The Weekly Star.

WILLIAM H. BERNARD
Editor and Proprietor.

WILMINGTON, N. C.
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A BATTLE OF THE GIANTS.

Without discussing the merits of the present contest between the U. S. Steel corporation and the Amalgamated Association of steel and iron workers it presents some features that have not heretofore entered into strikes, and is different in some respects from any strike that we have heretofore seen. It is not a question of wages, or of hours, how much wages the men shall receive or how many hours shall constitute a day's work, for there was no dispute about these, but it is simply a contest between organized labor and organized capital, each feeling that its status in future will depend upon the result of this contest, and both realize it.

It was reported a few days ago that the representatives of the Steel Trust and the representatives of the strikers had made mutual concessions as a basis of agreement, the representatives of the Steel Trust agreeing to leave it optional with the workmen whether they join the association or not, and the representatives of the association receding from their demand that the steel plants employ none but union labor, but it seems there was some mistake in this, or there were other points on which they failed to agree and now each seems more uncompromising and unyielding than before, each apparently determined to wage the fight to the bitter end.

As the case now stands the Steel Trust having control of all the leading mills in the country has the advantage of the strikers, because they not only have control of the principal mills, which gives it control of the output, and makes it impossible for the country to get its supply of such things as they make unless through the plants it controls. It, therefore, has no fear of competitors taking advantage of its enforced idleness and reaping the harvest while its plants are closed. If there were other plants to compete with it the strikers might supply them with all the labor they could use, and thus make them instrumental in bringing the Trust to terms, but there are not mills enough to do that and the Steel Trust knows it. It can, therefore, afford to be assertive and refuse to concede anything that would lessen its power over its workmen.

While the Trust has forestalled material competition at home by absorbing all of the principal plants, it is protected from foreign competition by the Dingley tariff which imposes practically prohibitive duties on manufactures of steel and iron. If it were not for this American consumers could get their supplies of such articles as they need from England and Germany and the Trust would be compelled to surrender the market to them or come to terms with the workmen so that they might start up in business again and recover the trade that the English and German manufacturers were getting during its enforced idleness.

It will be seen from this that no matter how long the strike may last the Trust will hold practical control of the home market, as it has no competition to fear at home and is protected from foreign competition by the Dingley tariff, so that the American striker has not only the Trust against him but the Dingley tariff too. If our ports were open to the iron and steel manufacturers of other countries the strike would not have lasted ten days before the Trust would have surrendered as a matter of self-preservation.

When the workman in these protected industries votes for a tariff to keep out foreign manufactures he simply votes to put a club in the hands of protected corporations with which they can beat him into submission, as the United States Steel Corporation is now trying to beat its striking workmen. Thousands upon thousands of them have at every election for years been voting for this protective and prohibitive tariff to keep out foreign competition, and they have paid the penalty in every strike they have ever declared against these protected corporations, as they are paying it now, although they seem never to have realized this, and perhaps do not now. It is a case of chickens coming home to roost, and chickens with spurs on, too; helping to shape and finish up the club with which the protected corporations maul them on the head.

As we see it having a tariff to prevent the invasion of the home marker by outside competitors, and having no competition at home the Trust has a decided advantage over the strikers, because with it it is merely a question of dividends deferred while with the strikers it is a question, or may become so, of bread and meat for themselves and the families dependent upon them. Men cannot subsist on air nor on expectations, nor can their wives and children be fed and clothed on these. This would be so if they were thoroughly organized and united, which they are not, for many of the workmen, do not belong to the Association and refuse to affiliate with it or be governed in any way by it. There are enough of these to keep some of the plants running and consequently they cannot be brought to a dead stand still, while on the other hand the companies interested are thoroughly organized and can fight months to the weeks the workmen can.

This strike may, however, result in a sympathetic one, involving thousands more workmen, which will give the country additional interest in this gigantic struggle.

NOT SETTLED YET.

We have been assured by cable dispatches a score or more times in the past year that the Chinese question had been settled, but every one of these dispatches was soon followed by others stating that there was a hitch somewhere and that some of the Powers had refused to sign. Recently it was announced that the whole matter was settled, that the foreign troops, with the exception of the legation guards, would get out of Pekin and China, as the American troops have done, but, (as usual), the cable dispatches published yesterday brought the news that England, for some unexplained reason, had refused to sign the last agreement.

