

Eastern Courier.

UPWARD AND ONWARD.

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THE NEWS EPITOMIZED.

Washington Items.

THE time limit having expired the United States four per cent. bonds called for by the Belmont-Morgan syndicate agreement were ordered to be printed.

THE hundredth anniversary of the birth of George Peabody was celebrated in Massachusetts.

THE second triennial convention of the National Council of Women began in Washington.

SECRETARY CARLISLE issued a statement giving a complete history of the Belmont-Morgan gold bond contract. Mr. Morgan withdrew the bond contract to which Mr. Cleveland, as President, agreed.

SENATOR HILL defended President Cleveland from the attack made on him by the Liver Senators.

GOLD is pouring into the Treasury for the new issue of bonds. The gold, or most of it, came originally from the Treasury.

THE Ways and Means Committee recommends that England, Russia and Japan be requested to co-operate with the United States in protecting the seals.

EIGHTY-EIGHT employes of the Census Bureau were dismissed, leaving less than one hundred now performing the work.

PRESIDENT CLEVELAND signed the Chicago Public Building bill.

BY the death of a husband in Ohio three weeks ago and of a wife and son on the Elbe, Washington charity will receive a bequest of \$12,000.

THE steamer Lady of the Lake was burned at her wharf, Washington, because all the water plugs in the vicinity of the wharf were frozen.

THE President approved the act to establish a National military park at Gettysburg, Penn., and the act changing the name of Georgetown, in the District of Columbia, which provides that it shall constitute a part of the city of Washington.

SECRETARY AND MRS. CARLISLE gave their annual Cabinet dinner in honor of the President and Mrs. Cleveland. Those outside of the Cabinet invited to meet the Chief Executive were Mrs. Ferrine, Mrs. Daniel Manning and Assistant Secretary Hamlin.

PRESIDENT CLEVELAND decided the boundary dispute between Brazil and Argentina, in favor of Brazil.

Foreign Notes.

GERMAN and French farmers are making an active campaign against American grains and meats.

A DESPATCH from Wei-Hai-Wei, China, announces the capitulation of that place and the surrender of the Chinese warship in port to the Japanese. The Chinese were repulsed with heavy loss in an attack on Hai-Cheng; Japan is to have two battleships built in England.

REPORTS of further outrages by Turks in Armenia reached London.

THE resolution to call another silver conference was adopted by the German Reichstag and has the approval of the Imperial Government.

ROBERT NEWBURY, of Tottenham, Canada, murdered his wife and little niece and then tried to kill himself.

THE Radicals and Socialists were defeated in the communal elections in Italy.

FAMINE was threatened in the district of Hungary southeast of Budapest. The Socialists took advantage of the situation to incite rioting. They were dispersed with fixed bayonets.

A PARAFFIN lamp was overturned on board the Flushing mail steamship Princess Elizabeth in Queenboro Harbor, England, setting fire to the vessel and killing two persons.

THE trial of ex-Queen Liliuokalani, of Hawaii, lasted from February 5 to 8; she testified in her own behalf and submitted a written statement.

CHANG-CHITUNG, the Viceroy of Nankin, China, has tendered an apology to the British representative for the action of the Chinese soldiers who attacked Captain Cartwright, of the British warship Pigeon.

Domestic.

W. S. GUMMERE, of Trenton, was nominated by Governor Werts to succeed the late Justice Abbett on the New Jersey Supreme Court bench.

CHARLES ANSOBY and Louis Busam, aged nine and eleven, respectively, broke through the ice at Cincinnati and were drowned in the Ohio River. Their bodies have not yet been recovered.

THE Retail Butchers' Association and the Retail Grocers' Union have boycotted those big drygoods stores in New York City which sell meats and groceries, and have notified

wholesalers not to supply the drygoods people.

THE Brooklyn trolley men formally declared the strike off, with the exception of the men on President Norton's Atlantic Avenue system.

A LARGE boiler exploded in Cobb's sawmill, two miles west of Towanda, Penn. Theodore Pencil, fireman, and John Mack, teamster, were instantly killed, and Frank Meyers, a mill hand, was fatally injured.

PHILIP MARTINI, colored, was hanged in the jail yard at Kansas City, Mo., for the murder of Eli Stillwell, a prominent stockman.

By blowing out the gas in their hotel room, at Springfield, Ill., George Harpool and Casey Gregory, of Fairfield, compassed their own deaths.

JAMES DONOHUE, of New York, engineer of the New York Central fast mail, No. 32, was killed in a collision near Rhinecliff, N. Y.

PRESIDENT BENJAMIN NORTON and Superintendent D. J. Quinn, of the Atlantic Avenue Trolley Railroad, were jointly indicted by the Grand Jury, Brooklyn, on two charges of having violated the Ten-Hour law. Twenty-seven other indictments were found against persons, some of them strikers, for injuring railroad property.

MAYOR STRONG, of New York City, appointed A. D. Andrews, a West Pointer, Police Commissioner, and G. W. Green Aque-duet Commissioner.

