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The Messenger.

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LIFE AND DEATH STRUGGLE.

Mississippi's Cotton and Corn Crops Under Water.

GREENVILLE IN GREAT DANGER.

Condition of the Rivers and Levees.--The Situation Extremely Critical.--Daily Bulletins.

A special from Jackson, Miss., dated March 30th, says: From the great Yazoo Mississippi delta, comes a wail of distress and the cry: "The levees have broken!" is heard throughout our valley of the Nile. Three fresh breaks have been reported and through which immense volumes of water are carrying destruction to thousands of happy homes, and devastating as fertile a territory as is to be found on the globe. So far no loss of life, except to domestic animals, has been reported, but may be as the great mounds of earth which protect the flourishing cities of Greenville, Stoneville, Arcola, Frier's Point, Rolling Fork and others are watersoaked, mushy and liable to give way at any time. The four breaks that have occurred, have flooded or will flood before reaching the Yazoo, perhaps a week hence, the counties of Bolivar, Washington, Sharkey, Issaquena, Yazoo and portions of others, in which is comprised the finest farms in the world. In this overflowed district the State has leased eight plantations, upon which with her good able-bodied convicts, she was preparing to make another crop of cotton and corn, the latter being in fine condition. The greatest concern is for the city of Greenville, which, situated as it is, in the hollow of a crescent formed by the bend of the river, would be swept out of existence should a break occur in the immediate vicinity.

The streets of the city are twelve feet below the summit of the levee, so that a break once formed there would be no way of stopping the Niagara, and every house in the place would be swept from its foundations and the remaining inhabitants hurried into eternity. Fearing such a catastrophe, those who could have migrated to the hills, but thousands still remain. The breaks that have occurred are both above and below Greenville, 15 and 25 miles above, so that the water will pass to the rear of the city. The streams on the delta all flow into the river and down the opposite side of the valley. Thousands of people, white and black, line the levees and are making a desperate effort to hold what remains. It is a life and death struggle, and for this reason there is no rest night or day. The question has been asked, does it pay to maintain this great levee system, and old farmers declare that it does not, that life and business were more certain forty years ago when no expected anything but an overflow and prepared for it.

The Weather Bureau on the afternoon of March 30th, issued the following special river bulletin: During the past 24 hours the Ohio, Cumberland, Tennessee and Arkansas rivers have fallen slowly, and the Red river has risen two feet since Saturday, and is still rising rapidly. The upper Mississippi from St. Paul to Dubuque, has risen slightly and is above the danger line at La Crosse. The Mississippi has fallen slightly from Keokuk to Cairo, and risen from New Orleans to Helena, except a slight fall at Arkansas City, due to a crevasse near that place. It is above the danger line from Cairo to New Orleans, and from Memphis to Arkansas City is above the extreme high water of any previous years. From Davenport to St. Louis no flooding has occurred except on the islands and lowlands, of which ample warning was given last week. In no case has water reached the tops of levees in this district, nor is it likely to do so. Serious breaks in the levees have occurred within the last forty-eight hours at Australia, Stop Landing and Wayside, Miss. The water from these crevasses will flow into the Yazoo basin, and it is probable that the counties of Bolivar, Washington, Issaquena and Sharkey, Miss., will be flooded. The situation at Greenville, Miss., is considered extremely critical. Until the period of extreme danger from floods in the lower Mississippi is past a daily bulletin will be issued.

THE NASHVILLE CENTENNIAL.

Railroad Rates Agreed Upon On the Same Basis as for the Atlanta Exposition.

The Southern States Passenger Association met at Nashville with Commissioner Richardson in the chair. The meeting was spent in business, and a committee was named to agree upon a basis, which was to report at 5 o'clock in the afternoon at the centennial grounds. The committee made their report, in which the same basis of rates were adopted as that of Atlanta during the exposition, the only exception being the limitation of time. The tickets will be good seven days at the exposition more against five days at Atlanta. Stopover privileges will be granted at Chattanooga for special parties, but nothing definite in regard to the latter can stand on the rate. Agents of the various lines agree upon a basis of rates.

Standard Silver Dollars.

The issue of standard silver dollars from the mints and Treasury offices for the week ended March 27, was $401,990; and for the corresponding period last year, $339,389.

Nominations by the President.

Charlemagne Tower, of Pennsylvania, to be envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary of the United States in Austria-Hungary; Anson Burlingame Johnson, of Colorado, to be consul of the United States at Fuchow, China; William S. Shallenberger, of Pennsylvania, to be second assistant postmaster general; Thomas Ryan, of Kansas, to be First Assistant Secretary of the Interior; Henry Clay Evans, of Tennessee, to be Commissioner of Pensions.

Cornered the Crop.

James McKinney, of Kansas City, Mo., has succeeded in making a corner on onions. He has bought up 27,000 barrels fancy kiln-dried stock, and is selling them at $3.50 a barrel, the former price being $1.75 and $2.25. Orders from Philadelphia, New York and other places cannot be filled except through McKinney, as he has cornered the crop.

Good Citizenship Convention.

A call for a good citizenship convention, to be held at Nashville, Tenn., May 18, 19 and 20, has been issued.

EXPOSITION OF THE CAROLINAS

Opening Day May 4th, at Charlotte, N. C.--Low Admission and Railroad Rates.