England is in a somewhat embarrassing situation. She does not like the manœuvring of Russia and Germany, but she is in no position, with the Boers on her hands, to take a positive stand in China and therefore all she can do is to try to kill time until her hands are freer than they are now, and probably by that time both Russia and Germany will have secured such a tight clamp on what they want that England's protests and kicking will not amount to much.

As one of the immediate bad results of all this dilly-dallying, checkmating, and pulling against each other by the Allied Powers, or those of them which have ulterior schemes in view, we are told by Pekin dispatches that the Chinese are becoming very saucy and that in Pekin they curse and jostle foreigners whom they meet on the streets. Of course this can't go on long without some spirited "foreign devil" resenting it, when collisions and riot and more Boxer performances may be the result. In fact there have been indications of this for some time, if not in Pekin in other parts of China, where the Boxers have made their headquarters, preparing for another aggressive movement as soon as the Allied troops have been withdrawn. Unless these reports be much exaggerated the Chinese problem is far from being solved, and the the Allied Powers, with their endless dilly-dallying, have themselves to blame for it. But perhaps they don't want to settle it.

PREVENTION OF FIRES.

At the recent meeting of the firemen's companies in Charlotte papers were read on the prevention of fires, in which it was stated that three of the leading fire insurance companies of Greensboro had agreed to pay to the towns and cities in the State which would adopt suggested precautions five per cent. of their net receipts on premiums from those towns after fire losses had been paid. This as an inducement to adopt better regulations looking directly to the prevention of fires.

It is a fact that at least two-thirds of the fires in this country are the result either of carelessness or of preventable causes, or of failure to properly enforce existing laws. There is one town in the State which furnishes an object lesson in this respect—that is Salem, where there has been but one house burned in a century, and that was on the dividing line between Salem and Winston. Although it keeps an engine, it has not what might be called a fire department. Its immunity from fires is simply the result of cautious regulations strictly enforced, and fines when these rules and regulations are not complied with. People are not allowed to let their chimneys become foul, and if a chimney catches fire the occupant or owner of the house is fined at once, and as a result there are few burning chimneys except in rainy weather when they take advantage of the rain or snow and wet roofs and burn them out. This, with precautions about depositing ashes, building tinder boxes, keeping an excessive quantity of combustibles or inflammable material in buildings, would reduce the danger of fires to the minimum and would save towns and insurance companies a good deal of money and at the same time materially reduce the cost of insurance, which would benefit all house owners.

Salem solved the problem over a hundred years ago; and other towns can do it as well as Salem has.

Georgia is doing fairly well. The taxable property increased last year $18,000,000 in value.

VETERANS' REUNION.

Copies of General Order for Encampment Received in the City Yesterday.

GEN. RANSOM WILL SPEAK.

Brigade and Other Officers to be Elected. Camp Dues Urged to be Paid—Reduced Rates On All Railroads. Random Notes of Gathering.

As the date for the event approaches the prospects are growing brighter and brighter for the annual reunion of the North Carolina Division, United Confederate Veterans, at Wrightsville Sound, beginning on the afternoon of Wednesday, Aug. 14th, and continuing for three days.

The gist of the general order issued about two weeks ago by Major General Julian S. Carr, officially calling the encampment and reunion, has already been published in these columns and it is now unnecessary to repeat.

During the encampment the annual election of division and brigade commanders will take place, to wit: A major general and four brigadier generals. Only those will be entitled to vote at this election who are duly accredited delegates from camps which are reported by Adjutant General Moorman as having paid their dues. The attention of camp commanders is especially called to this, and they will at once see that their camp dues are paid, as required by the constitution of the United Confederate Veterans.

At Camp Aycock where the encampment will be held there are accommodations for about 1,000 persons and those who do not desire the novelty of camp life may find boarding places with reduced rates.

All the railroads have given a rate of one cent a mile in each direction for the occasion. Tickets will be on sale Aug. 12th, 13th and 14th and are good for one continuous passage until the 24th. The agent at any station will give the exact price of a ticket from his station on application. This rate is given to all visitors as well as to the veterans.

Brigadier General F. M. Parker, of the Third Brigade, North Carolina Division, U. C. V., has issued orders for the annual election of officers for his division, from Enfield, N. C., under date of July 30th. In concluding the order General Parker says:

"My comrades, with these inducements, let us turn out in full force. This may be the last reunion for many of us before we cross the river. The brigadier general commanding will be disappointed if the third is not the largest brigade of the division."

