

# The Semi-Weekly Messenger.

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## RATE BILL IN SENATE

### Tillman Wants Date Fixed for Final Vote

### SPOONER SPEAKS TO-DAY

### The General Debate Will Probably End This Week

**Aldrich Challenged Statement of Tillman That Discussion on the Rate Bill Was "Lagging"—Session Mostly Devoted to Conference Report on Indian Affairs—Several Tilts Occurred Between Tillman on the One Side and Teller and Clapp on the Other—The South Carolina Senator Contended That the Indians Had Been Defrauded.**

Washington, April 11.—In the senate today Mr. Aldrich expressed the opinion that the end of the general debate on the railroad rate bill would become apparent before the end of the present week and that an agreement upon a day for a vote could be reached. The statement was made in response to a request by Mr. Tillman for such an agreement. There was no other discussion of the rate bill during the day, owing to the fact that no senator was prepared to speak. It was announced that Mr. Spooner would reply tomorrow to Mr. Bailey's speech of yesterday.

The session was almost entirely devoted to the consideration of the conference report on the bill providing for the final settlement of the affairs of the five civilized tribes of Indians and in connection with that there was a sharp controversy over an amendment inserted by the senate which provided for the ratification of the disbursement of \$186,000 of the loyal Seminole fund made by Special Agent J. E. Jenkins and Administrator A. J. Brown. The debate turned upon the exceptional fact that the house was insisting upon the retention of a senate amendment from which the senate was apparently anxious to recede. The debate was characterized by a number of spirited passages between Mr. Tillman on the one side and Messrs. Teller and Clapp on the other. The South Carolina senator contended that the Indians had been defrauded, while his opponents urged that if they had been the proposed legislation did not deprive them of their rights under the law. No conclusion was reached.

Mr. Teller defended the action of the conferees and in the course of a sharp colloquy with Mr. Tillman, expressed apprehension that before the matter was disposed of, the South Carolina senator would accuse him of stealing something.

"The senator expects nothing of the kind," responded Mr. Tillman, "I contradict him flatly."

Mr. Teller responded that Mr. Tillman's arraignment of the committee did not come with good grace from a senator who confesses that he knows nothing about the question. "If," he said, "the senator were even a good corn field lawyer, he would know that the Indians lose nothing of their rights by the adoption of the senate provision."

While the conference report was pending, the railroad rate bill was laid before the senate and Mr. Tillman made another effort to secure an agreement to fix a date for a final vote on the bill. In doing so he made complaint that the debate on the rate bill was "lagging." Mr. Aldrich challenged that statement, saying he had never known a time when the debate on so important a measure had been so continuous and so well sustained.

"If," he said, "the senator is able to sustain his zeal for a few days until some more important speeches are made, I hope we will then be able to reach an understanding. I should say that before the end of the week we ought to foresee the end of the general discussion."

The bill was then temporarily laid aside and the discussion of the report on the Indian settlement bill was resumed. Mr. Tillman attacked the Seminole payment provision declaring

that congress should protect the Indians "against thieves who we put in charge of their property."

Mr. Tillman said that if the secretary of the Interior had permitted himself to be duped in the matter of the payment of the Indians, he was not fit for his place. He contended that the suits for the recovery of the money should be prosecuted by the government. "The question," he said, "replying to Mr. Clapp, "is whether some lawyer has not come up here from Indian territory and bamboozled the government."

"If the senator has been bamboozled, it was when he was asleep at the switch and let the provision go through the senate originally," responded Mr. Clapp sharply.

"If the senator from South Carolina has been asleep at the switch," said Mr. Tillman, just as pointedly, "it was when this bill was stolen from his committee by your committee. The bill should have been considered by the committee on the five civilized tribes, of which I am chairman."

"That," Mr. Clapp said in reply, "would have been a sorry spectacle." The senate adjourned until tomorrow.

**ABUSES OF THE COAL TRADE**  
Rates Fixed by "Traffic Associations" Composed of Various Coal-Carrying Railroads—It Was Denied That the Purpose of These Rates Was to Sot Competition.

