

OUR SPRINGFIELD LETTER.

Springfield, Jan. 16.—The second week of the legislature has closed without much excitement in the way of law making.

Speaker Curtis is busy making up his committees and says that members will be assigned such committees according to their special fitness for the work to be done.

It is thought more bills will be introduced this session than last, and already many members have bills to be presented at to-morrow's session.

Prison Labor Question.

The whole penitentiary question has been a difficult one of solution ever since Billy Mason, when a state senator, forced through the legislature, at the instance of the labor organizations, the amendment to the state constitution forbidding contracts for prison work.

The Drainage Canal.

The people of the twenty-one cities along the Chicago sewerage river have had their conference and have with entire unanimity decided that they will make no fight on the effort of the drainage board to get a larger whack at the taxes, and that they would insist on the law being enforced according to both its spirit and letter.

Berry-Manifold Contest.

It is doubtful whether the people of the state understand the points upon which ex-Senator Berry relies in his contest for the seat now held by Mr. Manifold.

The Fifer Seat.

Ex-Governor Altgeld was not the only personage treated with discourtesy in connection with the inauguration of Governor Tanner.

body or other having the arrangements in charge, and his friends are smarting under the treatment accorded him. Mr. Fifer came to Springfield to see a new Republican executive sworn in to succeed a Democrat, and felt no little elation in anticipation of participating in the jubilee.

Mr. Fifer had no comment to make over the lack of attention accorded him, but, before leaving Springfield, took occasion to characterize the treatment of Governor Altgeld in joint session as thoughtless.

Militia Men Are Bad.

The conduct of the militia was of the very worst character during the inaugural ceremonies, and, as a result, Governor Tanner is going to take a hand in state military affairs. It appears that they thought everything went with the new administration, and twice they got into altercations with the police and twice the patrol wagon had to be called for to quell a disturbance started by them.

ONE HOT DECEMBER DAY.

Its Memory Made Imperishable by the Death of John Brown.

"This is the anniversary of the hottest day I ever knew in winter," said the old meteorological member, as the clubmen came in, blowing their cold fingers and stamping their chilled feet, says the Utica Observer.

"In what year?" asked a young member. "In the year 1850. The morning opened cloudy and it looked like rain. Then at about noon it cleared off and the thermometer, which had indicated a temperature of 70 degrees, suddenly rose to about 80 degrees, at which it remained all the rest of the day.

Business in 1900.

Not only was the field of business enterprise thus restricted, but the transaction of business within that field was slow and difficult. The merchant kept his own books—or, as he would have said, his accounts—wrote all his letters with a quill, and when they were written let the ink dry or sprinkled it with sand.

She Was No Fool.

Maud—I have just been reading about a girl who married a man without a cent.

Mamie—The silly creature!

Maud—Not so silly. The man was a millionaire; it was the girl that hadn't a cent.—New York Tribune.

ILLINOIS NEWSLETS.

RECORD OF MINOR DOINGS OF THE WEEK.

Seven Days' Happenings Condensed—Social, Religious, Political, Criminal, Obituary and Miscellaneous Events from Every Section of the State.

One of the Quincy night schools has 68 pupils.

There are 3,079 people enrolled at the Soldiers' Home at Leavenworth.

For the present quarter 119 saloon licenses have been taken out in Quincy.

Twenty-five Kankakee men have left their homes to enter the Cuban army.

Quincy has opened up an early spring campaign among the wine rooms.

The two Democratic members of the Soldiers' Home trustees at Quincy have resigned.

A license was issued Wednesday to "Uncle Jo" Henry, aged 76, to marry Mrs. Emily Jacobs, aged 60 years, at Mt. Vernon, Ill.

James Milliken of Decatur offers \$10,000 for a new home for women upon condition of a like amount being otherwise contributed.

The house of Mrs. Peterson in Crosey was struck by lightning during the January storm, an unusual occurrence in midwinter.

Galesburg is going to make a trial at getting more supervisors. It is to be hoped she has better success than Peoria did with the town board of auditors.—Ex.

Chicago women will now try to get the city council to adopt an ordinance preventing the men from going out between acts for a drink. This is in revenge for the anti-high hat ordinance.

The United States grand jury has returned indictments against William Mose of Vandalia, Ill., for passing counterfeit coin, and William Sterling of Quincy, Ill., for mailing improper postal card. The latter pleaded guilty, was fined \$50 and costs and went to jail in default.

E. G. Wilson, who has been the agent of the Indianapolis, Decatur & Western Railway at Murdock, Ill., closed his office at 9 o'clock Wednesday morning and took a dose of poison, which proved fatal. As the books are straight it is supposed he was despondent over the loss of a child.

The resignation of Lieutenant Hays of the Eighteenth Infantry, Fort Sam Houston, was received at the post Saturday. Lieutenant Hays stated in his letter that when the resignation arrived in San Antonio he would be well on his way to Cuba. He had only obtained seven days' leave of absence to go to Houston, but the letter is dated New York. Lieutenant Hays is a native of Illinois and rose from the ranks.

