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The Messenger.

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THE CONFEDERATE CAPITAL.

Richmond, as Ever, the Heart of the Confederacy.

A SKETCH OF THE MUSEUM.

An Appealing Interest for the Visitors, Whether He Comes From the North or South, East or West.

Below can be found a short sketch of the rooms of Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia in the Confederate Museum at Richmond, Va. Each room is distinctive, (with its representative regent or supervisor,) but all have about them an appealing interest for the visitor, whether he comes from the North, South, East or West; and his sensibilities are irresistibly enlisted in viewing these mute but eloquent memorials. It has been said in the [illegible] that this museum of Southern [illegible] is calculated to keep alive sectional animosity and perpetuate the hostile feeling between the North and the South. To the contrary, it may be urged that the effect must be the opposite, and that sentiments of sympathy, admiration and regard can only be excited. This, at least, has been the [illegible] testimony, as constantly expressed, without a single exception, by the multitude from the North and East who have visited the museum.

THE VIRGINIAN ROOM.

The "Lares and Penates" of Virginia are scarcely less dear and sacred to the other Southern States than to her the mother of them all. She has gathered within the four walls of one room treasures [illegible] silent grandeur of [illegible] Lee, Johnston, Jackson, Pickett, Stuart and A. P. Hill, bring tears to the eyes of gray haired men and the [illegible] inspiration to the hearts of those who should come after them.

Here is the seat of spotless perfection in which the broken hearted leader [illegible] to surrender his ragged little army, upholding in appearance, as in his demeanor of gentle, reserved dignity, the honor of his cause and of his country. Beside it is the tin cup and plate used by him during the war, refusing better service when offered him, saying, "[illegible] use what was used by my men." As with him, so with his generals. The bent cup and plate of Stonewall Jackson and that of the gray and dashing Stuart [illegible] tell the same [illegible] of those who indeed, "[illegible] as good soldiers," who long [illegible] over the river to rest under the shade of the trees." [illegible] relics of these heroes [illegible] and spurs; the gauntlets [illegible] Lee, the same used by [illegible] his matchless [illegible], and by Mercier for [illegible] statues, the gauntlets of that [illegible] soldier, Gen. Joseph E. Johnston, [illegible] haversack, field-glasses, [illegible] and spurs, and the handkerchief dyed with his life's blood, that stanched the fatal wound on that mournful day at Chancellorsville; Stuart's [illegible] and sabre, the sabre of [illegible] gallant charger; the cap and cape of A. P. Hill, and relics that cannot be duplicated, and of value beyond all [illegible] price. Side by side are the pictures of the gallant young [illegible], looking upon these faces [illegible] the cry of the new-made [illegible] bride, "speak to me, my [illegible] speak to me once more," as sitting in the rough ambulance, over furrows and rocks from the battlefield, she held [illegible] the dead form of her knightly bridegroom, Gen. John Pegram, killed at Hatcher's Run.)

A pair of [illegible] stand here handed down together with the love of liberty and native land, through three generations [illegible] of the mounted patriots of three wars, 1776, 1812, 1861. Plaited-straw home-made bonnets and gloves; [illegible] homespun, woven on the plantations and worn by the Southern [illegible] they knit the socks of their noble lovers and brothers. Near: [illegible] dispatches from the [illegible], General Pendleton; who, [illegible] in battle, cried: "[illegible] on their souls, ready, aim, fire!"

Too numerous are these illustrious [illegible] to gallant and glorious all [illegible], and not less [illegible] than those who led the charge and swayed the hearts and minds of their men; but even more [illegible] and courageous are the [illegible] and file, whose memorials fill this room as their deeds do fill the world. Letters, canteens, swords, [illegible] jackets of gray and battered [illegible] are there to tell the story of the splendid service and uncomplaining [illegible] of those men in gray [illegible] without the crown of [illegible], and now sleep in nameless graves.

"Their good swords rust,
Their bodies dust,
Their souls are with the saints, we trust."

THE NORTH CAROLINA ROOM.

North Carolina occupies the room which was the nursery in the home of President Davis. It has a magnificent view of that part of Richmond known as Church Hill. It was given to North Carolina as one of the choicest apartments in the Mansion, because of North Carolina's brilliant record during the war. To corroborate the number of troops [illegible], and substantiated by war records, they have a memorial from [illegible] of Cleveland county, [illegible]. It exhibits this most [illegible] distinction that out of a voting population of 1,800 in 1860, Cleveland county gave the Confederate army [illegible]. In one case is a small card with a little sprig of cedar attached to it, with these words: "Cut from the spot where Col. Charles F. Fisher, of the 6th North Carolina regiment, was killed, at the first battle of Manassas, July 21, 1861." Only a little [illegible], small and insignificant [illegible], it calls to mind that 36 years ago one of nature's noblemen laid down his life on the altar of his country. He was among the first to receive from the Governor of North Carolina, John W. Ellis, the commission of Colonel of the 6th North Carolina regiment, which regiment he raised and equipped at his own expense. In less than two weeks from the time he left his home he was brought back a corpse. The undying honor that he won at that glorious victory of Manassas, July 21, 1861, was at a fearful cost to friends and country.

Here also is the picture of Henry Wyatt, the first martyr of the war, killed at Bethel Church, June 10, 1861, as well as good pictures of other prominent soldiers and generals. In an individual case are the effects of the gallant Major Gen. Dorsey Pender; the suit of gray in which he was killed; his two commissions—one as lieutenant in the United States army, given him by President Davis, then Secretary of War in the Cabinet of President Pierce; the other his commission of major general in the Confederate States army.

