

THE CHURCH IS BLAMELESS.

COMMITTEE REPORT MADE PUBLIC.

No Part of the Sum of \$100,000 Received by Stahlman Was Paid to Barbee and Smith for Their Personal Use, or to Any Member of Congress or to Any Other Person for Corrupt Purposes—Stahlman Concealed Knowledge from Congressmen—The Church's Position on the Church—Stahlman's Willing to be Held Entirely Responsible for the Proceeds, Martyr—A Portion of the Testimony.

Washington, July 8.—The Senate committee on claims to-day made its report upon the investigation made by the committee into the payment of the claims of the Methodist Book Concern, and the payment to Major E. B. Stahlman of \$100,000 as an agent in getting the claim through. The report of the committee says: "The testimony before the committee clearly shows that no part of the sum received by Stahlman was paid to Messrs. Barbee and Smith for their personal use, or to any Senator or member of Congress, or to any other person for corrupt purposes."

The report also says that "Mr. Stahlman, in conversations and correspondence with Senators and Representatives, concealed from them all knowledge of the existence of a contract, withheld from them all information regarding it and purposely and willfully, by misleading, if not by false statements, impressed them with the belief that Mr. Stahlman was not acting as the agent or attorney of the book agents, with the expectation of pecuniary remuneration for his services, but as a personal friend of the book agents and a member of the Church."

Referring to the assurance received from Messrs. Barbee and Smith, the committee says: "No candid person who examines this correspondence can reach any other conclusion than that the subject of this inquiry was the existence of such a contract and not the percentage that an attorney was to receive. The replies of the book agents to this letter and telegram make it manifest that the policy of silence with reference to the contracts was maintained to the end, even to the extent of withholding the truth and misleading and deceiving those who made an earnest effort to obtain it."

With reference to the Church itself, the committee says: "The committee deems it proper to state that no censure should rest upon the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, for the acts of its book agents. The Church has been injured by the misconduct of its agents and for such misconduct it is held entirely blameless."

The testimony taken was also made public. The principal witnesses were Mr. Stahlman and Mr. Barbee. Mr. Stahlman said he had been giving more or less attention to the claim since 1892, but that the contract for 35 per cent. had been made in 1895. Mr. Stahlman said he had cautioned the book agents making the contract public, "because," he continued, "if I went to Washington as their representative for a fee of any amount, I would just be hounded day in and day out, and that I would probably fall into the hands of the vultures who hang around the capitol, which would involve the passage of the measure in questionable methods. They agreed to this."

Mr. Stahlman said he had told Senator Pasco that he had no contract with the book agents. Technically this was correct, as his contract was with the book committee.

Senator Fairbanks: "Did Senator Pasco ask you whether or not you had a contingent fee in this claim?" Mr. Stahlman: "He did not. I will say this, though, for Senator Pasco—he had a right to assume that no contract existed."

The Chairman: "And that no fee was to be paid?" Mr. Stahlman: "Yes. He said he had also allowed Senators Bacon, Clay and Lindsay to understand that no attorney's fee was to be received. He had told Senator Turley subsequently to the passage of the bill that the money was all going into the Church treasury, and 'they could do what they pleased with it afterward.'"

In reply to a question from Senator Teller, as to whether members of the book committee or the book agents had received any share of the profits, Mr. Stahlman replied in the negative; also stating that he had paid no money to attorneys with the intention of its reaching Congress.

Mr. Stahlman said he was willing to be held entirely responsible, adding, "even if Stahlman be made the martyr. Peter denied his Lord three times. He told a story. I do not claim to be better than Peter. If Peter was forgiven, and if the Church was founded upon the rock of Peter, Stahlman can be forgiven for the crime he has committed."

Mr. Barbee, in his explanation of the reply of himself and Mr. Smith to Senator Pasco's telegram, said: "Senator Pasco conveyed to us peremptorily that you did not want any information, but that he asked us to deny a rumor to the effect that we were to pay 40 per cent. of the claim. It seemed to us in such a way as to elicit a categorical answer in the form of a denial, and we answered accordingly. We stated the exact facts, that the report was untrue that we were paying 40 per cent."

