

**The Weekly Star.**  
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**FIGURING THE COST.**  
 Wars cost money, for these are days of costly armies and navies. Some of the big guns that are used now burn up a thousand dollars or so every time they are shot, and everything else costs about in the same proportion. The cheapest thing in all the wars is human life. Every one, of course, knew when we went to war with Spain that it was going to cost a good deal of money, but very few had any idea how much, for very few realized the contingencies that might present themselves and still fewer dreamed of the expansion policy as one of its outcomes. Still there were some who made pretty large estimates as to the probable cost, figuring it at somewhere between \$600,000,000 and \$1,000,000,000. This was thought to be excessive, but it has already passed the first and is approaching the second estimate, if it has not already reached it. Among the high estimators is the New York Sun, which will be seen by the following editorial which we clip from a recent issue:

"The Republican Chairman of Appropriations and the leader of the opposition on the committee concur as to the cost to the nation of the war with Spain in money already appropriated. The total is almost half a billion dollars. The exact figures, as stated both by Mr. Cannon and Mr. Dockery, are \$482,562,083. This is the cost to date of an idea, an intellectual conception, a sentiment; and the idea is worth every dollar it has cost or will cost. At that time The Sun published an estimate of the several items of cost likely to be chargeable to the account of the war with Spain and its resulting responsibilities. The table is here reproduced:

1. Current war expenses	\$482,562,083
2. State expenditures	15,000,000
3. Private contributions	15,000,000
4. War claims	20,000,000
5. Loss of soldiers' productive labor	100,000,000
6. Interest on the war debt	90,000,000
7. Pensions	300,000,000
8. The Maine	3,000,000
Total	\$943,062,083

This estimate was attacked as excessive by some conscientious statisticians, particularly on account of the size of the first item, which was the direct appropriations for the war itself possibly reach \$400,000,000, we were asked, when the official accountants of the Treasury reported a total of only \$17,121,000 at the date of the four months of active operations? Yet the result shows that our estimate was so moderate that it has already been exceeded by nearly a hundred million dollars. How many people remember that the corresponding item on account of the war for the preservation of the Union amounted \$3,485,372,904?

Other items of cost standing as they were, to be verified or discredited as time goes on:

1. Current war expenses	\$482,562,083
2. State expenditures	15,000,000
3. Private Contributions	15,000,000
4. War Claims	20,000,000
5. Loss of soldiers' productive labor	100,000,000
6. Interest on the war debt	90,000,000
7. Pensions	300,000,000
8. The Maine	3,000,000
Total	\$1,285,562,083

It will be a billion dollar war. A billion dollars is the price the United States will have paid for its entrance upon the new career of a glorious destiny. And never did any nation make a better investment!

The Sun is an expansionist, and therefore it thinks this is money well invested; but if the American people had been told when the protocol with Spain was signed that the subsequent proceedings would have called for the expenditure of so many millions, they would very soon have called a halt and put a stop to the expansion programme before it had been well entered upon. They would freely have assumed the amount contractly in the war for Cuba proper, for there was nothing of the greedy or mercenary in that. The consciousness of having done a chivalrous and a glorious thing in going to the rescue of a people struggling against a cruel and relentless oppressor would have more than offset the expense incurred and the burden imposed. If we had stopped there and never entered upon the folly of expansion, the glory won would have been worth all the money spent and all