A beautiful flag adorns the wall, which was given by the Edgeworth girls, of Greensboro, N. C., to the Guilford Grays, commanded by Capt. John Sloan, of the 27th North Carolina State Troops. Of the gallant Gen. L. O'B. Branch, they have his pistols and holster and his glove.

A large frame is filled with important dispatches from President Davis to Governor John W. Ellis, of North Carolina; also, one of condolence to his wife on his hearing of the death of Governor Ellis. There is also the flag that was presented to the Governor by Mr. R. Mayo's girls, of Raleigh, the same flag which draped his coffin.

THE SOUTH CAROLINA ROOM.

Col. Wade Hampton, of Revolutionary fame, captured from one of Tarleton's Legion a sword of finest steel in a scabbard beautifully overlaid with tortoise shell. He used it during the war of the Rolution and in the war of 1812. It descended as an heirloom to his grandson, Gen. Wade Hampton. The sword once more saw service at First Manassas wielded by that gallant cavalry leader. Sheathed now and crossed with a long sabre, also historic from having been used by the noble Hampton, it stands in the uniform case in the South Carolina room, close to the uniforms (1861-1865) of Gen. James Connor, Gen. M. M. Gary, Gen. T. M. Logan, Col. E. P. Harlee, Col. Perrin and others. Standing guard over the 325 records and relics hangs a full length oil portrait of Gen. Hampton in uniform, taken during the Confederacy. Around him are Gens. McGowan, Butler, Connor, Stephen Elliott, S. D. Lee, Bratton, Wallace, Hagood, Col. Hagood, (the youngest colonel in the Confederate army,) Capt. Langdon Cheves; the South Carolina war Governor, Pickens; the Hon. W. Porcher Miles, and other heroes of the old Palmetto State. All these portraits were collected through the personal efforts of Mrs. H. W. Richardson, of Columbia, S. C. A tablet case contains valuable papers, letters, war music, memorials, etc. Among the battle-scarred flags in another case rests that of the 5th South Carolina Regiment, which was borne through twenty nine battles. Although in tatters the embroidery upon it, wrought by woman's hand, is well preserved. May this later work of woman, the preservation of Confederate relics and records in the Confederate Museum, endure for countless generations to come.

THE GEORGIA ROOM.

The room assigned to Georgia was the drawing room of the White House of the Confederacy, and is one of the most beautiful in the Mansion. In this room was held the reception given to Capt. William Griffin Waller and his bride, who was the sister of President Davis. The sword presented to Capt. Waller upon this occasion by President Davis is now in this room, loaned by his daughter, Miss Elizabeth Tyler Waller.

Dr. Everard De Renne bequeathed to the Georgia room the very valuable and extensive collection of books, papers, pictures, and all manner of relics accumulated by his mother, Mrs. Mary De Renne, a native of Savannah, and a most devoted Confederate. The books alone in this remarkable collection number over 300, some of them of great rarity and historic interest. They demonstrate, many of them, by the dingy hue of the paper and the indistinctiveness of the print, and further by the binding, (in some instances wall paper) the dire straits of the South in the want of material and appliances. One interesting feature of this collection is the large number of autograph letters, some from President Davis, his Cabinet, the Confederate Generals and many prominent men of that time. Three large cases have already been filled from this collection, and there are yet many articles unpacked. A fourth case, much larger than the others, contains the relics which have been sent from Georgia. Separate cases will be assigned to each city as soon as the number of relics makes it necessary. A few must be mentioned to show the unwavering love, the patient toil, and the faithfulness even unto death of those who lived in those sorrowful days. From Savannah comes the miniature of Capt. Edward Richardson Cheves, of the staff of Gen. A. R. Lawton, who was killed in the battle of Seven Pines at the age of 19 years. He was the only son of his mother, and she was a widow. From Augusta a loving sister has sent in memory of her brother, Edward H. Hall, a large number of war photographs and relics of different kinds. This brother, who was killed at Murfreesboro, Tenn., was color bearer of Company D, 1st Georgia Volunteers. A pair of trousers worn by Sergt. John W. Lester, woven from cow's hair by his mother, and the shuttle with which they were woven, comes from Americus. Amongst the portraits by the side of her brothers, Gens. Howell and T. R. R. Cobb, hangs one of Mrs. Mary Cobb Johnson, of Atlanta. This heroic woman personally superintended the exhuming and giving Christian burial to 3,000 unknown Confederate soldiers. "This that she has done shall be told as a memorial of her."

Work of a Cyclone.

A special to the Evening Constitution of Monday from Arlington, Ga., says: A cyclone struck this town and has left behind it a trail of death and disaster. The high school building was blown to pieces and from the wreck nearly a hundred people dead, dying and injured have already been taken out.

Blakely, Ga., was struck by a severe storm also which did enormous damage and cost several lives. The chaos caused by the storm is still present, and during the confusion nothing can be definitely learned as to the amount of harm done or the number of lives lost. It is known, however, that several are killed and many more so severely injured that they will probably die.

A special from Washington, Ind., says: A small cyclone struck this country at 4 o'clock. The north wall of the Swan Pond school building was torn out and the stone cross on St. Simon's church steeple was blown off and broken. Many trees were uprooted and windows broken.

At Wheatland, Ind., at an early hour a cyclone passed over the town doing much damage. Many houses were unroofed and trees and fences destroyed. No one was seriously injured.

No Action at Present.