This is the day of expositions. They are to be found upon every hand, but it has been reserved for the Carolinas to inaugurate the first exposition to be managed entirely by women. This enterprise, which was instigated by the Women's Auxiliary of the Charlotte Young Men's Christian Association, has its management vested in an executive committee of sixteen representative women of Mecklenburg county and is advised by an Advisory Board and honorary committee of prominent men from both States. The opening day is announced for May 4th and it is expected that all will be in readiness by that time. The building, which is centrally located, is going up rapidly and will be an ornament to Charlotte, both during and after the life of the exposition.

Art, science and industry are the special features to be incorporated. Especial emphasis is laid upon the Fine Art Department by the management, as the ladies are especially desirous of increasing an interest in the fine art in this section, to be influenced by the exposition. The most popular picture in America, "Breaking the Home Ties," has been secured and will be exhibited in this department. This picture is valued at $50,000, and is insured for that amount while on exhibition. Some of America's most prominent artists will exhibit, and the collection will number about 300 pieces.

The scientific department will contain usual exhibits with copient emphasis upon the museum. The collections of Colonial War and Historical Relics will be one of the finest ever gathered in this section, and will contain relics from all over America and many foreign countries. A historical portrait gallery will also be an important and attractive feature.

The industrial department wil be one of the most compact and complete ever gathered in so small a space. It will include manufacturing goods and will also contain some machinery in operation. The lights will be furnished from the exposition's plant owned and operated by the Charlotte Machine Company. The electricity displays will probably be the handsomest ever seen in the South unless it be that at Atlanta.

The railroads will grant greatly reduced rates and the admission has been placed at 25cts. as it is the desire of the management to have the educational influences that the exposition will exert extended among the people who cannot ordinarily incur much expense.

Information of any character will be cheerfully furnished by Mrs. Minnie Hebb Kellogg, general manager, Charlotte, N. C.

THE MARKETS WAITING.

Some Improving and Some Sagging—Effect of the Tariff Bill.

The weekly trade reviews for the past week, as reported by R. G. Dun & Co. and Bradstreet is, in part, as follows:

"The markets are still waiting, some sagging downward and others recovering. There is much disposition to use the decision of the Supreme Court against railroad combinations as an instrument for depressing stocks, and yet the buying has prevented a decline exceeding $1 per share, and for trust stocks 29 cents per share. The reports of railroad earnings for the quarter have been somewhat encouraging, the aggregate having been on roads within the United States only 3.2 per cent. smaller than last year, and the March returns have been rather more favorable than those for January or February. The vote of the House in favor of a new tariff bill has made no impression on business, since it has been expected since November that some measure of the same general character would become a law. If the bill stands with its provision making new duties applicable April 1st, the chances are that foreign imports and treasury receipts may be for a time considerably restricted.

"The cotton and other textile manufacturers are slowly gaining in business, though print cloths and most staple cottons remain unchanged in prices, and the restriction of the output seems to have given some relief to the market.

"The iron and steel industry has been staggered, so to speak, by the decision of the Supreme Court affecting railroads, since it is apprehended that purchases not only of rails, but of cars, locomotives and bridge material will be affected. The demand for rails is still considerable, and one order is pending for 10,000 tons for Japan, but the reduction in Messabi ore with the want of agreement as yet among producers in hard ores, tend to encourage the belief in lower prices for finished products and so to hinder buying."

BRADSTREET'S REPORT.

"The course of general trade shows some improvement, notwithstanding an almost stoppage of business in the south Mississippi valley by washouts, overflows and floods. The condition of country roadways throughout the central Western States and the Northwest is such as to still further delay collections and check demand from interior merchants. Another drop is recorded in prices of Bessemer pig iron and steel billets and in wheat, flour, coal coffee and lard, which is in part offset by increased activity and higher prices for wool and woolens, corn, oats, sugar and petroleum. A heavy movement of fertilizers is reported in the south Atlantic States, interest in shingles has increased on the northwest Pacific coast and Galveston is exporting cattle to Europe direct. The most favorable trade reports are from the Northwest spring wheat States.

"There are 4,520 business failures in the United States reported by Bradstreet's during the past quarter, compared with 4,512 in the first of 1896, a falling off of about 11 per cent."

Went Off to Borrow Money.

E. C. Lineberry, who was reported as having absconded from Durham, N. C., with several thousand of dollars, has returned to that city and given up every cent in his posession to cover the shortage, and to keep any from loosing he will not reserve house, home or shelter. He did not run away, and he was not trying to evade the law, but was endeavoring to borrow money to cover the shortage. As has been said, it is the old story of a man who speculated and lost.

The Flood and Federal Aid.

President McKinley Saturday telegraphed the Governors of Arkansas, Louisiana and Mississippi asking for information as to the extent of the suffering caused by the prevailing floods. Telegrams poured in on the President all the morning, asking for assistance. It has been decided that the emergency bill appropriating $250,000 for the repair of levees cannot be used for any other purpose, and the President thinks something should be done by the government to relieve the people. When the information desired from the Governors of the States named has been received, it is probable that the President will ask Congress to do something.

NEWS ITEMS CONDENSED.

Southern Pencil Pointers.

The banking firm of John C. Tandy & Co., of Morgan, Tex., closed its doors Saturday.