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 that we will ever get out of this expansion folly, even if the Philippines came to us voluntarily and without the expenditure of another dollar. The Sun calls it the cost of "an idea, an intellectual conception, a sentiment." It was an idea with sentiment in it, as far as the war in behalf of Cuba was concerned, for there we were fighting for an idea, to help a people who were struggling to free themselves from oppression, and we were showing a kindred feeling for them. The idea of freedom was in it, and that's where the sentiment came in, a noble and a chivalrous sentiment; but there is nothing of that kind in the subsequent proceedings, after the policy of expansion was entered upon, and we reached out to seize the territory of the Philippines under the fraudulent pretence that it was ours by virtue of conquest, supplemented by purchase. There was in this no sentiment, nothing but the mercenary spirit of gain, nothing in it, however it may end, of which the American people may be proud now or hereafter. It dims the lustre of the fame we won in the war for Cuba, because it mars it with the daub of selfishness, and gives ground for the suspicion that we were practicing a cheat when we declared our purpose in going to war for Cuba, and that we may possibly regret having phrased our declaration so plainly that we cannot take advantage of words that were not written and seize what we liberated, as we are attempting to do in the case of the Philippines. As to Cuba there was sentiment, noble sentiment, that does us honor, and was worth the money it cost, but as to the Philippines it would be the extreme of license of language to call that sentiment, which is nothing more nor less than the spirit of grab and plunder of a people whose confidence we won and who are thought to be too weak to successfully defend the islands we want. Sentiment and greed are two entirely different things, and in this case it is the greed which is proving costly.

**THE ERA OF TRUSTS.**  
 Scarcely a day passes now that the organization of one or more new trusts is not reported, and the remarkable thing about it is that they are nearly all of colossal proportions, few of them being reported with a capital of less than \$10,000,000 or \$20,000,000 while some claim a capital of from \$50,000,000 to \$100,000,000 or more. There is scarcely an article that enters into common-use in which one or more trusts have not been organized. The New York Financial Chronicle some time ago published a list of trusts, the aggregate capital of which amounted to \$1,106,000,000, and this did not include the Whiskey Trust, with a capital of \$128,000,000; the Copper Trust, \$100,000,000; the Smelting and Refining Trust, \$50,000,000; the Bridge Building Trust, \$50,000,000; the Writing Paper Trust, \$40,000,000; the Wool Trust, \$10,000,000, and the Cuban Tobacco Trust with \$20,000,000. Since these still others have been found. The New York Tribune estimates the aggregate capitalization for the first two months of this year at \$1,525,000,000 against \$916,000,000 for the whole of last year.

This may be indicative, as some say, of great industrial activity, but it is indicative also of the fact that the industries of the country are rapidly passing into the hands of combinations that can if they will crush out the smaller industries, and then make the country pay tribute to them. There are anti-trust laws on the statute books of the United States, and there are few States that have not done more or less legislation on this subject, but they go on organizing, and are stronger to-day, notwithstanding all the legislation, than they ever were.

**POPULAR SENTIMENT.**  
 The many friends of Maj. Stedman in this part of the State will appreciate the following, which we clip from the Raleigh Post of the 8th inst: "Hon. Charles M. Stedman, of Greensboro, is in the city in attendance on the Supreme Court. The Governor is looking as handsome and distinguished as usual, and his host of friends are pleased at this opportunity to grasp his warm hand again. As he passed into the Supreme Court room yesterday, after greeting several friends, one of them remarked, 'There's the man I want to see made the successor of Governor Russell.' At once there was a chorus of approval of the observation joined in by every person in the group, composed of a half dozen or so prominent and less prominent, but all good Democrats, who one added: 'If he had been given his deserts he would be wearing the title of ex-Governor to-day, instead of that of ex-Lieutenant-Governor,' and that statement was endorsed also."

When Miss Schenck of Long Island, last summer started her four letters asking for a dime for the suffering soldiers, she expected to make about \$4,000. She realized \$25,000, all of which was sent to the Red Cross Society, and still some letters continue to come although she has tried hard to break the chain.

**PORTO RICO GIVING TROUBLE.**  
 The general impression was that our soldiers in Porto Rico were having a sort of picnic. Attention has been so much fixed upon the Philippines and Cuba that Porto Rico was lost sight of and as there was no open trouble there but very little was said or thought about it, but it seems that the Porto Ricans are becoming saucy and are showing a disposition to be troublesome. They welcomed the Americans when the coming of the Americans brought with it release from Spanish dominion, but now that the Spaniard is out they would like to have the American out, too, and instead of showing gratitude for their deliverance from Spain they are showing their appreciation by annoying their deliverers as much as they dare. When we get down to the bottom, none of these island races like the Americans much better, if any at all, than they do the Spaniards. As a matter of fact, barring the memory of oppression by the Spanish Government, they like the Spaniard better than they do the American, for they are more akin to the Spaniard and have more of his ways of doing and thinking, and this may possibly be more the case in Porto Rico than in Cuba, or in the Philippines, because there was less friction and less conflict there between the natives and the Spaniards than there was in the others. Of course we can manage Porto Rico, and possibly without much force, but it isn't going to be a parlor social.