The declaration of a blockade of the island of Crete by the allied powers has raised a serious question of international law and it is said that the stopping of a vessel of another nation going to Crete would amount to an act of war against that nation; all Americans in London are anxiously awaiting Secretary Sherman's reply to the notice of the blockade which has been be sent to our government. The United States will take no action at present regarding the Cretan blockade. Secretary Sherman says he will simply acknowledge the receipt of the notes from the representatives in Washington, of the powers, which were delivered to him Monday.

HARD BLOW AT RAILROADS.

Supreme Court Decision May Cause a Big Rate War.

Within a week it is expected by high railroad officials that not one of the organizations having jurisdiction over passenger and freight rates will be in existence in this country, as a result of the plain decision of the United States Supreme Court that all associations which have for their purpose the maintenance of agreed rates and the division of traffic are illegal. The oldest organizations of this character must go to pieces. In fact the work of disintegration has begun, the legal advisers of the great railroads being quick to grasp the hopelessness of the situation, so far as continued membership in these associations was concerned. General Solicitor Kenna, of the Santa Fe system, advised the traffic manager of that road to withdraw immediately from all freight associations of which it has been a member.

On reliable authority it was stated that the following important lines have also decided to give notice of withdrawal: The Wisconsin Central, St. Louis and San Francisco, the Minneapolis and St. Louis and the Chicago Great Western.

The peremptory action of all these companies means the certain disruption of the following associations and committees: Western Freight Association, Trans-Continental Passenger Association, Southwestern Traffic Association, Trans-Missouri Association, Southwestern Passenger Committee, Mississippi Valley Freight Committee, St. Paul and Minneapolis Rate Association, Colorado Freight Association, the Local Passenger Association of St. Louis, Colorado Springs, Pueblo, Denver and Chicago, Local Freight Agents Association of Chicago, St. Louis Association of General Passenger Agents, Chicago and St. Louis Traffic Association, Western Classification Committee and Minneapolis Central Freight Association.

The concensus of opinion is that a period of widespread and disastrous rate disturbance is at hand, because each road can now do as it pleases, and cut rates, openly and secretly, regardless of the interstate commerce law. Railroad men and shippers agree that such conditions will work injury to the general public, giving big shippers and merchants who get lowest rates an advantage over competitors.

Wreck on the Southern.

Passenger trein No. 11, on the Southern Railway, was wrecked near Blacksburg, S. C., Wednesday afternoon. The train consisted of engine No. 288, mail and baggage cars, one second-class coach one first-class coach and one deadhead sleeper, "Hazelmere." The engine, mail and baggage cars stopped entirely clear of the main line, all right side up, except the tank and engine. The list of injured were: Engineer Chatham, bruises on hand, head and foot; Fireman Hulsey, hurt on ankle and hands; Flagman Chapman, leg hurt; Robert Mansfield, postal clerk, injured on arm and chest. The damage to the train was slight. The cause of the accident has not been ascertained.

Town Completely Under Water.

The town of Elba, on Pea river, in Coffee county, Alabama, is completely covered with water. It is six feet deep in the public square, and flowing through every business house in town. Geneva, at the junction of Pea and Choctawatchie rivers, is in almost the same condition. Every bridge in Coffee county has been swept away. There is much suffering throughout the flood territory. Twelve bridges have been washed away in Barbour county and much damage done to farming interests.

Berlin's Centenary Ceremonies.

In the celebration attending the centenary ceremonies of Kaiser Wilhelm I, Emperor of Germany, Tuesday it is estimated that upwards of 20,000 persons marched in the procession, which was of the most gorgeous description. Many of the historic costumes worn by the paraders were of costly material and ornamentation and of artistic design. Prince Bismarck has been the recipient of almost countless telegraphic, written and verbal congratulations in connection with the centenary of the Emperor.

Fatal Collision at Augusta.

An open switch caused a head-end collision between two trains on the South Carolina & Georgia Railroad just across the river from Augusta Wednesday afternoon, which J. T. Ewing, fireman on the accommodation, was killed. The passengers were badly shaken up, but no other serious damage was done. The Aiken accommodation, coming to Augusta, ran into a siding, colliding with a shifting engine attached to a train of freight cars.

ABOUT TO BREAK DOWN.

Office-Seekers Are Placing Too Great a Strain Upon McKinley.

President McKinley is showing the effect of the pressure upon him for office. He gives to each visitor a courteous hearing, but the tax on his vitality is very severe. The office-seekers are at the White House when the doors are opened in the morning and they remain in evidence until the President is compelled, through sheer fatigue, to seek the seclusion of his private apartments. The warm weather of the past few days has added to his discomfort and it has been suggested that he spend an occasional day in rest at the seashore, or in the country near the city. The President insists upon staying at his desk as long as his strength will permit. His friends believe that if he does not take a brief outing he will break down from overwork. They maintain that he has been under a terrific strain since his nomination last June, and that it is not in human nature to continue it indefinitely.

Another Texas Failure.

At Paris, Tex., Wednesday morning. John Dixon filed a deed of trust, covering his stock of clothing, etc., to O. C. Connor, to the amount of $32,100. A large portion of it is borrowed money, due to the Farmers and Merchants' Bank, and local capitalists and wholesale merchants in other cities. The failure was caused by the closing of the Farmers and Merchants' Bank.

Munitions of War.

The Petersburg (Va.) Iron Works Company, which has a large contract for furnishing the United States Government with munitions of war, shipped Tuesday 330,000 pounds of projectiles to the arsenals at Sandy Hook and Fortress Monroe. The company has just received from the Ordnance Department at Washington another large order for projectiles.