Eighteen of the young ladies attending the Lucy Cobb Institute at Athens Ga., will be sent home on account of an All Fools' Day escapade.

At Huntington, W. Va., a riot between Democrats and Republicans occurred over city politics, and fifty people fought with knives and clubs. It is not believed that any of the injured will die.

B. N. and J. B. Duke, of Durham, N. C., have given $10,000 for a science hall and auditorium at Guilford College.

The Georgia Electric Medical Association met at Atlanta in its twenty-third annual convention.

A special from Durham, N. C., says E. G. Linebury, bookkeeper of the Morehead Bank, has left town as a defaulter to the bank for about $3,600.

Fifty tinners went on a strike in Atlanta, Ga., six firms having refused to sign a scale which had been proposed to them by the union. The tinners want $2 a day for nine hours' work. They have been working ten hours a day. The employers who have not signed the scale say they can fill the places. All but three firms employing tinners have signed the union scale, and the men have returned to work.

April 1st a severe storm of wind and hail prevailed throughout Missouri. At some points stones weighing ten and twelve ounces fell with such force and rapidity that not a house escaped without broken window glass. Stock of all kinds suffered intensely. No loss of life is reported.

No doubt is entertained in Richmond, Va., that the man giving his name as Wilson Williams, who committed suicide in a cheap hotel in New Orleans, is Frank D. Steger, the defaulting secretary of the Mutual Assurance Society of Richmond.

Heavy frosts throughout California have caused extensive damage to fruit crops.

At Elverton, Ga., W. A. Lynch was caught in the shafting of his own planing mill and killed.

The Tennessee House has passed, in concurrence with the Senate, a bill declaring the conduct of "white caps" a felony, and fixing the imprisonment at from three to twenty years.

At Chattanooga, Tenn., C. N. Rudd, in a fit of temporary insanity shot himself through the head, producing instant death. He had quarreled with his wife on Tuesday and on returning home found a note saying she had ceased to love him and had returned to her father.

At New Orleans, a man who registered as Wilson Williams, of Washington, D. C., killed himself in a cheap hotel. He had erased his name from his spectacle case, destroyed all his letters and papers. His coat bore the mark of the Globe Clothing House, of Richmond, Va. He said while here that he had lost $75,000, and was desperate. Wilson Williams was evidently an assumed name.

At Americus, Ga., two negroes were killed by lightning.

The Comptroller of the Currency has declared a second dividend of 10 per cent. to the creditors of the Chattahoochee National Bank, of Columbus, Ga.

Thomas Blue, aged 22, born blind, of Hoffman, N. C., was restored to sight at the Maryland General Hospital, Baltimore.

According to the Richmond (Va. State, Gen. Fitzhugh Lee, ex-Governor of Virginia, will be home from Havana, Cuba, about the middle of April, and the governorship of the "Old Dominion" will be offered him.

All About the North.

The Legislature of New Hampshire has passed a law providing for the inspection of all ice sold within the State, to guard against disease.

Over 600,000 bicycle tires have been made this season by one firm at Akron, O., about 2,400 people being employed in the work.

Capital punishment has been abolished in Colorado.

Frank W. Palmer, of Illinois, has been nominated by the President as Public Printer.

At Detroit Mich., Wm. Holz, aged 21, was slain by his father, owing to a misunderstanding.

A cyclone destroyed the town of Chandler, Okla., east of Guthrie. A dozen or more people were killed and probably 150 were injured.

Two thousand workmen in the big tanneries at Chicago, Ill., have gone on a strike, to remain out a year in order to prevent the changing of the hours in a day's work from nine to ten. The companies affected have decided to close down their plants for an indefinite period.

Mrs. Margaret J. Preston, "the Mimosa of Southern literature, died at her home in Baltimore, Md., on the 29th of March.

Miscellaneous.

London has this season taken 667,615 barrels of American apples, against 181,374 last season, and Glasgow has received 400,117 barrels, against 122,022 of the previous crop.

The old bank of Weymouth, England, has suspended with liabilities of £500,000.

In three weeks Postmaster General Gary has received 95,000 letters about appointments to office.

It is unofficially announced that on April 20 the Southern Roilway and the Florida Central and Peninsular system will take off their New York and Florida vestibuled trains which have been in operation all winter.

Corbett says that he will keep after Fitzsimmons until the champion will afford him another opportunity to either win back his laurels or go down a whipped man for the second and last time.

A cyclone struck Austin, Texas., doing much damage to property.

National bank notes outstanding on March 31st, 1897, were $233,708,895, a decrease during the month of $441,066, but an increase since March 31st, 1896, of $12,481,089. The gold coined during the month amounted to $12,770,900, while 1,400,250 silver dollars were struck off.

Fitzhugh Lee Holds His Own.

The State Department at Washington declares that Consul General Lee has not been granted leave of absence to take effect April 15, as published, or any other date. Gen. Lee has not asked for leave, and no action looking to his relief at Havana or to the acceptance of his resignation has been taken.

FLEEING FROM THE WATERS.

Not Much Change In Flooded Districts Along the Mississippi.

FOUR FEET UNDER WATER.

No Pen Can Describe the Desolation—Greenville Under Water—Tremendous Rains.