A remarkable case exists in the village of Tucker, in Kankakee county, in that of John Adams. He is 85 years old, and until recently was bald, toothless, and almost blind. He can see now as well as ever, has cut several teeth, and his hair has grown out again. The new hair is dark. At first glance he looks like a man of 40. The eyes are bright and clear and emphasize the wrinkles, and his cuticle looks like parchment.

Dr. Burton of Dixon and Dr. Sheldon of Ashton, Ill., are under arrest for obtaining money under false pretense. They induced Miss Lizzie Emery to permit them to perform an operation for appendicitis, one of them claiming to be a noted surgeon of Chicago. They simply cut through the outer skin and then sewed the wound up. Another operation at the Presbyterian Hospital in Chicago revealed the fact that the first was a fraud.

Leap year proved a fraud in Knox county, Illinois, so far as the marriage record of the county clerk's office shows. There were fewer marriages in the year of 1896 than in the year of 1895. If the female portion of Galesburg's population had lived up to its opportunities, this sad state of affairs would not thus have to be recorded. The register over which Mr. Williamson presides records 369 marriages for 1896 and 427 for 1895.

John Beard, Jr., has secured the contract to build the road bed for the St. Louis and O'Fallon Railroad Company, running between the coal beds near O'Fallon and East St. Louis, a distance of fourteen miles. The entire right of way has been secured by the company, with an entrance into the city limits parallel with the L. & N. Railroad tracks. Mr. Beard will start work probably Tuesday or Wednesday with 75 teams and 150 hands.

A little experimenting is now going on at the plant of the Galesburg Pottery Manufacturing Company, and should the new scheme prove a success, Galesburg pottery will lead them all for fine ware. The company has engaged an eastern expert, who is making tests of a new glazing, known as the Bristol glaze, and we are informed by the management that it bids fair to be a success. They are burning the first kiln at present. The idea is to put a milk white glaze on the inside and outside of ware instead of black.

Among the active participants at an old-fashioned spelling match given recently by the ladies of the M. E. church at Charleston, Ill., were Mrs. Martha Jeffries, aged 82; J. K. Decker, 80 years, and George Wreat, 65 years. Mr. Wreat was the last one down on his side. Fifty years ago he knew Webster's Elementary Spelling book by heart.

With the advent of the new year, which is also the beginning of the Illinois winter, a number of Alton anglers went out of existence, owing to hard times.

ILLINOIS LEGISLATURE

REPORTED BY A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.

January 12.

A brief session of the senate was held, with Lieut.-Gov. Northcott in the chair. Senator Fisher offered a resolution, which was adopted, instructing the secretary of the senate to provide a sufficient number of copies of the Revised Statutes for the use of members of the senate.

In the house, immediately after the reading of the journal, the reading of Gov. Altgeld's message, which was commenced last Thursday, was resumed. When the reading was finished there was applause on the Democratic side of the house.

The house then adjourned till 3 o'clock the following afternoon.

January 13.

In the senate Mr. Leeper introduced a bill amending the election laws. The bill provides the judges of election shall have power to print the election ballot and shall prepare specimen ballots with instructions for voters which are to be posted in conspicuous places prior to election.

The senate then adjourned till 3 o'clock the following afternoon.

January 15.

In the house immediately after the reading of the journal, the clerk announced that the Republican joint caucus for the nomination of a candidate for United States senator would be held Monday evening at 8 o'clock.

The senate held a short session and little was done. Most of the time was taken up with an animated debate between Senators Mahoney and Humphrey concerning a point of order, and both finally became personal in their remarks.

Owing to the increased demand for india-rubber, caused by the use of pneumatic tires for bicycles and other vehicles, there is said to be serious danger of a "rubber famine."

Statute Rubber.

The house held a short session. It concurred in the senate joint resolution fixing Jan. 19 as the day on which the two houses shall ballot separately for United States senator, and the next day to meet in joint assembly and declare the result.

January 14.

In the house Mr. Cochran presented the report of the committee on rules. The only important change from last session is the creation of three new committees on congressional, senatorial and judicial appointment, each, consisting of twenty-one members.

During the past year 112,160 persons were arrested in New York city, 559 less than during the previous year.

PLANETARY SIG.

GOOD AND EVIL PERIODS OF HUMAN LIFE.

Readings by Mail December 3, 1900.

Feature of This Department—Free Instructions to Applicants—Free Readings.



HS astrologer again calls the attention of applicants for free readings to the fact that full name and address plainly written must accompany every request.

Our private readings by mail are becoming very popular. Applicants for private readings must enclose 26 cents in stamps.

According to the data the sign Libra, which Venus rules, was rising at your birth, therefore Venus is your ruling planet or significator.

According to data you are a mixture of the signs Scorpio which Mars rules and Sagittarius which Jupiter rules, therefore Mars and Jupiter are your ruling planets or significators.

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S. A. C. Clarkville, Iowa.

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"Lorene" Topeka Kansas.

You have a refined, sensitive and confident nature and anything rough or boisterous jars on your nervous system and has a tendency to reduce your vital force.

STATISTICS.

The largest state of Mexico is Chihuahua, with an area of nearly 90,000 square miles.

The Vermont Legislature has adopted a law requiring heavy wagons to have wide tires.

Bowling, billiards and card playing are unlawful in Michigan, according to some dead-letter statutes.

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