

ARP CONVALESCING.

Bill Sits in Sick Room and Reads the Newspapers.

COMMENT ON ADAMS' SPEECH.

Charles Francis Eulogizes Lee He Should Also Praise Davis, for Whom Lee Fought.

We have at last had a glorious rain. After nine long sweltering weeks without a drop to lay the dust or purify the atmosphere it came with a downpour and everybody is happy. The gardens will revive and the flowers will bloom again and the farmers will rejoice for it has come in time to save their languishing crops. The dear little sick child whom we have been nursing so tenderly and watching for many days will now get well. My wife or one of the girls is there day and night, but the dust and the heat had almost overcome him when the rain came. We are all air plants and must have it pure.

Then again I tried to take comfort by reading the tribute that Charles Francis Adams had recently paid to General Robt. E. Lee. It seems to be getting quite fashionable to praise Lee up there, but really I don't see why they should single him out and damn Mr. Davis and all the rest of us and the cause for which Lee fought. I don't like any man who praises Lee and slanders Mr. Davis. Lee and Davis were like brothers all their mature lives. They were classmates at West Point and during our civil war they were bosom companions and never disagreed about anything. It is a gross insult to the memory of Lee to slander his closest and dearest friend. No gentleman would do it. I have not heard of Charles Francis Adams slandering Mr. Davis, but we have good reasons to suspect that he belongs to the Goldwin Smith and Roosevelt crowd, for he voluntarily took command of a negro regiment during the war, and that is a bad sign. No gentleman would have done it. It was an evidence that he believed niggers would make war hell to us and they would kill and rob and rape and burn out of revenge. No, I have no respect for this Adams nor Lew Wallace nor any other man who commanded negroes during the war. It was not humane nor legitimate warfare. It showed venom and brutality and malignity. What did General Lee do before the war or during the war or after the war that did not have the hearty co-operation of Mr. Davis? What did Mr. Davis do that General Lee did not approve? Both were good soldiers and won their spurs. Both were devout Christian members of the Episcopal church and Senator Reagan said of Mr. Davis: "He was the most devout Christian I ever knew and the most lovable man." He was a conscientious believer in the doctrine of state's rights as expounded by Mr. Calhoun and while a lieutenant in the United States army declared that he would resign his command before he would assist in the coercion of a sovereign state. The International Encyclopedia says of him: "He was a great statesman and a true patriot, and his history will grow brighter as the years roll on." But this presidential accident says he was an arch traitor and arch repudiator and he hasn't the manliness to take it back and apologize.

But here come some genial friends to call and see how I am getting on, for I am still suffering and need sympathy. When they come they bring good cheer and wit and anecdote and that is better than ruminating about politics and the niggers. We were talking about dogs and one of these friends, who is a railroad man, told us about a woman trying to board a train down in Florida. She had a little poodle dog in her arms and the conductor said: "No, madam, you can't take that dog with you in the passenger car. It is against the rules." She was a northern woman with sharp features. Our southern women don't carry poodle dogs around with them; they prefer a baby. Well, she was very indignant and wanted to know what she must do with the dog. "Put him in the baggage car," said the conductor. As she handed up the canine to the baggage man she said, "Well, I reckon I can ride where my dog rides," and she went into the baggage car. The man was disgusted. He tied the dog with a little cord and she squatted on a box near by. After they passed Sanford she got tired, and untying the dog, took him in her arms and went back to the smoker. That car was full of jolly good fellows, but she demanded a seat and they gave her one. She took one-half and laid her poodle on the other half. A jolly Dutchman sat behind her and was smoking an old pipe that gave an unearthly odor and as he talked and laughed with his companion the tobacco smoke encircled her classic head until she couldn't stand it and she turned to him and said with a snap, "No gentleman would smoke in the presence of a lady." "Well, madam," he said kindly, "this is de smokin' car. It is not de ladies' de. I is very sorry to trouble you wid mine pipe and tobacco, but you had better go back to the ladies' car." "They won't let my dog go in there," said she. "Dot is very bad," he said and kept on smoking. By and by a voluminous cloud like that which came from the crater of Mont Pelee rolled over her and in her rage she seized his pipe, jerked it from his mouth and threw it out of the window. Everybody laughed and roared, and he joined in the merriment. "Madam, dot

