

## CROMWELL REFUSES ANSWER TO SOME QUESTIONS ASKED

Testimony of Cromwell Continued Before Senate Inter-oceanic Canal Committee. Senator Morgan Fires Certain Questions and Witness Becomes Mute.

Afraid of Divulging Professional Secrets, Morgan Insists and Committee Decides that Cromwell Need not Answer Hypothetical Questions Unless he Liked.

Washington, Feb. 28.—William Nelson Cromwell continued his testimony before the Senate Inter-oceanic Canal Committee, declining to answer a number of questions asked by Mr. Morgan because professional secrets were involved.

Mr. Morgan requested a ruling as to whether the witness should be compelled to answer hypothetical questions. The committee, by a vote of 4 to 2, decided that he should not.

## DECLINE IN STOCK MARKET.

Heavy Liquidation in Stock Market.—Not a Sufficient Demand to Arrest Decline.

By Associated Press. New York, Feb. 28.—A very heavy liquidation was precipitated in the stock market by the calling of loans and forcing out speculative holdings by large pools. There was a conspicuous development in the situation outside of the city in the money market to account for the weakness but the feeling of distrust over the speculative situation which has been growing for some time reached a sudden culmination.

The declines were violent and practically no support developed in that way of a sufficient demand to arrest the decline. Fears over the failure of the supposed plan for the purchase of the Great Northern Ore Lands by the United States Steel Corporation accounted for the special weakness in Hill Stocks.

The distrust over the copper merger rumors played havoc in the metal group, but weakness became very general with losses of 3 to 12 points resulting in a long list of the most prominent stocks in the market.

## SOUTHERN TRIP PLANNED.

House Committee on Rivers and Harbors Plan to Make Southern Trip of Inspection.

Washington, Feb. 28.—The House Committee on Rivers and Harbors discussed its proposed Southern trip of inspection and March 1 was agreed upon as the day the committee will leave Washington for Augusta, Ga., where the trip will arrive March 8.

Columbus, Ga., will be visited March 9 and the committee will start that day down the Chattahoochee river for Tallahassee, Fla. The party will go to Tallahassee, Fla., March 12, and thence to Tallahassee, Fla., from Tallahassee the party will go to Bainbridge, Ga., and then to Pensacola, Fla., arriving there March 13.

Mobile will be visited March 13 and 14 and from Mobile a revenue cutter will take the party to Scranton and Gulfport, Miss. On March 15 the committee will start by train from Gulfport to Washington, making no stops on their return trip.

It is doubtful whether all the members of the committee will be able to make the trip on account of important pending legislation.

## MAY END MURDER MYSTERY.

New Evidence in the Bedford, Ind., Teacher Case.

Bedford, Ind., Feb. 28.—The grand jury met yesterday to consider new evidence in the case of the murder of the young Latin teacher, Miss Schaffer. Much new testimony is in possession of the State of which the public has been in ignorance.

A portion of it is known to refer to clothing which was thrown in a sink on the night of the murder, which concealment was witnessed by a woman and her son, who were threatened with death if they ever betrayed the men concerned in the concealment.

Afterward there was an attempt on the life of the son, and this deterred both woman and son from speaking of the affair till recently. Attorney Underwood has spent much time and money on the case, and he is hopeful of success.

## HELD ON MURDER CHARGE.

Virginian Kills Man Who Refused to Go Hunting With Him.

Lexington, Va., Feb. 28.—Jas. W. Wilcher is in jail here, charged with the murder of Henry J. Smith. The tragedy occurred Saturday night on Walker's creek, some fifteen miles from Lexington.

Wilcher called at Smith's home and invited him to go hunting, but the latter declined. Wilcher then picked a quarrel with Smith and, after upbraiding him for interfering with Wilcher's attention to Smith's sister-in-law, shot him in the breast with a shotgun. Death was almost instantaneous.

## SANTO DOMINGO TREATY.

Senate Committee on Foreign Relations Decide to Report Favorably on Treaty—Different Features of the Treaty.

By Associated Press. Washington, Feb. 28.—The Senate Committee on Foreign Relations, by a party vote, agreed to report favorably on the Santo Domingo treaty. A number of amendments were adopted.

Two sections were added to the treaty intended to more definitely protect the United States of the Dominican Republic. They made it plain that the United States shall not be liable for any claims against Santo Domingo or any award which results from the adjudication of any claims.