Philadelphia, April 11.—That rates are fixed by the "Traffic Associations" composed of various coal carrying railroads was the admission drawn to day from railroad officials at the final hearings of the inter-state commerce commission's investigation into alleged abuses of the coal trade. Through Jos. G. Searles, coal traffic manager of the Pennsylvania railroad company, who is also chairman of the all rail traffic association, it was learned that this organization not only fixes the percentage of tonnage allotted to each railroad, but also establishes the rates. Counsel for the commission produced the minutes of a meeting of the Tidewater Bituminous Steam Traffic Association held on September 19, 1900. The record shows that a resolution offered by the Norfolk and Western Company, permitting that company, and the Chesapeake and Ohio railroad company to carry tidewater coal at the rate of \$1.25 a ton, was voted down and that the rate was fixed at \$1.40 a ton on Mr. Searles' resolution. At that meeting the Norfolk and Western railroad complained that their interests were being injured by differentials in freight rates.

Mr. Searles admitted that there had been an agreement as to the tonnage to be allowed each road and that if one road shipped more and another less, a settlement was made. He said that there had been no settlements since 1896. In explaining the establishment of rates, Mr. Searles stated that each company fixed its price which was later agreed to by the members of the association. If any company should reduce the rate he said it would demoralize the general situation. Mr. Searles denied that there was an understanding to maintain rates between all rail and all water associations for the purpose of preventing competition. It was shown by the records that the rate on soft coal was increased in 1900. Since then there has been no change. Mr. Searles denied also that the purpose of these rates was to stop competition.

W. W. Atterbury, general manager of the Pennsylvania railroad, was recalled today and produced the documents relating to cars and tonnage which the commission asked for yesterday.

**Paid \$17,500 for a Horse.**  
Memphis, Tenn., April 11.—Announcement was made here today that Paul Rainey, owner of the Lippah staple, had purchased from Barner Schreiber, of St. Louis, the two-year old colt, Horace E., by Bannock Burn-Miss Lynch. The purchase price is given as \$17,500. The colt will be taken to New York. Mr. Rainey has also purchased from Keene Brothers their contract on the services of Jockel Herman Radtke, paying, it is announced, \$20,000.

**Schooner Foundered.**  
Boston, Mass., April 11.—The Portland steamer Bay State, which arrived here this evening, brought news of the loss of the schooner Sallie E., Philadelphia for Bangor, and four of the crew. The vessel foundered in Massachusetts Bay yesterday.

## LIVELY DEBATES IN THE HOUSE

### The Postoffice Appropriation Bill Under Consideration

#### THE PRESENT POLICY ATTACKED

**Page of North Carolina, Opposed Appropriation for Special Railway Mail Facilities—Sharp Controversy Between Small, of North Carolina, and Macon of Arkansas—The System Hostile to the Rural Service—Postmasters in Southern States Were Ignored.**

Washington, D. C., April 11.—After nearly ten days of general debate with the postoffice appropriation bill, the vehicle for the discussion of a wide range of subjects, the house today reached the consideration of the bill itself an hour having been given to the reading of the measure. There were a number of live debates during the day but little progress was made with the bill under the five minute rule.

Mr. Page, of North Carolina, opposed the appropriation for special railway mail facilities on the ground that the section which he represents did not need the appropriation. Incident to the discussion of the special appropriation Mr. Page spoke about the revelations in regard to the weighing of the mails.

He said the very moment the republican party became the beneficiary of the pilferings of these men then the edict went forth that the writers of articles showing up the situation have become men with the "Muck rake," and in future "you will find that the magazines will not any more have the privilege of the penny postage."

An echo of the dispute between Mr. Small, North Carolina, and Mr. Macon, Arkansas, which attracted much attention yesterday growing out of the special appropriation for the Southern railway, broke forth when Mr. Macon arose to a question of personal privilege. He said that the newspapers had given Mr. Small's side of the controversy in which he (Macon) had been accused of libeling the president of the Southern railway but they had made no mention of the libel which Mr. Small had put upon him. Mr. Small sought to interrupt but Mr. Macon waved him aside saying that as he (Small), had refused to be interrupted he in turn would not permit an interruption now, "but with all the force I can command, I want to resent to the death, the charge that I have libeled anyone."

Mr. Small again sought to interrupt, but the gavel fell as Mr. Macon uttered the sentence "You are no gentleman."

