

FINANCIAL PANIC IN CUBA.

Caused By Prohibition of Exchange of Bank Bills for Silver.

LEE AND CALHOUN VISIT PRISONS

Enters a Protest Against the Violation of American Mails at the Havana Postoffice.

A special from Havana, Cuba, via Key West, Fla., of the 16th, says: "The decision of the government against the exchanging of bank bills for silver coin has caused a panic. Prices of bread, milk and other necessities of life have fallen within the past few days. The working classes, as well as all government employes, both civil and military, openly express their dissatisfaction with the action of the government in paying them in scrip, which is 90 per cent. below par. It is believed the government will no longer accept paper money in payment of taxes. In that event, a further depreciation of the paper money may be expected."

"Through Consul General Lee, W. J. Calhoun, the special commissioner appointed by the United States to investigate the killing of Dr. Ruiz, officially notified the Spanish government of the fact of his arrival, and that he was awaiting communications from the Spanish government and the naming of a representative who is expected to cooperate with him. "Consul General Lee and Special Commissioner Calhoun yesterday visited the city jail and talked with the prisoners there. Among those interviewed were Senor Viondi, attorney for General Julio Jangully, and Senor Garcia, charged with publishing unreliable and alarming anti-Spanish news. Senor Garcia attempted to plead American citizenship in defense, but so far has been unable to produce the proofs of his citizenship, and it is doubtful whether he will be able to demonstrate that he is a citizen of the United States. "Gen. Lee has entered a protest at the palace against the violation of American mails at the Havana postoffice."

YARN MANUFACTURERS

Meeting at Charlotte--Agree to Reduce the Production.

At Charlotte, N. C., a convention of cotton yarn manufacturers was held on the 15th, about forty yarn mills being represented. A number of other cotton manufacturers also attended the meeting. An agreement was signed by which a curtailment in production of 25 per cent. will be made in yarns below 20's, this reduction to go into effect June 15th. Action was also taken to obtain a reduction in freight rates from Southern points to the markets of the North and West. Several railroad representatives were present, and the meeting will be prosecuted vigorously. Action was also taken for the purpose of eliminating many extra charges which it has become the custom of commission houses to make or allow to purchasers of yarns. A special committee was appointed to look after labor legislation. A permanent organization was effected, J. F. Anthony, of Charlotte, being made president, and A. P. Rhyme, of Mount Holly, being made vice-president. A board of seven directors were elected. The meeting adjourned, subject to the call of the board of directors. It seemed to be the sense of the meeting that a further reduction should be made if necessary to do so in order to bring the price of yarns to a profitable basis.

WHAT TURKEY DEMANDS.

Burned All the Villages Around Pharsalas--Ready to Surrender.

Constantinople, May 15.—(By Cable)—The sum of 16,000,000 pounds (Turkish) is mentioned here as the amount of the indemnity which Turkey will demand from Greece. Placards have been posted in the Stamboul quarter protesting against the shedding of Mussulman blood on the ground that the sacrifices imposed upon Turkey by the war are out of proportion to the advantages she can gain. Athens, May 15.—(By Cable)—A private dispatch from the outbreak of the war, was sent to the Greek archbishop and five notabilities of Preveza to the commander of the besieging Greek army with a message saying that the Greek force is ready to capitulate to the regular forces of Greece. Headquarters of the Greek Army in Sessaly, Domokos, May 15.—(By Cable)—A detachment of Turkish cavalry appeared here at daybreak this morning, but retired on seeing the Greek advance posts. The Turks have burned all the villages around Pharsalas.

WANTS AN INDEMNITY

Of \$3,000,000, and Desires to Negotiate Direct With the Sultan.