A Jackson, Miss., special, dated April 1st, says there is nothing encouraging in the situation along the river front, but the unbridled waters are frolicking along on their march to the sea, and the people of the greatest cotton producing valley in the world are fleeing for their lives. Several refugees have arrived in Jackson, and report that the half has not been told; that no pen can describe the desolation, the devastation and ruin made by the water in the counties of Bolivar, Sharken, Issequona and others.

Greenville is still dry, but the waters from breaks above and below are backing into the city.

Rosedale, a town of 1,000 inhabitants, is four feet under water, according to private advices received. Other small towns are in the same condition, and still others will be in a day or two, but no loss of life is yet reported. Fortunately the waters travel slowly and the denizens of this swamp have had abundant time to get out.

A special from Alton, Ill., of April 1, says: One of the most tremendous rain storms on record swept over this city last night and the Mississippi is rising again at the rate of an inch hour. It stands 19¼ feet above low water mark, and only 9 inches below the disastrous flood of 1892. The highest levees are being encroached upon and alarm is great throughout the farming regions of the Missouri and Illinois bottoms. Manufacturing institutions here are fighting the waters back from fires with immense pumps.

A special from Jackson, Miss., dated April 2d, says: The only change in the situation in the delta is for the worse. The water is still pouring through the breaks and encroaching upon places heretofore thought to be above the danger line. Plantations never before submerged are under water. The streets of Greenville are now navigable only by boats. The flood from above having met and joined forces with the flood from below, nearly one thousand families in Greenville are surrounded by water, although some portions of the little city are still dry. The levees there still hold. Citizens of Huntington telegraphed the Governor this morning to send 50 tents at once. They were forwarded on the first train but will have to make several miles of the journey by skiff. The State is doing all in its power to assist its delta people, but from the depleted condition of her Treasury can offer little else than the labor of her 800 able-bodied convicts. Thousands of delta negroes are now homeless and will remain so until the floods subside, but planters are feeding and caring for their hands as far as possible.

At New Orleans the water is less than in 1893, and the city can stand a rise of a foot and a half and yet escape a flood. The situation is very discouraging at Helena, Ark.

A special from Cairo, Ill., to the Scripps-McRae Press Association, states information was brought to Cairo, by a commercial traveler, that a relief boat found the bodies of a young girl, an aged woman and a child in a flooded house, on the Missouri side of the river, at a point about 30 miles south of New Madrid. The people had either starved to death or died of fright. The water was at the eaves of the house, and the victims were in the attic. A negro and a white man are also reported as having been starved to death on the platform of a temporary refuge in the same locality.

ONE TRUST SURRENDERS.

The American Tobacco Company Gives Up its Exclusive Contracts.

As an effect of the decision of the United States Supreme Court in the Railroad Traffic Association case and the anti-trust laws of the South, the American Tobacco Company has adopted new contracts with its agents. Heretofore this corporation would not sell their goods outright, but sent them out on consignment. The condition they repuired was that the customer should not sell the products of any other factory. They have sent out a circular withdrawing these conditions and offering to sell their goods outright. They intimate that they will give a present to liberal customers.

FREE TO MAKE WAR.

The Bill Restraining the Seaboard and Southern from Cutting Rates.

Last fall Judge Hughes, of the United States Dirstrict Court, setting at Norfolk, Va., granted upon application of the Mercantile Trust Company of Baltimore, an order restraining the Seaboard Air Line and Southern Railway from cutting rates. Against that order a number of demurrers were entered and the case has been argued several times. Friday Judge Hughes sustained all the demurrers and dismissed the bills and petitions, saying: "I must confess an inclination to the opinion that on a proper bill, with proper parties, a court may put a stop to a ruinous rate war, but as this case goes off on a question of jurisdiction I make no ruling on that point."

Southern Cadets.

Cadet appointments to Military Academy at West Point are announced as follows: J. Henry Standard, Florence, S. C.; W. D. McNeill, Waycross, Ga.; R. T. Harrell, alternate, Valdosta, Ga.; G. W. Duvall, Cheraw, S. C.; Baxter S. Moore, alternate, Chester, S. C.; Walter O. Boswell, Penfield, Ga.; Wm. Clarke, alternate, Madison, Ga.; Francis D. Dunbar, New Orleans, La.; Clarence H. Knight, Gainesville, Fla.

Nominations Confirmed.

The United States Senate has confirmed the nominations of Jos. L. Bristow, of Kansas, to be fourth assistant postmaster general; Henry Clay Evans, of Tennessee, to be commissioner of pensions; Thos. Ryan, of Kansas, to be first assistant secretary of the interior; Frank W. Palmer, of Illinois, to be public printer.

To Retire From the Bench.

Stephen J. Field, Associate Justice of the United States Supreme Court, has decided to retire from the bench in July.

FIFTY-FIFTH CONGRESS.

Report of the Proceedings from Day to Day.

SENATE.

MONDAY.—The Senate spent about two hour in open session and about ten hours and a half in secret session during the arbitration treaty. A joint resolution appropriating $250,000 (to be made immediately available) for the improvement of the Mississippi river was passed. Pettigrew (Silver) of South Dakota, offered a resolution which was agreed to, calling on the civil service commission for a statement of the reasons why laborers and workmen in the government printing office and in other departments of the government are required to submit themselves to competitive examination contrary to the provisions of the civil service law. Berry (Dem.) of Arkansas from the committee on public lands reported, and the Senate passed a bill to approve a compromise and settlement between the United States and the State of Arkansas.