**THE SEPARATE CAR LAW.**  
 As the travelling public is interested in the separate car law which passed the Legislature we give it herewith as we find it published in the Raleigh News and Observer. It does not go into effect until the first of June:

Section 1. That the railway and steamboat companies, as common carriers in the transportation of passengers for hire in North Carolina, other than street railways, shall provide separate equal accommodations for white and colored races on all passenger trains and steamboats carrying passengers. Such accommodations may be furnished by railway companies either by separate passenger cars, or by compartments in passenger cars, which shall be provided by the railways under the supervision and direction of the Board of Railway Commissioners or the officers succeeding to their powers: Provided, that this shall not apply to relief trains in cases of accident, to Pullman or sleeping cars, or through express trains to or from all stations, and to cars not used ordinarily for traveling from station to station; to negro servants in attendance on their employers; to officers or guards transporting prisoners, nor to prisoners so transported.

Section 2. That any railway or steamboat company failing to comply in good faith with the provisions of this act shall be liable to a penalty of \$100 per day, to be recovered in any action brought against such company by the Railway Commissioners or the officers succeeding to their powers, in the county of Wake, and covered into the State treasury.

There is a law suit on in an Indiana town for the possession of an \$8 clock which has already cost \$8,000, and the racket is still on. They had better call time on that before it rivals the celebrated Iowa calf case and the contestants have a bigger stock of experience to hand down to their posterity.

Mr. Herbert W. Smith, a cashier in New York, got along pretty well as long as he was satisfied with one wife and one establishment, but when he expanded until he had three of each he overcropped himself and got away, having previously got away with thirty thousand dollars of his employer's money.

The k's take up more space than any other letter in the delinquent tax lists in Hawaii. The Quays also take up a great deal of space in the Pennsylvania newspapers, not as delinquent tax-payers, but as delinquents on general principles.

A Dover, Delaware, man who saw his little boys with their bows and arrows playing shooting Filipinos, joined them with his gun and got so warmed up that he shot the nose off one of his boys. Now he knows how easy it is to be a fool.

Gov. Pingree, of Michigan, puts more P's in his speeches than his postboxes have eyes. He evidently doesn't consider himself a small potash.

**PREPARING TO MEET HERE.**  
 Annual Convention of Association of Railway Telegraph Superintendents Convening in Wilmington May 17th.

Mr. W. F. Williams, superintendent of telegraph for the Seaboard Air Line system, has issued to all the members of the Association of Railway Telegraph Superintendents, (a national organization), a circular letter giving detailed arrangements made for holding the 1899 session of the association in Wilmington on May 17th. It will be remembered that at the January session of the Wilmington Chamber of Commerce Capt. T. D. Meares announced the purpose of the association to visit this city and Mr. Geo. R. French, Mr. A. B. Skelding and Capt. J. W. Harper were appointed a committee on special entertainment.

About 150 representative men from all parts of the United States will be in attendance and it is understood that trips to Wrightsville Beach and Carolina Beach and a drive down the shell road will be features of their entertainment. They will be here two or three days, with headquarters at The Orton.

The following extract from Mr. Williams' letter to Association members will be of interest, to-wit:

"At our last meeting at Omaha, by consent of my Vice President and General Manager, Mr. E. St. John, you were invited to hold your next session in the city of Wilmington, N. C., May 17th, 1899, and as the pleasure of the occasion will be so much enhanced by making as much of the trip as possible in a body, it is desired and urged that all members so arrange their transportation as to meet in Norfolk, Va., Monday, May 15th, at the Hotel, where special rates will be offered. During the evening our Vice President will be pleased to receive informally all his residence the party to many of whom he is already well known."

