

A spitoon on wheels is the last Yankee invention.

Blaine drinks mineral water dashed with a sprinkle of wine.

Gen. Fitzhugh Lee is writing a history of the campaigns of Lee's army.

A young lady in the Greensboro Female College plays music that kills mice.

Rents in New York city have increased from fifteen to twenty per cent. over last year.

Governor Lowry, of Mississippi, is taking position among the progressive governors of the day.

Gov. Cameron, of Virginia, has vetoed the bill against duelling, not because he approves of duelling, but because he objects to the bill.

Aside from being the Independent party in Washington, Senator David Davis is gaining some distinction by the fine dinners which he gives.

Mr. Skobelev has ruffled Germany's feathers by his speech in which he declared that France and Russia had united to curb the ambition of Germany.

Four hundred and ninety persons have so far professed conversion in Cincinnati under the recent ministrations of Rev. Thomas Harrison, the "boy revivalist."

Commander Cheyne is working energetically to get up his balloon expedition to the North Pole. He wants \$40,000 to rig up for it. If the expedition don't go up he will.

Daniel Slate, who figured as Dan in Mark Twain's Innocents Abroad, died at his home in New York on the 13th. He was a wealthy blank-book manufacturer, and generally esteemed.

Parkham Adams, aged fourteen, a student in the University of Tennessee, is dying from the effects of smoking in one day forty cigarettes on a wager.

There were 40,037 deaths from small-pox in the United States last year, according to the National Board of Health bulletin of January 21. Reports were only received, however, from sixty-six cities and towns.

Potter, the owner of the old World building in New York which burned recently, and in which many lives were lost, has got himself into trouble by paying no attention to the warnings given him by the authorities to make the building safe.

The Republic of Mexico, which, for years, has been engaged in interecene broils, seems to have come to its senses at last. It is making wonderful material progress. The new order of things is principally due to American influence. A few thrifty and enterprising Yankees have leavened the whole lump of Mexican idleness.

So extensively are the Irish people availing themselves of the Gladstone land act, that, unless the number of sub-commissioners are increased, there will be steady work for them for about thirty years to come. In Cork county alone there are two thousand cases to be tried; in all Ireland the estimate is seventy thousand cases.

It is stated that it costs \$200,000 per year to maintain a force at Castle Garden to take charge of the immigrants that land in New York. Hence the burden created by Judge Blatchford's decision, and the appeal to Congress for relief.

Joseph Arch, the English agitator, declares that "rack-renting" has not been confined to Ireland. He asserts that between the years 1857 and 1875 the rentals of the farmers of England were increased to the enormous extent of \$9,000,000. English papers admit that this statement is substantially true.

Most of the towns and cities in the North and West have resolved upon a reform in the manner of treating the tramp during the coming summer. No tramp, unless guilty of a crime, will be imprisoned or put in a lockup. He will be furnished with a certain amount of work, and forced to do it, and at the same time he will be provided with food, a certain amount of fair pay; and when this amounts to enough to defray the expense of his traveling forward, he will be sent off.

It is probably not generally known in this country that the great city of London, the pivot of a trade amounting to \$5,000,000,000 annually, and whose exports and imports foot up \$3,500,000,000, has never had a chamber of commerce until very recently. The new organization met for the first time two weeks ago, when Mr. Magniac, the president, presented a budget of colossal statistics embracing those above stated.

A country must be pretty well-to-do that can buy between eight and nine millions worth of diamonds and precious stones per annum. The importation into the United States has never reached that magnitude, against less than two millions and a half per annum years ago. The fact is significant as showing not only the increase of the national wealth, but also the development of luxurious tastes on the part of the people.

The Wilmington Star says of Senator Vance's speech on the tariff: "We do not think a speech equal to it of its kind has been delivered in Congress since the days of Tom Corwin, of Ohio, who Senator Vance resembles very much in the structure of his mind and manifold gifts, according to the testimony of ex-Senator Tipton. We would not exaggerate its excellence, but reading it as a whole we were charmed with it. To us at least it is a great speech."

GRANT RETIRED.