London, May 18.—(By Cable)—The correspondent of the Daily Telegraph at Constantinople, says the Sultan resents the mediation of the powers and desires to negotiate with Greece directly. If this is refused, the Turkish demands will be more exacting. The Berlin correspondent of the Daily News says he learns on excellent authority that the Turkish government demands a war indemnity of \$3,000,000 and the right to occupy Thessaly until it is paid. Athens, May 12.—(By Cable)—The fact that there is no news of renewed fighting must be regarded as good news, but an uneasy feeling exists here. The Turks are trying to outflank the Greek position at Domokos, and the delay in the Porte's reply is also interpreted to mean that Turkey does not mean to make any concessions. Telegrams from the front report that both armies are concentrating in anticipation of an engagement. The return of Crown Prince Constantine to the capital might produce disturbances, but he is likely to be discreet enough to avoid Athens for a time. Athens, May 12.—(By Cable)—It is officially announced that the powers have notified the Greek government that the Greek troops must leave the island of Crete, and that the admirals of the international fleet will release all steamers that have been seized during the blockade. Southampton, May 12.—(By Cable)—General Nelson A. Miles, United States Army, arrived here today from New York, on his way to the scene of the Greco-Turkish war. He left tonight for Constantinople. General Miles intends to see the Turkish army and the armies of Europe generally before returning to the United States. London, May 18.—(By Cable)—The Rome correspondent of the Daily Mail says: "I ascertained at the Italian Foreign Office that Turkey will certainly accede to the request for an armistice, and will place herself in the hands of the belligerents. The general condition of frontier, upon which Turkey insists, have been already acquiesced in by the powers. It is probable that the powers will land troops in Crete."

SENSATIONAL REPORT.

Consul General Lee Declares the Insurgents Stronger Than Ever.

Consul General Lee has made a report to the State Department at Washington that the Cuban insurgents will win the contest. He declares that Capt. General Weyler has no grounds for stating that the island has been pacified. He declares that, as a matter of fact, the insurrection has never been so strong as it is at present. The Cuban force has increased in numbers since his arrival in Cuba, and he thinks the Spaniards will be driven from the island. The Spanish soldiers are disheartened because of the failure to get their pay. More than ever before are the Cubans pursuing the guerrilla tactics, and the Spanish army, President McKinley is reluctant to make known the report, but the startling facts are leaking out.

WEATHER AND CROPS

In the South Conditions Have Not Been Good.

The weather bureau, in its report of crop conditions for the week ending May 11th, says: In the States of the upper Mississippi and Missouri Valleys the week ending May 10 has been the best of the season and exceptionally favorable for farming operations and growth of crops. In the Southern States the conditions have been less favorable, being too cool and in some sections too dry. Corn has generally suffered from the ravages of insects and from low temperature. Cotton has not made favorable progress over the central and western portions of the cotton belt, the weather being too cool, complaints of injury by insects being quite general, while rain is needed in some sections. Nearly Six Million Dollars Surplus. At the annual meeting of the American Tobacco Company held in Newark, N. J., the following directors were chosen for the term of one year: A. J. Brown, James C. Byer, John Doerffler and Ernest Shefferson. The annual report of the year ending December 31, 1896, showed a balance of surplus of \$5,584,284, against a surplus of \$8,600,972 for the year previous. The net earnings for the year were \$9,528,197 and the balance, after dividends and charges, \$864,177. This amount, added to last year's surplus, makes a total of \$5,469,284, and not made from this a 20 per cent. scrip dividend of \$3,880,000 on the common stock the \$5,884,548 balance of surplus is left.

Two Negro Girls Hanged.

Recently on two occasions the Kelly family, living in Madison county, Ala., have been poisoned. On the first occasion, one death followed, and on the last eleven persons suffered, but there were no deaths. Two negro girls, Mollie Smith and Mandy White, were arrested and confessed to the poisoning, and a number of neighbors took the two girls in charge, and their bodies were found swinging to a limb.

AERO-AMERICAN BUDGET.

Sketch of the Life of the New Recorder of Deeds.

THE NEGRO IS GETTING THERE.

They Don't Agree--Reasonable Philosophy--The Negro First, Last and All the Time.

As will be seen by reference to our news columns Henry Plummer Chestham, of North Carolina, was last week confirmed as Recorder of Deeds for the District of Columbia, and below is a short sketch of the above subject: "Henry Plummer Chestham was born a slave in Granville county, N. C., December 2, 1857. He belonged to the well-known Chestham family of that county of the State and the family always regarded him with particular favor. He attended private schools when a boy and at the age of 15 entered the normal department of Shaw University, of Raleigh. Three years later, he entered the collegiate department, graduating in 1882, with the degree of A. B. His college later conferred upon him the degree of A. M. Until 1888 he was principal of the "Fifth-month State Normal School." Then he was elected register of deeds of Vance county, holding this office until he was elected to the Fifty-first Congress. He was re-elected to the Fifty-second Congress. No man of his race has attained more popularity, both in private and public life. He enjoys in a marked degree the respect of both races. He is wonderfully equipped. Public preference has not disturbed it. It is said of him by a Granville Democrat that he "was born a gentleman." While in Congress he saved some money and advisedly invested it in an estate on real estate. It can be said of him what can be said of very few Congressmen—he has an income. It is believed that he will make an ideal District officer, and that he will quickly and effectually redeem the Recorder of Deeds from the scandal and disreputable management of the present incumbent.