One of the greatest features of the encampment will be the speech of General Matt W. Ransom. As previously noted in these columns, his speech will be made on the 15th inst, and a very large crowd of his old comrades and friends will very likely hear him.

CONFERENCE AT ROSE HILL.

Business Session of Wilmington District, M. E. Church South, Convened Yesterday—Notes of Meeting.

[*Special Star Correspondence.*]

ROSE HILL, N. C., Aug. 7.—The business sessions of the Wilmington District Conference of the M. E. Church South, convened here at 9 o'clock this morning, the Rev. R. B. John, P. E., in the chair. Mr. A. J. Johnson was elected secretary. The opening sermon was preached last night by the Rev. A. J. Groves, of Bladen circuit.

The conference heard reports this morning from Rev. J. H. Hall, of Fifth Street Church, Wilmington; Rev. R. W. Bailey, of Southport; Rev. G. T. Simmons, of Elizabethtown; Rev. C. C. Rose, of Jacksonville and Richlands, and Rev. Y. E. Wright, of Clinton. All the reports were very encouraging indeed.

The sermon at 11 o'clock to-day was by Rev. J. N. Cole, of Wilmington.

The conference is highly pleased with the royal entertainment by the good people of all the denominations here.

Those present from Wilmington are Revs. Rev. R. B. John, J. N. Cole, J. H. Hall, J. W. Potter, J. J. Porter, Mr. W. E. Springer. Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Covington, Mr. and Mrs. R. H. Beery, E. F. Johnson, L. F. Lander and W. B. Cooper.

NEW RIVER BOAT LAUNCHED.

Climax, Which Was Burned Some Time Ago, Will Have Worthy Successor.

The hull of the new steamboat being built here by Mr. T. D. Love, general manager of the Merchants' and Farmers' Steamboat Company, of Wilmington and Fayetteville, to take the place of the *Climax* which was burned at her wharf here several months ago as she was being completed, was launched yesterday at the foot of Dawson street, where it was constructed by Mr. F. T. Gaskill, the well known ship carpenter.

Mr. Love has not decided on a name for the new craft. It is 115 feet long, 22 feet wide and will draw about 16 inches of water, making it an ideal boat for the upper Cape Fear. The machinery will arrive and be installed in time for the trial trip about September 15th.

The Heavy Rains.

The Fayetteville *Observer* of yesterday afternoon, in speaking of the rapid rise in the Cape Fear to 29.4 feet and the expected rise to a point beyond 40 feet, as predicted by the Weather Bureau, says, in enumerating the damage by the excessive rainfall:

"One bad result has been the stopping of the work of construction of the great dam and other works of the Cape Fear Power Company. Work on the new wharf of the Fayetteville and Wilmington Steamboat Company has also had to be temporarily abandoned, of course. However, when the weather clears up large forces of men will be put to work on these mammoth enterprises and the work will be pushed as rapidly as possible."

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS.

Two Sections of Public Road in Harnett Discontinued — Regular Meeting of Board Yesterday Afternoon.

Matters before the regular monthly meeting of the Board of County Commissioners at 2:30 o'clock yesterday afternoon were principally routine in character and of no very general interest. Chairman McEachern presided and all members were present except Commissioner Vollers.

To Messrs. Montgomery and Alexander was referred an application for reduction in tax assessment of the property of the Hanover Land and Improvement Company in Cape Fear township. It is now assessed at $15,000.

Mr. I. J. Sternberger's new property on Front street was assessed at $5,500.

Josh Jarrell, white, Masonboro township, was allowed $2.00 per month on outside pauper list for months of August and September.

Upon recommendation of the road superintendent and Commissioner Alexander, to whom the matter was referred, public road sections 3 and 6 in Harnett township were ordered discontinued. Section 3 is three miles in length, leading from the 8 mile post on the "Gordon" road to Frank's Landing on the Sound. Section 6 is five miles in length leading from the 4-mile post on the Newbern road to the Sound. The road superintendent and Commissioner Alexander were also requested to look into the advisability of the discontinuance of Section 5 in Harnett township, three miles in length, leading from the 6-mile post on the Newbern road to the Sound.

MARRIED AT MAGNOLIA.

Miss Lilly Bell Newbury Became the Beautiful Bride of Dr. J. N. Johnson, of Wilmington.