is all de pipe I hav got. It vas give to me in Sharmany, but vun good turn deserves another," and he seized her little sleeping dog and threw him out of the window. The woman screamed with anger; she mauled him over the head with her umbrella. She screamed and yelled for the train to stop. He stood it all heroically. "Madam, I sent your dog to find mine pipe," he said. The alarm was so great that the conductor came running in and some passengers filled the door, while the woman did the talking. "My husband will meet me at Orlando," she said, "and he will maul the juice out of you, you bald-headed rascal." "Veel, I will give him a chance," said he. The train soon rolled up to Orlando, and sure enough the woman's husband was there. She became violent and hysterical as she told her wrongs and pointed out the man. "Let him come out here," said the husband, "I dare him to come out here." "Veel, I suppose I must see about de fight," said the Dutchman, "and take de medicine, but I shore don't vant no little guns in it nor butcher knives. I can fight some mid mine fists." He took off his coat and handed it to a bystander. The crowd neared. The conductor said he would stop the train for ten minutes. A ring was made for the men to fight in and everybody was in a state of high expectation. Here my friend stopped his narrative and lit a fresh cigar and commenced talking about something else. "But the fight," said I, "what about the fight?" "Oh! there wasn't any fight," he said. "Just as they were about to clutch somebody cried out, 'Look yonder! look yonder! look down the railroad track.' And sure enough there came the little dog running with all his might and he had the Dutchman's pipe in his mouth. Of course there was no fight, for the Dutchman seized his pipe and the woman her dog and that settled it. Now let the preacher tell one." And he did. There are no better story tellers than our Cartersville preachers. They revive me whenever they come, for I am sick at heart and can't breathe enough. Good letters from friends and kindred come every day and my ever thoughtful friend Joe Brown sent me the most beautiful spoon I ever saw—Georgia silver and Georgia etchings and engravings. Blessings on him and his house. —Bill Arrp in Atlanta Constitution.

IN CONGRESS.

The Important Proceedings of Our National Lawmakers.

The House spent the day considering bills reported from the judiciary committee. By far the most important measure was that to amend the existing bankruptcy law. The minority made a vigorous effort to re-assert the present law in toto, but were overwhelmingly defeated, 65 to 137. The bill passed amends the law in 15 particulars to meet defects which experience has proven. The most important is one to define preference to meet the Supreme Court decision in the case of Pirie vs. the Chicago Title and Trust Company. Four additional grounds for refusing a discharge in bankruptcy also are added: First, obtaining property on credit on materially false amendments; second, making a fraudulent transfer of property; third, having been granted or denied a discharge in bankruptcy within six years; fourth, having refused to obey the order of the court or refusal to answer material questions approved by the court.

Messrs. Clayton, of Alabama, and DeArmond, of Missouri, opposed the bill, the former declaring the present bankruptcy law a drastic and oppressive measure. An evening session was held for the consideration of bills reported from the Indian committee.

Throughout Tuesday's session of the Senate the isthmian canal question was under consideration. Speeches were delivered by Messrs. Perkins, of California; Gallinger, of New Hampshire; Stewart, of Nevada, and Morgan, of Alabama. All advocated the adoption of the Nicaragua route except Mr. Gallinger, who made a forceful argument in support of the Panama route, and who said his investigations convinced him that the Panama route was the more healthful of the two.

The two arguments of the Senators in support of the Nicaragua route were made especially on the ground of feasibility and of business wisdom. Mr. Stewart and Mr. Morgan both contended that the health conditions in Nicaragua were superior to those of Panama. Mr. Morgan said there had been raised "no false cry" about the health conditions in Panama. It had been shown by the experience of "all mankind" that Panama was one of the most unhealthy places on the face of the globe. A remark made by Mr. Morgan was characterized as significant, as probably foreshadowing the result of the vote on Thursday. Referring to the alleged wrong-doing by the Panama Canal Company, he said: "The people believe it now, and when this substitute is passed they will know it."

