

NORTH STATE NEWS NOTES.

Condensed Paragraphs of Incidents of Interest.

SWAMP LAND TO BE RECLAIMED.

Fifty Thousand Acres of Valuable Land to be Redeemed--State Board of Agriculture.

Senator Maulsby, of Columbus county, who has been in Raleigh past several days attending the sessions of the Directors of the Department of Agriculture, is actively connected with the Columbus Drainage Company, which has for its object the draining of about 50,000 acres of swamp lands, known as White Marsh.

The charter for the company was granted by the Legislature of 1896, and a renewal granted by the recent General Assembly. Mr. Maulsby says that there is every indication that work will commence early in September. Steam dredges will be placed in July. The main drain channel to be cut will be 9 feet by 40 feet, a 1 about 23 miles long, extending from Bladen county to the Waccamaw river. There are also two lesser channels cut each of which will be 8 feet by 24 feet, and extending the same distance.

If the efforts of the company are successful in the making of these swamp lands, available for farming purposes, they will be capable of producing from 75 to 100 bushels of corn to the acre for a hundred years without the use of an ounce of fertilizer in September.

The Senator is quite confident of success in the enterprise. He appeared before the State Board of Education and was granted an extension of time to the option which he has upon the land, which is owned by the State. An extension to 1900 was granted. There is a suit pending in the Supreme Court involving the title to the lands, but the State Board has little fear of gaining the case. The case is entitled "The State Board of Education vs. Samuel Harrison."

The Drainage Company has already placed orders for the steam dredges to be used in the prosecution of their work.

State Board of Agriculture.

The State Board of Agriculture met Wednesday morning. The new officials agreed on by the caucus were duly elected. James M. Newberry, commissioner; J. L. Ramsay, secretary; James H. Young, colored, chief fertilizer inspector; J. E. Kelly, Ed Shoup, James Sheek and J. M. Siersson, assistant fertilizer inspectors. The salary of chief inspector was raised from \$1,000 to \$1,200, and the number of assistants was increased by one. One of the reasons given for the election of Newberry and the defeat of Dr. D. Field Parker, was that Mr. Newberry was elected two years ago but was knocked out of the place. Dr. Reid Parker was a Pritchard man. That was another reason.

A very destructive fire occurred at Monroe Thursday. At 11 o'clock it broke out on the cotton platform, near the freight depot, and in a few minutes it had spread to the right place for the wind to sweep it across the entire platform. It was some time before the fire could be controlled, and at least 250 bales of cotton were burned, more or less badly before it was put out. The guano house of S. L. Bundy was burned, with about 700 bags of fertilizer. W. S. Lee's guano house was also destroyed. The Monroe Cotton Mills, owned by Messrs. J. M. Morven & Co. owned most of the cotton that was burned.

The commissioners of the town of Rutherfordton having ordered an election to be held on the same day as the town election, next May, to see whether the town will adopt the dispensary law which the last Legislature passed. A peculiarity in the enrollment of the ballot is that the bill states that whether a majority of votes is cast for the law or against it, the law will be "in operation." From present appearances the advocates of the dispensary will have a large majority of the votes cast.

Mrs. Lula E. Clayton, of Laurinburg, has qualified as administratrix of her husband's estate. Mr. W. E. Clayton, of Clay, was the executor of the estate which was the fearful wreck that occurred on the S. A. L. road last Thanksgiving Day. Mrs. Clayton has entered suit against the company for \$50,000 damages, and her case will be conducted by Attorneys M. L. John, of Laurinburg, and Frank McNeill, of Wilmington. The case will be tried before the Superior Court of New Hanover county.

In the Superior Court at Raleigh, Thursday, John Groves, white, was convicted of the murder of the second degree and sentenced to 20 years in the penitentiary. The crime of which he was convicted was the killing of Henry Wall, colored, on the 26th of January, at Forestville, in this county. Notice of appeal was given.

In the Superior Court of Surry county Thursday Robert Mosely was sentenced to fifteen years imprisonment for manslaughter. The crime of which he was convicted was the killing of W. M. Guyer about a year ago. Mosely is 30 years old and has a wife and six children.

The election for aldermen at Wilmington under the amended charter, resulted in the election of three Democrats and two Republicans. Under the amended charter, Governor Russell appoints five aldermen, four of whom are Republicans.