[*Special Star Correspondence.*]

MAGNOLIA, N. C., August 6.—Seldom has there been a more beautiful marriage than one solemnized here to-day. The contracting parties were Dr. J. N. Johnson, of Wilmington, and Miss Lily Belle Newbury. The marriage took place from the splendid home of the bride's parents. The parlor was decorated for the occasion with a profusion of lovely flowers. The Rev. Edward Wootten took his position in the bay window in front of an altar of beautiful flowers, and after him came Miss Daisy Johnson, maid of honor, and Mr. J. S. Hartselle, closely followed by the bride and groom. They were then made one by the beautiful, impressive ceremony of the Episcopal church. The bride was attired in a handsome *crepe de chine* over white taffeta, with diamond ornaments; she carried a bouquet of bride's roses and maiden hair ferns. The maid of honor was attired in a beautiful creation of white organdie and white satin ribbon.

The bride is the accomplished daughter of Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Newbury. The groom is one of the leading dentists of Wilmington.

Among the guests present were Mr. and Mrs. S. A. Johnson, Misses Lula and Daisy Johnson and Master Rivers Johnson, of Teachey's; Mrs. G. W. Brinkley and Mr. J. S. Hartselle, of Goldsboro; Miss Nancy P. Clarke, of Richmond; Mrs. S. I. Smith, of Pikeville, and Mr. and Mrs. L. A. Beasley, of Kenansville.

After the ceremony the bride and groom left on the morning train for Seven Springs, N. C., where they will spend two weeks.

CAPT. J. L. COWAN DEAD.

Former Wilmingtonian Died Last Week at Montgomery, Alaabama.

[*Raleigh Times, 5th.*]

"Captain John London Cowan, an eminent civil engineer, and formerly president of the Opelika & Auburn railroad, died in Montgomery, Ala., on Sunday, August 4th, whither he had gone from his home in Opelika for surgical attention.

"Captain Cowan was born in Wilmington, N. C., and was a brother of Mrs. C. B. Denson of this city, Mrs. John C. James, of Wilmington, and R. H. Cowan, Esq., of Durham.

"He built many important railroads in this country and Canada, and was consulting engineer for others. He was greatly beloved in his adopted State of Alabama, where he leaves a devoted wife and five children in Opelika."

Changes in County Court Room.

When the Superior Court for New Hanover convenes Monday, attendants upon the same who have not kept track of events will be surprised to find the wonderful transformation that has taken place in the court room. The job was completed yesterday by carpenters under the direction of Mr. H. E. Bonitz, the architect, and yesterday afternoon Chairman McEachern and Commissioners Holmes and Montgomery went up and inspected the work. The entire plan of the court room is changed, with the judge's bench, etc., facing the north instead of the east, as heretofore. All agree that the rearrangement is much more convenient and comfortable than the old form.

Married at Maxton.

Miss Berta Wooten, of Maxton, N. C., and Dr. O. F. Smith, of Magnolia, were quietly married Monday morning at 8:30 o'clock at the home of the bride's father, Major Wooten, at Maxton. The bride and groom passed through Wilmington Tuesday evening on their way to Magnolia and were given a reception upon their arrival by Mrs. J. A. Watts.

Tug Cynthia Laid Up.

The cutting off the river and harbor improvement by the last Congress so far as Wilmington is concerned will be made more complete to-day. The tug *Cynthia* which has been employed in emergency work down the Cape Fear finished up its work yesterday and will join the idle craft at the government dock this morning. Capt. P. T. Dicksey, master of the tug, came up to the city yesterday.

CITY HOSPITAL MANAGERS.

Held Their Last Meeting Yesterday Afternoon and Now Comes the New—Superintendent's Report.

The chief feature of yesterday afternoon's regular monthly meeting of the Board of Managers of the City Hospital was the reading of the monthly report of Dr. A. H Harriss, acting superintendent of the institution. The report covers the conduct of the hospital up to the night of July 23rd, at which time the management passed over into the hands of the Board of Managers of the James Walker Memorial Hospital.

The report shows that during the month 43 patients were treated, of which number 23 were colored and 20 were white. There were remaining at the hospital June 30th, 18 patients and 25 were admitted during the month, making a total of 43. Thirty-nine were discharged during July, including the number passed over to the new hospital, and 4 died. Pay patients were treated 74 days and charity patients 398 days. Rations were furnished to employes 345 days, making the total rations 817. The average cost per capita was 22 cents per day. The amount expended for subsistence during the month was $187.18; general expenses, $143,01; pay roll, $163.43. Total, $493 62. The receipts were: Pay patients, $142.30; prescriptions, $36; city, $166.66; county, $250. Total, $594 96. The receipts over expenditures were $101.34.