Replying to this, Senator Pasco said that his letter called for a full statement of the case, and called attention to the fact that no further explanation had been made in response to Senator Bate's dispatch asking for information as to the 40 per cent. contract, or contracts at any other rates. To this Mr. Barbee said they had not intended to reply to Mr. Bate at all. He had, he said, understood that both Bate and Pasco were the friends of the book agents and the supporters of the claim. He thought, he said, that the Senate had no right to inquire what a Highgate was paying an attorney. He did not, he said, intend to convey the Senate the impression that there was no payment to be made to any claim agent.

Following is a specimen taken from his testimony: Senator Teller: "Did you think Senator Bate's question applied only to a fee of 40 per cent?" Mr. Barbee: "That is all."

Senator Teller: "What answer did you give to the words 'and other fees?'" Mr. Barbee: "None, and we did not intend to, because we did not feel that was a proper thing to be inquired into."

THE WAR SCARE AND BUSINESS.

NO INCREASE IN FAILURES CAUSED.

The Fiscal Year Ends With Financial Results a Shade Beyond Expectations—Cotton Crop Looks Better and Northern Manufacturing Works Are Getting Well Employed—Dun & Co.'s Commercial Report. New York, July 8.—R. G. Dun & Co.'s Weekly Review of Trade will say tomorrow: "The usual half yearly statement of failures by branches of business is peculiarly interesting because it shows that war and fears of war have not caused an increase in commercial disasters. The surprisingly large and general decrease in trading defaults would without doubt be accompanied by corresponding returns as to manufacturing, but for excessive expansion in some lines, and the unpropitious condition reached by a few large firms in other branches. Failures during the second quarter have been smaller than in the same quarter of the past four years in trading; and in manufacturing, smaller than in the same quarter of any year excepting 1894."

The fiscal year has ended with financial results a shade beyond general expectations, and the new war tax begins to increase revenue, not seriously disturbing business in any line. No reason yet appears to apprehend that the war revenue will fall below expectations. Criticism of crop estimates is the less needful because the best authorities all agree that supplies for the coming year promise to greatly exceed home requirements and a full export demand, though for a month or two yet, Europe may require much more than usual. This will help to sustain the market, while the earlier receipts are coming forward, and prices will then be determined largely by the outlook for crops abroad which is not as yet entirely encouraging. Wheat has reflected but little of the improved prospect, advancing from 85 to 90 cents for spot, regard less of the usual stories of injury, the current commercial and the department reports being apparently distorted by the trade.

The cotton crop looks better and the prospect is reflected in a decline of a cent in the spot price. The manufacturing works at the North are quite well employed, much more so than usual during the vacation season, and the demand for goods is something improved. Abroad, the state of the manufacture does not encourage hopes of an extraordinary demand for the raw material, while the stocks held by millers are known to be unusually large. The South is increasing in manufacture rapidly and not entirely in place of Northern mills. There is no disheartenment in other textile manufactures and business is good and growing in silks, bagging, hemp products and lines. The manufacture of wool specialties, although a distinctly better demand has appeared during the past ten days, because prices at which Western wool is held are too high for profitable manufacture.

It is not enough to dismiss the iron industry with the bold statement that it is using up more iron, even at the lowest point of the year than ever before. It is getting bigger domestic contracts for agricultural implements and also for structural work, than in any previous year, but especially for plates, the demand for which quite overruns the capacity of all the works, and is mainly on government account. The sales for the week have been 220 in the United States, against 206 last year; and 17 in Canada, against 20 last year.

TORTURE IN RED HOT SHIPS.

Cervera's Seaman Roasted Alive in the Hulls—Some Who Swam to Shore Were Shot Down by the Cubans on the Beach, Who Were Driven Away. Off Santiago, July 5th.

After the destruction of their fleet in the battle off Santiago, the Spanish sailors who swam from the burning ships were met by Cubans on the beach, who shot or mutilated them. The exhausted sailors turned back toward the advancing boats, terrified and pleading for mercy to the Americans.

Lieutenant Wainwright, of the Gloucester, formerly the yacht Corsair, who had sunk the two destroyers, saw a Cuban shoot at an insensible Spaniard lashed to a floating spar and fired a blank shot toward him. Captain Evans sent his marines ashore to guard against atrocities and to rescue the perishing.

One of the officers who went to the Viscaya said: "The American shells had torn holes through her 12-inch Harveyized stern armor plates. Through them I could see naked men, bloody and gashed, roasting in the shell. Her guns had been left spotted, and were going off by themselves from the heat, but we took care and got alongside."