STATUE OF WASHINGTON, UNVEILED IN PHILADELPHIA BY THE PRESIDENT.

NEW WASHINGTON MONUMENT. Imposing Statue Unveiled in Philadelphia by President McKinley.

The Washington Monument, unveiled in Philadelphia on Saturday by President McKinley, is an imposing and beautiful structure. It has been erected by the Pennsylvania Society of the Cincinnati, and is presented to the city of Philadelphia. It is in Fairmount Park at the Green Spring station. The monument had its inception in 1810. A German sculptor, Rudolph Siemering, designed it, and it was constructed abroad, arriving in this country in 1887. The monument is forty-four feet high. An equestrian figure of Washington stands twenty feet above the pedestal. At the four corners of the platform are fountains served by allegorical figures of American Indians, representing the Delaware, Hudson, Potomac and Mississippi rivers. Each fountain is guarded on the sides by typical American animals—the moose, buffalo, deer and bear—and on the front and back of the pedestal are two allegorical groups.

WEEKLY CROP BULLETIN

Of the North Carolina Climate and Crop Service.

The week ending Monday, May 10th, was not favorable for the growth of crops. The weather was entirely too cool and windy. The temperature was below the normal, notwithstanding the bright sunshine which prevailed most of the week. The cool weather has retarded growth of crops and sprouting of seeds considerably. The week was quite dry, light showers occurring at scattered points only on May 6th in the central and western districts. Farm work has been brought up to date now and everywhere. The stands of corn and cotton are not generally good. Everything needs warmth and moisture.

LYNCHED THREE MEN.

A Texas Mob Took the Prisoners From a Guard and Hanged Them From a Tree.

Dave Cotton, aged thirty-two; Berry Williams, aged nineteen, and Sabe Stuart, aged twenty, all colored, were hanged by a mob of between seventy-five and one hundred men three miles from Rosebud, Texas. The victims entered the residence of William Coates, living at Rosebud, and attempted to assault his daughter, Miss Lottie Coates.

Falling Off in Immigration.

The returns received by the Immigration Bureau in Washington for several months show a marked falling off in the number of immigrant arrivals in this country. The arrivals in the nine months ending March 22, 1897, was 142,943, as compared with 250,320 for the same period in the preceding year. Commissioner General Stamp estimates that the decrease for the fiscal year ending on June 30 will be not less than 33,000.

Countess Castellane's Gift.

Count Castellane has written a letter to Baron Mackau informing him that the Countess (who was Miss Alina Gould, of New York) has decided, in memory of her mother, to devote \$200,000 to the purchase of a site and the erection of a building in Paris to be used for all kinds of charitable purposes.

Ex-Senator Coke Dead.

Ex-United States Senator Richard Coke died at his home in Texas a few days ago. He had been ill for a long time. He was sixty-eight years old. His last term in the Senate expired in 1895.

TROUBLE IS COMING.

Germany, France and Russia Have United Against England.

Berlin, May 15.—(By Cable)—The correspondent of the Associated Press is informed that during the past week a definite understanding was perfected by which the cabinets of Germany, France and Russia will soon reach the solution of the Egyptian and Transvaal questions and this will be done systematically and in a common sense. As soon as the Greco-Turkish matters are settled, the subject will be jointly taken up unless Great Britain in the meanwhile precipitates matters, in which case she will encounter the united, open hostility of the three continental powers. The ultimate object of the agreement is to force the evacuation of Egypt and the nullification of the Pretoria convention of 1895, and to put the Transvaal upon a perfectly independent basis.

WINS THEIR SUIT.

The Bell Telephone Company have won the case brought against it by the United States government to annul the Berliner patent. This continues the control of the telephone by the Bell Company for seventeen years from 1891, when the last patent was granted.

Cotton Firms Dissolve.

The Inman cotton firms of Atlanta and Augusta, Ga., Houston, Texas; New York and Bremen, Germany, are to expire by limitation on Sept. 1st, by Mr. S. M. Inman retiring and younger members stepping in.



STATUE OF WASHINGTON, UNVEILED IN PHILADELPHIA BY THE PRESIDENT. NEW WASHINGTON MONUMENT.

THE GREEKS STILL FIGHTING

The Sultan Will Take His Time About Granting an Armistice.