Senator Logan's bill to retire Gen. Grant has passed the Senate, and will also pass the House. Among the amendments offered was one by Bayard providing that when a President was elected and served a second time that the proposed life pension of one-fourth the salary of the office should not be extended to him. This was a move evidently in the direction of a one-term, but it didn't seem to take, as it fell through without much ceremony or discussion. It seems to us that there is scrambling enough now over the presidency without offering the additional inducement of a life pension of \$12,500 per annum to every man who is lucky enough to be elected to that position.

Wonder what Sherman thinks of pensioning Grant as the Union savior, while he was marching into the vitals of the Confederacy and doing the work that made the capture of Lee's army possible? But as Sherman is provided for he will not probably worry himself much over the glory side of the question.

From the way this pension business is running, and the remarkable liberality of the gentlemen in Congress, the probabilities are that the people for the next generation at least will have about all they care to pay in that line.

New England Congressmen express disgust over the loss of two Congressmen in that section through the appropriation bill which has been passed by the House. The Middle States gain three, the Western States fifteen, Pacific States two and the Southern States fourteen.

A Card. To the Editor of the Observer. If your correspondent "C" will turn to page 194, Battle's Revisal, I think he can find an answer full and complete to his inquiry. Why are there no colored men on the jury? If not, and he will call on me in person, I will be pleased to give him such information on the subject, as I am in possession of.

Very respectfully, T. L. VAIL.

Detroit Absence of Mind. Yesterday forenoon a citizen who was flurried and angry entered a grocery store on Antoine street and called out to the owner: "do you keep a dog around here to eat folks up?" "Did my dog eat you oop?" was the innocent query in reply.

"Not quite, but he tore my coat half off my back, and you've got to pay for it."

"How much?" "Well, it will cost as much as \$2 to get it repaired. You'll either pay it or I'll have the dog shot."

"Oh, I'll pay do," said the grocer, and he did, but the man hardly got out of sight before he jumped a foot high and yelled out:

"Dander and blitzen, but I vas der greatest shakus in America! Why, I sells dis dog to my father-in-law more as six weeks ago!"

Weather. WASHINGTON, Feb. 23.—West Gulf—partly cloudy weather, winds mostly westerly, nearly stationary temperature and pressure.

East Gulf—fair weather, winds mostly northerly, stationary temperature and pressure.

Middle and South Atlantic fair weather, northerly winds, stationary temperature, stationary or higher pressure.

Tennessee and Ohio Valley—fair weather, northerly winds, becoming variable, stationary or higher temperature and pressure.

Two Escaped but One Too Fat to Get Through. LYNCHBURG, VA., Feb. 23.—Charles Lynch, sentenced to five years in the State prison for murder, and Randolph Moffatt awaiting trial for murder escaped from Wythe county jail by digging through the wall. Pickett, Moffatt's accomplice, was too fat to get through the hole and was obliged to stay behind.

Obstructions Removed. ST. LOUIS, Feb. 23.—The obstruction on the Iron Mountain road at Cove Cliff, has been cleared away and the train left for Texas last night. Passengers from the South numbering two or three hundred were brought here on the steamer John B. Maude. The mails from Texas were also brought up in the same way.

Died in the Insane Asylum. PARIS, Feb. 23.—M. Roussand, Madame Nilsson's husband, who became insane during the excitement attending the recent financial crisis died yesterday in the lunatic asylum.

The Germ Theory and Small Pox. The value of Dargy's Prophylactic Fluid in destroying and counteracting the contagion of diseases can scarcely be estimated, as small pox and the like are caused by certain germs gaining a place in the human body. The fluid successfully combats and destroys them of all power to harm. Thoroughly disinfect your houses and every place with this fluid.

Texas Postmasters Nominated. WASHINGTON, Feb. 23.—The President today nominated as postmasters James L. Edwards, Tenn.; Christopher L. Terrell, Texas; and Adrian N. Garvin, Navasota, Texas.

A \$100,000 Fire at Chester, Pa. CHESTER, PA., Feb. 23.—A fire to-day in the works of the Seaboard Oil Co., destroyed property valued at \$100,000.

Decline of Man. Impotence of mind, limb, or vital function, nervous weakness, sexual debility, cured by Dr. Williams' Pink Pills. Sold at all druggists. Depot, J. B. McLean, Charlotte, N. C.