"Her decks and sides were red hot. Two men, stark nude, were climbing down a davit-tackle, and as the ship rolled they would swing against her scorching side, then swing out and back again. "I took 110 off the Viscaya, all bare as when they were born, and I know no worse sights than naked men with bleeding wounds exposed. One swam toward me. 'Are you an officer?' I asked. 'No,' he answered, 'only a mournful soldier.' From none of the wounded came a whimper or a groan. In my arms I had seen the Viscaya in just this distress and had succored her crew as they, man by man, were disposed them about my little deck precisely as I had done in my dreams."

The third officer of the Maria Teresa, who with 450 of his men, is on the Harvard, says that the Spanish ships were overwhelmed with the intensity of the American fire.

"We could not breathe," he said, "and were blinded with the fire. We knew from the first we had no chance of escape."

The captain of the same vessel, who is on board the Olivette, admits that preparations for the sortie were in progress for four days, and that provisions for the voyage were made. He admits that the sortie was made for political purposes, to save the monarchy.

On the Oquendo and Colon the officers and men took pains to dress as for parade. All the crew of the Colon were in fine fresh clothes, even to underwear. While the vessel was sinking they put on their best, broke into the quartermaster's stores and filled their pockets with pies and cakes. The officers said that they had not had a full meal in a week, but were probably trying to arouse pity, as, besides pastries, they had live cattle and chickens. But they had not a cent of money.

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Aboard the Colon the surrendered men were crying "Viva Americanos." Some of the sailors were so drunk that they had to be hoisted in a sling.

The Spanish chaplains, surgeons and officers would not assist in caring for their own wounded, but appeared all to be taking things contentedly, not having expected to be alive to-day.

After the fight Captain Phillip, of the Texas, called all hands to the quarter deck, and with bare head, thanked God for the almost bloodless victory.

"I want to make public acknowledgment here," he said, "that I believe in God the Father Almighty. I want all you officers and men to lift your hats and from your hearts offer silent thanks to the Almighty."

The Journal says that the Monroe dispensary has taken stock and finds that it has made a net profit of \$1,426.27 during the first six months of its operation. There would have been more but for the expense of the test cases of original package business.

Robert Herring Wright, an honor graduate of the State University, class of '97, has been elected as professor of mathematics in Oak Ridge Institute for the coming year. Mr. Wright was prepared for college at Oak Ridge, and was one of the strongest men of his class, intellectually, at Chapel Hill. He was captain of the University North Carolina football team in '96.

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BASEBALL YESTERDAY.

Philadelphia, July 8.—Donohue pitched great ball for the Phillies this afternoon and shut Boston out without a hit or a run.

Philadelphia ... 1 1 0 0 3 0 0 0 x-5
Boston ... 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0-0

Base hits: Philadelphia 3; Boston 0. Errors: Philadelphia 2; Boston 1. Batteries: Donohue and McFarland, Willis and Bergen. Umpires: Gaffney and Brown. Time, 1:50.

Baltimore, July 8.—Four singles and a sacrifice setted Washington three runs in the opening inning of to-day's contest, and won the game. The fielding of Wrigley and Ball was noteworthy features.

Baltimore ... 0 0 0 0 2 0 0 1-2
Washington ... 2 0 0 0 0 0 0 0-3

Base hits: Baltimore 6; Washington 2. Errors: Baltimore 1; Washington 2. Batteries: Mast and Robinson; Meyer and McDuffie. Umpires: Lynch and Andrews. Time, 1:40.

Pittsburg, July 8.—Fraser was too easy and after being hit ten times for 21 bases and 13 runs, Dowling was substituted in the fourth inning.

Pittsburg ... 5 3 5 1 0 0 0 0 x-14
Louisville ... 0 0 1 0 1 0 1 0-3

Base hits: Pittsburg 13; Louisville 1. Errors: Pittsburg 1; Louisville 1. Batteries: Killen and Bowerman; Fraser, Dowling and Powers. Umpires: Snyder and Connolly. Time, 2:00.

New York, July 8.—Hard hitting in the first two innings won the game for New York. Attendance 1300.