NEWS ITEMS CONDENSED.

Southern Pencil Pointers.

Attorney-General Boyle has ruled that the anti-trust law just passed by the Kentucky Legislature applies to labor organizations.

The office of shipping commissioner at Mobile, Ala., has been abolished by Secretary Gage, and the same action will be taken with reference to the same position at Brunwick, Ga.

Martin Wise & Fitzhugh, of Paris, Texas, one of the largest cotton firms in the South, assigns.

Mrs. Chas. A. Collier, wife of Atlanta's mayor, died at her home Wednesday of nervous prostration.

The Louisville Chair Company has assigned. Liabilities are $60,000. It is claimed the assets are much larger.

Col. John Churchill, owner of the celebrated Churchill downs, died at Louisville, Ky., aged 78. He left an estate valued at $750,000 to his wife and child.

B. R. Riordan, formerly a Charleston (S. C.) journalist, but recently living in New York, died at his residence in the metropolis March 21. He was a native of Virginia and 59 years old.

John D. Smith, a negro preacher, was shot dead at Scottsboro, Ala. He was charged with outraging the wife of a white farmer.

J. R. Littlejohn assaulted his wife, at Danville, Va., beating her with a stick He was arrested and locked up and later was found dead in his cell, having taken laudanum.

At Houston, Texas, Walter Hughes was shot dead in attempting to kidnap a daughter of Frank Dunn, a wealthy resident of that city. The purpose of the would-be-kidnapper was to keep the girl in captivity and demand $40,000 ransom for restoring her to her parents.

Geo. E. Bennett, formerly of Pennsylvania, committed suicide at Fayetteville, N. C., by drinking four ounces of laudanum. He left a letter attributing his reason for suicide to a faithless wife.

All About the North.

Iron ore producers of Pittsburg, Pa., have made a cut of from $4 to $2.65 per ton.

Five children, all under 12 years of age, were burned to death at their home at Laddsdale, Ia., Wednesday morning.

The bursting of a flywheel in the Edgar Thompson steel works at Pittsburg, Pa., wrecked the building and fatally injured two persons.

The large factory of the Acme Bicycle Manufacturing Company, Reading, Pa., was burned Thursday, causing a loss of $75,000, on which there is an insurance of $50,000. Over 400 hands were rendered idle. The company will rebuild.

George Dixon, champion feather, weight pugilist, defeated Frank Erne of Buffalo, at New York Wednesday night in the 21st round.

At Centre City, Minn., Tuesday morning George Kelly was hanged in the county jail for complicity in the murder of Edward Paul and Jacob Hayes.

Mr. Archie Baxton, of New York, clerk to the Assembly of that State for many years, will be appointed Second Assistant Postmaster-General.

The handsome residence of the late A. A. Cohen at Alameda, Cal., has been destroyed by fire. When built it was said to have cost, with its contents, over $300,000. The total insurance on house and contents was $155,000.

A sharp earthquake was felt Tuesday evening at Malone, N. Y. Also at Montreal, Can., a heavy shock caused great alarm. Dispatches from various points in eastern Ontario report similar shocks, but without any damage of consequence.

The three most dangerous convicts in the Joliet (Ill.) penitentiary escaped Monday morning by sawing the iron bars of the window in two. They are all noted counterfeiters.

At Center City, Minn., George Kelly was hanged for complicity in the murder of Edward Paul and Jacob Hayes.

Seven Chicago, Ill., women have lost $25,000 by following an astrologer's advice in wheat gambling.

Christian Kielnecker, of Philadelphia, died in a hospital from blows received in a prize fight.

The Franklin sugar refinery, at Philadelphia, Pa., will soon be started up again, giving employment to 1,000 hands.

Ten persons were injured and one killed in a wreck on the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad near Oakland, Md.

Miscellaneous.

Valuable estates in Peru have been destroyed by recent freshets on the River Joro.

The Paris Figaro says the government will ask the Chamber of Deputies to vote a credit of $160,000,000 for the construction of 45 new warships and 175 torpedo boats.

The President has sent to the Senate the nomination of Chester G. Brush of Connecticut to be recorder of the general land office.

President McKinley has granted a respite to four men, who were to have been hanged Tuesday at Santa Fe, New Mexico.

Reports from London to the New York Times tell of shocking revelations of the custom of wife and husband murdering in Austria and Hungary. A chemist made the remark that all the village cemeteries in Styria were full of arsenic.

Ian Maclaren is to be called before a Presbyterian synod to give an account of his alleged unorthodox holdings.

According to the War Office statistics Spain has sent, up to the end of 1896, 198,047 men and 40 generals to Cuba. The deaths in the field and from yellow fever and other diseases were four generals and 22,731 men and officers.

The celebration of centenary of Emporer William I, who was born March 22, 1797, which began Monday was observed throughout Germany as the national holiday.

The issue of standard silver dollars from the mints and Treasury offices for the week ending March 20, was $357,832; and for the corresponding period last year was $422,650. The shipment of fractional silver coins from March 1 to 20, aggregated $495,050.

Reports from Washington say that Gen. Wade Hampton's condition is greatly improved.

The Philadelphia branch of the national Republican League of Business Men has requested the former Postmaster-General, John Wanamaker, to become a candidate for State Treasurer before the next Republican State Convention.

THE DESTRUCTIVE CYCLONE.

Further Reports From the Work of the Winds in Alabama and Georgia. Family of Eight Persons Drowned.

