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TERRIFIC SOUTHERN STORM

Swept Through Portions of Alabama, Mississippi and Arkansas.

LIST OF FATALITIES LARGE.

Also Much Property Destroyed—Trees Twisted Off Like Reeds and all Fencing Leveled to the Ground.

A series of terrific wind-storms swept through portions of Alabama, Mississippi and Arkansas Saturday, doing an immense amount of damage to property and killing a number of people. The storms covered a radius of several hundred miles, destroying telegraph wires and cutting off communication with a large part of the affected country. Cleburne county, Ala., seems to have suffered the most severely, the storm there assuming the proportions of a tornado. At Sellers and Luverne, Ala., much damage is reported, and at Rob Roy, Ark., one man was killed and reveral badly injured. Dumas, Ark., was practically wiped out of existence and several other towns in the vicinity suffered severely. One person is reported killed at Hickory Flats, Miss., and as the farm houses in the vicinity suffered heavily, it is not unlikely that many fatalities occurred which have not yet been reported.

At Hickory Flats there was considerable damage done to buildings and other property. The school building and two churches were demolished and 25 dwellings blown down or unroofed. Several persons received painful injuries. A family living west of there lost their dwelling and a young lady, name as yet unknown, was killed. Trees were torn up by the roots, twisted off like reeds and all fencing in the path of the cyclone was leveled to the ground.

Advices reaching Birmingham indicate that a great storm has passed over Cleburne county, devastating a large section. It is reported that ten people have so far been killed, nine of them in the family of a man named Coffee. Telegraph communication is meagre and nothing definite can be obtained. The tornado passed through portions of Jefferson and Desha counties, Ark. At Rob Roy 5 houses were blown down, one man was killed. At Dumas nearly all the houses in the town were either blown down or damaged and several persons were wounded, but so far as can be learned, no lives were lost. There are several small towns in the section, through which the cyclone passed, and as yet no news has been received from any of them.

Cyclones passed over different portions of Alabama, but on account of the telegraph wires being down, no particulars can be learned. At Selma the spire of the First Methodist church was blown down, crushing through the roof and doing much damage. At Sellers, a small station on the Plant system, south of Montgomery, the entire town except three houses, was destroyed. Luverne suffered greatly, but no details can be gotten.

The cyclone passed over the country between Heflin and Edwardsville, Ala. It is reported that five persons were killed in one family. Telegraph wires are prostrated.

Bryan Takes the $3.00 Dinner.

William Jennings Bryan has wired to his friends in New York City that he would attend the $3 dinner which will be given in that city on April 13. The cheaper dinner was decided upon at a meeting of the Central Labor Union. The small cost of the dinner, it was asserted, would be more in accord with Jeffersonian principles than Mr. Croker's dinner. Col. Bryan was invited to attend the Croker $10 dinner by Perry Belmont. His reply was a telegram asking Mr. Belmont if he adhered to the principles set forth in the Chicago platform. Mr. Belmont telegraphed back, dodging the question. Mr. Bryan then decided not to accept.

Sheriff and His Deputies Jailed.

The coroner's jury, on the riot at Hot Springs, Ark., in which five men were killed, has rendered a verdict against sheriff Robt. Williams and Duputy Sheriffs Coffee Williams, Ed. Spears and William Watt, holding that the killing were not justified and committing the above men to jail to await the grand jury's action.

The Raleigh's Compliment Returned.

As the United Stated cruiser Raleigh sailed from Gibralter for New York, homeward bound from Manila, in order to be put out of commission, she hoisted the Spanish ensign and fired a salute while passing the Spanish squadron, commanded by Admiral Camara, off Algeciras. The Spanish flagship Carlos Quinta thereupon hoisted the American engign and returned the salute.

The Oregon Arrives at Manila.

The Navy Department has been advised of the arrival at Manila of the battleship Oregon. The following is the cablegram received from Admiral Dewey: "MANILA, March 18. Secretary of the Navy, Washington:—The Oregon and the Iris arrived to-day. The Oregon is in fit condition for any duty."

The Tolberts Return to Their Homes.

A special from Columbia, S. C, says the Tolberts, who have been under banishishment for their part in the Phœnix election riots, of last November, have decided to test the efficacy of Governor Ellerbe's proclamation, and have returned to their homes in Abbeville and Greenwood counties.

Attacked by the Filipinos in Force.

The Filipinos in force attacked a company of the Washington Volunteers at Taquig Saturday night. Two companies of the Washington and Oregon Regiments were sent to the assistance of their comrades and drove the rebels back in front of the Twenty-second Regulars, who also engaged the enemy. Two American soldiers were killed, an officer and 13 privates wounded. The enemy's loss was severe.

Fire at Greenville, Tex., destroyed $150,000 worth of property.

The National Conventions.