Railroad Rate Bill. Mr. Frazier addressed the Senate on the railroad rate question. He considered that some evils exist in connection with the railroads, but urged that all these could be more effectively met by amending the Elkins law than by passing the pending bill. He announced his regret at differing from the President, but said he could not see his way clear to pursue any other course.

## HURT IN CLASS SCRAP.

Locked Up on Third Story, He Attempted to Escape, Falling to the Ground.

Schenectady, N. Y., Feb. 28.—Wm. F. Collins of Petersburg, Va., a member of the freshman class of Union college, during a class scrap Wednesday night was locked in his room on the third story of the dormitory, the door being secured from the outside. Collins attempted to escape by means of a clothes line from the window of his room. The rope was not stout enough to bear his weight and he fell these stories to the ground. He sustained a broken arm and severe injuries to his spine but will probably recover.

## THE MAYNARD BILL.

Secretary Shaw Opposed to Coinage of 1,000,000 Two-Dollar Silver Pieces For Jamestown Exposition.

Washington, Feb. 28.—Secretary Shaw appeared before the House committee on Industrial Arts and Expositions, to discuss the Maynard bill providing appropriations for the Jamestown Exposition. The Secretary expressed emphatic disapproval of the provision of the bill for a coinage of 1,000,000 two-dollar silver pieces, upon which the exposition company desires to realize \$800,000 profit on their cost of coinage.

Sitting of United States Courts. The House passed the bill providing for a sitting of the United States Circuit and District Courts at Miami, Fla. The House resumed its consideration of the Army Appropriation Bill.

## TERM OF COURT TO BE MEMORABLE ONE

Two Big Railroad Cases Set for First Day of Civil Court Next Week. The McKelvey Case Will be Called Monday Week. Judge Bryan to Preside.

The bar of Charlotte met this afternoon at 4 o'clock to prepare a calendar for the civil term of court that convenes at the court house Monday morning at 10 o'clock. Judge Henry R. Bryan will preside and the term will cover a period of two weeks.

Two very important cases have been set for Monday, the first day of the court. These are Samuel Hayes against the Atlantic and Charlotte Air Line and Mrs. Bessie Shaw against the Seaboard Air Line.

In the case of Samuel Hayes against the Southern, damages to the amount of \$10,000 will be asked. The plaintiff is represented by Pharr & Bell and Col. W. B. Rodman will take care of the Southern's interests.

In the case of Mrs. Bessie Shaw against the Seaboard, the plaintiff will ask for \$40,000 damages. News readers will recall the cause of the action against the Seaboard. The trouble occurred near the station at Matthews, and the plaintiff claims to have been seriously injured.

Monday of the second week of court the now famous suit of Dr. A. J. McKelvey against the Observer Company will be called. This is an action for damages to the amount of \$50,000, because of a certain article that appeared in the Charlotte Observer and Evening Chronicle, which the plaintiff contends did him great damage.

Such an array of counsel as will appear in this case has never been witnessed in Charlotte and it goes without saying that interest will be kept at white heat during the progress of the trial.

## DISASTROUS GAS EXPLOSION.

Reported That 12 Miners Are Dead. Several Fatally Injured and Others Badly Injured.

Birmingham, Ala., Feb. 28.—Passengers arriving from points near the Piper Mines, where the gas explosion occurred late yesterday afternoon, report 12 miners dead, seven fatally hurt, and a half dozen others badly injured.

Dr. Edwin Mims, professor of English at Trinity College, Durham, and author of the "Life of Sidney Lanier," will address the mens' meeting at the Academy of Music Sunday at 5 p. m.

## THE TRUST BUILDING WAS TODAY SOLD MR. CLARENCE GRESHAM FOR \$130,000

Charlotte's Handsomest Office Building, Also the Academy of Music, Passes Out of the Hands of the Piedmont Realty Co., the Company that Built It.

Mr. C. Gresham has an Abiding Faith in Charlotte and will Concentrate Most of His Real Estate Holdings in the Queen City.

The Trust building, Charlotte's handsomest structure, was today sold to Mr. C. Gresham. The purchase price was \$130,000.

Mr. Gresham will pay \$120,000 in cash and the vacant lot on West Trade street, between Mrs. Stonewall Jackson's residence and the corner lot, known as a part of the Fox lot, will represent the remaining \$10,000 of the purchase price.

This transaction represents the largest deal in real estate that has ever been consummated in Charlotte. In fact, it is possibly the largest single deal that has been made in city real estate in North Carolina.