The science of aerial navigation will doubtless be revolutionized by the discovery communicated to the New York Press the other day in the following letter: "I have studied the art of flying for many years, and have just recently tumbled why it is that a bird follows its nose or bill instead of its tail when it flaps its wings. I consider this an immensely great point gained and one that will eventually lead to a practical flying machine. On second thought I have wondered if others are 'on to' this point—the reason or cause that a bird goes forward instead of backward when it flaps its wings."

MR. CLEVELAND SPEAKS

The Ex-President Addresses Tilden Club in New York.

New York, Special.—Ex-President Cleveland was the principal speaker at the meeting of the Tilden Club here Thursday night. This was Mr. Cleveland's first public political speech since his retirement from the presidency.

In his speech Mr. Cleveland said in part:

"I have been urged to participate in this occasion by those who have assured me that this handsome structure is to be dedicated tonight to the rehabilitation and consolidation of the Democratic party, under the inspiration of a name which during the days of Democratic strength and achievement, was honored in every Democratic household. Such an assurance made to one who followed with hearty devotion the leadership of Samuel J. Tilden when living, and who has since found in his career and fame the highest incentive to Democratic steadfastness, could hardly fail to overcome the temptations of my contented retirement from political activity. Perhaps there are those who could define my position as one of banishment instead of retirement. Against this I shall not enter a protest. It is sufficient for me in either case, that I have followed in matters of difference within our party the teachings and counsel of the great Democrats in whose name party peace and harmony are tonight invoked. No confession of party sin should therefore be expected of me. I have none to make; nor do I crave political absolutism. I am here to take counsel with others professing the same party faith, concerning the Democratic situation. I suppose we all are convinced that this situation might be improved; and some of us may think it perilously undermined. Whatever the measure of its impairment may be our condition as an organization cannot be improved by calling each other harsh names, nor by inaugurating a system of arbitrary proscription and banishment. The members of a business firm in financial embarrassment, should not sit down and look in each others' faces in mute despair; neither will they regain financial soundness or the confidence of the business community by recrimination and quarrel; nor will any members of the firm aid in its restoration to solvent strength, by an angry insistence upon a continuation of the business methods which have invited its embarrassment.

"The Democratic party is very far from political insolvency; but no one here should be offended by the suggestion that its capital and prospects have suffered serious injury since Mr. Tilden was elected President. Then and afterwards Northern Democratic States were not rare curiosities. Northern Democratic Senators, now practically extinct, were quite numerous, and Northern Democratic Governors, now almost never seen, were frequently encountered.

"In dealing with new issues we of the Democratic faith are extremely fortunate in the simplicity of Democratic standards and the ease with which new questions can be measured by those standards. A party based upon care for the interests of all the people as their aggregate condition demands, with no unjust favoritism for any particular class, a party devoted to the plan of popular government as our fathers ordained it and for the purposes which they sought to establish; a party whose conservatism opposes dangerous and un-American experiments and yet puts no barrier in the way of genuine and safe progress, ought to be able to deal with new questions in a manner quite consistent with Democratic doctrine, and stimulating to Democratic impulses and instincts.

"The Democratic harmony of which we hear so much, cannot be effectively constructed by mathematical rule nor by a formal agreement on the part of those who have been divided, that there shall be harmony. It grows up naturally when true Democratic principles are plainly announced, when Democratic purposes are honestly declared, and, when as a result of these, confidence and enthusiasm stir the Democratic blood. It was such harmony as this, growing out of such conditions, which with the battle cry of 'Tilden and Reform' gave us the Democratic victory of 1876 against odds great enough to discourage any but a harmonious Democracy and against an opposing force brazen and desperate enough to take from us by downright robbery what the voters of the land gave to us.

"I believe the time point to another Democratic opportunity as near at hand; but I believe we shall reap the fruits of it only by following the line of conduct I have indicated. In any event I have a comforting and abiding faith in the indestructibility of the party which has so many times shown its right to live and its power for good, and I am sure the reserve of patriotic Democratic wisdom will at some time declare itself in the rescue of our country and our party.