The New York Board of Trade and Transportation has unanimously adopted a resolution "to bring the national Democratic and Republican conventions" to that city next year. In order to make the resolution effective the president of the board is authorized to appoint a committee of twenty-five, "with power to add to their number and also to appeal to other organizations and citizens and to the city authorities for co-operation, to them d that the city of New York shall secure the holding within its limits of both the great national political conventions in 1900."

STATE SQUIBS.

Nothing more conclusive proves that North Carolina is entering upon a period of most wonderful industrial developement than does the healthy condition of its railroad properties and the prospect of their great expansion by new construction during the next two years. If the number of charter granted by the Legislature be any indication, the closing years of the Nineteenth century will see an enormous advance in the business of collecting, carrying distributing, merchandise in this State and the entire South. The Laws of North Carolina for 1899 will show fourteen new roads chartered and the charters of as many more amended. A majority of the new roads are, to be sure, short lines constructed with a view to developing some particular section or industry, but at least three will complete great through lines, and even the shortest and most insignificent of the proposed roads are to be built with the end in view of ultimately being made feeders of some great railway system.

The tax on corporate franchises in North Carolina has been very much discussed recently, and there seems to be some doubt, generally, as to the provisions under the new revenue act. It may be well to quote the brief statement made by the State Auditor: "The property of railroad companies is assessed by the railroad commission at so much per mile. It is supposed that the value of the franchise is considered in connection with the assessment. In addition to an ad valouem tax on private business corporations, a graduated franchise tax is imposed according to the amount of capital stock. The tax on a capital of $25,000 or less is $5, and ascends by a graduating scale to $500, on a capital stock of $1,000,000. Banks are not subject to the franchise tax. Insurance companies are taxed on the gross receipts. Upon them there is no specific franchise tax. The franchise tax is ascertained and collected by the sheriff or tax collector of each county in which corporations are located, and paid to the State Treasurer."

The total number of bills on the House calendar during the last session of the Legisture was 2,071, including resolutions. The Senate calendar had 1,599, making a grand total of bills and resolutions announced by the two reading clerks of both houses of 3,670. Allowing for the number of bills introduced in the Senate as a basis and adding the number introduced in the Senate that were tabled or reportrd unfavorably the total number of different bills on all subjects put into the new law mill must have amounted to in the neighborhood of 3,000 bills. This averages about seventeen bills to each Senator and Representative of the 170 in the two houses.

Mrs. Robert R. Cotten, of Raleigh, is making an effort to form a State Federation composed of women in North Carolina. This will bring the women of this State in touch with each other and with the women of other States, thereby securing the increased benefits which comes from enlarged acquaintance, exchange of thought, and unity of action with definite aim. All organizations of women, and all women's departments of mixed organizations (such as Daughters of Rebekah, Rathbone Sisters, etc.) are invited to join in this movement, which is non-sectarian, non-political and only designed for mutual helpfulness.

The new revenue law provides that on each room or hall used as a theatre or opera house where public exhibitions are given for profit in a city or town having more than 10,000 inhabitants the tax would be $200 per annum; less than 10,000 inhabitants and over 5,000, $100. On less than 5,000 population and not less than 2,500, $50, while the tax for a town with less than 1,000 inhabitants is $25. The license is to be given by the sheriff, and the taxes are to be equally divided between the State and county. Each traveling theatre company exhibiting in a theatre that is not licensed shall pay a tax of $10.

Mr. Dwight Asheley, of the great silk manufacturing firm of Asheley & Bailey, operating three silk mills, one at Columbus, Pa., and one at Marietta, Pa., with offices and counting room in New York city, is in Fayetteville arranging for the erection of a silk mill. One factory will be erected for the present, and if it proves successful, of which Mr. Asheley says he is assured, all three plants, which employ 2,000 people, will be moved there. The first building erected will be a three-story brick one, 100 feet long and 40 feet wide.

Among other counties named in the acts prohibiting public drunkenness, there are Mecklenburg, Rutherford, Gaston, Haywood and Cleveland. In these counties it is provided that drunkenness shall be punished as a misdemeanor, and not as a violation of town ordinance, as formerly.

The Governor offers a reward of $200 for the unknown murderer of Macon Bryan, who was killed at Vanceboro, Craven county, recently.

The old board of directors of the Atlantic & North Carolina Railroad have refused to surrender their offices to the new board appointed by the board of internal improvements. The old board contends that their term of office do not expire until next September, and in accordance with the charter of the road, the board of internal improvements has no power to remove them.

The name of Jim Young together with the names of the other fusion trustees of the new auditorium building for the white blind, appointed by the Legislature of 1897, has been chiseled from the cornerstone of that institution. The stone now bears the simple inscription: "1845-1898."

Auditor Ayer is engaged in reorganizing the pension boards. Practically all of the present county boards will remain in office. They are appointed for life, or during good behavior.

The queerest act of the legislature is the one making it a misdemeanor to kill a fox in Alleghany county for two years. It is the first act of the kind ever passed in the State. Another act for an eastern county forbids hunting save by permission of landowners, fox hunters with not less than three hounds being excepted.