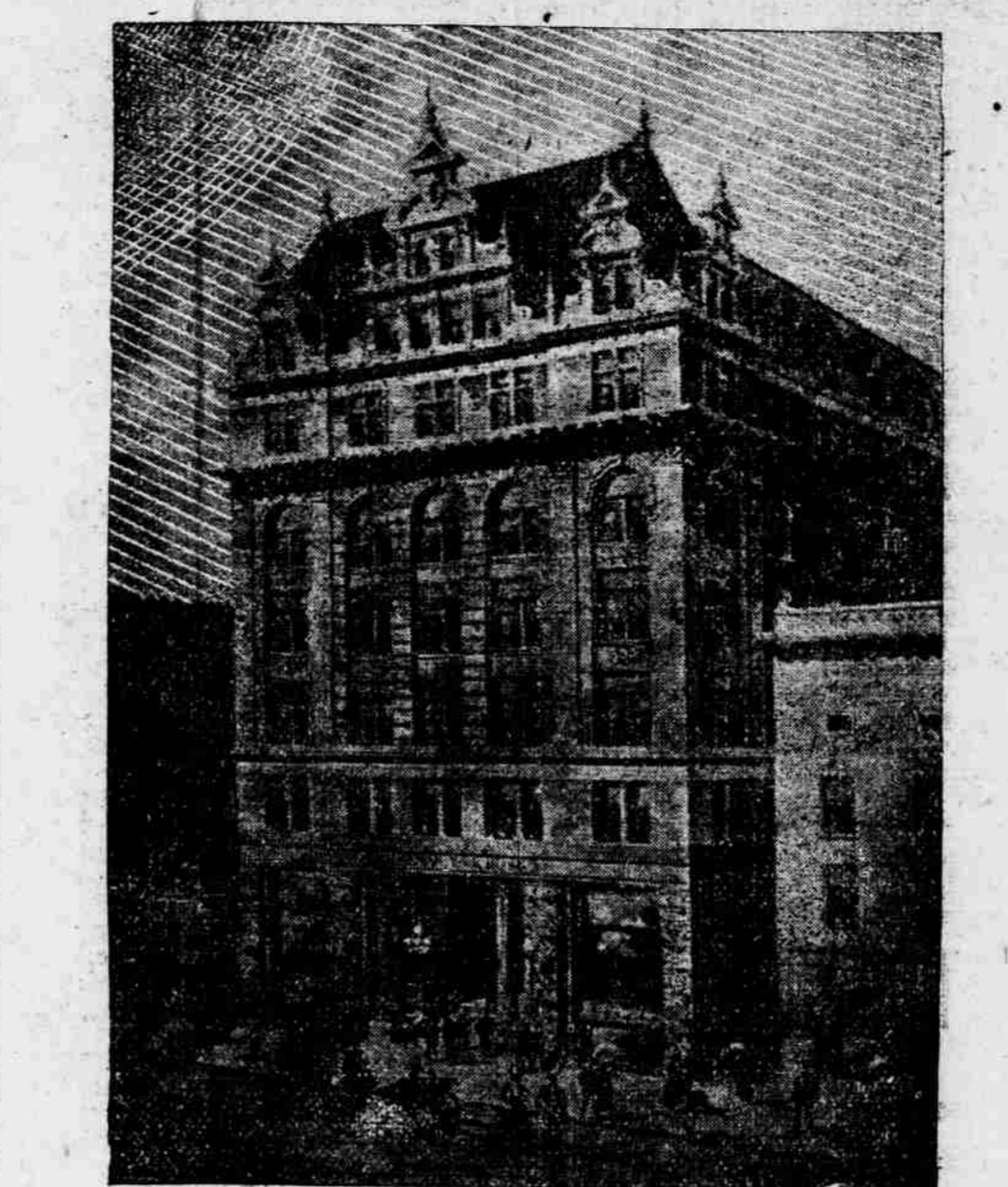
The building known as the Trust building was erected only a few years ago by the Piedmont Realty Company. It is modern throughout and is Charlotte's pride. Mr. George Stephens is president and Mr. J. E. Day is secretary and treasurer of the company who sold the property to Mr. Gresham.

The news learns that Mr. Gresham is to retire from active business and that he will concentrate all, or most of his real estate holdings in Charlotte.

This fact is but another straw that shows which way the financial winds are blowing.

Mr. Gresham is one of the shrewdest business men in the South. He loves Charlotte but unless he had an abiding faith in the city's future, he would not put so much money in a real estate investment. This goes without the saying.