Upon motion it was ordered that upon payment of current expenses for this month, the balance on hand to the credit of the City Hospital be turned over to the treasury of the new institution. The amount turned over is approximately $400.

Upon the conclusion of this business Chairman McEachern stated that the board had been supplanted by the new board and there was no further use for its existence, whereupon an adjournment *sine die* was taken. There were present at the last meeting, which was held at the Court House at 3 o'clock, Messrs. McEachern, Holmes and Montgomery.

Just before adjournment Chairman McEachern had occasion to say if Mr. James M. Hall, the popular interne at the institution, who was present at the meeting, that his services at the hospital had been most satisfactory and he had great pleasure in expressing the sentiments of the board to this effect. His reports were always neat and correctly kept; he hoped that there would be no change in the interne for the new hospital.

In this connection it is well to state that the new board has notified all employes at the hospital that where services had been conscientiously and faithfully performed all would be retained in the employment.

ACTIVITY AT FORT CASWELL.

Garrison to be Strengthened by Addition of Another Company.

Pursuant to an order issued by General Miles, commanding the army, on August 2d, an immediate organization of nine additional companies of coast artillery will be made, making the total number of such companies 106, out of 126 as limited by law. Of the nine additional companies, Fort Caswell will get one—the 102nd, commanded by Capt. R. F. Gardner.

Company 38th, now at Caswell, is in command of Lieutenant Landon, and it, with the 110th, it is understood, will be recruited up to the full strength of 125 men each.

Work on the additional quarters for the officers and men has already been commenced. The full quota at Caswell when the new company is added will be about 250.

The other new companies ordered are as follows:

98th—Capt. Hamilton Rowan, Fort Hamilton, N. Y.
99th—Capt. Wm. P. Pence, Fort Morgan, Ala.
100th—Capt. D. E. Aullman, Fort Totten, N. Y.
101st—Capt. A. T. Smith, Fort Totten, N. Y.
103d—Capt. Jno. C. Gilmore, Jr., Fort Howard, Md.
106th—Capt. Geo. H. McManus, Fort Washington, Md.
105th—Capt. L. R. Burgess, at the Presidio of San Francisco.
104th—Capt. Chas. P. Summerall, Fort Lawton, Wash.

Reward For Murderer.

Sheriff Stedman and Chief of Police Furlong yesterday received posters announcing a $500 reward for the capture of Jim Lowery, colored, who murdered Chief of Police R. S. Jones, of Shelby, N. C., at 1:30 o'clock Sunday morning while the officer was in discharge of his duty. The description of Lowery is given as follows:

About 25 years old, about 5 feet and 11 inches in height, slim, weight 145 lbs., a rather light mulatto, with his right eye tooth rotted out and a niche broken out between his front teeth, one a little dark. A small brown spot on one side of face. Has prominent cheek bones and rather slim chin. Has a sneaking look and talks fine and in low tone. Has a small mustache.

Death of Mrs. W. H. Carr.

Friends and relatives in Wilmington yesterday learned with sorrow of the sad bereavement suffered by Mr. W. H. Carr in the death of his wife, which occurred at Maxton, N. C., on Sunday. Both Mr. and Mrs. Carr are well known in Wilmington, the first named being a nephew of Messrs. Samuel and W. H. Northrop, of this city. Mrs. Carr before marriage was a Miss Forbes, of Enfield, N. C., and the remains were taken to that town for interment yesterday. Mr. W. H. Northrop left yesterday morning for Enfield to attend the funeral yesterday afternoon.

THE FIRST REGIMENT

Another Rainy Day in Camp, But Soldiers Are Bright and Cheerful.

THE REGULAR CAMP ROUTINE

Doubt as to the Governor's Arrival at All. Regimental Band is Making Very Favorable Impression—Roster of the Waynesville Company.

Camp Aycock,
Wrightsville, Aug. 7.

The rainy season still continues but through it all the boys are still cheerfully looking ahead for better weather.

The battalion drills and dress parade to-day were exceptionally fine, especially the parade. The band discoursed inspiring military airs both at reveille and parade. At dress parade the buglers played with the band. This music in the opinion of your correspondent, can hardly be excelled by any State Guard band in the country. The only order read to-day assigns officers of the day and guard. The Officer of the Day is Captain Clifton, of the Queen City Guards; officers of the guard, Lieutenant Loftin of Company B, and Lieutenant Williams, of Battery A, senior and junior officers, respectively.