TUESDAY.—The open session of the Senate lasted until 2 p. m., and then the Senate resumed, behind closed doors, the consideration of the arbitration treaty, spending two and a half hours in the discussion. To the 1,404 bills that had been introduced up to the close of Monday's session, there were enough added today to bring the whole number above the figure of 1,500, the vast majority of them being pension bills. The house amendments to the joint resolution passed Monday by the Senate, to appropriate $250,000 to aid in protecting life and property in the Mississippi floods, were concurred in by the Senate, and the joint resolution was sent to the President.

WEDNESDAY.—In the Senate Mills (Dem.) of Texas, offered the following resolution, which went over until Thursday: "Resolved, That the committee on foreign relations be instructed to inquire what, if any, obligation the United States has assumed toward the people of Cuba, by asserting and maintaining the right to prevent the acquisition of that island by any European power, and compelling its people to remain subject to the powet of Spain; and to report by bill, or otherwise." Pettigrew gave notice of an amendment to the tariff bill which will remove from the dutiable, and place on the free list, all articles of like character of domestic production, or manufacture that are made, or controlled by a trust, or combination for the purpose of preventing competition. In secret session the Senate remained this afternoon for three hours and a half, during which time it disposed of all the important amendments to the general treaty of arbitration and failed utterly to agree as to a time when the final vote shall be taken.

THURSDAY.—In the Senate after the journal was read the tariff bill was received from the House and referred to the committee on finance. Hale, (Rep.) of Maine, reported a joint resolution authorizing the Secretary of the Navy to transport contributions for the relief of the suffering poor in India, and asked its immediate consideration. It was read and passed. The Senate still further emasculated the general treaty of arbitration with Great Britain, by striking out the eighth section entirely, and adopting an amendment offered by Bacon, which is intended to protect the Southern States from any claim based upon securities issued during the reconstruction period. There was quite a lively debate about freedom in Cuba, which was brought about by a resolution of Allen, (Pop.) of Nebraska, in the case of the Cuban general, Rivera, who is to be tried by court martial and shot. The resolution declared that "in the judgment of the Senate it is the duty of the United States government to protest to the Spanish government against such a violation of the rules of civilized warfare." The resolution offered by Morgan in relation to the letters from the Cuban general, Maximo Gomez, to President Cleveland and President McKinley, was taken up and agreed to. So likewise was the resolution offered by Mills, (Dem.) of Texas, instructing the committee on foreign relations to inquire what, if any, obligations, the United States has assumed toward the people of Cuba, by asserting and maintaining the right to prevent the acquisition of that island by any European power, and compelling its people to remain subject to the dominion of Spain.

Senate, after being in executive session from 1 to 5:15 p.m., adjourned until Monday.

HOUSE.

MONDAY.— In the House there were some dissatisfaction among the Republicans with the tariff bill. McCall and Lovering, of Massachusetts, protested against the high rates of duty imposed in the woolen and cotton schedules. The provisions of the bill were defended by Grosvenor, of Ohio; Russell, of Connecticut, and Dingley, of Maine. The changes made by the ways and means committee were generally of slight importance. The Senate joint resolution, making immediately available $250,000 for the protection of the lower Mississippi, and carrying some of the more pressing items in the deficiency bill, passed.

TUESDAY.—The House occupied nearly all day in disposing of amendments offered by the committee on ways and means, most of which went to perfecting the phraseology, or making classification clearer. An amendment putting books, maps and charts imported for the use of schools, colleges and public libraries on the free list, was agreed to, as was also one restoring the McKinley rates on horses and mules. Twenty paragraphs of the tariff bill have now been passed over.

WEDNESDAY.—The object for which President McKinley called the Fifty-fifth Congress in extraordinary session a fortnight ago was accomplished, so far as the House of Representatives was concerned, when the vote on the Dingley tariff bill was announced by Speaker Reed. The vote was, yeas, 205; nays, 121; answering present and not voting, 21. The affirmative vote was composed of 199 Republicans and 5 Democrats—Messrs. Broussard, Dovey and Mey of Louisiana; Kilberg and Sladen, of Texas—and one Populist, Mr. Howward, of Alabama. Mr. Reed, in the Speaker's chair, directed the clerk to call his name just before the announcement of the vote, to which he responded aye, amid applause. The negative vote comprised 117 Democrats and four Populists and fusionists, Messrs. Baker, of Illinois; Marshall, Simpson and Todd. According to a conclusion reached last Monday night the great number of Populists, Silverites and fusionists contented themselves with answering "present." It was agreed by a vote of 150 to 129 making the duties in the bill effective April 1st. House adjourned until next Saturday.

SATURDAY.—The House passed the joint resolution authorizing the Secretary of the Navy to transport in suitable American vessels, which he shall charter, contributions of the people of the United States for the famine stricken in India, after which the House adjourned until Wednesday next.

A promise should be given with caution and kept with care. It should be made with the heart and remembered by the head.

CAN'T STOP BREAKS.

They Are Beyond Human Control--The Worst Is Yet to Come.