OVER 400 MEN KILLED.

Fighting in Epirus Complicates the Situation--Turkish Tactics Not Understood.

London, May 14.—(By Cable)—Except for the fighting in Epirus the Greco-Turkish situation is yesterday unchanged from what it was yesterday. It is tolerably certain that only a few Greek troops remain in Domokos, the bulk of Constantine's army having withdrawn to Lamia, where it will be in closer communication with General Smolenski. This probably explains the reported movements of the Turkish army, as a number of Edhem Pasha's troops have been marching from Trikala to Volo. Without doubt the respite of the feast of Bairam is very welcome to the men. The fighting in Epirus has been decisive. The Greeks made a pretext of the protection of the peasants; but they evidently have information as to the reasons for the apparent inactivity of the Turks in Epirus. This is the seventh time the Greeks have attempted to advance to Janina and have met with a repulse which the Turks have never followed up. Evidently there is something wrong with the Turkish forces at that point. The recent report that a number of officers were taken from Janina to Constantinople in chains, may, perhaps exclaim it; or possibly Turkish holding her forces through fear of a movement from Bulgaria.

WEEKLY CROP BULLETIN

Of the North Carolina Climate and Crop Service.

The week ending Monday, May 10th, was not favorable for the growth of crops. The weather was entirely too cool and windy. The temperature was below the normal, notwithstanding the bright sunshine which prevailed most of the week. The cool weather has retarded growth of crops and sprouting of seeds considerably. The week was quite dry, light showers occurring at scattered points only on May 6th in the central and western districts. Farm work has been brought up to date now and everywhere. The stands of corn and cotton are not generally good. Everything needs warmth and moisture.

EASTERN DISTRICT.

After the fine rains at the end of the preceding week cooler weather set in, with brisk northerly winds, unfavorable for the growth of crops. There was plenty of sunshine and the latter part of the week was warmer. Light showers occurred at two or three places Wednesday and Thursday. The week was fine for work. The weather was very cool for cotton, causing it to come up slowly and look poorly; some may have to be replanted. Chopping cotton has commenced. Corn is being plowed first time; stand not good; cut worms are doing some damage. Considerable tobacco was transplanted first of week and many peanuts planted. Potato bugs are damaging potatoes in some places. Rice is about planted and coming up finely. Wild berries will apparently be plentiful. Shipment of strawberries has commenced in northern portion of this district also.

CENTRAL DISTRICT.

Notwithstanding abundance of sunshine, the weather was very cool until Thursday, and though the soil was sufficiently moist at the beginning of the week, the brisk northerly winds dried it rapidly; rain is still needed. Showers occurred at some points on the 5th. The weather was fine for work, but the growth of crops has been very slow on account of the cold, light frost, even, being reported from northern points. Cotton is still being backward and growing slowly; some being chopped. Corn is still small, comparatively poor stand, some being killed by cut worms. Chinch bugs have done little damage as yet to wheat, and rust is reported by very few correspondents. Transplanting tobacco continues. There is considerable falling off of fruit, but there will be more peaches, apples and plums than expected earlier.

WESTERN DISTRICT.

No rain occurred since the 3d. The past week was clear, dry and cool until Thursday, when the weather became warmer. In the extreme northwest portion some snow fell on 2d or 3d. The brisk winds of the week caused lands to crust and bake, and warm rains are much needed. Crops made more advancement than in other districts, though seeds are coming up slowly. Considerable progress made in planting and farm work is about up. Some cotton and corn still to be planted, and stands of both are not generally very good; cool weather killed some cotton on sandy lands. Wheat and oats doing very well; early heading complaints of chinch bugs few. Insects are bad on potatoes and beans. There is fair prospect for fruit, especially west of the Blue Ridge.

WANTS TO COMBINE AGAINST US.

At a large conference of Austrian manufacturers, held at Vienna on the 18th, it was resolved to call upon the government to conclude international agreements with European powers, with a view of effectually meeting the common danger to European economy arising from the prohibitive tariff policy of the United States.

Mining Disaster in Tennessee.

At the Pinkney, Tenn., one mine, about twenty-five miles from Florence, Ala., the triple fell, killing seven men and badly wounding several others.

CROPS OF THE COUNTRY.

The May Returns of the Department of Agriculture.

PROGRESS OF COTTON PLANTING

Percentage of Contemplated Acreage Thus Far Planted Above the Average for the Past Seven Years.