"From Norfolk we propose to handle the body by special movement, the train leaving Portsmouth on the 16th at 10:00 A. M., arriving at Wilmington about 9:30 P. M. The return movement at the pleasure of the Association."

**WILMINGTON SAVINGS BANK.**  
 Splendid Showing of Last Year's Business Made at Stockholders' Meeting.

The annual meeting of the stockholders of the Wilmington Savings and Trust Co. was held at noon yesterday. There was a large representation of stock and the annual report of the president showed a very gratifying increase of business, the gain in deposits being \$122,016.00 and the net profits during the year was sixteen and forty-seven one hundredths per cent.

The following Board of Directors was elected: Mr. H. Walters, Mr. Jas. S. Worth, Mr. N. B. Rankin, Capt. Donald MacRae, Mr. W. A. Riach, Major Dan O'Connor, Mr. Geo. R. French, Mr. H. L. Vollers and Mr. J. W. Norwood.

At the meeting of the Directors held immediately after the adjournment of the stockholders' meeting, the old officers were re-elected as follows: President—Mr. J. W. Norwood; Vice President—Mr. Harry Walters; Secretary and Treasurer—Mr. Geo. Sloan.

**Lively Chase for Chicken Thief.**  
 Nathan Hankins, colored, was placed in the guard house last night for the larceny of a chicken from Mr. S. W. Sanders, proprietor of the "Unlucky Corner" store. Hankins is a middle-aged negro and last night Mr. Sanders noticed him loitering around the front of his store and his suspicions were aroused by his queer actions. Very soon, while about his duties in the store, he observed a commotion about his chicken coops, which were in front of the building, and coming to the door, he was just in time to see Hankins fleeing up Market street with one of his fowls. Mr. Sanders and a number of bystanders gave chase and caught the thief near the intersection of Market with Third street and turned him over to the police authorities. He will be tried in the Mayor's Court to-morrow.

**Bound for Manila.**  
 The A. C. L. train which arrived here at 5:50 P. M. yesterday from Norfolk brought a company of eighty-six United States marines as far as Rocky Mount. They were en route to San Francisco under orders to sail for Manila for the purpose of manning the three gunboats which were captured from the Spaniards in Manila bay during the late war. A large party of the company were petty officers. They were travelling in two Pullman cars.

**Compensation for Record Building.**  
 Messrs. H. C. McQueen and B. F. Hall have succeeded in raising \$690 by voluntary subscriptions from the business men of Wilmington to compensate the several negro lodges which owned the Record building that was accidentally burned Nov. 10th, when the Daily Record plant was destroyed by the citizens of Wilmington, the people having had no intention to destroy any save the Record office property. The money has been paid to J. A. Vass, colored, representing the lodges.

**The Senatorial deadlock in the Nebraska Legislature has been broken. It isn't stated how much it cost to smash it.**

Boston is going on a microbe hunt. That's a small business for Boston.

A Chicago policeman has killed a burglar. He shot at a dog.

**MANY NEW BUILDINGS.**  
 The Year 1899 Will Doubtless be a Record-Breaker in Building Circles.

Extensive Work Now in Progress—Other Buildings in Contemplation—Bear Bros.' Plans—The Solomon Block—The French Store.

A gentleman whose intimacy with the building interests of Wilmington makes him an especially high authority, told a STAR reporter yesterday that more money would be expended in the erection of new buildings in this city during this Spring and Summer than during any corresponding period in many years.

Quite a number of contracts have already been let and the work is well under way; plans for others are in the hands of the contractors for bids, and the several architects of the city are busy preparing designs and specifications for many others, which will be built as the season advances. The gentleman referred to said that the total cost of buildings, of his own knowledge, in course of construction in various parts of the city is \$84,400, and this does not include very many tenements and other buildings.