Wind Storm at Petersburg. PETERSBURG, Feb. 23.—Intelligence just received says the wind storm night before last was very destructive in advances, trees and telegraph poles and doing other damage.

The unpleasant appearance of even the most amiable and intelligent face, when covered with surface eruptions as from letter, pimples, or eczema can be dissolved naturally by Dr. Williams' Pink Pills, an excellent toilet dressing. It cures dandruff of the scalp.

Placed on the Retired List. WASHINGTON, Feb. 23.—Gen. Rucker to-day placed on the retired list, and Gen. Ingalls was nominated for Quartermaster.

Don't Die in the House. Ask doctors for "Rough on Rats." It clears out rats, mice, bed bugs, fleas, vermin, flies, ants, insects. 15c per box.

For the delicate and delicate difficulties peculiar to the female constitution, Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound is the sovereign remedy. It aims at the cause, and produces lasting results. Send to Mrs. Lydia E. Pinkham, 238 West-ern Avenue, Lynn, Mass., for pamphlets.

CONGRESSIONAL.

THE SENATE APPROPRIATES \$1,000,000 FOR THE RELIEF OF THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER OVERFLOW AND PASSES THE BILL TO RETIRE GEN. GRANT.

The House discusses Amendments to the Postoffice Appropriation Bill, to Prevent Subletting of Contracts, and Passes the Senate Bill to Appropriating \$1,000,000 to the Relief of the Flood Victims.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 23.—SENATE.—Allison, from the appropriation committee reported with amendments the immediate deficiency bill and gave notice he would call on the same at 1-30 o'clock to-morrow.

Harris presented a memorial of the Memphis Cotton Exchange upon danger to the river front of Memphis from the encroachment of the Mississippi.

George introduced a joint resolution authorizing the secretary of war to issue rations for the relief of the laboring classes in the district overflooded by the Mississippi river which was read, and also a telegram from Governor Lowery of Mississippi, urging immediate measures of relief, and representing the destruction of property and stock as immense, and starvation imminent, as the overflowed districts comprise two-thirds of the Mississippi and white and black are suffering alike.

George as explanatory of the magnitude of the disaster said the district inundated embraced all of the Mississippi belt between Memphis and Vicksburg, about 150 miles in length and 40 in breadth. This entire area was now under water, or would be in a short time. Four-fifths of its population is composed of colored laborers who have no means of support during the period for which this overflow will interrupt labor.

Ingalls inquired as to the estimated number of laborers rendered destitute. George replied it would range from 50,000 to 75,000. He added that the overflow in that section of the Mississippi bottom generally continued from four to six weeks, and pending the subsiding of the water, the great majority of the people suffer great agony without suspension of labor. He had confined his remarks to the desolation in Mississippi. Contiguous districts of the western banks of the rivers in Arkansas were also suffering.

George spoke of the widespread desolation in Arkansas by the overflow as absolutely appalling and unprecedented. It had swept away the barns, granaries and stock of the farmers. He urged prompt action in extending relief, though he was not prepared to say what form or measures of relief should be taken.

Hampton explained that a part of the valley under water was the most productive and the finest cotton growing country in Mississippi. If the water extended from the Yazoo hills on one side and the Arkansas bluffs on the other, and if the river was as high as it has been in the winter reported there would be lost any large amount of a strip of 150 miles in width above overflow. The destruction, not only of stock, but of incoming crops would be so great, in his opinion, that he had no hesitation in saying that the despatch from the Governor of Mississippi gave but a faint idea of the destitution and starvation that would follow.

Allison (low) suggested in view of the destitution of prompt action reference of the subject to the military committee which should consult with the Secretary of War upon the provisions for issuing and transporting rations to the points at which they are needed. If they could be relieved by the United States Government relief could only be extended through the Secretary of War, and he thought it would be found that this relief was demanded not only as to the Mississippi valley, but those of several of its tributaries.

The suggestion of Allison being acceptable to George, it was agreed to order reference to the military committee ordered.

The Senate then took up the calendar and bills were introduced and read. The Secretary of War to sell the military barracks and lands upon which they are located in Savannah, and permitting the United States treasurer to pay congressional salaries, etc., in a continuing business, and also a bill for the death of the late Secretary of the Senate.