The building that will change hands tomorrow is, from an architectural standpoint, a thing of beauty. It is one of the most complete office buildings in the South and besides, under its roof is Charlotte's pretty play house. For years Charlotte people talked and dreamed of a new opera house. The men who put their money in this



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building met the demands of the city and erected one of the prettiest opera houses in the South.

Besides the Academy, there are two handsome apartments, to the right and left of the main entrance to the building. One is occupied by the Southern States Trust Co. and the other by Mr. Stuart W. Cramer. The remaining five stories are divided into numerous offices that are now, for the most part, occupied.

The location of the building is one of the most desirable in the city. It stands on South Tryon street, midway the second block from Independence Square. On one side stands the Piedmont Insurance Co's building and on the other, the home of the Charlotte Consolidated Construction Co. In

other words the Trust building is in the midst of Charlotte's handsomest block and it is by far the largest building of the group.

Mr. and Mrs. Gresham will arrive in Charlotte tomorrow morning and the papers transferring the ownership of this building will be filed in the Register of Deeds office at the county court house.

The Piedmont Realty Co., the builders and owners of the Trust building, own a great deal of real estate, both in the city limits and in the suburbs. The company in parting with the Trust building has sold its jewel but there may yet be recorded even greater triumphs for this great and progressive organization.

## SPINNERS TO VISIT SOUTH.

Commission From Manchester Named to Investigate Conditions on Cotton Growing.

Manchester, Eng., Feb. 28.—The cotton spinners of this city have appointed a commission to proceed to the United States and there investigate the methods of baling, making and transporting raw cotton, which, it is contended, is unsatisfactory. The commission will also ascertain the actual cost of growing cotton on a commercial basis in the United States. The commissions will sail March 20, and expects to be joined by American spinners. The members of the commission will attend the conference of planters and spinners to be held in Washington.

## TRIAL OF BERTHE CLAICHE.

Patrolman Was Witness in the Noted Trial.

New York, Feb. 28.—When the trial of Berthe Claiche for the murder of Emil Gerdron was resumed, Henry Broeck, patrolman, said Berthe Claiche met him in the street a few days before the shooting and asked him to arrest Gerdron on the charge assault. She told him Gerdron had beaten her and threatened to kill her. When the officer told her Gerdron might get a six months sentence for beating her she said, according to the witness, "What's the use of that for when he comes out he will kill me. I had better kill him."

## DIED UNREPENTANT.

Negro Says He is Going to Be Punished for Horrible Crime. Winston-Salem, N. C. February 28. Smith Martin, an aged negro, has just died at the Stokes County home. His last words were a confession of a horrible crime. Martin told his friends how he killed a white man many years ago, saying he cut his victim's heart out and burned it in the fire. The old negro, who years ago bore the reputation of being a gambler and a bad character generally, died unrepentant, saying he was going straight to hell for his sins.

## PRESIDENTS' PROCLAMATION

Impost Rates of Duties Upon Imports From Germany. By Associated Press. Washington, Feb. 28.—President Roosevelt issued a proclamation imposing rates of duties provided by section 2 of the Dingley Act upon imports from Germany in return for Germany's concession of a minimum tariff rate on United States products.

—Mr. H. Miller, the tailor, a former citizen, but now of Norfolk, is in the city. Mr. Miller is now engaged in the liquor business. His tailor shop in this city is being conducted by his son.

## CAPT. T. F. SCHLEY GUEST OF HONOR

Second Regiment Band Preparing Elaborate Concert for Occasion of Visit of Capt. Schley. To Inspect National Guard at Wilmington.

Special to The News. Raleigh, Feb. 28.—The Guarantee Loan and Trust Company, of Salisbury will change its name to the McCubbins-Harris Co. J. S. McCubbins is president.

The second regiment band of this city is arranging for an elaborate concert here on the occasion of the coming of Capt. T. F. Schley. He will be the guest of honor for the evening. He begins an inspection of the National Guard at Wilmington on March 5.

## SIX MEN KILLED.

An Explosion in the Little Cahaba Mine in the Blocton Field, Claimed Many Victims.

Birmingham, Ala., Feb. 28.—Six men were killed and 12 so badly injured that most of them were expected to die before morning by an explosion in Little Cahaba mine No. 2 at Piper, Ala., at 4 o'clock yesterday afternoon.