ACCUSATIONS of corruption were made in the miners' convention at Columbus, Ohio, against John McBride, President of the Federation of Labor.

A NUMBER of appointments were announced by Mayor Strong, of New York City, among them William Brookfield as Commissioner of Public Works, F. M. Scott as Counsel to the Corporation, four Civil Service Commissioners and three members of the Park Board, the new officials being taken from all the reform parties.

DENNIS McLAUGHLIN, John C. Carr, Gottfried Walbaum and John N. Crusius, known as the Guttenberg race-track "Big Four," were sentenced at Jersey City, N. J., to a year's imprisonment at hard labor.

A HEAVY snowstorm prevailed in Texas and the Southwest. The fall of snow in Louisiana and Texas was the heaviest for nearly twenty years. Street-car traffic in New Orleans was suspended.

WHILE John Burke, of Sedalia, Ind., was chopping wood his brother, Willie, stooped to pick up a stick and received a blow from the axe on his head. His skull was split open and fatal injuries were inflicted.

AN explosion of natural gas at Meadville, Penn., wrecked two buildings. One person was killed and three others injured seriously. By an explosion of natural gas at Elwood, Ind., the building occupied by the Elwood Fruit Co. and C. C. Henze Co. was wrecked, and three persons badly injured.

EDWIN P. BROWN, a hermit, was found dead in his hut of field stones which he occupied in the woods about a mile from Westport Harbor, Mass. The body was frozen stiff and had been nibbled at by rats.

FIRE destroyed the car barns in Chicago. The loss to the company will be fully \$130,000. One hundred and ten cable cars were burned.

FIGGAT FILCHED FOR YEARS.

His Huge Defalcation Caused the Bank of Lexington, Va., to Collapse.

The defalcation of Cashier C. M. Figgat, which has practically put out of existence the Bank of Lexington, Va., and the only financial agent of the entire community and county people, has fallen with a telling effect. Over twenty thousand people are victims of this financial collapse.

The liabilities of the bank are \$193,402.42. The assets are \$133,202.32. This leaves a shortage of \$60,200.10, not including the capital stock valued at \$30,000. It is said that Figgat used up the \$90,000 and \$65,200.10 of depositors' funds, leaving a cash balance of \$6373.12 to meet the cash deposits of \$72,000. It is given out that the period of defalcation covers twenty-three years.

The Virginia Military Institute had nearly \$20,000 deposited in the bank. A large amount of the County Treasurer's funds was also in the bank.

A Living Death.

Mme. Joniaux, the Belgian poisoner, has entered on a term of life imprisonment, to which death would be far preferable. She is confined in a cell to which a ray of light cannot penetrate. She will never so much as hear a human voice. Her food will be passed to her through a slit in the wall. She will probably go mad before many months, if death does not come first.

BOND BILL IS DEFEATED.

House of Representatives Refuses to Meet President Cleveland's Views.

WAS REJECTED BY 47 MAJORITY.

Ninety-eight Democratic, Sixty-two Republican and Seven Populist Votes Cast Against the Measure—Report of the Committee and Details of the President's Contract With a Syndicate.

The Committee on Ways and Means, by a vote of 8 yeas to 5 nays, decided to report to the House of Representatives the following resolution, practically as agreed upon by the sub-committee:

"Resolved, by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of the Treasury be and is hereby authorized to issue and dispose of, at not less than par in gold coin, bonds of the United States with the qualities, privileges, and exemptions of bonds issued under the act approved July 14, 1870, entitled an act authorizing the refunding of the National debt, to an amount not exceeding \$65,116,275, bearing interest at a rate not exceeding three per cent. per annum, principal and interest payable in gold coin of the present standard of weight and fitness, said bonds to be made payable not more than thirty years after date. Provided, however, that no part of the proceeds of the sale of such bonds nor of the notes redeemed with such proceeds shall be available for the payment of the current expenses of the Government."

The vote of 8 to 5 on reporting the bill showed party breaks on both sides. The vote in full was as follows:

For the bill—Wilson, Tarsney, Turner, Montgomery, Stevens and Cookran, Democrats; and Reed and Payne, Republicans, 8. Against the bill—McMillin, Whiting, Bryan, and Wheeler, Democrats; Hopkins, Republican, 5.

A minority report was made by those who voted against the bill. It was decided that Chairman Wilson, for the majority, should report the resolution to the House.

CHAIRMAN WILSON'S REPORT.

Details of the Administration's Contract With a Syndicate of Bankers.

The report which Chairman Wilson submitted for the majority of the Ways and Means Committee says:

"From the reading of this contract it will be seen that the arrangement of the Secretary with the parties to this contract affects the purchase of 3,500,000 ounces of standard gold coin of the United States (amounting to \$65,116,275) at least one-half of which shall be obtained in and shipped from Europe. For this gold coin he has contracted to issue to the parties furnishing it, under authority of the act for the redemption of specie payments approved January 14, 1875, 4 per cent. thirty-year bonds of the United States, at a price which realizes to them interest at the rate of 3 1/4 per cent., but the Secretary of the Treasury has reserved the right, if authority be given him by Congress, to substitute at par any bonds of the United States bearing 3 per cent. interest, of which the principal and interest shall be specifically payable in United States gold coin of the present weight and fitness, said substitution to be made within ten days from the date of the contract.