Yesterday the STAR announced that plans would be ready to day for estimates for the erection of a large two-story building by Messrs. Morris Bear & Bro., corner of Princess and Second. Architect McMillen completed the specifications yesterday and the contract will be awarded very soon. It will be two stories, fronting 43 feet on Princess street and 58 feet on Second street. The Princess street front will be of pressed brick with brownstone trimmings. There will be two store rooms on the first floor.

Last night Mr. Zachary, of the firm of Zachary & Zachary, Raleigh, arrived in the city to look after his interests as a bidder for the contract to erect the splendid new building for Messrs. S. & B. Solomon, extensive wholesale and retail merchants, the contract for the erection of which will be awarded to day. Among the other bidders are W. P. Rose, Raleigh; D. Gatez & Co., L. H. Vollers, T. Pressen and J. E. Moore, the latter of Columbia, S. C.

The cost of the building will be \$10,000. The plans were drawn by Architect H. E. Bonitt and the site is on Front street between Market street and Burr & Bailey's alley.

Yesterday salesmen in the S. & B. Solomon establishment were busy moving goods from a wing of their present corner building, so that that section of it can be torn away to give place to the new structure. The fact is, as soon as the new building is completed the three-story store building on the corner of Market and Front streets, will be remodelled and greatly beautified. The contract to be awarded to-day is for a three-story building fronting 53 feet on Market street and running back 55 feet on Burr & Bailey's alley. The front is to be of pressed brick, with handsomely designed metal cornices and plate glass windows and street floor fronts. The work is to commence on the 20th inst., and the building is to be ready for occupancy by July 1st.

As previously announced, the work of tearing away the two-story building, corner Front and Princess, recently occupied by I. H. Weil & Co., preparatory for the erection of a handsome three-story store and office building, by Messrs. Geo. R. French & Sons, will begin next week and the contract for the new building will be awarded at once with the stipulation that it shall be ready for occupancy by the early Fall.

Mr. Gatez, the contractor for the erection of the new Masonic Temple, is expected here within the next few days to begin the work of construction. It is expected that Mr. Gatez will bring few workmen with him from Knoxville, his purpose being to employ a large per cent. of local labor.

**SOLDIER INJURED.**  
 Private Holmes Struck With a Bottle by Private Foster at Fort Caswell.

[Special Star Telegram.]  
 SOUTHPORT, N. C., March 9.—Last night in a drunken brawl the receipt at Fort Caswell, private Duncan S. Holmes was struck with such violence on the forehead with a beer bottle by private Foster, that his skull was fractured. Dr. Archer, post surgeon, has given Holmes careful attention and hopes to bring him through, although he has been unconscious most of the day.

**Mr. J. D. Sutherland Dead.**  
 Mrs. J. J. Kelly went to Kenansville yesterday in response to a telegram announcing the death of her father, Mr. J. D. Sutherland, which occurred yesterday forenoon. He deceased was quite a prominent and highly esteemed citizen of Kenansville and Duplin county, he having served terms as clerk of the Superior Court and filled other offices of trust. He was about 63 years of age. Mrs. Kelly is expected to return to the city to-morrow.

Ed Wilson, colored, yesterday completed a thirty days' sentence in the guard house for disorderly conduct and was turned over to the county authorities and placed in jail on a warrant charging him with assault with a deadly weapon.

**Y. M. C. A. ASSOCIATIONS.**  
 The Convention at Durham—Reception at Trinity College—Addresses at the Night Session.

[Special Star Telegram.]  
 DURHAM, N. C., March 11.—To-day's work of the convention of the Y. M. C. A. was very interesting and instructive. The morning service was conducted by Mr. H. O. Williams. Then Rev. A. T. Graham, Davidson, conducted an intensely interesting Bible study, which will do much to advance Bible work in the associations. This was followed by a college conference, conducted by the International College Secretary, W. K. Matthews. Emphasis is being laid on the college work, and it is thought to be one of the most important works just now. The discussion involved the problems and difficulties of Association work for college men.