A special to the Chicago Tribune from Eufaula, Ala., under date of the 23d, says: This city is central in a section which was swept by a tornado on the 22d, in which death and disaster has played a dreadful part. For several days there has been summer mildness all through southwest Georgia and southwest Alabama, the country tributary to the Chattahoochee river. On Sunday the thermometer went up to 80 and the air was oppressive. Monday morning leaden skies and an increasing wind pressure preceded a storm which came sweeping along with terrific force. Shutters and roofs gave way, and for two hours there was terror and desolation, when the tornado passed off to the northwest, coursing along the Chattahoochee valley. The reports soon coming in told of the horrible devastation.

The town of Blakeley, in Georgia was nearly lifted out of existence, and people seeking refuge indoors were as badly knocked about by creaking and falling timbers as were those on the outside. who were unable to dodge fence rails and other flying missiles.

From Henry county, Alabama, around Abbeville, there come stories of death and wreck. A family of five persons are reported killed near Geneva. A second disaster, that of floods, is now upon the country. The rivers and creeks are swelling with the rainfall, which almost resembled a cloudburst in its copiousness. On both sides of the Chattahoochee, south of this, the fields are overflowed, destroying all the winter's work of preparation, carrying away cabins and stock. News has been received of the drowning of a family of eight members on the Alabama side of the river, in Henry county. Richard Manson, with his wife and six children, lived on the river bank, and at the crossing of the Central railroad from Columbus. The waters rushed in and befor they could escape all were lost.

CIVIL SERVICE HOLDS.

Long Makes a Sound Ruling in the Public Interest.

Secretary John D. Long, of the Navy Department, has made an emphatic answer to congressional delegations from New York, Pennsylvania, Virginia and California, who have been requesting him for the past two weeks to "let down the bars" at the Brooklyn, League Island, Norfolk and Mare Island navy yards, so as to admit party workers into them irrespective of merit qualifications. It has been alleged that in carrying into effect the civil service regulations favoritism was shown to Democrats. Mr. Long replies that when the system of employing mechanics and laborers upon merit first went into effect it was reasonable to suppose that those who were to administer the regulations would make some mistakes, but "favoritism will not be allowed." Then he adds these explicit instructions: "It is in the intention of the department to enforce fairly and justly the regulations as promulgated, and to disarm unjust criticism it is necessary that the attention of each official at the yard under your command be called to what is expected of him, as to the certainty of punishment of any person entrusted with the enforcement of the labor regulations who violates them, or fails, through carelessness or negligence to perform the duties expected and required of him.

"The department desires you to personally communicate to officials at the yard under your command its views as expressed above."

THE PURCHASE OF CUBA

Being Considered by the American Government and Spanish Minister.

It is declared at Havanna in Spanish circles, upon the strength of private dispatches received from the United States, that the administration at Washington is planning in co-operation with the Spanish Minister, Senor Delome, some solution of the Cuban problem.

The news is that the plan which is being considered by the American government and the Spanish Minister is the old scheme of ending the war in Cuba by an indemnity to be paid by the island to Spain in exchange for the recognition of its independence.

It is added that in the opinion of some persons well acquainted in Washington with the Spanish Minister, Spain, under the Government of Senor Canovas, is inclined to offer more liberal home rule to Cuba than that contained in the last decree of reforms, instead of accepting the plan of indemnity, which means the sale of the island.

THE RAGING MISSISSIPPI.

Lives Lost, Stock Drowned, the Country Desolated—Worst is Not Over.

A special from St. Louis, Mo., under date of the 26th, says: The warning sent out by the Government signal service on the 15th that the Mississippi River and its tributaries would continue to rise has been fulfilled to the letter. The communication with the flooded section has become difficult, but dispatches received from widely separated points show that all have suffered alike. It is estimated that a section of country with an area equal to that of the State of Missouri is now under water, and that the worst is not over. Advices from Cairo, Paducah, Memphis and Helena show that the region beginning North of New Madrid, Mo., west to and including the valleys of the St. Francis, the White and the Arkansas rivers in Arkansas, east in Kentucky and Tennessee, the valleys of the Tennessee, the Cache, the Obion and the Yazoo rivers, and south to the tied river are under water. The intervening ranges of hills and high ground are the only places of refuge. The dispatches received here tell but one story—lives lost, stock drowned and country desolated. At Cairo, Illinois, the river reached 50.9 feet and rising slowly, which is but one foot short of the high record of 1883. All the country south of there to Memphis is submerged. A relief steamer from the flats below Bird's Point brought in four families. It is reported that a flat boat containing a number of people was sunk at Island No. 10.

All the cotton fields in the valley of Forked Deer River in Tennessee, are under water. The Memphis Relief Association has five boats at work. These boats go to poins that are some twenty miles from streams navigable in ordinary stages of water. The unanimous opinion of St Louis river men is that conditions must become worse before there can be permanent relief. They say that numerous breaks in the lower levees are really blessings, as they are natural outlets for the deluge that is certain to come from the melting snows of the North.

A QUICK HEARING

Will Be Had of Appeal in Traffic Association Case.