An effort is being made to organize a company at Hendersonville to extend the street car line to Flat Rock. If the plan goes through the cars will be run by dummy engines.

A good many papers in this State and elsewhere have stated that the last Legislature enacted a law abolishing the three days of grace allowed on drafts. This is a mistake, such a provision was in the law of negotiable instruments passed on the last day the General Assembly was in session, but attention was called to it and it was stricken out by an amendment.

Mr. A. M. Price, who recently purchased the Lander mica mill property at Lincolnton, will erect a modern cotton mill building on the property this summer. The main building will be 100x50 feet, with an engine house and picket room annex 60x33 feet.

TO PROTECT THE TOLBERTS.

The Banished Offered the Support of the Law.

ELLERBE'S PROCLAMATION.

He Calls Upon Officers and the Good Citizens to Protect "the Wronged and Persecuted Citizens."

The story of the Tolberts is known all over the country. Since that fatal election day at Phoenix when poor Etheredge was killed and others badly hurt, since those days of violence which succeeded, the Tolberts and some others have been wanderers from their homes. They have begged that they be permitted to return to their homes in Greenwood and Abbeville counties, they have pleaded and have promised, but all, it seems, to no avail. The situation there now is this: The people of the towns have not such bitter hatred for the Tolberts, but they recognize that in the rural districts there is an animosity which may lead to bloodshed. They have consequently advised the Tolberts and others not to take up their residence in old Abbeville district.

The governor has been appealed to for protection for those advised to leave. He was almost powerless at the time of the riot, but endeavored to do everything possible to stem the tide of bloodshed.

In answer to a number of appeals recently received Gov. Ellerbe has issued the following proclamation:

The State of South Carolina—By His Excellency W. H. Ellerbe, Governor and Commander-in-Chief in and over the State aforesaid.

To all and singular Sheriffs, Constables and other Officers of Justice, and the Citizens of Greenwood and Abbeville Counties, in the said State, Greeting:

Whereas, it has been brought to my attention that certain citizens of sections of Greenwood and Abbeville counties are deprived of the enjoyment of their liberties, their property and their civil rights in violation of the constitution and laws of this State, and that there is a conspiracy among some evilly disposed persons in said sections to drive and keep away from their homes and vocations said citizens and otherwise deprive them of their just and legal rights.

Now, therefore, I, William H. Ellerbe, Governor, do hereby issue this my proclamation demanding and requiring said evilly disposed persons, and all others encouraging the same, to desist from said lawless projects and conspiracies, and to resume their peaceful and lawful avocations.

And I do hereby call on the sheriffs, deputy sheriffs, magistrates, constables, and all other peace officers in Greenwood and Abbeville counties, under the pains and penalties of law, to protect all such wronged and persecuted citizens in their lives, property and liberties and in the performance of their duties, and said officer shall have all the assistance within the power of the State through this office and those of the solicitors of the Seventh and Eighth circuits and the attorney general of the State. I hereby extend to all citizens driven from their homes as aforesaid, who desire to return to their homes, such full protection as all the powers of the State can give as long as they pursue their lawful business. And the good people in the said counties are earnestly urged to assist in upholding the law and in saving the good names of the respective counties.

Given under my hand and the seal of said State, in Columbia, this 13th day of March, in the year of our Lord 1899 and in the 123d year of the independence of the United States of America. W. H. ELLERBE.

By the Governor:

W. BOYD EVANS, Private Secretary.

Cuba's Bone of Contention.

HAVANA (By Cable).—The action of Civil Governor Mora, and the police in attempting to prevent Monday's popular manifestations in favor of General Maximo Gomez, is strongly censured, and the ill feeling against the police runs high. The people consider that their rights and freedom have been attacked. The action of Governor General Brooke in restraining the Cuban authorities from interfering, has pleased the people and is favorably commented upon. The occurrence has done much to destroy the popularity and efficiency of the new police force. General Gomez is receiving hundreds of telegrams from all parts of the island expressing the people's allegiance and loyalty to him and to Cuba.

The Madrid Correspondencia says that the cabinet has advised the Queen Regent to ratify the treaty of peace with the United States without the reassembling of the Cortes.

Ten Italians Arrested for Counterfeiting.

A special from Boston says, after more than four months of careful work, United States secret service agents, assisted by the local police, Tuesday took into custody ten Italians, who, they have every reason to believe, have been issuing a great amount of counterfeit $5 Treasury notes, and are the Boston agents of one of the largest and most crafty gangs of counterfeiters that have operated in this country.

Spanish Officers Get Off Light.

Braulis Zorita and Jose Ruiz, the Spanish officers who were recently tried in Manila by a commission for the embezzlement of $10,548, (Mexican) devoted to the maintenance of prisoners and who were convicted and senteneed to pay a fine of $2,500 gold, and to undergo three years' imprisonment at hard labor, have had the term of imprisonment commuted to six months, in view of previous confinement and certain circumstances justifying clemency.