The latest from Jackson, Miss., dated March 31, says: "The condition of affairs in the Mississippi valley grows daily more exciting, and it is probable the worst has not been experienced. One or two more big breaks, one of them 1,000 feet wide, occurred in Bolivar county last night, and the waters from the last joining forces with three other streams are now rushing towards the south, carrying destruction to houses, barns, gins, fencing, live stock, etc. Fortunately, the people of the delta had taken time by the forelock and had either secured their horses in high places, or had driven them out to the foothills, where they will remain till the waters subside. No efforts are being made to stop the breaks, they having gotten beyond human control, and work in that direction is fruitless, but every possible energy is directed towards the preservation and strengthening of miles and miles of musy banks still standing.

STEAMBOATS SAVING LIFE AND PROPERTY.

A Scripps-McRae telegram from Helena, Ark., says: Telephone messages say that Westover levee is still standing, but there are slender hopes of saving it. Rumor has it that the Laconia Circle levee has broken, or is about to break. The government rescue steamboat, Titian, due East last night, is not yet in. It is rumored she anchored five barges of refugees off Old Town and then turned back to Laconia to save life and property at that point. The steamer Kate Adams saved nearly 300 souls from the relentless flood at Rosedale and Laconia. The break at Dennis, several miles above Rosedale, has sent water down that way and threatened everybody in town. The water is now within a short distance of Rosedale. No power on earth can save it and homes, stores and mills will be swept away within twenty-four hours. Men by hundreds fought the river as long as possible, but the river was too strong. Breaks above have relieved the pressure at Arkansas City. Water from Eaton is now rushing with frightful velocity through the country. The people of Arkansas City say they will hold the levees.

A GREAT SNOW IN THE WEST.

Trains Stalled and Traffic Almost Completely Abandoned.

A special from Omaha, Neb., of March 31, says: Because of heavy snows for the past twenty-four hours, hardly a wheel has been turning on any railroad in western Nebraska, and the same condition applies to districts in Colorado, Wyoming and the Black Hills of South Dakota. The Southern Pacific experienced the greatest trouble on its main line between Sidney and Laramie. West-bound express trains were stalled at Hillsdale, Wyoming, until this moring and the fast mail did not succeed in getting away from Sydney until to-night, a day late. The east-bound flyer got as far as Red Butte, Nebraska, yesterday, and then was run back to Laramie, where it was side-tracked until today noon. The Rock Island's east bound limited train was tied up at Limon, Colorado, Tuesday night, and has not reached Omaha yet. The west-bound fast train was also stalled at Limon, tobether with the limited trains from Kansas City and St. Joe. It is expected that the rotary plows will get through the drifts some time tomorrow. On the Burlington, the conditions were very much the same. The limited, which left Denver Tuesday night, got as far as McCook, Nebraska, where it stuck in a drift. The west-bound train was stalled at Holdredge, Nebraska, and the local trains were tied up all along the road. Not a train is running on the Black Hills, Wyoming & Montana division of the road. The Elkhorn only suffered on its Black Hills lines, and trains being abandoned west of Chandron, Nebraska. Most of the telegraph lines were down.

TENNESSEE CENTENNIAL.

A Circular for the Information of Military Troops.

The following circular has been issued by the military committee of the Tennessee Cetennial Exposition, for the information of troops desiring to attend the reunion, June 21, 22, 23, 24, 1897:

"The military camp will be pitched inside the exposition grounds. Floored tents will be provided free for all troops attending the the re-union, also bedsacks, straw, fuel, lights and water. There will be a mess house where rations will be served at very reasonable rates, probably not more than 50 cents a day per man. Bathing houses for troops free. The military to pay one entrance fee of 50 cents to the grounds and to have free entrance afterwards. Commands can be provided to do their own cooking and messing if preferred. A military detail will meet troops on arrival and escort them to camp."

Signed by the President.

The President has signed the Mississippi flood joint resolution, making an appropriation of $250,000 for the improvement of the Mississippi river, from the head of the passes of the gulf to the mouth of the Ohio river, and to supply deficiencies in the appropriation for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1897.

Consul General Lee's Successor.

It is stated that Judge John R. Day, of Canton, Ohio, will go to Cuba as the duly accredited representative of this government. His especial mission will be as an envoy of the President to examine into and report the true state of affairs on the Island.

Improving.

A celebrated German physician was once called upon to treat an aristocratic lady the sole cause of whose complaint was high living and lack of exercise. But it would have never done to tell her so: so his medical advice ran thus:

"Arise at 5 o'clock, take a walk in the park for one hour, then drink a cup of tea, then walk another hour, and take a cup of chocolate. Take breakfast at 8 o'clock."

Her condition improved visibly, until one fine morning the carriage of the Baroness was seen to approach the physician's residence at lightning speed.

The patient dashed up to the Doctor's house, and, on his appearing on the scene, she gasped out:

"Oh, Doctor, I took the chocolate first."

"Then drive home as fast as you can," directed the astute disciple of Aesculapius, rapidly writing a prescription, "and take this emetic. The tea must be underneath."

The grateful patient complied. She is still improving.

WHICH WILL IT BE?

Auditor Ayer is Still Puzzled Over the Machine Act.

OTHER NORTH STATE NOTES.