The directors named for the North Carolina Railroad are eight in number. They are R. M. Norment, who is to be president; V. S. Brown, C. A. Root, H. W. Graham, William Gilchrist and John W. Graham.

Work on the Moore county and Western Railway has begun at the Concord end. The outlook for railway construction in the State is more promising than in seven or eight years.

The Governor has appointed Eugene D. Carter as police justice of Asheville, to serve one year from May 1st.

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 Brunswick, 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.

R. R. Bioridan, 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 shot with outraging the wife of a white farmer.

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 child 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 explaining his reason for suicide to a faithful 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 Edge Hill 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., was destroyed by fire. When built it was said to have cost, with its contents, over \$800,000. 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 destruction and electric sparks 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 cell in which they were all noted counterfeiters.

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

Christian Kielmecker, 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.

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

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 being the subject of debate. The House of Representatives 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 are under consideration in the House. The latter, falling to become a law owing to President Cleveland's veto.

The four great appropriation bills, the agricultural, the insular, the sundry civil and the 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 committee of Congress.

FRIDAY.—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 republican majority in 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 law as administered is being 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 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 valley; amending the act to repeal 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, which was behind 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 was introduced yesterday's proceedings, was followed up today by the introduction of two bills, one by Mr. Allen, Populist of Nebraska, for the repeal and amendment of the law and the other by Mr. Pritchard, Republican of North Carolina, chairman of the committee on civil service and retrenchment, modifying it in various particulars to the Government Printing Office.

While in executive session the Senate confirmed the nominations of Bininger 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, providing 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 the committee on privileges and elections in the matter of the admission of Senators, of the appointment of Governors.

At 12:30, on motion of Mr. Davis, Republican of Minnesota, acting chairman of the committee on the constitution, 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. Benson, 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 report of the 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. When the report is printed, copies will be printed, 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 among them and by Mr. Hoar, Republican, of Ohio, to file in the State Department relating to the arrest and imprisonment in Cuba of two American sailors, Richell and Bolton. A large number of bills were introduced, among them one by Mr. Quay, Republican, of Pennsylvania, by request, to suppress perjury; and by Mr. Cullom, Republican, of Illinois, to promote serial 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 to clock the Senate adjourned until Monday.

HOUSE. BRAZEN BOARDER (at dinner table)—I can tell a fowl's age by its teeth. Surprised Landlady—But fowls have no teeth. BRAZEN BOARDER—No; but I have.—Texas Siftings.

STATE'S LABOR STATISTICS.

Ben. R. Lacy's Last Report as Labor Commissioner.

SOME INTERESTING FIGURES.

The Bureau's Report for 1896--Average Wages--The Employment of Children in the Mills.

Below we publish the last report of the State Bureau of Labor Statistics for 1896. The first chapter of it is devoted to agricultural statistics:

The figures given in chapter 1 are based on replies from 355 representative farmers in the 96 counties. The average wages paid for farm labor are as follows: Men \$3.50 a month, women \$3, children \$3. Rations averaging \$3.90 a month, and vegetables, fuel and milk averaging \$2.80 are furnished, making the total to farmer \$15.40. The reports show that 65 counties produce cotton, and also that the average cost of producing a 400-pound bale is \$22.70. Of this 95 per cent. represents labor alone. Ninety-two counties produce wheat, at an average cost of 80 cents a bushel. Ninety-two counties produce oats at an average of 20 cents, and 93 produce tobacco, at an average cost of \$3.35 per 100 pounds are 189 of these.

When the question blanks were sent to farmers the inquiry was made as to whether they favored compulsory education. From 72 counties the reply was "yes," 17 counties "no," and only 17 said "no." It is the first time this inquiry was ever made. Of the 355 farmers who, as stated, made reports, no less than 294 declared, made reports, compulsory education. There had been no agitation, and the high percentage of replies in the affirmative shows that it is striking into the popular mind.

Chapter 2 is devoted to the cotton and woolen mills. There are 189 of these, located in 49 counties. Of these 36 per cent. are in the four counties of Alamance, Gaston, Mecklenburg and Randolph, the two former having 20 each. The total number of spindles is 101,381 and Alamance 3,735 looms. In operating mills about 37,000 horse-power is used.