The dead: Peter Costello, Steve Memeth, Matt Eltz, John Stone, Louis Yanko, Rich Smith (negro). The mine is owned by the Little Cahaba Coal company, of which J. R. Smith of this city is president. Piper is in Bibb county, in the Blocton field, about 60 miles south of Birmingham.

The Little Cahaba settlement is on a spur track of the Birmingham Mineral railway and is difficult of access by wire communication.

## Lecture on "Satan."

At the request of his class, Mr. D. W. Fink, teacher of the Baraca class of the Ninth Avenue Baptist Sunday school, will deliver a lecture on "Satan," in the lecture room of the Ninth Avenue Baptist Church Thursday evening at 8 o'clock. All are invited. Pews free.

Mr. Chamber's Purchaser. The interest of the late W. H. Clark in the Carolina Grocery Co. has been purchased by Mr. W. J. Chambers. At the time of Mr. Clark's death he owned 10 shares in this company.

A wedding in Greensboro this week in full bloom when the freeze, came last night but it will be several days before the damage, if any, is known.

## TO SUE VIRGINIA LIFE.

Mr. Sikes Claims Back Premiums and Interest, Amounting to \$200.

Suit will be instituted against the Life Insurance Company of Virginia by J. W. Sikes, of this city, for the recovery of \$200 which, he claims, is due him under the promises of the company when his policy was issued. The plaintiff alleges that when he took out a policy ten years ago the company, through its representative, promised him that at the end of ten years, if he were still alive, that he could receive back all premiums paid, together with the interest, which in this case amounts to \$200, as above stated.

The case is an interesting one. It is made returnable at the March term of court, but may not be tried until a later term. The plaintiff is represented by Stuart & MacRae.

The amount of the policy held by Mr. Sikes is not stated. The company will deny the allegations and fight the case, it is understood.

## BOARD OF MISSIONS.

Resolution Adopted in Opposition to Secretary Root's Statement as to the Congo Free State.

Nashville, Tenn., Feb. 28.—The opening session of the secretaries' conference of Foreign Board of Missions was held here yesterday. Reports were made showing that the total increase of the work in the fields by the 23 American leading missionary boards was 126 per cent. The disbursements for foreign missions increased more than \$2,000,000 and the native support more than doubled.

The association, which represents all American foreign mission boards, at its meeting tonight heard read a message from a conference of Protestant missionaries held in the Congo Free State, January 15 last. The message alleges that "abuses exist under King Leopold's rule, threatening the extermination of the native people."

The association adopted a resolution declaring that it "cannot accept Secretary Root's statement that the American nation, which led in responsibility for the creation of the Congo State, must be silent, while these atrocities continue," and urging that "some form of protest or influence shall be sought and used for the deliverance of the Congo people."

## Filed With Clerk Russell.

The articles of incorporation of the English-McLarty Co., were filed in the office of the clerk of the court today. The incorporators are: F. S. English, Howard McLarty, W. F. Stevens and W. H. Belk.

The corporation has an authorized capital of \$50,000 with \$10,000 subscribed.

Miss Ida Sloan, of Dixie, is spending the week with Mrs. W. P. Smith on East Fourth street.

## ABOUT TRADING IN COTTON FUTURES

President Jordan Says Present Method of Trading in Cotton Futures Will be Discussed at Big Conference May 1. Better Methods are Desired.

By Associated Press. Atlanta Ga., Feb. 28.—President Harvie Jordan, of the Southern Cotton Association in an interview said: "The coming conference between representatives of the various Spinners Associations of this country and Europe with representatives of the Southern Cotton Association, to be held at Washington, May 1, will discuss thoroughly the present methods of trading in cotton futures in New York, New Orleans and Liverpool.

Representatives of these exchanges have invited to attend the coming conference as better methods in the exchanges are greatly desired both by the spinners and producers."

## HAZING MAKES STUDENT CRIPPLE

He Will Sue Faculty of Crighton College for \$50,000 Damages.

Omaha, Feb. 28.—Everett W. Hatch, whose parents live at McClelland, Iowa, is a cripple for life as the result of a hazing at Crighton Medical College. Forced by sickness to be absent from school during a greater part of his first year, Hatch reentered last September, but was compelled to remain with the first class. He became known as "the cowboy student," and was singled out by his former classmates for hazing.

Two dozen young men dragged him from the class room intending to throw him down an elevator shaft. He fought, but was overpowered, and in the struggle was kicked in the back many times. The spinal nerve was injured so as to cause paralysis of the back and lower limbs, which the doctors say will spread until the entire body is affected. It is understood that he will sue the trustees of the college for \$50,000 damages.