Attorney-General McKenna has directed District Attorney McFarlane at New York to take an appeal from the decision of the circuit court of appeals, delivered at New York last Friday, in favor of the Joint Traffic Association, composed of Eastern trunk lines. This case is closely allied to that of the Trans-Missouri freight association, in which the United States Supreme Court last Monday held that the anti-trust law was constitutional. The same questions are involved as in the Trans-Missouri case with the addition that the Joint Traffic Association is charged with violation of the anti-pooling clause of the inter-state commerce act. The circuit court of appeals held that the United States had no right to go into court in an attempt to dissolve the association under either the anti-trust or inter-state commerce acts. It is contended at the department of justice that even the dissenting opinion of the Supreme Court did not sustain points sustained by the circuit court of appeals.

When the papers in the appeal arrive the Attorney-General will ask the Supreme court to advance the case so that it may be heard at the present term.

Another Road Draws Out.

The St. Louis and San Francisco railroad Thursday gave notice of withdrawal from all the traffic associations, both freight and passenger, in the West and Southwest. This action is taken on account of the Supreme Court decision on Tuesday declaring the Trans-Missouri Traffic Association to be illegal. So far no action has been taken by any of the car service associations.

News of the Flood.

Another break in the levee at Fifteen Mile Bayou, nine miles below Modoc, Ark., is reported. It is now over five hundred feet in width and hourly increasing. Assistant United States Engineer Notty states that in his opinion all the White river levee system, from Modoc south, will eventually go to pieces.

At Kansas City, Mo., the Missouri river is within 28 feet of the danger line and the indications are that it will go at least one foot higher. The bottom at the mouth of the Kaw river is overflowed and the squatters have been compelled to take refuge on the bluffs. The Belt Line Railway tracks are under water in places and serious trouble is feared. The Armour Packing Company has a large force of men at work to guard against damage by the expected overflow.

Several more breaks in the levees at Bird's point have occurred and a current of water as strong as a mill race is rushing through the center of that village. Already a dozen houses have been swept from their foundations and it now looks as if there will not be a building left in the place. Fortunately the dwellers had ample warning and removed most of their household goods and merchandise.

With one exception, the bridge over the Flint river, at Albany, Ga., there is not a public bridge left in the county. The iron bridge across the Kincheefoonee creek, recently built jointly by Doughty and Lee counties and costing $8,000 was swept away without a vestige being left.

Bucket Shops Win.

Judge Horton, of the circuit court, has overruled the motion of the board of trade of Chicago, the Western Union Telegraph Company, the Gold and Stock Telegraph Company and the Postal Telegraph Company to dissolve the temporary injunctions, restraining these parties from detaching telegraph wires from the place of busines of Harry E. Wyly and the W. A. Michel Commission Company et al., and from removing "tickers" and from cutting off or in any wise interfering with "the supply of information as has been heretofore supplied."

In concluding his decision, the Judge says: "The defendant telegraph companies have been so long permitted to continue to transmit to the public the 'market news' and said telegraph companies have been so long employed by the public so to do that said companies may new be considered as agents of the public for that purpose, recognized as such by the board of trade."

Free Silver Republicans.

A new political party has been launched in Nebraska. It is composed of members who have heretofore affiliated with the Republicans, but last November voted for W. J. Bryan for President on the currency question alone. The convention which met in Lincoln was not largely attended. Charles Wooster, a member of the lower house of the Legislature, was made chairman. The present name Free Silver Republicans of Nebraska was retained. Judge D. D. Gregory, of Omaha, was made the Nebraska member of the National Committee and a State organization was effected. Six Congressional district committeemen were also selected and arrangements perfected for carrying on an active campaign. Contrary to expectations, Mr. Bryan was not present.

Three Friends Seized.

At Jacksonville, Fla., Thursday the steamer Three Friends, which arrived in port Thursday, has again been seized by order of the United States Court, in accordance with the recent decision of the Supreme Court, in the libel case pending against the boat. The bond was cancelled, after which a deputy marshal was placed in charge. The tug will be allowed to do towing on the river, pending a trial of the case against it.

Birmingham's Big Cotton Mill.

At Birmingham the Avondale mills, capital $500,000, were formally launched Thursday night with $400,000 of the stock subscribed. At a meeting of the stockholders B. B. Comer was elected president and treasurer and David Trainer, secretary and general manager. The following were elected a board of directors: B. B. Comer, Robert Jamison, W. J. Milner, David Trainer and M. V. Joseph, Birmingham; C. H. Hutchins, Worcester, Mass.; D. M. Thompson, Providence, R. I.; and J. P. Wilson and H. S. Chadwick, Charlotte, N. C.

Luis Found Guilty.

The jury in the case of Dr. Jose Luis, who has been on trial in the United States Court at Baltimore on the charge of conspiracy with General Roloff, to send a filibustering expedition to Cuba in July, 1895, on the steamship James Woodall, returned a verdict of guilty. A motion was made for a new trial.

New York Follows Georgia.

Both anti-trust bills introduced by the Lexow trust investigating committee at Albany, N. Y., have passed the Assembly without amendment. They now go to the Senate for action.

FIFTY-FIFTH CONGRESS.

Report of the Proceedings from Day to Day.

SENATE.

MONDAY.—The legislative session of the Senate lasted about 40 minutes, the arbitration treaty between the United States and Great Britain being taken up thereafter, behind closed doors. In the short open session nearly 200 bills were introduced and many others were reported back from committees. Included in the latter were the "free homestead" bill, and the immigration bill, with the provision as to Canadian laborer eliminated, both of which were under consideration in the last Congress, the latter failing to become a law owing to President Cleveland's veto. The four great appropriation bills, the agricultural, the Indiana, the sundry civil and the general deficiency, which also failed for lack of Mr. Cleveland's signature, and which were re-introduced and passed last week by the House, were referred to the committee on appropriations. The House joint resolution was passed extending until December next the investigation as to the use of alcohol in the arts, by a joint commission of Congress.