"My days of political activity are past; and I shall not hereafter assume to participate in party councils. I am absolutely content with retirement; but I still have one burning, anxious political aspiration. I want to see before I die the restoration to perfect health and supremacy of that Democracy whose mission it is to bless the people—a Democracy true to itself, untempted by clamor, unmoved by the gusts of popular passion and uncrushed by offers of strange alliance, the Democracy of patriotism, the Democracy of safety, the Democracy of Tilden and the Democracy that deserves and wins success."

THE VIRGINIA CONSTITUTION.

Comprehensive Outline of Some of its Significant Features.

Richmond, Va., Special.—The Virginia constitutional convention, which assembled here more than a year ago, Monday completed its work. There is nothing remaining to be done but to sign the constitution, which the body has already proclaimed as the organic law of the Commonwealth. This instrument completely revolutionizes not only the politics of the State but will have an important bearing upon its material progress, it may be.

The most significant changes effected are the suffrage clause and the creation of a corporation commission, with the most arbitrary powers ever proposed in the Old Dominion. The franchise provision will eliminate possibly 60 or 70 per cent. of the negro vote, but little or none of that of the whites, if the boards of registration do what is expected of them. Under the operations of the new law which with all other provisions of the constitution, will go into effect July 10th, it is proposed to place the whole white voting population on the books before 1904, when the "understanding" clause becomes inoperative. After that period, the white and colored illiterates are put pretty much on the same footing. A rigid educational qualification is made to apply after that time and unless the registration boards act in the most grossly partisan way, there can be little discrimination shown in accepting voters.

The most interesting question though is what effect the new franchise law will have upon the political future of the State. With the complete liberation of the whites, it is very doubtful whether the leaders, the men who have heretofore dominated the party affairs of Virginia, will exert any such influence in future campaigns. This will be particularly true, probably, of great national campaigns. With the incubus of the negro issue eliminated, the white people of Virginia will be free to act as they see fit, on all economic and other questions which may effect the interests of the country. This view of the situation is admitted by the ablest Democratic leaders in the State. These men foresaw that such a condition threatened their future continuance in politics should a new constitution be adopted. It was largely on this account that most of the conspicuous men especially of the machine element, opposed the assembling of a convention. If they could have had their way Senator Martin and the men who reign under him, would never have permitted this body to have met. They fought it in season and out of season, but could not stem the tide that had set in against them and the old order of political manipulations in the Old Dominion.

Next to the franchise articles, the creation by the convention of a corporation commission was the most revolutionary action adopted. This body is to be composed of three members to be named by the Governor, and confirmed by the General Assembly. The commission is given power to fix rates for railroads, express, telegraph and telephone companies. The business of these interests is placed practically under the supervision of this body. The only appeal permitted from its decision is to the State Supreme Court, and then the latter body can only enquire into the questions for adjudication. The law takes away from every State, city and county official the right to accept free transportation or any other form of deadheadism from the great corporations. Heretofore the members of the legislature, judges of the courts, from the highest to the lowest, the Governors of the State and their families, and indeed every official in Virginia, looked upon free passes and other modes of deadheadism as their natural right and part of the perquisites of their offices. Now the acceptance of any of these modes of bribery will vacate the office held by the recipient. The railroads fought the creation of the commission with all the vigor of which they are capable, as did their newspapers and it was in vain.

The new constitution makes radical changes, too, in the manner of taxing railroad property. Under the present organic law, all subjects must bear the same rate of taxation. This is changed under the new order of things, and the tax on railroad property may be double or treble that, on real estate or any other class of property. This change is largely due to a suggestion given by President Cassall, of the Pennsylvania Railroad, in conversation with a prominent member of the finance committee of the convention. Mr. Cassall remarked to this gentleman, "that Virginia lawmakers had not begun to learn how to exact taxation from corporations." This tip was quickly acted upon and largely as the result of Mr. Cassall's timely hint, the new finance provision was worked out.

All of the leading men agree that the new constitution is the best Virginia has had for years, if it is not the best the State ever had given her. The Republicans are disposed to question the right of the convention to proclaim the instrument. This, though, in the judgment of the ablest jurists and lawyers, will not amount to anything. The constitution goes into effect July 10th, and on that day every officer of the State is required to take oath under it. A failure to comply with this provision will vacate the office of the recalcitrant. This applies to judges and members of the Legislature also. It is possible that one of two stubborn legislators may refuse to subscribe to the oath, but if so they will no doubt be promptly expelled from the body.