New York ... 2 4 0 0 0 0 0 0 x-6
Brooklyn ... 2 0 0 0 0 0 0 0-2

Base hits: New York 10; Brooklyn 4. Errors: New York 2; Brooklyn 1. Batteries: Seymour and Grady; Yeager and Ryan. Umpires: Emalle and Hunt. Time, 1:25.

Chicago, July 8.—The crippled Orphans went at Hill very hard in the first inning, bunching five hits for as many runs, but were unable to touch him after then. Woods pitched well for eight innings, but weakened at the finish and was batted all over the field. Hill's nine strike outs broke the record here for this season.

Chicago ... 5 0 0 0 2 0 0 1-8
Cincinnati ... 0 2 0 0 0 2 0 0-11

Base hits: Chicago 9; Cincinnati 13. Errors: Chicago 3; Cincinnati 5. Batteries: Woods and Donahue; Hill and Peltz. Umpires: Swartwood and Wood. Time, 2:05.

Cleveland, July 8.—The Indians white washed the Browns in a scientific battle.

Cleveland ... 1 0 0 0 4 0 0 0 0-5
St. Louis ... 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0-0

Base hits: Cleveland 5; St. Louis 2. Errors: Cleveland 0; St. Louis 1. Batteries: Powell and O'Connor; Sudhoff and Sugden. Umpires: O'Day and McDonald. Time, 1:50.

HOW THE CLUBS STAND.

Won. Lost. P. C.

Cincinnati ... 48 24 .667
Boston ... 41 26 .612

Baltimore ... 39 26 .600
Cleveland ... 41 27 .612

Chicago ... 39 30 .565
Pittsburg ... 37 32 .538

New York ... 33 33 .500
Philadelphia ... 29 36 .446

Brooklyn ... 26 37 .412
Washington ... 29 39 .426

St. Louis ... 22 48 .314
Louisville ... 21 47 .309

J. F. W. Risse, a German citizen, of Atlanta, has been arrested and lodged in jail for threatening to kill the Rev. Sam Jones. Without any reason whatever Risse has taken up the idea that Mr. Jones has been slandering him, and has become a mono-maniac, or, as the experts term it, a paranoid.

SAYS FRANCE IS WITH US.

Professor Maury's Significant Anti-English Talk.

New York Dispatch, 6th.

Professor Bonet-Maury, the distinguished French scholar, a son of Gen. Maury, who won high honors under Napoleon Bonaparte, arrived here to-day on the trans-Atlantic liner 'Majestic.'

"France," said Professor Maury, "has declared her neutrality and will adhere strictly to that declaration. Of course, there are parties in France, each member of which look at an affair in a different light. The Roman Catholic party and the Monarchists certainly sympathize with Spain, because religion and loyalty are strong ties. The Republicans and Liberals, however, sympathize with the United States."

"President McKinley's declaration that the United States was not going to war for territorial extension, but simply to fight for humanity's cause, set the fears of the anti-war party at rest, and France to-day wishes victory to crown America's efforts."

"The French people consider that England, in seeking an alliance with the United States, wants to continue her domination over the seas. She realizes that America is destined to be a great naval power, and thinks that an alliance would be a very good match."

"The United States have no more disinterested, yet faithful friend than France. Both countries have the same form of government and are pursuing the same ideas."

TARBORO SHUTS WILSON OUT.

Special to The Observer.

Wilson, July 8.—Tarboro shut the home team out to-day, only two men getting as far as second. Withers for the visitors, pitched elegant ball, allowing only five hits, no two in the same inning. Fenner's catch of Robinson's fly was the finest seen here. Score: Tarboro: Five runs, eleven hits, five errors; Wilson: No runs, five hits, six errors; Batteries: Withers and Accor-sini; Holloway and LeGrand.

CAUSE AND EFFECT.

New York Evening Journal.

Witticus—Here's a funny thing. Witticus—What is it? Witticus—Account of a man who walked in his sleep because he dreamed he had no car fare.

AS HE HEARD IT.

Tid Bits.

Teacher—Well, Johnny, who was the best man that ever lived? Johnny—Please, sir, it was mamma's first husband, sir.

SAFE SURE SPEEDY.

MME. LE CLAIR'S FAMOUS FRENCH REMEDY Never Fails.