Taking Out Licenses--The Jersey Editors — Damage Suit Compromised—Rolling Exposition.

The Raleigh Tribune says: "Auditor Ayer continues in a dilemma. He is anxious to issue the tax lists so that they may be in the hands of the sheriffs as soon as possible. In fact, it is necessary that this should be done soon, because the people are expected to begin listing their taxes in June. What is causing the Auditor trouble is the $1.29 per capita tax. It will be remembered that the Legislature, in its machinery act, made the property tax 46 cents on the hundred and the poll tax $1.29. The Constitution of North Carolina provides that the per capita tax shall be equal to the tax on $300 worth of property. Well, this would make the poll tax $1.38, whereas the Legislature made it $1.29, the same amount which was collected for the poll tax under the revenue act of 1895. The Auditor is puzzled. He has no right to change this poll tax to the constitutional requirement, and yet if he sends out his lists to the sheriffs with the property tax 46 cents and the poll tax $1.29 the property taxpayers may refuse to pay their tax on the ground that the poll tax is not up to constitutional requirement, and the poll tax may not be collectable by reason of the unconstitutionality of the section.

"There appears to be only two solutions of the matter. The Supreme Court must decide the question or else it will be necessary to fall back on the previous revenue act. How to get the act before the Court is the question. It will be too late if the Auditor waits until the question arises upon the refusal of some taxpayer to list under the act.

"A lawyer expressed the opinion that if the matter was carried before the Supreme Court they would declare the per capita tax $1.38. He thought that according to the Constitution the property tax comes first and the poll is based on this, being three times the tax on a hundred dollars worth of property."

Secretary of State Cyrus Thompson and his assistants are in the midst of the arduous task of issuing license to the numerous insurance companies who do business in North Carolina. The licenses run from April to April of each year and are the source of a right neat sum of money for the State treasury. The proceeds from license is about $12,000. The last Legislature increased the license tax of the fire and accident companies from $100 to $200, and on life companies from $200 to $250. During the year ending April 1st, thirty-seven life insurance companies did business in the State. There were also seventy-one accident, fire guarantee and marine companies doing business during the same period of time. Of the life companies about six were exempted from taxation by acts of the last Legislature; but all the other companies, life, fire, accident, guarantee and marine must take out license if they continue business in the State. A large number of these companies have already sent in their checks and appropriations, and there is every indication that there will at least be no decrease in the number of companies who will do business in the State during 1897.

The Washington Post says: "Representative Pearson, of North Carolina, after much importuning of the individual members of the ways and means committee, has succeeded in getting specific duties placed on mica, a work which will give him the unalloyed thanks of at least 100,000 people in the mica-producing districts of North Carolina. Mica is a peculiar article of commerce, in that its value increases in size. For example, mica in sheets about two inches square would be worth 19 cents a pound, while in sheets 3x5 inches square would be worth $1.50 a pound. With the duty on mica on the advalorem plan, it was all valued at the low price. The change which Mr. Pearson succeeded in obtaining will keep out foreign mica or make it pay an adequate duty, and this will bring prosperity to the North Carolina mica-producers."

A party of New Jersey editors and their wives, numbering thirty-nine, arrived in this State last week on a pleasure trip via the Seaboard Air Line and spent some time in Charlotte, Raleigh and Southern Pines. At Charlotte they were welcomed by the mayor and others, were driven over the good roads radiating from the city, shown the various manufacturing interests and were entertained by the Manufacturers' Club. At Raleigh and Southern Pines they were given a royal welcome also, and each and every one expressed themselves highly gratified with what they saw in the Old North State.

At Lumberton Friday fire destroyed seventeen buildings. The loss is estimated at $75,000, and insurance about $55,000. There were other losses that cannot be estimated at this time. The origin of the fire is not known. This is the second fire Lumberton has had this year. Four brick stores and the Robesonian office were burned in January last. The town is a picture of desolation, Main street being piled with heaps of brick.

The North Carolina rolling exposition car is to be finished by August 1st and will be named for the city that bids highest for that honor. Raleigh, Wilmington, Asheville and Charlotte will send in sealed bids.

A Raleigh special says: "The Southern railway has compromised the suit instituted by A. G. Bauer, who, while driving across the track was run into by a passenger train and severely injured. Bauer gets $2,500.

Reports from all over the State give information that truck farmers in the east and south have suffered severely from frost.

A Richmond paper says that a young woman of that place declares that when she received her first masculine kiss she "felt as if something was running down her nerves on feet of diamonds, escorted by several little Cupids in chariots drawn by angels, shaded by honeysuckles and canopied by melted rainbows."

The new Mayor and Council of Asbury Park, N. J., have put in force a new ordinance which prohibits bathing at that resort except in "respectable bathing suits."

ANDRE THEURIET.

The New Literary Member of the French Academy.