John B. Bailey, assistant United States attorney for the Eastern District of Texas, has resigned, and Frank Lee, of Paris, Tex., has been appointed as his successor.

Brief Mention.

Fourteen members of the New York baseball club, including John B. Day, manager, have sailed on the steamship Comanche for Charleston, S. C., where they will get ready for the championship season.

Elida Wilbur, of San Francisco, Cal., who for thirteen months has lain in a heavy stupor resembling death, is showing signs of reviving consciousness, and the doctors now believe she will recover.

Banquet to Cecil Rhodes.

Both Emperor William and Empress Augusta Victoria, besides Baron Von Bulow, the Foreign Minister, and other ministers with their wives, attended the banquet given by Sir Frank Lascelles, the British ambassador, in Berlin, to Cecil Rhodes, who appears to have personally impressed everybody from the Emperor down.

G. A. Gruner, treasurer of the Phil Gruner & Brother Lumber Company, of St. Louis, Mo., representing the creditors and bondholders of the Sportsman's Park and Club, bought in the St. Louis baseball club at public auction for $35,000.

MURDERED BY AN ARMED MOB.

Four Negroes Shot to Death and Three Wounded.

PALMETTO, Ga. (Special).—Twenty men, armed and masked, rode into this little town at an early hour Thursday morning, and put to death four negroes, fatally wounded one, shot another and broke the arm of a seventh man. Two others who were of the crowd upon which the bullets were showered, miraculously escaped. These unfortunates were under a guard of three men waiting the hour 9 o'clock, when they were to have a hearing before a justice of the peace on the charge of arson. Wm. Cotton, the leader of the nine men, confessed some time ago that a conspiracy had been entered into which resulted in two incendiary fires here in February, and on this evidence the men were to have been tried.

A Proclamation by the Governor.

Governor Candler is very bitter in his denunciation of the Palmetto lynching, and terms the killing an outrage. In an interview the Governor said: "I regard the outrage as simply inexcusable. These men had been arrested, as I am informed, and proof was at hand to convict them. They were in the hands of the law. The law was amply able to punish them, and the interposition of this mob of disguised men was entirely unnecessary, since with the proof in the hands of those who had made the arrests, conviction and punishment were absolutely certain. I offer the largest reward the law will authorize for the apprehension of any one of the perpetrators of this dastardly deed, and I will try to see to it that they are prosecuted to the limit of the law. Such outrages must stop in Georgia." Later in the day the Governor issued the following proclamation:

"WHEREAS, Official information has been received that on the night of March 15, 1899, an unknown mob foully murdered Henry Bingham, colored; Tip Hudson, colored; Eli Brown, colored, and Bad Cotton, colored, while said parties were incarcerated and well guarded, awaiting a committal trial upon the charge of arson, in the county of Campbell,

"I have thought proper, therefore to issue this, my proclamation, hereby offering $500 for the apprehension and delivery of the first member of said unknown mob, and a further reward of $100 for each additional person implicated, with evidence sufficient to convict, to the sheriff of said county and State.

"And I do, moreover, charge and require all officers in this State, civil and military, to be vigilant in endeavoring to apprehend the said members of the unknown mob, in order that they may be brought to trial for the offence with which they stand charged.

"Given under my hand and seal of the State, this the 16th day of March, 1899.

"A. D. CANDLER, Governor.

"By the Governor. PHIL. COOK, Secretary of State."

Fortified Town Captured.

A special from Manila says: The strongly fortified village of Cainti, northwest of Pasig, was captured Thursday, after a desperate fight, by the Twentieth Regular Infantry. The troops first encountered the rebel outposts in the dense jungle on the banks of the river. The enemy was dislodged after half an hour's fighting. The Americans advanced in splendid order under a heavy fire until it was necessary to volley the rebels from the trenches. The latter had great advantage and dropped a number of our men. The Americans charged across the rice fields, making four advances on the enemy, who numbered 1,000 men, 500 of whom were entrenched, and in the face of a cross fire. Our troops, however, carried the town after four hours' fighting and burned the outskirts, the rebels firing from the windows and keeping up a running fire in the streets. The Americans then withdrew in order to obtain more ammunition.

The rebel loss was about 100 men and the American loss was: Corporal Johnson, of Co. C, and Private McAvoy, of Co. L, killed. In addition the following Americans were wounded: Sergeant Cheek, Co. L; Corporal Household, Co. M; Private Kelly, Co. C; Private Kinney, Co. C; Private Tinker, Co. C; Private Gilley, Co. G; Private Varley, Co. G; Private Galey, Co. F; Private Mahan, Co. L; Private Griffiths, Co. L; Private Lafeyth, Co. L; Private MacFarland, Co. L. Artie Cluckmann, the regimental "mascot," carried a parrot into action and was wounded in the knee.

Cuba's Free Lunch Stopped.

An order has been issued by the United States military authorities at Havana, to the effect that all rations distributed to the Cuban poor after the supply now on hand is exhausted shall be charged against the customs receipts of the province in which they are distributed.