Of operatives employed in mills there are 63,487, divided as follows: Men, 6,822; women, 10,567; children, 6,046. The average daily wages are: Machinists \$1.68, engineer, \$1.46, firemen \$1.25, skilled men \$1.00, unskilled men 68 cents, unskilled women 47 cents, children 31 cents. In other words the skilled female laborer does not get as much pay as the unskilled male employes 81 per cent. read and write, and of the children 66 per cent. Of the children 1,788 boys and 1,641 girls are under fourteen years of age. The daily hours of labor range from 10 to 12. The question of the employment of children is an interesting one. A gentleman who was getting up some figures on the employment of children asked his view as to the question of non-employment of children under 14 in the mills and also the question of compulsory education. He found all the half-dozen bitterly opposed to both ideas. He expressed surprise, and then they gave their reasons, which certainly are remarkable. They said that they had been at all the expense incident to the birth and childhood of their children and clothed and fed them until they were able to go to work, at 10 to 12 years of age, and that it was only right that the children should be put to work, in order that their parents might get the money back. They further argued that if they sent their children to school they would go off and marry as soon as they completed their education, and thus the parents would spend the money they had spent on them.

The report says this idea of raising children as an investment will strike the general public as new, but that is the light in which the average cotton mill owner views the matter; in other words, that a majority of the operatives in the State so think. The report makes the plain statement that all children under 14 should be compelled to attend school.

At all the mills are schools, supported in part, and in many cases entirely, by the mill owners, many of these schools being in session 12 months in the year. These schools are first-class. Libraries are in some cases provided, and the owners seek to impress the employes with the necessity for educating the children, but as long as the latter are able to earn a few dollars in the mill it is impossible to keep them in school. Julian S. Carr says it is not the desire of the mill-owners to employ child labor—that it is generally forced upon them.

The reports as to miscellaneous factories are numerous. Seventy-eight per cent report the cost of living as having decreased during the past year, and only one reports of an increase, the remainder reporting no change. Sixty-four per cent report a decrease and 12 per cent an increase. Seventy-four per cent pay wages weekly, and 90 per cent pay all in cash. Nearly 60 per cent of the factories made full time during the year, and 80 per cent worked 10 hours a day. All save two favor compulsory education.

Chapter 4 is on trades. The reports show that of employes 67 per cent are weekly, 14 per cent monthly and 19 per cent daily, semi-monthly, etc.; 77 per cent are paid in cash and 23 per cent in trade and cash; 7 per cent report an increase in wages, 46 per cent a decrease and 48 per cent no change; 45 per cent make full time and 52 per cent do not; 72 per cent work ten hours a day, 4 per cent work less than 10 hours and 24 per cent work over 10 hours. It is interesting to note that 80 per cent favor an industrial apprenticeship system and 30 per cent oppose it; and that 68 per cent favor boys entering a common school examination on entering a trade; 73 per cent favor compulsory education and 7 per cent oppose it. A. E. McCausland, of Charlotte, warmly favors the establishment of "trade schools" which are so successful in Europe and in Massachusetts.

J. M. Odell, of Concord, the oldest mill owner in the State, writes an excellent letter, in which he says: "I am of the opinion that if no labor laws are enacted it will not be very long before North Carolina will be the foremost State in this Union. We will have the most contented labor and the time will soon come when no child under 12 years will be working in the mills, and none that cannot read and write."

BRADSTREET AND DUN. Weekly Trade Review of These Two Leading Agencies. R. G. Dun & Co., in their weekly review of trade issued on Saturday, say: Rarely have markets sustained such surprises as they have received of late, with so little loss. Foreign conditions and London alarms, the collapse of the iron ore combination, the destructive goods in the Mississippi valley, and the decision of the Supreme Court against railroad associations, have been enough to throw a shadow over the market. With confidence that better times and larger business are coming, men are less disposed every day to throw away flood investments, and the very fact that prices of products are low is regarded as a guarantee against much further decline. In all industries, also, a number of mills, shops and hands at work, gradually increase.

Cotton was helped up an eighth by the flood, but has lost half the gain. Manufacturing is more hopeful. Without change in prices goods were in better demand, and sales of 500,000 pieces of print cloth result in a stronger tone. The final dissolution of the lake iron ore pool has been expected ever since the Carnegie-Rockefeller deal, and insures low prices for ore the coming year, though, perhaps, not lower than in 1895. Prices are still advancing, and of many kinds have risen two or three times during the past month. The wool manufacturer is steadily increasing, but cautiously, as it is too early to anticipate results from changes which may be made in duties.