LIVE ITEMS OF NEWS

Many Matters of General Interest Short Paragraphs.

The Sunny South.

For cause unknown, Albert D. Mack prominent in Nashville, Tenn., was killed himself.

The practice ship Chesapeake, with naval cadets aboard, went around Chesapeake Bay, but was soon pulled off.

Col. Henry Watterson was orator of the day at a celebration on the battle field of Tippecanoe, in Indiana.

At The National Capital.

The visit of George W. Perkins, J. P. Morgan & Co., to the White House Friday had nothing to do with the coal strike.

It is believed that, if President Roosevelt shall attend the naval maneuvers off the Cuban coast in January, Secretary Hay will be President during his absence.

The United States Government is negotiating treaties with foreign countries which will include murder and kidnaping among the extraditable crimes.

It is expected that Paymaster-General of the Navy A. S. Kenny will soon retire.

At The North.

The lake passenger season between Chicago, Ill., and Buffalo, N. Y., opened Saturday.

Harvard's observatory at Cambridge, Mass., is giving time signals at night by electric lights.

Eight of the ten unions in the Building Trades Council of Quincy, Ill., voted Saturday to go on strike.

The commercial telegraphers of Chicago, Ill., were organized by the American Federation of Labor.

Accused of embezzlement and forgery, W. H. Hawkins, real estate agent, of Marysville, Mo., has been arrested.

Sunstroke caused the death of John G. Swartz, a New York traveling man, at a hospital in Cleveland, O., Saturday.

The paper mills at Fort Edward, Glens Falls and Palmer, N. Y., started again, the strikes having been settled.

While walking with his wife in the park Saturday night, Lemuel Hickman at Springfield, Ill., suddenly shot and killed her.

Four persons were burned, two probably fatally, at Kansas City, Mo., Saturday, when Mrs. Julia Hawkes tried to hurry the kitchen fire with kerosene.

U. S. Grant Post, G. A. R., of Brooklyn, N. Y., has given \$50 to Camp Jeff Falkner, United Confederate Veterans of Montgomery, Ala., to help build a Confederate soldiers' home.

Heavy rains caused flooded houses at Lancaster, O.

The reunion of the Mystic Shriners at San Francisco, Cal., ended with a harbor excursion.

During a quarrel over a card game Mrs. Mary Sassanali was killed by Vincenzo Aduasio, at Youngstown, O.

Western Reserve University has been given \$100,000 by Colonel A. A. Pope, of Cleveland, O., for college buildings.

A landslide on the New York Central Railroad near Peekskill, N. Y., caused a bad wreck, but no loss of life.

The reward offered for the capture of Tracy and Merrill, the convicts who broke jail at Salem, Ore., has been doubled, being now \$3000.

An explosion at the Aurora mine, Ironwood, Mich., killed three men.

Bloodhounds are trailing the prisoners who escaped Monday from the penitentiary at Salem, Ore.

Three members of the Yale graduating class who went sailing Sunday from New Haven, Conn., are missing.

In a gale off Highland Light, Mass., the three-masted schooner John C. Cottingham was dismasted and abandoned.

Former Congressman George H. White is founding a colony for North Carolina negroes in New Jersey.

From Across The Sea.

King Edward was taken ill at Aldershot with a chill and lumbago.

General Delarey surrendered at Lichtenburg, Transvaal, with 800 men.

Grand Duchess Helena of Russia has been betrothed to Prince Nicholas of Greece.

It is expected at Manila that a general amnesty will be declared July 4.

The bombardment of Nanking, China, by rebels was bloody, but unsuccessful.

Miscellaneous Matters.

Trustees of Washburn College, Topeka, Kan., elected Norman D. Plass, of Worthington, Mass., as president.

The conviction of John Most, anarchist, for publishing an improper article, was confirmed by the New York Court of Appeals.

Forest fires are causing great alarm in the mountain district around Leadville, Col.

Angered by the discharge of 30 brewery drivers at Chicago, Ill., the union will order a general strike.