Five Die in a Street Battle.

Five lives were lost at Hot Springs, Ark., in a factional fight over the coming mayoralty election. The dead are: Tom Nolen, chief of police: Tom Gosley, captain of police; James Hart, detective; John Henkle, driver of a beer wagon, and Louis Williams, son of Sheriff Williams. The shooting occurred on Central avenue, a principal thoroughfare. Saloons have been closed by the police and considerable excitement prevails.

Another Dreyfus Disclosure.

The London Evening News publishes a sensational Dreyfus story. It declares that the former Russian ambassador, Baron Von Monheim, is the real culprit who sold both Russian and French secrets to the German government, adding that the Russion government itself is convinced of his guilt, and that it is only to avoid a public scandal greater than the Dreyfus affair, that he is unpunished, further than the intimation that he is not to show his face within the Czar's dominions.

In a fight, at St. Louis, Mo., Bud Price, a negro, and Edward Osterhide were shot and almost instantly killed. Detective Jack Williams did the shooting.

A $1,750,000,000. Dinner.

The Bank of the Manhattan Campany, which celebrates its centennial anniversary on April 3rd has sent out invitations to the sixty-four presidents of the banks which are members of the clearing house and to the presidents of the savings banks and the trust companies to a dinner to be given at Sherry's on the evening of the day named. A careful estimate of the money interests to be represented at the dinner puts the total at $1,750,000,000. The dinner will be private.

Legislature Thrown Into a Panic.

Members of the Arkansas Legislature were panic-stricken when it was announced that physicians had diagnosed the illness of Senator Lankford as smallpox. After a half hour's debate, the House voted to vaccinate all its members.

Virginia Oyster War.

Attempts of officers to arrest negroes for depredating on private oyster beds in York river, just below West Point, Va., have met with organized resistance, and may result in bloodshed. Some 40 negroes are banded together to resist service of the warrants.

FIFTEEN PERISH IN FLAMES.

The Magnificent Hotel Windsor Destroyed by Fire.

FORTY PEOPLE INJURED.

Loss on the Hotel About $1,000,000—Origin of the Fire—Other Buildings Seriously Damaged.

NEW YORK (Special.)—Flames which originated from the igniting of a lace curtain, burst forth from the second floor of the Windsor Hotel at Forty-seventh street and Fifth avenue shortly after 3 o'clock Friday afternoon, and in a few minutes they had leaped up to the roof and enveloped the entire Fifth avenue and Forty-seventh street fronts of the hotel. Ten minutes later the flames were roaring through the interior of the hotel, and all means of escape by way of stairways and elevators were cut off, and there was the wildest scene of excitement within and without the building. Hundreds of guests and employes were in the hotel when the fire broke out, and for many of them escape with safety was impossible. Probably from ten to fifteen lives were lost within a half-hour, and thirty or forty other persons were injured in jumping from windows and in rushing through the flames in the corridors and on the stairways. Many who were injured died later at near-by residences or at hospitals, and others who made wild leaps to the stone widewalk were so badly injured that they are still hovering between life and death.

The fire was the most spectacular that could be imagined. When it broke out Fifth Avenue was crowded with people watching the St. Patrick's day parade, which was passing the building at that moment, and every window in front of the hotel facing Fifth Avenue was filled with spectators, watching the marching men and the floats. An unusually large number of people were on the streets, and interfered not a little with the movements of the firemen and police. In addition to the regular guests of the hotel, the windows were crowded by a large number of spectators, residents of the city who had congregated there to witness the parade.

Within 40 or 45 minutes after the fire broke out the walls of the Fifth avenue side showed every indication of falling, and shortly, with a awful crash, they struck the sidewalk, covering the street. This fall weakened the walls on the Forty-sixth and Forty-seventh street sides, and they followed a moment later. When the walls fell the bricks and mortar and twisted girders and corrugated iron filled the streets on three sides of the hotel. The doorsteps and iron fences in front of the houses on the opposite side of the street from the hotel were wrecked by the falling walls, and the amount of debris piled in the streets was so great that travel will be impeded for several days.

Meanwhile terryfying scenes were being enacted by frenzied men and women on almost every floor of the great building. How many persons are buried in the ruins is not known, but at least three or four persons were seen to jump, whose bodies have not been recovered. Eye-witnesses say they saw a woman throw a child from a window, and fall a moment later herself, just before the collapse of the walls. As yet no trace of these bodies has been found.

The loss on the contents of the building is almost complete. The salvage men managed to save $20,000 worth of paintings on the first floor of the hotel. Many of the guests who lived at the Windsor regularly lost valuable jewelry and bric-a-brac and other furnishings, among them being F. F. Flower, a nephew of ex-Governor Flower, who, among other thing, lost a package of jewelry valued at $8,000. The loss on the hotel is estimated at at least $1,000,000. Several adjoining buildings were damaged considerably, but the loss on these is comparatively small. There was $600,000 insurance on the building and $75,000 on the contents.