Perhaps the most enjoyable part of the day was the "social evening." The delegates formed in line and marched to Trinity College, where the visitors were heartily received, and the doors of all the departments were thrown open. After being shown through different places of interest, the delegates were seated in the parlors, where refreshments were served. After enjoying several hours of such hospitality the party was led to the conservatory of music, where they enjoyed a special programme, arranged especially for the entertainment of the delegates of the Young Men's Christian Association.

The night session was devoted principally to an address by Rev. Mr. Wynn, of Charlotte, who spoke on lines of the work which broadened the ideas of a great many on Association work. This was followed by a very interesting address by Prof. Hammill, of the International Sunday School Association. Mr. Hammill's address was intensely interesting. He said: "Fifty years ago the Church, through the Association, discovered the Young Man. I met two years ago Sin George Williams, knighted by Queen Victoria for his discovery, and its result in the establishment of the wonderful work of the Young Men's Christian Association. Since then the Church has never refused a call made by its young men, and now it calls for the young manhood of North Carolina to pay her back by effort in reaching men for Christ, and developing in them the highest type of manhood."

Mr. Hammill has travelled in almost all parts of the world, and was once connected with Y. M. C. A. work. He was present in London when Mr. Geo. Williams, the father of the Young Men's Christian Association, was knighted by Queen Victoria.

The convention seems to be felt in Durham, and all the delegates are very enthusiastic and are gathering much good from the convention meetings and discussions. There is every evidence that the next annual convention will be held in Wilmington.

**THE TIMBER INTERESTS.**  
 Improved Conditions in Lumber Market Have Stimulated Prices and Dealers Are Doing Profitable Business.

Timber inspectors and lumber dealers have been very busily engaged for the past week in handling the unusually large number of timber rafts that have been brought down the river by up-country cutters.

Mr. H. McL. Green, one of the leading inspectors, yesterday stated that timber of all grades was selling off as fast as it arrived at good paying prices. Common mill, he says, is bringing \$8.00; prime mill, \$8.50 to \$10 and extra at \$10 to \$10.50.

There is an improved tone to conditions and the demand is much better than for some time past.

During the past six weeks five schooners, carrying more than a million feet of lumber, have cleared for foreign ports, and seven schooners, carrying over a million and a half feet, have cleared with cargoes for domestic trade. Besides these, large shipments have been made via the Clyde Steamship Line, and seven schooners and bargues are now in the harbor, loading for other ports. A comparison with the record for the corresponding period last year shows that the shipments this year are fully twenty-five per cent. greater than those of the same weeks in 1898.

Severe weather and the disappointing condition of the market during the cutting season has shortened the receipts of timber to some extent for January and February, but during the present month, with the stimulation in prices and eager demand, it is expected that many million feet will be brought down the river and the mills well stocked for future demands.

**Drowned in the Cape Fear.**  
 Mr. E. S. Pedman fell overboard from the steamer *Hurt* about 9 o'clock last night and was drowned. The accident occurred about a mile above Navassa. Every effort was made to recover the body, but to no avail. Further effort to this end will be made to-day. Mr. Pedman's home was at Garrettts, Va., and he was on his way up the Cape Fear to the plant of the Cape Fear Lumber Company, near Elizabethtown, where he was going as an employee of the company. The steamer tied up at the Navassa Guano Works last night and will not resume her trip up the river until the accident is officially reported and investigated.

**Mr. W. A. Spencer's little son, Marion, fell and broke his left arm, while playing yesterday in the yard at his parents' residence, North Fourth street.**

**Prof. Hugh Long was a welcome caller at the STAR office yesterday. He was returning to his home in Southport, after an absence of several months.**

**Major Lucas Now Engineer in Charge of Wilmington District Engineering Department Vice Capt. Craighill.**

The formal transfer of the office and work of the Wilmington District, United States Engineering Department, from Capt. W. E. Craighill to Major E. W. Van Court Lucas was made yesterday. STAR readers are aware that Major Lucas arrived here early last week and has since been familiarizing himself with the work in the district, especially the Fort Caswell improvements and the river channel dredging.