The Senate bill to amend section 2133 of the revised statutes relating to the Indian trader, which prohibits any person other than an Indian from trading on any Indian reservation without a license, but specially excepts traders with the five civilized tribes in the Indian Territory, was laid aside as unfinished business.

The Grant retirement bill was taken up, and Bayard moved to amend by substituting therefor a provision to pay to every President of the United States after he shall have served, or may hereafter serve in said office, a sum equal to half the salary of the President annually during his life, equal to one-fourth part of the annual presidential salary, but this not to be paid in case of a second term.

After a long debate, Bayard's amendment was rejected—yeas 51, nays 51. An amendment by Sherman prevailed proposed retirement additional to the number authorized by law.

The bill then passed—yeas 53, nays 17. Brown, Call, Davis, of Illinois, Jones, of Florida, and Ransom, voted yea with the Republicans. Otherwise the vote was evenly divided.

The bill authorizes the President, in recognition of the eminent public services of Ulysses S. Grant, late general of the army, to nominate, and by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, to supply him to the army with the rank and grade of general, to be placed on the retired list with pay accordingly.

Logan reported back from the military committee a joint resolution introduced earlier in the day by George, to provide relief on account of the overflow of the Mississippi with amendments in the nature of a substitute.

The joint resolution was at once taken up, the substitute adopted and at once passed without debate. It appropriates \$1,000,000 to be used by the Secretary of War in the purchase and distribution of subsistence stores for the relief of destitute persons in the district overflooded by the Mississippi and its tributaries, and authorizes the secretary to co-operate with the authorities of the several States of which such district is part, in making distribution of the same. As reported the measure provided this relief for the laboring classes, but upon the suggestion of Hoar and Sherman a change was made as stated.

The executive session. Adjourned. HOUSE.—Chalmers, of Mississippi, sent to the desk and had read a telegram from Whitman county, Miss., stating that the Mississippi river has overflowed at that point, and that thousands of colored persons are starving and asking for assistance. He then introduced and asked for the immediate consideration of a joint resolution authorizing the President to issue temporary supplies of food and army clothing, and to purchase and distribute to the starving destitute persons of the lower Mississippi River, who have been rendered so by reason of the present overflow of that river.

Major Ingalls moved to amend, why assistance should be confined to persons living on the lower Mississippi, and on suggestion of Kasson, of Iowa, the resolution was referred to the committee on military affairs with leave to report at any time.

The House then at 12-40 went into committee of the whole, Calkins, of Indiana, in the chair, on the postoffice appropriation bill.

Holman's amendment, offered Tuesday, providing for the substitution of a substitute for the original bill, whenever it shall be ascertained that a contract is sublet at less than the original price was under consideration.

Blain's substitute, providing for the subletting of contracts, was ruled out on a point of order.

Holman accepted Atkins' amendment offered Tuesday as part of his amendment.

Several other amendments and substitutes were presented and rejected or ruled out.

In the course of the long discussion which followed, Holman's amendment as amended by Atkins, was passed 99 to 83.

Atkins offered an amendment providing that when a contract is declared void on account of having been sublet, the contractor shall not be entitled to one month's extra pay as now provided by law.

Several amendments increasing the amounts appropriated in various divisions of the postal service were voted down.

Pending action on the bill the committee rose.

A number of petitions were presented by different members asking the repeal of the tax on bank deposits and on checks and drafts.

On motion of King, of Louisiana, the Senate joint resolution appropriating one hundred thousand dollars to enable the Secretary of War to issue rations for the relief of destitute persons in the district overflooded by the Mississippi river, was taken from the Speaker's table and passed.

The House then, at 5 o'clock, took a recess until 7-30, the evening session to be for the consideration of the District of Columbia code bill.

MARKETS BY TELEGRAPH. FEBRUARY 23, 1882. PRODUCE.

WILMINGTON, N. C.—Spirits turpentine firm at 4-1/2. Lard firm, strained \$1.90; good line \$2.00. Turf firm, at \$1.70. Crude turpentine steady, \$1.25. Hard, \$1.50 for yellow pine, \$1.50 for virgin yellow pine.

