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the debtor and makes it twice as hard to redeem, while it puts into the pocket of the creditor twice as much as he is entitled to or expected when he entered into the agreement with the debtor.

But this isn't the first time that this has been done, and the Government and the debtor class swindled by so-called currency legislation, which was nothing more nor less than robbery under form of law.

The probabilities are that the currency scheme which will be presented to Congress will elicit a pretty lively discussion, and be considerably altered before it goes through.

The first section of the proposed bill is evidently drawn for the purpose of quieting the doubts which have been raised by ill informed newspapers and politicians in regard to the gold standard.

Having got rid of the greenback, as far as they were concerned, their next move was to "coin," the object being to stop the coinage of the silver dollar, so that they wouldn't have anything to fear from that.

It is an off day now that doesn't bring reports of the projection of more and bigger trusts, so large some of them that the figures are astounding.

There are some powerful sleepers in Reading, Pa. One of them slept so hard the other night that he unhinged his jaws, and it took a doctor an hour or so to prize 'em back.

Mr. Chamberlain says there can be no settlement with the Boers that does not provide for the recognition of British supremacy.

WORK FOR THE LOBBYIST.

The indications are that with the numerous jobbing schemes which will come before Congress there will be work for the lobbyist, and he will doubtless be on hand.

In talking about foreign lobbyists Mark Hanna is raising the cry of "stop thief" to divert attention from the lobbyists for the schemes in which he is interested.

Delaware isn't a good State to try to sneak game out of. The one who does it without a license is liable, if caught, to a fine of \$500 for each bird or animal.

A Long Island church has announced that poor people are just as welcome as rich people to graves in its graveyard.

The Detroit Free Press is having an interesting time these days. Gov. Pingree has instituted a \$250,000 libel suit against it, and in addition to that there are other suits aggregating \$525,000.

Jessie Farrar, of St. Louis, promises to achieve a reputation as a martyr. She is nineteen and was married to her fifth husband a few days ago.

After having been located in a half dozen different States, it is now said that Mrs. Lease is going to squat in New York.

DEATH ON THE TRACK

Dr. T. F. Nixon Found Dead Yesterday Morning Near Castle Haynes.

Presumably by a Wilmington and Weldon Train Friday Night—Deceased Was Resident Physician at the State Farms—Coroner's Inquest.

The body of Dr. T. F. Nixon, resident physician at the State farm at Castle Haynes, was found early yesterday morning lying beside the Wilmington and Weldon railroad track at the seventh mile post from Wilmington.

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The jury was empanelled and the body of the unfortunate man was carried to the State farm at 2 o'clock yesterday afternoon.

The body was last night placed in a coffin which was sent up on the evening train from Wilmington, and it is probable that the remains will be taken to Raleigh for interment, where his wife and six children reside.

Encounter With Bad Negro. Deputy Sheriff George Mills had an exciting experience last night with a negro desperado named Tom Williamson.

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LAST OF THE FAIR.

End of the Splendid Entertainment Given at the Masonic Temple.

LIST OF SHARES AWARDED. Nearly 2,000 People Attended to Witness the Close and See Shares Awarded.

The great Masonic Fair which began at the magnificent new Temple November 20th, and which has been a source of great enjoyment to the people of Wilmington the past two weeks, came to an end last night.

The principal thing done at the fair last night was to award the shares, and great interest was taken in this matter.

Shrine Booth—Handsome quilt, Mr. James W. Monroe; red reception chair, Miss Katie Drew; embroidered pillow, Mr. John Gore; beautiful lace centre piece, made by Miss Jessie Louise Martin, daughter of Col. and Mrs. Noble F. Martin, Utica, N. Y.

Country Store—Magic oil stove, Mrs. Jane C. Lee; a clock, Capt. W. R. Kanan.

St. John's Lodge Booth—Pair patent leather shoes, Mr. W. P. Toomer; set brass and iron, Mr. J. O. Carr; half dozen shirts, Mr. James E. Willson.

St. John's Lodge Booth—Art square, Mr. A. S. Holden; hand saw, fishing reel, and line, Mr. J. Wilhelm, of New York; pair of shoes, Mr. Alvin Jones, of Williamsport, Pa.

St. John's Lodge Booth—Emanated brass bedstead, Mrs. James E. Willson; glass drop light, Mrs. I. L. Greenwald, handsome green rattan chair, Mr. Geo. O. Gaylord; box cigars, Mr. I. L. Greenwald; handsome oak centre table, Mr. Hugh O. Wallace.

ALL THINGS MUST END

The Brilliant and Successful Masonic Fair Comes to a Close To-night.

GREAT FINAL SHARE AWARD. Temple Crowded With People Last Night. Great Interest in Award of Shares. Two Hundred Valuable Donations to Go To-night.

Thursday and Thursday night were the tenth of the Masonic Fair, and as usual there was a good attendance, the tickets taken in at the door counting up 1,016. Wednesday night the attendance was 800.

On Thursday night the bale of cotton donated by Messrs. Alexander Sprunt & Son, cotton exporters, was sold to the highest bidder on account of the "Country Store."

Country Store—Handsome oak centre table, Miss Nonie Greenbaum. Lemonade Booth—Three baskets of fruit, one each, Messrs. J. H. Hardin, D. C. Love and W. A. Martin.

Country Store—Handsome quilt, Mr. James W. Monroe; red reception chair, Miss Katie Drew; embroidered pillow, Mr. John Gore; beautiful lace centre piece, made by Miss Jessie Louise Martin, daughter of Col. and Mrs. Noble F. Martin, Utica, N. Y.

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NO MENTION OF BOER LOSS.

Methuen Still Awaiting Reinforcements. Boers Making Efforts to Recruit Their Forces—Ladysmith Relief Expedition Reported at Freeze.

By Cable to the Morning Star. LONDON, December 2.—As announced, the British dead was surrounded at the hard fought battle of Modder river number hundreds. Up to 3 o'clock this afternoon only the bare total, 438, of which number seventy-three were killed, had been given out.

The meagre official dispatch giving a list of the British casualties at Modder river and announcing the bare fact that the Lord Methuen is still awaiting reinforcements, is only supplemented by a brief special message from Cape Town to-night stating that the Boers destroyed the bridge over the Modder river before the battle and are now concentrating at Spytfontein, where the final battle before Kimberley is relieved is expected to take place.

It is a significant fact that Lord Methuen's cablegram makes no mention of the Boer loss, which, therefore, is assumed to be small.

A dispatch from Cape Town this evening says Lord Methuen's advance undoubtedly is beginning to affect the Boer strategy and probably explains the withdrawal from Mooi river. The continued presence of the Boers in Cape Colony tends to confirm the opinion that the Boers are making desperate efforts to recruit their forces from the Dutch residents.

The latest news from Natal indicates that the bulk of the Ladysmith relief force has arrived at Freeze, though there is considerable conjecture as to the actual number of General Clery, whose movements have not been chronicled recently. It is surmised in some quarters that the Boers are making a last desperate effort to break through the lines of the British.

Another detachment of three thousand British troops sailed for South Africa today.

Proceedings Begun by Widows to Prevent Probating Will of Deceased.

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