Capt. Craighill will leave Wilmington within the next few days for Washington, to which place he has been transferred as assistant engineer to the Commissioners of the District of Columbia.

As heretofore announced, Major Lucas is a former Wilmingtonian and a host of friends and relatives welcome him and his accomplished wife to the city. On the other hand, Capt. and Mrs. Craighill have formed a wide circle of admiring friends during their residence here, who will part with them with much regret.

**No Arrests Were Made.**  
 Considerable excitement was created about the streets about 11 o'clock last night by the report that there was serious trouble in the freight yards of the Atlantic Coast Line, officers having been hurriedly telephoned for to the City Hall by Yardmaster McAllister. A STAR reporter, accompanied by two police officers, was the first to reach the scene. The trouble seems to have been that a squad of thirty or forty negroes in passing through the yard toward Dross Neck were casting stones and other missiles promiscuously about the yard, striking cars, etc., and bidding defiance to Mr. McAllister and others at work about the yard. However, when the officers reached the scene the negroes had all dispersed. No arrests were made.

**News was received in this city yesterday of the death of Mr. John A. Weeks, a well-to-do merchant and farmer of Cedar Point, Carteret county. Mr. Weeks had many friends in Wilmington. His wife died some three or four years ago. He was a devoted member of the Methodist Church.**

**Lincoln Journal:** The prospects for this year's fruit crop are decidedly gloomy. Capt. I. R. Self reports that he made a thorough examination of his orchard and found that 90 per cent. of the peaches were killed in the bud, and a large per cent. of the apples and pears in the same condition. Mr. R. H. Ballare reports that in Catawba Springs township about three-fifths of the fruit has been killed in the bud, and that what is left has a mighty poor show of escaping frost. Mr. J. O. Radliff says that the same is true in Ironton township. About all the peach and apple trees in Howard's Creek township are reported killed in the bud. — Dave Huffstetter, the young white man of Cleveland county, who was arrested last week with two negroes and jailed on a charge of stealing about \$60 from O. V. Hauss, of this county, was released last Thursday evening on bond. Miss Hattie Stuart, of Fancy, Cleveland county, came down and mortgaged her land to secure his release. She stated that she and Huffstetter were engaged to be married, and it is understood that the ceremony took place that night in Cleveland county.

— Newton Enterprise: Mr. Will Sigmund who was arrested about a week while returning from Newton on Tuesday of the first week of court, died Monday morning, March 6th. The large artery of his arm was laid bare. This broke Mr. Sigmund's neck and he died from the loss of blood.

**TO PAY CUBAN SOLDIERS.**  
 Three Million Dollars in Gold and Silver Shipped from New York on the Steamer Meade for Havana.

By Telegram to the Morning Star.  
 NEW YORK, March 11.—The U. S. transport Meade sailed to-day for Havana, passing quarantine at 5.14 P. M. She has on board the \$3,000,000 provided by the United States government to pay Cuban troops. Of the total amount, half is in gold and half in silver. The weight of the metal is forty-eight tons.

Much interest centered in the removal of the treasure from the sub-treasury. A large crowd gathered and watched the proceedings. Captain Hill, of the quartermaster's department, had charge of the detachment of soldiers forming the guard, and the neighborhood. There were about fifty men, each with a Krag-Jorgensen and a full belt of cartridges. They formed in line at the treasury building and the boxes of coins were passed out between them. Half a dozen ordinary trucks were in readiness in the street, and men dragged out the money on small hand trucks to the Pine street entrance of the government building. The money was in iron safes, about a foot and a half high and weighing about a hundred pounds each. All the money was got on the trucks and eight men boarded each one, while the balance of the safes or casks, holding their rifles, and the trucks were then driven through Broad street.

The Meade was taken to Pier 3, East river, where General Meigs, of the government service, was in waiting to receive it. The soldiers again formed in line and a dozen policemen stood at the gangplank while the money was being placed aboard the Meigs. There were over a hundred casks and safes in all.