The failures of the week have been 291 in the United States, against 239 last year, and 50 in Canada, against 39 last year. Bradstreet's report says: "While the week is not without favorable features, unfavorable influences have been more numerous. Leading month markets show no change. Merchant collections are slow and the volume of funds offered is in excess of the demands for discounts. The tendency of investments to improve has temporarily disappeared, under the influence of the Supreme Court and trust decision, which apparently threatens arrangements for the maintenance of railway rates, as well as railway trades-union activity, so far as it may affect interstate commerce. The tendency of prices is downward, quotations being lower for wheat, Indian corn, oats, coffee, cotton and for pig iron and steel billets and the lower priced ore. Stormy weather, high water and floods in the Ohio, Mississippi and Missouri river valleys, and in the country drained by tributary streams, have interfered with interior trade.

"The bank clearing at 77 cities throughout the United States are disappointing, the total being only \$888,000,000 for the week, 6.6 per cent less than in the like week one year ago."

CHICAGO, Saturday.—The leading futures were as follows: Wheat: Open. Close. March..... 72 1/2 71 1/2 July..... 72 1/2 71 1/2 September..... 69 1/2 69 1/2 Corn: March..... 23 1/2 23 1/2 July..... 24 1/2 24 1/2 September..... 23 1/2 23 1/2 Oats: March..... 16 1/2 16 1/2 July..... 17 1/2 17 1/2 September..... 18 1/2 18 1/2 Mess Pork: May..... 8 65 8 60 July..... 8 70 8 70 Lard: May..... 4 17 4 20 July..... 4 30 4 30 Ribs: May..... 4 60 4 60 July..... 4 62 4 62 Liverpool Cotton Market. Closed quiet but steady. March..... 3 58 3/8 3 58 3/8 April..... 3 58 3/8 3 58 3/8 May and June..... 3 58 3/8 3 58 3/8 June and July..... 3 58 3/8 3 58 3/8 July and August..... 3 58 3/8 3 58 3/8 August and September..... 3 58 3/8 3 58 3/8 September and October..... 3 50 3/4 3 50 3/4 October and November..... 3 45 3/4 3 45 3/4 November and December..... 3 44 3/4 3 44 3/4 December and January..... 3 48 3/4 3 48 3/4 January and February..... New York Cotton Futures. New York, Saturday.—Cotton quiet. Futures closed steady. March..... 6 97 6 96 April..... 7 05 6 96 May..... 7 02 6 99 June..... 7 06 7 04 July..... 7 10 7 08 August..... 7 11 7 08 September..... 6 84 6 84 October..... 6 78 6 71 November..... 6 78 6 74 December..... 6 78 6 74 January..... February..... A Rigid Investigation. All of the circumstances connected with the alleged plot to kidnap the child of a citizen of Houston, and hold it for ransom money, are so peculiar as to call for the most rigid investigation. The Waters Falling. The latest reports from the flooded districts along the Ohio, Mississippi and Missouri rivers is that the waters are gradually falling, and that the worst is over. Liable for Back Taxes. The Supreme Court of Kentucky has rendered a decision which may make the banks of the State liable for \$1,000,000 back taxes. Early Watches. Watches were first called Nuremberg eggs; some of them were five and six inches in diameter, as large as the small-sized cheap clocks now exhibited in store windows. They were first made in 1447.

A QUICK HEARING.

Will He Had of Appeal in Traffic Association Case.

Attorney-General McKenna has directed District Attorney McFarlane of 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 unconstitutional. 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 interstate-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 of 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 was taken in view 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 be at least one foot higher. The bottom at the mouth of the Kaw river is over-flooded 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 levee 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 telegraph wires have been swept from the 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 telegraph wire from the 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 the telegraph wires from the business of Harry E. Wry and the W. A. Michel Commission Company et al., and from removing "tickers" and from cutting off or in any way 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 maintain the public 'market news' and said telegraph companies have been so long employed by the public so to do that said companies may be considered as agents of the public, and the public 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 organization was held in Lincoln and 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 chosen. Judge D. D. Gregory, of Omaha, was made the Nebraska member of the National Committee and a State organization was effected. Six Congressional district committees 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 case pending against the bond of the steamer 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 \$200,000, 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 Trainor, secretary and general manager. The following were elected a board of directors: B. B. Comer, Robert Jamison, W. J. Milner, David Trainor 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.