. Lashall, July 24.

A man named Henry Neahring lodged a complaint against his wife at Deadwood, charging her with violent insanity. The board of commissioners investigated the case and pronounced the charge baseless and its author an inhuman villain.

Gen. W. V. Lucas, department commander of the Dakota G. A. R., publishes an invitation to all old soldiers to attend the reunion to be held under the auspices of the G. A. R. at Aberdeen Sept. 8, 9 and 10.

Eight steamboats are operated on the Missouri river between Bismarck and points above.

The contract for steam heating apparatus in the Bismarck penitentiary was let to Dow & Co. of Sioux Falls for \$2,800, provided the work can be done by Sept. 15.

A barn belonging to Hon. C. G. Williams at Watertown was struck by lightning. The barn, sixty tons of hay, farming utensils, three horses and a span of mules were burned. No insurance.

The Michigan settlement, south of Wahpeton a strip about four miles wide by twenty long is completely cleaned out by hail.

The capital commission has held its last meeting at Bismarck, settled accounts, and adjourned sine die. It is reported that settlement was made with creditors by issuing warrants exchangeable for capitol lots at the appraised valuation of the latter but the members of the commission would not disclose their doings.

A man named Ginger killed another named Schafer near Rushville. The men had been friends, but filled themselves with bad whisky and quarreled.

Thomas Doherty's frame house was burned near Big Stone City. Loss, \$1,500.

James Holes of Hunter is erecting a twenty-thousand-bushel elevator on his farm, to be run by horse power.

The Fargo Argus publishes an interview with G. S. Barnes, president of the Northern Pacific Elevator company, in regard to the condition of the wheat in Dakota, and the probable prices. Mr. Barnes looked up the matter pretty thoroughly and believed the acreage in the territory is about 20 per cent. less than last year. The decrease was greater in the North than in the South. Four-fifths of this land had been put into other crops. Allowing for some damage by blight, rust and storms, the average per acre will be fully equal to last year, making the aggregate wheat product of Dakota one-fifth below 1884. Mr. Barnes' opinions are disputed in some quarters.

Mayor Johnson of Fargo has appointed to the river convention at St. Paul G. S. Barnes, President of the Northern Pacific Elevator company; Charles Swantt, of the bank of Fargo; E. C. Eddy, of the First National bank; Col. J. D. Benton and Gen. G. P. Wilson.

Two children, one a child of Gergeron (or Baillergeon) of Gervais township, the other the son of a man in the Norwegian settlement, died under circumstances that would indicate they had eaten of some poisonous wild plant, probably Indian turnip or wild parsnip.

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