Regarding the origin of the fire, The Herald published the following: John Foy, a waiter in the hotel, was passing through the hall on the parlor floor, the first above the street. He was making his way to a place where he could catch a moment's sight of the parade. In front of him walked a man, a patron of the hotel. The waiter did not know him. Passing thus one behind the other, they had nearly gained the angle of the passage near Fifth avenue and Forty-sixth street, when the patron drew a match and lighted a cigar or cigarette. He tossed the match aside. It was still blazing and fell into the folds of a lace curtain. In an instant the flimy fabric was ablaze, and instantly the flames shot to the surrounding draperies. This from all accounts was the origin of the holocaust in which many human beings perished and others were severely mangled, while helpless thousands looked on in wild horror.

A special from London says Baron Russell, of Killowen, Lord Chief Justice, has been appointed to succeed the late Baron Herschell on the Venezuelan arbitration commission.

Reed at Jekyl Island.

Speaker Thomas B. Reed and daughter arrived in Brunswick, Ga., Friday from Washington. Their coming was unheralded. They reached Brunswick on an accommodation train of freight and passenger cars and were en route to Jekyl Island. Their stay in the city was short. At Jekyl Speaker Reed is the guest of Mr. John G. Moore, of New York. He will remain several days.

A Floating Island.

A special from Havana, Ill., says a floating island from one to two acres in extent and four to five feet thick, has come down the Illinois river. It crashed against a cabin boat, smashed the keel and landed it ashore. It next struck the pier of a wagon bridge, shaking the structure violently and throwing several horses off the bridge. It then stranded on the shore and pier.

Dormitory Burned.

News comes from Orangeburg, S. C., that one of the boys' dormitories and the printing office at Claflin University (Methodist) were burned to the ground. About 50 students were rooming in the building. The majority of them lost all they owned. Pallets and cots are improvised in the chapel.

A Hero's Funeral.

Friday, at Lincolnton, N. C., in the place where he first saw the light the body of the young hero of Santiago, Lieut. Shippe was laid to rest until the reville of judgement. Lincolnton was filled with visitors who came to pay the last tribute of respect to as knightly a young soldier as ever wore a sword.

The German Reichstag Thirsday adopted the army bill by a vote of 222 to 132. The proceedings were so turbulent that the President, Count Von Ballenstein, was repeatedly compelled to call the House to order.

Popes's Condition.

The Rome correspondent of the Paris Figaro says the Pope's physicians have decided upon another operation. The second operation which the physicians have decided to perform is necessitated by the fact that the physicians were unable to sew up the wound after the first operation.

Arrived Safely at Havana.

The United States transport Meade (formerly Berlin), having on board $3,000,000 for the payment of the Cuban troops previous to their being disbanded, has arrived at Havana, escorted by the United States cruiser Chicago.

INSURGENTS BURN PASIG.

Gen. Wheaton's Column Advances to Laguna de Bay.

PRESIDENT AT THOMASVILLE.

The Presidential Party Given a Warm Southern Welcome—Promoters of the Black Diamond Road Meet.

MANILA, (By Cable).—Late Monday General Wheaton's column encountered the enemy in such force between Pateros and Taguig, as to necessitate a change in the original plans. The Cavalry attacked the rebel stronghold in the jungle, driving the enemy into Pateros. The Americans had one man killed and three wounded. Scott's Battery shelled the city and woods effectively. Later the enemy crossed the river from Pasig. Two companies of the Second Oregon Infantry cleared the right bank after a sharp engagement and then retired with three wounded. In the meantime the Washington Volunteers closed in, driving small bodies of the rebels back upon Pateros. One man was killed. During the night the enemy burned the town of Pasig.

Brigadier General Wheaton's column advanced Tuesday beyond Pasig to the shore of the Laguna de Bay, sweeping everything before them. The enemy made a running fight and suffered severe loss. The rebel's avenue of communication north and south is now closed, the American cordon stretching a mile from the river to the lake. The rebels are in force at Pateros and Taguig. Two of Monday's wounded, Private Stewart, of Company B, Twentieth Regiment, and Private Muñson, Company K, Twenty-second Regiment, are dead.

The President at Thomasville.

The presidential party arrived at Thomasville, at 2:30 o'clock Tuesday afternoon. The party was met at the station by Mel Hanna, brother of the Senator; J. Wyman Jones, who married Senator Hanna's sister; Mayor Hopkins and a number of prominent citizens. The Messrs. Hanna and Mr. Jones each keep a magnificent stable, hence there was no lack of handsome turnouts for the accommodation of the whole party. The distinguished visitors were immediately driven to Senator Hanna's house, on Dawson street. By special request there was no demonstration, but there was a wealth of bunting and decoration everywhere. The mayor had issued a proclamation inviting everybody to decorate their buildings in welcome of the Chief Executive and the invitation was liberally complied with. There were a number of patriotic mottoes stretched across the streets and in front of buildings. About some of the latter on porticos, were ladies and gentlemen, who saluted the President and cheered as he passed. To these the President bowed and smiled as he raised his hat. Thousands of people lined the streets and cheered.