The battery went on dress parade for the first time to-day and made a very good showing. The uniforms of members are very nobby. The battery received its Howitzer to-day.

Colonel Bain received the news yesterday morning that Governor Aycock's little son, Charles, was very much worse. The colonel, however, has received no official information regarding the impossibilty of the Governor's reviewing the regiment. It is hoped by the regiment that his son will soon be out of danger.

Colonel Cobb hardly expects to hold any more target practice at the range for this year at least.

The provost guard established Tuesday is very effective.

Below is the roster of Company H, of Waynesville, which it was impossible to get yesterday:

Company H, Waynesville—Captain Thos. Stringfield. First Lieutenant H. A. Love, Second Lieutenant J. B. Hoyle. Sergeants Scenck and Davis. Corporals York, Russel, West and McClure.

Privates Allen, Morris, Meaford, Burriss, Jones, Smithers, Maffery, McElroy, Skates, Hyatt, Horcombe, Messer, McCracken, Lynch, Spake, Maxwell, Nichols, Davis, Lanier, Muse, Miller, McElwee, Smith, Franklin, Evans, Jones, Skates, J., Skates, W., Gattis, Evans, Smith.

Rev. Mr. Caldwell, of Waynesville, is along with the company as chaplain.

South Carolina Excursion.

A big excursion from Chesterfield and Cheraw, S. C., and intermediate points on the Chesterfield and Lancaster and S. A. L. railways is advertised to reach Wilmington at noon, Aug. 22nd, and remain in the city until the following day at 3 P. M. The Cheraw and Wilmington baseball teams are scheduled to play a game that date and the Charlotte and Wilmington league clubs will also meet on the diamond. The excursionists will take a trip to sea on the steamer *Wilmington*.

Injured in a Runaway.

Ex-mayor John J. Fowler yesterday received a telephone message from Rocky Point telling him of a serious accident which befel his sister, Mrs. J. D. Bell, Saturday afternoon. She with her two young daughters were driving in a buggy the horse attached to which ran away and threw them from the vehicle. Friends of Mrs. Bell were inquiring anxiously of her condition yesterday.

— The catalogue of Limestone College, Gaffney, S. C., for 1900-1901, shows an attendance of 150 students, and a faculty composed of nineteen professors. The course of instruction embraces ten schools, and includes everything desirable in female education. Professor Lee Davis Lodge, a brother-in-law of Mr. Herbert McClammy, of Wilmington, is president.

TWO NEGRO DESPERADOES.

One Killed and the Other Captured—Two Police Officers Injured.

By Telegraph to the Morning Star.

CHARLOTTE, N. C.,—A special to the *Observer* from Charleston, S. C., says:

After a hand-to-hand struggle with the police last night a negro giving the name of Mike Washington was captured. His brother, who claimed to be George Washington, was killed. Second Lieutenant Dunn was mortally wounded and first Lieutenant McManus injured in the fight.

The negro in jail answers well the description of the slayer of Chief of Police Jones, of Shelby, N. C., but has not yet been positively identified. They were heavily armed and fought like madmen.

HEAVY RAINS IN UTAH

Caused Loss of Life and Damage to Railroad Property.

By Telegraph to the Morning Star.

SALT LAKE, UTAH, Aug. 7.—Cloud bursts and heavy rains in various parts of Utah last night caused the loss of two lives and resulted in considerable damage to railroad property. At Winter Quarters, where the mines of the Pleasant Valley Coal Company are located, a flood caused by a cloud burst swept away the home of Matt Korbillo. Korbillo, his wife and child were carried away by the torrent, the father and child being drowned, while the mother was rescued with great difficulty. She was terribly bruised and received injuries that may prove fatal.

COTTON CROPS' CONDITION.

Below the Average in Texas, Louisiana, Arkansas, Tennessee, Georgia, Alabama and the Carolinas

By Telegraph to the Morning Star.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 5.—The monthly report of the statistician of the Department of Agriculture shows the average condition of cotton on July 25th to have been 77.2, as compared with 81.1 on the 25th of the preceding month, 76 on August 1, 1900, 64 on August 1, 1899, and a ten year average of 84.

There was an improvement of condition during July amounting to six points in Georgia, five points in South Carolina, two in Alabama and Mississippi and eight in Virginia. On the other hand, there was a decline of nineteen points in Missouri, fifteen in Arkansas and Tennessee, thirteen in Oklahoma and Indian Territory, twelve in Texas, seven in Florida, four in North Carolina and two in Louisiana.