TUESDAY.—The Senate indulged in an almost one-sided denunciation of the civil service law and its administration. Only one Senator, Lodge, defended the law, and the upshot of it all was that a motion was agreed to, without a division, but amended so as to instruct the committee on civil service and retrenchment to inquire and report whether the civil service law should be continued, amended or repealed. Turpie (Dem.), of Indiana, made an argument in favor of a constitutional amendment to make United States Senators elected by the popular vote instead of by the State Legislatures. These bills were passed by the Senate: Directing the Secretary of War to furnish a thousand tents to shelter and relieve the sufferers from the flood in the Mississippi river; to amend the act repealing the timber culture laws. A constitutional amendment to make the 30th of April inauguration day was introduced by Mr. Hoar.

WEDNESDAY.—The Senate spent only half an hour in open session today, the remainder of the time being given to the consideration of the arbitration treaty, behind closed closed doors. The agricultural appropriation bill, one of the four money bills that failed at the last session, was reported back in the shape in which it passed the House last week, and was placed on the calendar. It will be acted on at an early day.

The attack upon the civil service law and its administration, which distinguished yesterday's proceedings, was followed up today by the introduction of two bills, one by Mr. Allen, Populist, of Nebraska, for the repeal and annulment of the law and of all executive orders issued under it; and the other by Mr. Pritchard; Republican of North Carolina, chairman of the committee on civil service and retrenchment, modifying it in its application to the Government Printing Office.

While in executive session the Senate confirmed the nominations of Binger Hermann, of Oregon, to be Commissioner of the General Land Office, and Ernest C. Timme, of Wisconsin, to be Auditor of the State Department.

THURSDAY.—Among the bills introduced and referred was one by Mr. Foraker, Republican, of Ohio, to provide a modern organization of the artillery of the army. Mr. Pasco presented, in an amended form, the credentials of John A. Henderson as Senator from the State of Florida, under appointment by the Governor, until the next meeting of the Legislature in April next. Mr. Hoar stated that no action had been taken by the committee on privileges and elections in the matter of the admission of Senators, the appointment of Governors.

At 12:20, on motion of Mr. Davis, Republican, of Minnesota, acting chairman of the committee on foreign relations, the Senate proceeded to the consideration (with the doors closed) of the arbitration treaty. At 3 p. m. the doors were re-opened and the unfinished business, the bankruptcy bill, was taken up, the bill being read in extenso. The reading of the bill occupied exactly one hour. Some formal amendments were offered by Mr. Hoar and were agreed to. Mr. Nelson, Republican, of Minnesota, offered a substitute for the bill, which was also read in full, and when it was concluded, the Senate, at 4:20 p. m., adjourned.

Three minor nominations only were confirmed by the Senate, of local interest to New England and Ohio.

FRIDAY.—Mr. Gray, Democrat, offered a resolution for printing the recent decision of the Supreme Court in the Trans-Missouri case. Mr. Cullom, of Illinois, stated in that connection, that he had received a large number of letters and telegrams, asking for printed copies of the decision and that at least 1,000 copies ought to be printed.

Mr. Cockrell, Democrat, Missouri, suggested that after the decision was printed as a Senate document, additional copies could be ordered, within a cost of $500. The resolution was then agreed to.

Mr. Morgan offered a resolution which was agreed to, directing the Attorney General to inform the Senate whether any, and if so, what agreement has been entered into by the President, or any of the departments relating to the future disposition of the Union Pacific Railroad property, by sale or otherwise.

A resolution was offered by Mr. Lodge, Republican, of Massachusetts, calling for copies of all papers and correspondence, diplomatic or otherwise, on file in the State Department relating to the arrest and imprisonment in Cuba of two American sailors, Richelin and Bolton. A large number of bills were introduced, among them one by Mr. Quay, Republican, of Pennsylvania, by request, to suppress pauperism; and by Mr. Cullom, Republican, of Illinois, to promote aerial transportation. At 4 o'clock the Senate adjourned until Monday.

HOUSE.

MONDAY.—The tariff debate was fairly and regularly started in the House. The reading of the bill occupied nearly two hours and a half, although there was no pretense on the part of the clerk that he was following the text in full. Dingley, (Rep.) of Maine, made the opening speech, and it was an exhaustive explanation and defense of the measure. Wheeler, (Dem.) of Alabama, asserted that the prosperity which the people of the United States had enjoyed had been the result of their own industry and energy; not of the protective system, etc. He was followed by Hopkins, (Rep.) of Illinois, in favor of the bill, and against it by Bell, (Pop.) of Colorado. At 5 o'clock a recess was taken until 8 p. m., when the continuance of the debate was had.

TUESDAY.—The House had the second day's debate on the tariff bill. The event of the day was the speech of Dolliver. He held the attention of the whole House, Democrats and Republicans alike, for over one hour, and kept his hearers laughing heartily nearly from start to finish by his humorous descripti on of the effects of free trade, or tariff for revenue only. His eloquent periods in advocacy and defense of the protective tariff policy aroused his political associates to a high state of enthusiasm. Other speeches on the bill were made by Messrs. Gibson, (Rep.) of Tennessee; Lacey, (Rep.) of Iowa; Newlands, (Sil.) of Colorado, the latter of whom spoke as an opponent of the Republican party's financial policy, but as an advocate of protection. A full measure of prosperity, he claimed, would never be restored to the country until the old-time parity of silver with gold was re-established. The speeches in opposition to the bill were made by Dockery, (Dem.) of Missouri, who attacked the agricultural schedule, particularly, and Mr. McLaurin, (Dem.) of South Carolina, who advocated a tariff on cotton and rice, and announced his opposition to the policy of free raw material. The Senate joint resolution appropriating $15,000 to enable the Secretary of War to purchase tents for the houseless victims of the Mississippi river flood was agreed to.