## Senator Tillman Here.

Senator B. R. Tillman, of South Carolina, passed through Charlotte this morning on his way to Trenton.

The distinguished South Carolinian left Washington last night and will spend three or four days in his native State.

—Many fruit trees in the city were in full bloom when the freeze, came last night but it will be several days before the damage, if any, is known.

## CREW WERE RESCUED AFTER HARROWING NIGHT ON DECK

For Hours Members of Crew of Schooner Were Forced to Wait on Deck with Death Staring Them in the Face and Little Hope.

Schooner Went Ashore at Cape Henry and Norfolk Tug Finally Rescued Crew. Storm Still Severe and Wind Blowing at Great Velocity.

Norfolk, Va., Feb. 28.—After a harrowing night on the deck of their vessel with death staring them in the face for hours, the crew of the four-masted schooner George M. Grant, from Brunswick, Ga., to Perth Amboy, N. J., lumber laden, which went ashore at Cape Henry, were rescued this morning by the tug Jack Twoby, which started to Norfolk with the shipwrecked men.

Indications are that the vessel will be a total loss. The storm last night was the severest in many years. It has abated to some extent, but the wind is still blowing 46 miles an hour at Cape Henry.

## COMPELLED BURIAL AT SEA.

Children of Millionaire Waited in Vain For Arrival of Body.

New York, Feb. 28.—The nine children of Anderson Fowler, a millionaire who died at Genoa, Italy, were stunned yesterday when the steamer Carpathia, of the Cunard Line, docked here, to learn from their mother, who had started for home with their father's body, that it was buried at sea six days ago, because of the demand of the ship's officers. Arrangements had been made for funeral services to be held at the Madison Avenue M. E. Church today.

Mr. Fowler died on the White Star Liner Republic at Genoa on February 9, while on a tour to the Holy Land with Mrs. Fowler. He was apparently in perfect health until a few minutes before he died. His body was taken to Naples, embalmed, and then placed on board the Carpathia.

Mrs. Fowler said that the body, after being embalmed, was placed in a hermetically sealed casket, and that she was amazed when officers of the ship told her that it would be necessary to bury the body at sea.

## KNOCKS EXPRESS TRUST.

Texas Decision Makes Companies Liable For Millions.

Austin, Tex., Feb. 28.—If a decision handed down yesterday by the Supreme Court of Texas is sustained in the United States Supreme Court, the Pacific, the United States, the American and the Wells-Fargo Express Companies and fifty railroads in the State will have to pay \$5,250,000 or more in penalties for violation of the Texas Anti-Trust law.

The Texas Court holds that the contract which the American Express Company had with the "Katy" Road to operate over its lines in Texas to the exclusion of all other express companies made both the express company and the railroad liable to pay the State \$50 a day from March 31, 1903, up to the time of the final termination of the suit. Forty-nine similar suits are pending and penalties are running against all of them.

Ex-Governor Hogg is organizing an independent express company to take the place of the others, which are expected to be driven from the State if the Texas decision is upheld.

## ELOPED FROM WASHINGTON.

Minister Kept Waiting Until Girl Managed to "Steal" Away.

Rockville, Md., Feb. 28.—Henry Lee Neely, of Hinton, W. Va., and Miss Lally Chisholm, of Washington, were married here Saturday night. They had made arrangements with Rev. Thomas H. Campbell, pastor of the Baptist Church, to have the ceremony take place at 3.30 o'clock Saturday afternoon, but they failed to put in an appearance at the minister's home until 8.30 P. M. It was explained that the young lady was unable to "steal" away earlier.

The party returned to Washington immediately after the ceremony, their stay in Rockville being exactly twelve minutes. The only objection to the marriage is understood to have been the age of the couple, the young man being but 21 and the young lady 19.

## LA FOLLETTE'S MEMORY.

Senator Uses a Card Index and Readily Recalls Votes.

Sheboygan, Wis., Feb. 28.—Sheboygan High School was the scene of the disclosure of the real secret of Senator La Follette's marvelous memory for facts.

Marie Thiesen won the debate for her team on the question that La Follette is a politician, not a statesman, by declaring that the Senator has always carried around with him a card index of the persons he ought to know, thereby making it possible for him to recognize men he has seen only once before, and to converse with them on the intricate details of their business, family affairs and their political beliefs. This ability has won hundreds of votes for him.