The impairment in condition is largely due to drought, but in a portion of the eastern section of the cotton belt it is attributable to the prevalence of excessive rain during a large part of the month. While the condition in Mississippi is five points above the State's ten year average, every other State reports a condition below such average, Virginia being one, Louisiana two, Alabama three, Texas seven, Georgia eight, South Carolina and Florida nine, North Carolina twelve, Arkansas, Tennessee and Mississippi sixteen points below their respective ten year averages.

The average of condition in the different States is reported as follows: Virginia, 86; North Carolina, 73; South Carolina, 75; Georgia, 78; Florida, 79; Alabama, 82; Mississippi, 88; Lousiana, 82; Texas, 74; Arkansas, 69; Tennessee, 70; Missouri, 71; Oklahoma, 78; Indian Territory, 73.

TAMPA STRIKE TROUBLE.

Strikers Wavering—Served With Notice That If They Desire to Leave the City There Will be No Objection.

By Telegraph to the Morning Star.

TAMPA, FLA., Aug. 7.—The Resistencia Union has changed its position several times to-day. This morning the strikers were taking an obligation to leave Tampa in a body and never return under any circumstances. This afternoon they issued a statement that if their leaders returned to them they will then be ready to arbitrate and settle. They declare that they will do nothing until this is done. Citizens say they will have a long job of waiting on their hands. It seems to be positively settled to night that these leaders are gone beyond reach, and this is impressing itself upon their minds. The Resistencia has been telegraphing to Key West and New York all day, trying to employ attorneys to come here and take their case, but with what success is unknown to-night. This action was upon the belief that the men were in jail. They were not and never have been. From their vacilating moods it is interpreted that they are wavering and will soon be ready to reason and resume work where they left off. Tampa served them with notice to-day that if they desired to leave in a body they can do so without objection being raised.

CALIFORNIA GOLD ROBBERY.

Reward Offered for Capture of the Robbers—Smelting Company Responsible for the Bullion

By Telegraph to the Morning Star.

SAN FRANCISCO, August 7.—President Ralston, of the Selby Company, to-day further emphasized the fact that he had absolutely no news to give out concerning the theft of gold at the smelter works. The only fact that the detectives have reported to him to-day is that the parolled convict, who was suspected in some quarters of having been implicated in the robbery, left for Sierra City, this State, several weeks ago, and is still believed to be in that vicinity. Mr. Ralston stated that his company would be responsible for every cent of the stolen bullion and that a settlement with the consignees would be made as soon as the affairs of the company could be adjusted, which would take a few days. The company is rated as one of the strongest on the coast. President Ralston, of the smelting works, stated this afternoon that a reward of $5,000 has been offered for the capture of the robbers.

An Arrest Made.

It was learned late to-day that the police have in custody a man who was arrested on suspicion of being implicated in the Selby smelter works robbery, in which $280,000 worth of gold bullion was stolen. The identity of the suspect is not known. The police will give no information on the matter.

THE PEKIN PROTOCOL.

Delay in Signing Probably Due to Adjusting the Tariff.

By Telegraph to the Morning Star.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 7.—It is the understanding at the State Department that the delay in signing the protocol at Pekin, probably, is due to the difficulty of adjusting the tariff on an ad valorem instead of a specific basis, and also arranging the details for the co operation of the military branch in restrictions on the importation of firearms.

Our government has received representations made by Pacific coast commercial bodies, saying the proposed 5 per cent. duty on a gold basis will work serious hardship on our Oriental flour trade.

FUSION IN NEBRASKA

Practically Agreed Upon—Strongly Advocated by Hon. Wm. J. Bryan.

By Telegraph to the Morning Star.

LINCOLN, NEB., Aug. 7.—Meetings were held to-night by the Democratic, Populist and Free Silver Republican State central committees and fusion of the three parties was practically agreed upon, the State conventions of all being fixed for September 17th, at Lincoln. W. J. Bryan addressed the Democratic and Populist committees, and expressed himself strongly in favor of fusion.

GUNBOAT MACHIAS ORDERED TO COLON.

To Watch Movements of Belligerent Colombian Forces On the Isthmus of Panama.

By Telegraph to the Morning Star.

WASHINGTON, Aug 7.—An order was issued by the acting secretary of the navy to-day for the gunboat Machias, now at the Boston navyyard, to proceed without delay to Hampton Roads and there to prepare for departure for Colon, near the eastern terminus of the Panama railroad.