Andre Theuriet, the new member of the French Academy, is one of the most familiar of the literary men of Paris. His public, outside the atmosphere of the French capital, is limited and he is known to very few people in this country. He was given a seat in the Academy in preference to Emile Zola, but the order of his genius and his talent is immeasurably below that of the author of "Nana." M. Theuriet began his career as a poet and wrote pleasant verses for a number of Parisian magazines, which attracted much favorable attention. During the past twenty years he has devoted himself chiefly to the writing of novels,

ANDRE THEURIET.

which have had success. His stories are pure, and savor but little of the French laxity that has kept so much of that literature from translation into English. Theuriet's best-known novels are "Girard's Marriage" and "Raymonde and Aunt Amelia," both of which have been rendered into English. His attempts at play writing have not been especially successful. One of his two plays was produced at the Odeon, and the other at the Francais. He is a member of the Legion of Honor, and as long ago as 1887 the Academy honored him by awarding him a special prize for the excellence of his literary work. M. Theuriet is 63 years old, and was educated in Paris. His career in politics was limited to a term as Minister of Finance. He was never noted as a statesman. He was elected to the Academy with Albert Vandal, the French historian.

The noblest workers of our world bequeath us nothing so great as the image of themselves. Their task, be it ever so glorious, is historical and transient; the majesty of their spirit is essential and eternal. When the external conditions which supplied the matter of their work have wholly decayed from the surface of the earth and become absorbed into its substance, the perennial root of their life remains, bearing a blossom ever fair and a foliage ever green.

When a man's suspender button gives way he feels about as bad as a girl when she knows her garter is slipping down.

OHIO RIVER AND CHARLESTON RAILWAY COMPANY.

Schedule In Effect Monday, January 4, 1897, at 8 o'clock, A. M.

NORTHBOUND.

Eastern time.	No. 35. A M	No. 11. A M	No. 33. P M
Lv. Camden	8 30	....	2 30
DeKalb	9 00	....	2 50
Westville	9 15	....	3 02
Kershaw	10 45	....	3 15
Heath Springs	11 05	....	3 30
Pleasant Hill	11 15	....	3 35
Lancaster	12 05	....	3 55
Riverside	12 35	....	4 10
Springdell	12 50	....	4 20
Catawba Junct'n	1 50	....	4 30
Leslie	2 00	....	4 38
Ar. Rock Hill	2 20	....	4 49
Lv. Rock Hill	4 00	....	4 54
Newport	4 20	....	5 09
Tirzah	4 40	....	5 15
Ar. Yorkville	5 00	....	....
Lv. Yorkville	5 40	....	5 30
Sharon	6 05	....	5 45
Hickory Grove	6 30	....	6 00
Smyrna	6 40	....	6 10
Blacksburg	7 10	8 00	6 30
Earls	....	8 20	....
Patterson Sp'ns	....	8 30	....
Shelby	....	9 10	....
Lattimore	....	9 40	....
Mooresboro	....	9 50	....
Henrietta	....	10 00	....
Forest City	....	10 20	....
Rutherfordton	....	10 50	....
Millwood	....	11 05	....
Golden Valley	....	11 25	....
Thermal City	....	11 35	....
Glenwood	....	12 00	....
Ar. Marion	....	12 20	....
	P M	P M	P M

SOUTHBOUND.

	No. 32. A M	No. 12. P M	No. 34. A M
Lv. Marion	....	1 30	....
Glenwood	....	1 50	....
Thermal City	....	2 15	....
Golden Valley	....	2 20	....
Millwood	....	2 45	....
Rutherfordton	....	3 05	....
Forest City	....	3 35	....
Henrietta	....	4 00	....
Mooresboro	....	4 15	....
Lattimore	....	4 25	....
Shelby	....	5 30	....
Patterson Sp'ns	....	5 45	....
Earls	....	5 55	....
Blacksburg	8 30	6 10	8 40
Smyrna	8 50	....	9 05
Hickory Grove	9 05	....	9 25
Sharon	9 20	....	9 50
Yorkville	9 35	....	10 20
Tirzah	9 47	....	10 45
Newport	9 51	....	10 55
Ar. Rock Hill	10 10	....	12 55
Lv. Rock Hill	11 00	....	....
Leslie	11 13	....	1 15
Catawba Junct'n	11 25	....	1 50
Springdell	11 38	....	2 05
Riverside	11 48	....	2 35
Lancaster	12 05	....	3 55
Pleasant Hill	12 28	....	4 25
Heath Springs	12 32	....	4 35
Kershaw	12 45	....	5 30
Westville	1 00	....	5 55
DeKalb	1 12	....	6 15
Ar. Camden	1 30	....	6 50
	P M	P M	P M

All trains daily except Sunday.

No. 32 has connection with the Chester & Lenoir Railroad at Yorkville, S. C., with the Southern Railway at Rock Hill, S. C., with the Seaboard Air Line at Catawba Junction, S. C., with the Lancaster & Chester Railroad at Lancaster, S. C., and with the South Carolina and Georgia Railway at Camden, S. C.

No. 33 has connection with the South Carolina and Georgia and Georgia Railways at Camden, S. C., with the Lancaster & Chester Railroad at Lancaster, S. C., with the Seaboard Air Line at Catawba Junction, S. C., with the Southern Railway at Rock Hill, S. C., with the Chester & Lenoir Railroad at Yorkville, S. C., and with the Southern Railway at Blacksburg, S. C. Nos. 34 and 35 will carry passengers.

Nos. 11 and 12 have connection at Shelby, N. C., with the Seaboard Air Line, at Marion, N. C., and Blacksburg, S. C., with the Southern Railway.

S. B. LUMPKIN, G. P. A.

SAM'L HUNT, President.