The May returns of the Department of Agriculture, at Washington, show a decline from the April condition of 1.3 points—80.2 against 81.4 last month and 82.7 May 1st, 1896. The averages of the winter wheat States are: Ohio, 82; Michigan, 81; Indiana, 81; Illinois, 87; Missouri, 84; Kansas, 78; California, 97; Pennsylvania, 96. The averages in the Southern States are higher, ranging from 85 in Mississippi to 98 in Texas, and in the minor States, New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland and Virginia, from 98 in New Jersey to 102 in Maryland. As reported in April, the worst injuries from freezing and deficient snow are in Illinois, though the bordering States, Indiana, Wisconsin, Iowa and Missouri, report severe winter injury, and States bordering these, Ohio, Michigan, Nebraska and Kansas, show reduced condition figures. Over the country elsewhere the condition is unusually good, being practically normal east of the Alleghany mountains and quite high also on the Pacific slope. The average condition of spring pasture is 93.4, against 93.2 a year ago; and that of meadows 93.4, against 91.8 in 1896, the wet spring having been favorable particularly in the regions of deficient rainfall. The per centage of spring plowing finished May 1 is 61.9, the usual per centage being 78, only the extreme Northern and Southern States showing the customary proportion. Everywhere else delay resulted from the late season and heavy rains. Reports from Europe are generally favorable as to the condition of crops, but in France there is a reduced area of winter wheat and the crop is expected to fall short of last year's at least 16,000,000 bushels. In parts of Prussia the spring showings have been retarded by rain. The Viceroy of India telegraphs that there will be no wheat for export from that country this year. The cotton report for the month of May, as consolidated by the statistician of the Department of Agriculture, relates to the progress of cotton planting and the contemplated acreage. The extent of the proposed acreage already planted on the first day of May was 81.9 against 87.9 per cent. last year. This figure is several points below the amount usually planted at this date. The estimates for the several States are as follows: Virginia 81, Florida 90, Alabama 85, North Carolina 74, South Carolina 80, Georgia 82, Mississippi 80, Louisiana 86, Texas 88, Arkansas 75, Tennessee 86, Missouri 45. The returns of correspondents in relation to contemplated acreage as compared with the acreage last year, which are simply indicative of correspondents' views as to intentions of planters in respect of area to be planted, are summarized as follows: General average, 105.4 per cent. of last year's breadth, apportioned to State as follows: North Carolina 108, South Carolina 106, Georgia 108, Florida 101, Alabama 104, Mississippi 102, Louisiana 102, Texas 108, Arkansas 104, Tennessee 105. In the northern part of the cotton belt planting has been greatly retarded by the late season and heavy rains. This is less the case toward the Gulf, while in Texas planting is further advanced this year than usual.

Method Board of Education.

The Board of Education of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, met in Nashville, Tenn., W. B. Hill, of Macon, Ga., and T. B. Anderson, of California, were the only absentees. The report of the secretary was read and adopted. The committee appointed at the last meeting of the board to formulate a system for improving the condition of Methodist schools reported, the recommendations refer chiefly to raising the standards of preparatory schools and colleges. With slight amendments, the report was adopted. Bishop Duncan made a successful appeal for help for Paine Institute, at Augusta, Ga. C. C. Goodrich, of Augusta, Ga., was elected a member of the board, vice W. B. Hill, resigned.

The Exposition Now Open.

According to previous announcement the Women's Exposition of the Carolinas was opened at Charlotte, N. C., on the night of the 11th, and was a brilliant success in every way. The attendance numbered over 500 and the building was beautifully decorated for the occasion. Mrs. Robert Cotten, of Falkland, N. C., delivered the opening address.

A Monument to Southern Women.

At Richmond, Va., on the 10th, Memorial Day was the most imposing in recent years. Senator John W. Daniel was the orator. He paid a beautiful tribute to the Confederate soldier and made an earnest plea for a monument to the women of the South. The crowd was estimated at 10,000.

Practically Accomplished.

The latest news from Athens, Greece, says that the surrender of Greece has been practically accomplished and that the powers are now acting upon the formal acceptance of the troops leaving Crete.

To Be Contested.

A dispatch from Washington says that Col. Jas. E. Boyd, of Greensboro, N. C., is to get the place of Assistant Attorney-General in the Department of Justice, instead of Solicitor of Internal Revenue. Also that ex-Representative Chestham's nomination as Recorder of Deeds for the District of Columbia has been sent to the Senate, but that there will be a contest over his confirmation by local Republicans.