At the Navy Department it is explained that this movement has been ordered with a view of having the Machias take observations in the vicinity of the Isthmus. In announcing the action of the department it was officially stated that "it is deemed needful that a United States war vessel be in that vicinity at this time." The order to the Machias followed the conference held at the Navy Department between Acting Secretary of State Adee and Acting Secretary of Navy Hackett. Mr. Adee had the dispatch received from Consul Gudger last night, stating that the revolutionists had held up a train for an hour at Marachin on the line of the railroad across the isthmus and only about fifteen miles from Panama city. While this was not regarded as threatening an interruption of traffic or giving ground for intervention by the United States, yet it was deemed advisable by the officials that our ships should be in the neighborhood in order that suitable observations could be made and steps taken to meet any serious emergency that might arise. For the present, officials do not believe there will be any need of landing marines. The commander of the Machias, Lieutenant Commander Mason Sargant, is regarded as an officer of tact and ability and besides this he has had recent experience in West Indian waters, having been in command of the Scorpion when she made her recent trip to Laguira to keep watch on American interests in Venezuela.

The Machias is a gunboat of 1,177 tons displacement, with twin screws and good steam capacity. She has eight four-inch guns in her main battery, six rapid fire and one automatic gun. Her run to the isthmus depends somewhat on the length of her stay at Hampton Roads, but it is believed she will be ready to proceed with little or no delay, in which case the trip will take about ten days or two weeks.

The position of the United States as to maintaining free traffic across the isthmus of Panama was fully defined in 1885 when extensive naval operations were carried on there. An outbreak somewhat similar to the present one occurred early in that year and the insurgents captured Panama and burned Aspinwall. The North Atlantic squadron, under Rear Admiral Jouett, was sent to the isthmus. At the same time the Navy Department sent an expeditionary force from New York, consisting of 750 seamen and marines, commanded by Commander B. H. McCall and including three Gatlings and three 3 inch rifled guns. Admiral Jouett arrived at the isthmus April 10th, and at once landed marines and issued orders to open transit across the isthmus. Two armored cars, fitted with Howitzers, Gatling and Hotchkiss guns were sent over the line, clearing the way and making the entire transit. Garrisons of marines were placed at Aspinwall and Matachin, the latter place being where the revolutionists have now held up a train, according to Consul Gudger's dispatch of yesterday. Commander McCalla's expedition established headquarters at Panama. Here the revolutionary leader Aizpuru was in full control, and was expecting battle with the Colombian army. Commander McCalla acted energetically, and gathering his full force occupied Panama on April 24th, arrested Aizpuru and other leaders and held them prisoners until an agreement was signed that fighting should not take place within the city. Three days later the Colombian army arrived and at a conference between the government generals, Aizpuru, and Admiral Jouett, the insurgents capitulated. All of the United States forces were then withdrawn and were back in New York on May 16.

The present trouble on the isthmus is far less formidable than that of 1885, but the procedure is made clear in case the insurgents obstruct traffic.

There is no present purpose of sending a ship down from the Pacific side.

GREAT FLOODS IN CHINA.

Thousands of Lives Lost by the Overflowing of the Yangtse River. Towns Swept Away.

By Cable to the Morning Star.

VICTORIA, B. C., Aug. 7.—Great floods caused by the overflowing of the Yangtse have caused the death of many thousands in China. The river has risen forty feet and for hundreds of miles the country is a great lake, with only the tops of trees and an occasional roof showing. At Anking the town is flooded, some of the houses to their roofs. At Kiu Kiang, the native town is flooded and two feet of water stands in the foreign settlements. Lower down the river towards Swu Hue, the destruction was greater, and boatmen estimate that twenty thousand people were drowned in the district. Chong Teh was wiped away by floods and ten thousand drowned there, and many other points have been inundated, involving awful loss of life and great destruction to property. It is feared an embankment built by Chong Teh Tung near Wu Chang would break and cause the drowning of hundreds of thousands.

NEW CROP COTTON.

First Bales of the Season Received at Texas Towns.

By Telegraph to the Morning Star.

DALLAS, TEXAS, Aug. 7.—The first bales of this season's cotton crop were received to-day at Dallas, Hillsboro, Kaufmann, Clebourn, Mexia, Waxahatchie and Whitney. This confirms the fear, it is stated, that drought has stunted the plant and caused a premature opening on top.