ENDORSED BY THOUSANDS

Of ladies as a periodical regulator without an equal, successful when Colton Root, Pennsylvania, Ergot, etc., have proven worthless, 25 two-cent stamps bring trial package, and contains the most stupendous of their wonderful properties. Send 4 cents in stamps for pamphlet, containing valuable information for ladies. Address: MME. LE CLAIR, P. O. Box 100, New York, N. Y.—All correspondence confidential and returned with trial package.

FOR SALE IN CHARLOTTE BY R. H. JORDAN & CO.

JAPANESE PILE GURE.

A New and Complete Treatment, consisting of SUPPOSITORIES, Capsules of Ointment and two boxes of Ointment. A never-failing cure for Piles of every nature and degree. It makes an operation with the knife, which is painful, and often results in death, unnecessary. Why endure this terrible disease? We pack a Written Guarantee in each box. No Cash No Pay. Get 25¢ and 50¢ boxes, 5 for \$1. Sent by mail. Samples free.

OLENTMENT, 25c and 50c.

CONSTIPATION Cured. Piles Prevented, by Japanese Liver Pills, the great LIVER and STOMACH REGULATOR and BLOOD PURIFIER. Small, mild and pleasant to take, especially adapted for children's use. 30 doses 25 cents.

FREE.—A trial of these famous Little Pills will be given with a 10¢ box or more of Pile Cure.

NOTICE.—THE GENUINE JAPANESE PILE GURE FOR sale only by R. H. JORDAN & CO.

The Bargain Store

211 North Tryon Street

All this week we will sell 3-quart 1A enamel coffee pots for 25c; 6-quart milk pan for 50c, Monday from 10 to 12 a. m., 10-piece decorated toilet set for \$1.75; from 3 to 5 p. m., 6-gallon cooler \$1.47; 4-gallon cooler 95c. Tuesday, from 10 to 12 a. m., all our 50c fans for 30c; 3 to 5 p. m., ladies' collars, style o. k., 6c.; cuffs 15c. pale. Thursday, from 10 to 12 a. m., 25c. suspenders for 11c.; 3 to 5 p. m., good 25c. linen towels 15c.; Friday, 10 to 12 m., 25c. linen napkins 15c.; 3 to 5 p. m., regular \$1.50 bed spread for 95c., and penholder and pen point 1c.

INCANDESCENT DYNAMOS.

One 150 16 c p light, Fort Wayne.

One 200 16 c p light, Gaynor.

One 100 16 c p light, Loomis.

One 100 16 c p light, Westinghouse.

Above are second hand, but overhauled in our shops and in good running order. Prices attractive.

—THE—

D. A. Tompkins Co., CHARLOTTE, N. C.

FOUNDRY AND MACHINE SHOP.

Engines, Boilers, Saw Mills, Cotton Presses, Pulleys, Shafting, etc., etc.

COMPLETE GIN OUTFITS.

LIDDELL CO., Charlotte, N. C.

WINSHIP MACHINE COMPANY

ATLANTA, GA. Branch House, Durham Building, Charlotte, N. C. Manufacturers of Cotton Gins, Presses, Cotton Elevators, Engines, Shafting, Pulleys, etc. Special Attention given to COMPLETE MODERN GIN OUTFITS S. R. JACOBS, Manager Charlotte Branch.

Geo. L. Wright, Jr., Manufacturers' Agent,

Durham Building, Charlotte, N. C.

THE CHARLOTTE SUPPLY CO.

—MANUFACTURERS OF— Pure Oak Tanned Leather Belting and Dealers in Cotton Mill and Machine Shop Supplies

THE GEO. B. HISS OIL CO.

High Grade Lubricating Oils and Greases, Oil and Cold Water Paints CHARLOTTE, N. C.

J. S. PHILLIPS.

Tailoring in All Its Branches. Ladies' Tailoring a Specialty.

A new line of seasonable goods just received. Everything made to order in the best possible manner. Over First National Bank.

WAR REVENUE STAMPS.

According to the law recently passed by Congress, to go into effect July 1st, to all checks, drafts, notes, etc., before being presented to the bank must be affixed the special revenue stamp, the stamp being cancelled by putting on the stamp the initials of the maker and the date. We have for this purpose rubber stamping devices, printing date and initials, at from 50c to \$5. Call and see our Catalogue.

STONE & BARRINGER.

Book, Stationery and Art Stores, 27 South Tryon St.

Philadelphia Underwriters' Financial standing January 1, 1897:

Cash Assets \$15,609,932.32.