"It is the object of the joint resolution herewith submitted to give to the Secretary of the Treasury authority to substitute such bonds to the amount of the contract. The saving to be effected by the Government, as set forth in the President's message, will be \$539,159 per year for every year the three per cent. bonds run, and of the amount of \$16,170,770 should they run thirty years.

"As it is not believed by the committee that the issue of bonds specifically payable in gold will impose any additional burden of liability upon the Government than if they are made payable in coin under its pledge and policy to preserve the parity of the coins in the two metals, the saving of this large amount becomes a matter of substantial moment and advantage of the Government, and as the parties to take the bonds are under contract to furnish gold coin for them, it seems no hardship on the Government to contract to pay them back in the same coin that they furnished to it."

The report of Mr. Wilson included a copy of the President's recent message to Congress bearing upon the subject, and also a copy of the contract made by the Treasury Depart-

ment with the European syndicate for the purchase of the new bonds. The text of the bond contract shows that the bankers drove a hard bargain with the Administration. In addition to the rate of interest agreed upon, the bankers are given an option on all future issues up to October 1 next.

ACTION BY THE HOUSE.

After a Debate Lasting Six Hours the Measure Falls of Passage.

Proceedings in the House upon the Bond bill reported from the Ways and Means Committee opened with the report from the Committee on Rules of an order providing that a vote be taken at 5 o'clock in the afternoon. On the question of the adoption of the order the vote, as taken by tellers, resulted, yeas, 152; nays, 28.

The bond resolution was read by the Clerk, and the Speaker, dividing the five hours allotted for debate, said he would recognize Messrs. Wilson (Dem., West Va.), and Reed (Rep., Me.), for two hours in the affirmative, and Messrs. Bryan (Dem., Neb.), and Hopkins (Rep., Ill.), in the negative for the same time; the other hour to be divided among other gentlemen.

After six hours of debate the House, by a vote of 167 to 120, refused to order the Ways and Means resolution to a third reading. Of the 120 votes cast for the motion 31 were given by Republicans, Mr. Reed being among the number. In the negative there were 98 Democratic, 62 Republican and 7 Populist votes.

FATAL MINE EXPLOSION.

Five Men Instantly Killed and Six Others Terribly Injured in Pennsylvania.

By an explosion of mine gas in the West Bear Bridge Colliery of the Reading Coal and Iron Company at Mahanoy Plane, Penn., six miners were killed and five were burned, four of them probably fatally. The dead are: Thomas Durkin, of Gtardville; Joseph Glibe, of Crescent Hill; Peter Greenback, of St. Clair; Peter Kline, of Ashland; Anthony Myers, of Ashland; Benjamin Reaber, of Mahanoy Plane.

All but Myers were probably instantly killed, and it was some time before their bodies were recovered from the workings. Myers was taken out alive and died while being carried to the hospital. The injured are:

Edward Davis, of Girardville; William Minnich and William Goff, of Ashland; John Lamey and William Davis, of Mahanoy Plane. It was feared that the first four of these injured men were fatally burned, but William Davis was only slightly hurt.

The cause of the explosion was supposed to be that a naked lamp ignited a large body of gas that had been let loose from a blast that was made in the gangway. The explosion set fire to the timbers of what is called the "monkey airway," cutting off the escape of the five men killed in the mine.

WAS SHORT \$363,000.

Claims Against the Estate of the Dead Treasurer of Illinois.

When Rufus Ramsey, who died suddenly three months ago, at Carlyle, Ill., supposedly of heart disease, went into the State Treasury two years ago, he was thought to be the richest man in Southern Illinois. Within a week over \$500,000 in claims against his estate had been filed, but the most startling is that of the five Chicago bankers who were his surety as State Treasurer.

When Henry Wolf succeeded the dead man he found a shortage of \$363,359.90. The information was communicated to his bondsmen, who suppressed the fact in the hope of reimbursement out of the estate of the dead man.

F. M. Blount and Carl Moll, cashiers of two Chicago National banks, have filed in the County Court claims for the full amount of the shortage.

Mr. Ramsey was a banker in Carlyle, and his estate probably is worth \$150,000. The bondsmen may get \$125,000 of that.

EIGHTEEN FEET OF SNOW.

The Danish Peninsula Gets Its Share of Winter.

A Berlin dispatch says that the harbor of Dantzic is frozen over. The ice is so thick that vehicles pass on it from shore to shore.

At Copenhagen people can walk on the ice to the ships that are icebound in the harbor. Near Kiel six large steamers are reported to be fast in the ice.

In North Jutland, Denmark, the snow is eighteen feet deep. In the town of Hjorring tunnels had to be cut through the snow and the inmates of buried houses dug out. The Berlin prisons are overflowing with persons who committed misdemeanors in order to obtain shelter.