The Black Diamond Route.

An important conference in the interest of a new north and south railroad known as the Black Diamond route, was held at the Grand Hotel, in Cincinnati, O., Tuesday. The road is to run from Columbus, O., to Port Royal, S. C., traversing a rich coal-bearing belt. Charters and rights of way, together with partly constructed roads, have been arranged over the whole route, but under different companies. The proposed capital is $50,000,000. Attorney Dickinson reported that work would be begun at Clay City, Ky., and extend to Port Royal within three months, and will be completed within a year. He said London and New York capitalists were deeply interested in the scheme.

A Dinner to Speaker Reed.

A dinner was given to Speaker Thomas B. Reed at the Manhattan Hotel, in New York Tuesday night by ex-Congressman John J. Belden. Among Mr. Belden's guests, in addition to Mr. Reed, were Senator Chauncey M. Depew, Appraiser J. S. Sherman, ex-Congressman J. P. Fischer, Congressman Benjamin B. Odell, ex-Congressman C. B. Jennet, ex-Congressman George Southwick and C. H. Buell, Commissioner of Patents.

Unloading it All on Eagan.

Colonel O. M. Smith, purchasing agent of the government at Chicago since 1895, testified Tuesday before the government court of inquiry in that city that the stores of canned roast beef, bought by him during the Spanish war, were all upon the direct order of General Eagan, the commissary general. He also stated that some purchases of canned beef were made without his knowledge by the commissary general.

Contract Closed with Cecil Rhodes.

The Berlin Tageblatt says that a contract has been closed between the German Government and Cecil Rhodes, the British South African magnate, for the construction of a telegraph line in German East Africa. The Tageblatt adds that a contract for building a railroad through the same territory is upon the point of conclusion, only a few details remaining to be settled.

Wages Raised.

Notices have been posted by the following firms of an increase in wages of their employes: Fiskdale Mills, Worcester, Mass., an increase of about 11 1-3 per cent. About 400 hands are affected. H. G. Spaulding & Co., Haverhill, Mass., increase not stated.

Ordered Away from Cuba.

Five Sisters of the American Order of the Sacred Heart, according to a dispatch from Pinar del Rio, have been ordered away from Cuba by Archbishop Chappelle, the papal representative recently appointed to investigate the affairs of the Catholic Church in that island.

Coffin manufacturers, makers of green and glass flint bottles and the owners and operators of the coal mines in Indiana, met in Chicago for the purpose of increasing prices on their products.

Cuban Assembly Repudiated.

Senor Quesada at Washington has received a cable message from Santiago, which says: "The people of Santiago disauthorize the Assembly, sustain Gomez, and are preparing for a public manifestation." The dispatch received by Mr. Quesada from Santiago is from Judge Sanchez, head of the Supreme Court of Cuba. It is said the course of the Assembly is the first move in the formation of a new political party in Cuba, the Assembly representing an element of malcontents, while the Gomez element represents those favorable to the efforts of the United States to maintain peace and order and advance the island as fast as possible.

Tar Heel Notes.

The committee on diseases of cattle, of the Agricultural department, has decided to send Dr. Cooper Curtis, veterinary surgeon at the Agricultural and Mechanical College, to several of the western counties of the State to study the "Texas fever" or "tick," and to make a practical effort to prevent its spread among cattle.

Superintendent Mebane is very busy preparing for the printing of the new school law. He, with every one else who has mentioned the matter, praises the action of the General Assembly in giving the $100,000 to the public school fund. This is one act that is barred criticism from any one.

It does not appear to be generally understood that the last Legislature adopted two amendments to the divorce law. Both allow absolute divorce; one for cruelty outside of the State on the part of the husband; and the other for desertion or abandonement for one year instead of two as formerly.

The new officials of the agricultural department will not take office until June 15.

THE NATIONAL POPULISTS.

Chairman Parks Announces His Candidates and Appoints His Organizers.

Milton Park, of Dallas, Tex., chairman of the Populist national reorganization committee, has issued a manifesto setting forth the nomination of Wharton Barker for President, and Ignatius Donnelly, for Vice President, and the adoption of a platform at Cincinnati April 5, 1898, claiming that "there is a need for a party standing for equality of opportunity and against special privileges. The great mass of people in the United States are Populists at heart, though they do not acknowledge it." He concludes by saying:

To insure the success of the People's party, there is nothing needed but effective organization and in order to press this work vigorously, persistently and successfully, as chairman of the national committee, I have selected to assist me, the following well-known Populists, to each of whom I have assigned a group of States, to organize by counties and precincts: Mississippi, Alabama, and Tennessee, Frank Burkett, of Okolona, Miss.; Kentucky, West Virginia, Virginia, North Carolina and Maryland, Joseph A. Parker, of Louisville; Michigan, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Wisconsin, California, Oregon and Washington, John O. Zeeb'auil, of Detroiburg, Mich.; Maine, Massachusetts, Vermont, Connecticut, Rhode Island, New Hampshire, New York, New Jersey, Delaware, Pennsylvania, L. C. Bateman, of Auburn, Me.; Minnesota, Iowa, North and South Dakota, Montana, Wyoming and Idaho, Henry E. Fay, of Minneapolis; Missouri, Kansas, Nebraska, Colorado, Utah and Nevada, Paul H. Dickson, of Chillicothe, Mo.; Texas, Arkansas and Louisiana, Clarence Nugent, of Stephensville, Tex.