The Meigs steamed over to Brooklyn, where Pier 12, the coin was placed on the Meade.

Paymaster General Carey, accompanied by Major Rogers, of the Paymaster's office, will have charge of the money and will turn the coin over to General Brooks, who will supervise its payment to the Cuban soldiers.

**CURRENT COMMENT.**  
 Indiana is heretofore going to prosecute vote-sellers instead of vote-buyers. That will be good news to the politicians who want to buy votes, and if they can make their business common enough to secure votes, they will have charge of the New York Tribune, Rep.

It is certainly in bad taste, at least, for adopted citizens, anxious to hold meetings for the filmination of prospects against any proposed line of foreign policy. If they are Americans let them protest as such. If they are foreigners, in whole or in part, they have no business to meddle. — Chattanooga Times, Dem.

The cause of liberty has taken rapid strides. In 1783 the continental troops had to be satisfied with freedom alone, notwithstanding that they fought for it. In 1899 the Cubans get their liberty and a bonus of \$3,000,000 without having done anything but get in our way. — Philadelphia North American, Rep.

The country does not care whether the beef was "embalmed" in the literal sense of the word, or not. What the country wishes to know is whether rotten beef was served to the army, and if it was, what should be done about it? It does not seem that the visit of the beef commission to the Western packing house will do a great deal toward the settling of those questions. — Savannah News, Dem.

**TWINKLINGS.**  
 White House Flunky—"Sorry, but you can't see the President. He is behind the screen changing his mind."  
 "Well, anyhow," said an old man who was trudging through the snow on Tuesday, "I don't have to dodge bicycles." — New York Tribune.

Mr. Gaswell—"Pittsburg is to have filtered water, I see." — Mr. Dukane—"We should also have filtered air." — Pittsburg Chronicle-Telegraph.

"Now," said Bunker, "I can once more face the world an honest man. He who has been convicted of a crime is no longer a criminal, but a law-abiding citizen." — Philadelphia North American.

"Sir," said the merchant, "I am hungry." "So am I," replied the other, "but we are all more or less so during Lent." — Philadelphia North American.

Locating the Trouble: Husband—"Why are you so angry at the doctor?" Wife—"When I told him I had a terrible tired feeling, he told me to show him my tongue." — Brooklyn Life.

Mrs. Tipple—"I didn't hear you when you came in last night." Mr. Tipple—"No, and I suppose that is why I didn't hear you." — Town Topics.

"I wonder how that resignation rumor started," said the friend, "that isn't the question," answered the official, "what I want to know is how we are going to stop it." — Washington Star.

Not a Serious Case: Doctor—"The patient is beset with the idea that the land as far as he can see belongs to him." Judge—"I wouldn't call that insanity. It is merely a political ambition." — Philadelphia North American.

**State Prison.**  
 The prospects for this year's fruit crop are decidedly gloomy. Capt. I. R. Self reports that he made a thorough examination of his orchard and found that 90 per cent. of the peaches were killed in the bud, and a large per cent. of the apples and pears in the same condition. Mr. R. H. Ballare reports that in Catawba Springs township about three-fifths of the fruit has been killed in the bud, and that what is left has a mighty poor show of escaping frost. Mr. J. O. Radliff says that the same is true in Ironton township. About all the peach and apple trees in Howard's Creek township are reported killed in the bud. — Dave Huffstetter, the young white man of Cleveland county, who was arrested last week with two negroes and jailed on a charge of stealing about \$60 from O. V. Hauss, of this county, was released last Thursday evening on bond. Miss Hattie Stuart, of Fancy, Cleveland county, came down and mortgaged her land to secure his release. She stated that she and Huffstetter were engaged to be married, and it is understood that the ceremony took place that night in Cleveland county.

— Newton Enterprise: Mr. Will Sigmund who was arrested about a week while returning from Newton on Tuesday of the first week of court, died Monday morning, March 6th. The large artery of his arm was laid bare. This broke Mr. Sigmund's neck and he died from the loss of blood.

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