WEDNESDAY.—Large audiences in the the galleries, and an unusually large attendance on the floor of the House of Representatives, heard the third day's general debate upon the tariff bill. The principal speeches of the day were those of Johnson, of North Dakota; Grosvenor, of Ohio, and Evans, of Kentucky, Republican members of the Committee on Ways and Means, in favor of the bill, and of McMillin, of Tennessee, the oldest Democratic member, against it. Other speakers were Fox, Democrat, of Mississippi; Sims, Democrat, of Tennesee; Torry, Democrat, of Arkansas; Sayers, Democrat, of Texas, and Maddox, Democrat, of Georgia against the bill; and by Adams, Republican, of Pennsylvania, and Walker, Republican, of Massachusetts, in favor of it. The general debate will be closed Thursday, when Russell, of Connecticut; Dalzell, of Pennsylvania; Steele, of Indiana, and Payne, of New York, Republicans, members of the committee on ways and means, and Bailey, of Texas, the Democratic leader, will speak.

Mr. Brownlow, Republican, of Tennessee, introduced in the House a bill establishing a department of commerce, labor and manufactures.

THURSDAY.—This was the last day of general debate on the tariff bill in the House of Representatives under the order apported last week but, because Mr. Bailey's throat would not permit him to speak this afternoon, an agreement was made to give two hours to general debate just before taking the vote next Wednesday, which will be occupied by himself and Mr. Dingley.

The proceedings were unusually interesting, and they were listened to generally by a large number of members and crowded galleries. Speeches against the bill were made by Messrs. Talbert, Democrat, of Pennsylvania; Clark, Democrat, of Missouri; McGuire, Democrat, of California; Gunn, Populist, of Idaho; Simpson, Populist, of Kansas; Cox, Democrat, of Tennessee; McRae, Democrat, of Arkansas; Burke, Democrat, of Texas; Lentz, Democrat, of Ohio, and DeArmond, Democrat, of Missouri. In its favor speeches were made by Messrs. Tawney, Republican, of Minnesota; Dalzell, Republican, of Pennsylvania; Russell, Republican, of Connecticut, and Payne, Republican, of New York, members of the committee on ways and means; and Crow, Republican, of Pennsylvania; Colson, Republican, of Kentucky, and Hawley, Republican, of Texas.

At the evening session the debate on the tariff bill was continued. Mr. Skinner, Populist, of North Carolina, in supporting the bill, said that if for the past 25 years the South had been trying for protection as the North and East had, it would today be the most prosperous section of the country.

FRIDAY.—The consideration of the tariff bill under the five-minute rule, for the purpose of amendment, which it was expected would be strictly business, opened with the liveliest political contest of the session, lasting through the three hours.

Promptly upon reading of the prefatory page of the bill, Mr. Dockery, Democrat, of Missuri, offered an amendment for the Secretary of the Treasury to admit free of duty any article the production and price of which was controlled by a trust in the United States. Mr. Dingley, chairman of the committee on ways and means, made the point that the amendment was not in order in that place. The point was sustained by the chairman, and his ruling was sustained by a vote of 158 to 104.

In the course of the afternoon several changes of duty were made, among them being an increase of half a cent on the duty on carbonate of ammonia, an increase from 25 to 40 cents a pound in the duty on sulphuric ether; and increasing the duty on the products of pig lead from 2½ to 3 cents a pound.

At 5:15 p. m. the House adjourned, having disposed of 9½ pages of the 161 of the tariff bill.

Copied the Name from His Grip.

Mr. Smith, an English traveler, arrived one evening at a hotel in Austria. On the way he had picked up a smart German and hired him as a servant. In Austria every one staying at a hotel is obliged to register his name and occupation in a book, which is kept for police examination, so Mr. Smith told his servant Fritz to bring this book for him to write his name.

"I have already registered milor," said Fritz, "as an Englishman of independent means."

"But I've never told you my name, so how do you know what it is?"

"I copied it from milor's portmanteau," answered Fritz.

"Why, it isn't on my portmanteau," cried Mr. Smith; "bring the book and let me see what you have put down."

The book was brought and Mr. Smith, to his amusement, discovered that his clever servant had described him as:

"Monsieur Warranted Sole Leather!"—The Gripsack.

Victoria's Gold Plate.

The gold plate at Windsor castle consists of about 10,000 pieces. It is kept in the gold pantry, which is an iron room situated on the ground floor under the royal apartments. The clerk of the pantry gives it out in iron boxes and receives a receipt for it. It is carried by special train, under escort of a guard of soldiers, and delivered to the butler at Buckingham palace. He gives a receipt for it and is responsible for it while it remains at the palace. The same formalities are observed in taking it back; and all persons concerned are glad when it is once more restored to the safekeeping of the gold pantry. The total value of the plate in this department is nearly £2,000,000. A great deal of it dates from the reign of George IV., but among the antiquities are some pieces which were taken from the Armada.

"Uncle Simon, what is a phenomenon?" "A phenomenon is a man who gets so rich that he won't accept a pass on a railroad."—Chicago Record.