BALTIMORE—Noon—Flour quiet and unchanged; Howard street and Western quiet and unchanged; Howard street and Western quiet and unchanged; Howard street and Western quiet and unchanged.

BALTIMORE—Night—Oats firm; Southern 40¢; Western 42¢. Flour quiet and unchanged; Howard street and Western quiet and unchanged; Howard street and Western quiet and unchanged.

CHICAGO—Flour dull, wheat—irregular and moderately active; No. 2 Chicago spring \$1.24 1/2 for cash; \$1.24 1/2 for February; \$1.24 1/2 for March.

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Ladies, Gentlemen, Misses, Boys and Children. CANNOT FAIL TO BE SUITED IN OUR STOCK OF BOOTS AND SHOES FOR THE FALL AND WINTER TRADE. WE guarantee that every pair of SHOES we sell shall be found just as represented, and shall allow no house to give you better goods than we do for the money.

MEMPHIS—Quiet; middling 11 1/2; low middling 10 1/2; good ordinary 10 1/2; net receipts 657; gross receipts 1,208; sales 500; stock 80,000.

NEW YORK—Quiet; middling 11 1/2; low middling 10 1/2; good ordinary 10 1/2; net receipts 615; gross receipts 1,500; stock 55,708.

THE EVENING POST'S COTTON MARKET REPORT. At the lowest point of the market prices ruled 15 1/2 points below the level of last Tuesday.

FINANCIAL. NEW YORK. Exchange—rather weak for 5/8.

STOCKS—11 A. M.—The market opened 1/2 to 1 1/2 per cent lower for the general list than Tuesday's closing prices.

CITY COTTON MARKET. OFFICE OF THE OBSERVER, CHALLOTTE, FEBRUARY 24, 1882.

CHARLOTTE PRODUCE MARKET. FEBRUARY 24, 1882. BUYING PRICES.

SELLING PRICES—WHOLESALE. FEBRUARY 24, 1882.

TREES & DELIVERY. MY trees are now ready for delivery, opposite between 5th and 6th. A fine lot of Trees 1 1/2 to 2 feet high.

BURGESS NICHOLS. Wholesale and Retail Dealer in ALL KINDS OF FURNITURE, BEDDING, & C. A FULL LINE OF Cheap Bedsteads, AND LOUNGERS, Parlor & Chamber Suits, COFFERS OF ALL KINDS ON HAND.

W. T. BLACKWELL & CO. Manufacturers of the Original and Only Genuine DURHAM TOBACCO. Our claim for merit is based upon the fact that a chemical analysis proves that the tobacco grown in our section is better adapted to make a GOOD TOBACCO, satisfactory smoke than ANY OTHER tobacco grown in the world.

JOB PRINTING. BOOK BINDING. STEAM POWER. FAST PRESSES. GOOD WORKMEN. In connection with the publication of The Observer, and the establishment of one of the largest, most complete, and most thoroughly equipped printing offices in the South.

NEW FURNITURE. COMING IN. WHICH I WILL SELL CHEAP FOR CASH. JOB PRINTING HOUSES. In the South the proprietor has just added some new pieces.

BLANK BOOKS, ACCOUNTS CURRENT, AND WORK OF THIS CLASS, ruled and bound to order. We are prepared to furnish class estimates on every description of LETTER PRESS PRINTING.

LETTER HEADS, Statements, Order Books, Vending Cards, Bill Cards, Pamphlets. PERIODICAL PUBLISHERS. In other stages, whether primary, secondary or tertiary, are an invaluable remedy.

FOR SALE OR RENT. THE new and commodious residence built by F. T. Butler, on Tron street, just beyond the track of the A. T. & O. R. R. Co. Good bargain. Apply to F. H. GLOVER, Agent.

HIRAM SIBLEY & CO. Will mail FREE their Catalogue for 1882, containing a full descriptive Price-List of Flower, Field and Garden SEEDS. Bulbs, Ornamental Grasses, and Immortelles, Gladioli, Lilies, Roses, Plants, Garden Implements, Agricultural Machinery, &c. Over 100 pages. Address DAVID LANDRETH & SONS, PHILA.

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