Telegraphic Briefs.

General Miles has received a dispatch dated Ponce, Porto Rico, stating that ex-Secretary Sherman is very much better.

The California Legislature has adjourned without electing a United States senator.

Notice was posted March 18, by the Penomah Mill Company, in Taftville, Conn., that wages will be increased 10 per cent.

At a recent civil service examination for promotion in the New York fire department every candidate failed, including Richard Croker's nephew.

The entire American force at Manila has been reorganized, two divisions of three brigades each being formed. General Lawtou has assumed command of the First Division.

General Otis is planning another blow at the insurgents in execution of his general scheme of hastening the ending of the rebellion in Luzon, before the advent of the rainy season.

The light batteries which have been ordered to Manila are Battery E, First Artillery, now at Jefferson Barracks, Mo.; Battery F, Fourth Artillery, now at Fort Adams, and Battery F, Fifth Artillery, now at Fort Hamilton.

Rev. J. M. Frost, D. D., of Nashville, secretary of the Sunday school board of the Southern Baptist Convention, is very ill in Staunton, Va., at the home of his brother-in-law, Mr. M. N. Bradley. Dr. Frost is a distinguished man in the Southern Baptist Church.

Good Beef Sent Back.

The army beef court of inquiry concluded the taking of testimony in Kansas City at 2 o'clock Saturday afternoon. Several witnesses testified that the two lots of beef rejected at Mobile and Jacksonville and returned to the company's plant in that city, were in fair condition; that most of it had apparently not been inspected at the camps before being returned, and that after reaching there and being reinspected by the company it was replaced in stock. It was declared that all meat furnished the army during the Spanish war was dated and prepared with the utmost care.

Another Luetgert Affair.

August Becker the sausage maker, who has been under arrest in Chicago for four weeks on a charge of murdering his wife, has made a full confession. He said that he cut his wife to pieces and burned the remains in a stove. Becker, when first arrested, admitted killing his wife, but declared he pushed her off Randolph street viaduct into the lake and that she was drowned.

North Carolina Won.

The inter-collegiate debate between the University of North Carolina and the University of Georgia, took place at Athens, Ga., before a large crowd. The North Carolinians were victorious. The subject was, "Resolved, That United States Senators should be elected by the direct vote of the people," the North Carolina boys having the negative.

Hanna's Nephew a Winner.

A remarkable pigeon shooting record was made at the Country Club grounds, at Thomasville, Ga., when Charles Thompson won a match with Charles Chapin, Senator Hanna's nephew, by killing 96 live birds out of a hundred. The others fell just out of bounds. Chapin stopped with 99 to his credit out of 96 birds.

McKinley Bracing Up Fast.

News from Thomasville, Ga., says the President is beginning to show plainly the good effects of his outing. The bloom is once more returning to his cheeks and the fagged-out appearance is vanishing. He is enjoying the vacation greatly and expresses himself as delighted with the many pretty drives around Thomasville.

Lieut. Bridges Accidentally Kills Himself.

A special from Albany, Ga., says: At Camp Churchman, Lieutenant D. K. Bridges, while getting out of a carriage, struck his pistol against a wheel of his carriage and it was discharged, the ball entering his left side. He was dead before physicians could reach him.

GREAT AMERICAN VICTORY.

Towns of Pasig, Taguig and Pateros Occupied by Our Troops.

300 PRISONERS CAPTURED.

Many Bodies of the Rebels in the Engagement Floating Down the River—Destructive Alabama Tornado.

MANILA (By Cable).—General Wheaton's brigade continues the work of clearing out the rebels around Pasig. The Washington Volunteers have captured and burned Pateros, meeting with a sharp fire from the enemy while crossing the river. Wednesday's fighting was like that of the past week, the insurgents occasionally making a stand, but eventually fleeing. Their loss is supposed to have been small, as the Americans were unable to see the enemy in the thickets. The progress of the American advance is slow.

General Lloyd Wheaton, commanding the United States flying column, attacked and defeated a force of 2,000 Filipinos at Pasig Wednesday afternoon, inflicting a heavy loss upon them. The American loss was slight. The Americans captured 300 Filipinos. Many bodies of rebels killed in the engagement are floating down the river. Private Fernoff, of the Twentieth Regiment, was killed. Private Newman, Company F, Twentieth Regiment, was wounded; Private Carroll, Company A, Tw