"I guess I will be able to survive your imputation," was all Mr. Small said in reply.

That the present policy of the post office department was hostile to the rural free delivery service was maintained by Mr. Lever, of South Carolina, "and yet the head of this department stands as the special champion of the republican party," he concluded.

Mr. Finlay, of South Carolina, made a general speech on the excellent character of the postal service. It was, he said, the best in the world. He also held that the department seemed hostile to the rural service. Forty-nine routes had been discontinued, 18 of which were in the south. A count of the pieces of mail delivered was now going on, he said, which might result in the further abandonment of routes. He believed, however, that in the future there would be less cause of complaint on this point.

A class of persons totally ignored by the bill, Mr. Rixey of Virginia, remarked, were the referees on postmasters in the southern states. He insisted that when the people of his district wanted a certain person as postmaster he had a right to go to the postoffice department and make their wishes known but he objected as did his constituents to the suggestion of the department to see the referee in this particular district. He thought this absolutely un-American. The house adjourned until tomorrow.

**James A. Bailey Dead.**  
New York, April 11.—James A. Bailey, the show man, formerly of Barnum and Bailey died at his home in Mount Vernon today of erysipilas.

## A FIGHT FOR \$20,000,000

### Dowie Will File in the Courts a Bill in Chancery

#### AS A PRELIMINARY MOVEMENT

**The "First Apostle" and His Adherents Will Go to Zion City Soon—Dowie's Nurse Deserts Him—The Apostle Regrets That the Lord Gave Him a Son Whom He Named Gladstone, and Threatens to Reveal His True Character.**

Chicago, April 11.—At the conclusion of a day of conferences between representatives of the opposing interests of Christian Catholic church in Zion the statement was made late tonight that the whole controversy would probably be settled by conciliation. Both sides to the dispute, according to Attorney Emil C. Wetten, John Alexander Dowie's legal representative are anxious for an amicable adjustment of the whole dispute.

This announcement was made by Mr. Wetten tonight after a conference with Dowie, following Wetten's return from Zion City where he held a conference with General Overseer Wilbur Glenn Voliva and other leaders of the revolt against Dowie. Earlier in the evening a statement was given out from Dowie's apartments that the whole matter would be taken into the courts tomorrow for settlement, but after the consultation with Attorney Wetten on his return from Zion, there seemed to be a sudden change in the warlike attitude which has all along been assumed by Dowie and his advisers.

Chicago, April 11.—John Alexander Dowie and his counselors tomorrow will begin the fight to regain the \$20,000,000 said to be involved in the control of Zion City, by filing in the courts a bill in chancery, petitioning that the transfer of Zion City properties made to Deacon Alexander Grainger by General Overseer Glenn Voliva as attorney for Dowie, be set aside.

The grounds upon which the petition will be based will be that Voliva Grainger and Mrs. Dowie endeavored fraudulently and illegally to despoil the "First Apostle" of the property which he claims. The court will also be asked to issue an injunction commanding that Voliva be prohibited from in any way handling the estate. What other legal steps may be taken have not yet been decided on.

These legal steps are only preliminary, however, for Dowie and his friends intend to go to Zion City soon, according to Deacon James E. Peters who together with Deacon John A. Lewis has been a constant attendant and adviser of the "First Apostle" since he left Mexico on his trip north.

Dowie lost an adherent today in Miss Elizabeth McLennan who has accompanied Dowie as a nurse on the long journey to regain his health. Miss McLennan went to Zion City after a heated interview, in which she told Dowie that she could no longer remain as a member of his party, because she believed that Mrs. Dowie and Gladstone had been shamefully maligned by the "First Apostle" in his speech delivered from the car steps in St. Louis two nights ago.

In referring to a threat, which is asserted that Gladstone Dowie made intimating that if his father did not cease in his attacks on Mrs. Dowie, Gladstone would reveal certain deeds said to have occurred in 1877 in Australia, Dowie today said:

"I remember nothing particular that occurred in the year 1877. I know of no reason why any exposure of my acts during that period of time should cause me to be afraid. Coming to think of it, however, there is one thing that happened in the year 1877, which I greatly regret, and that is that the Lord gave unto me a son whom I named Gladstone. All my life I've tried to give him counsel and supply him with money but my efforts in leading him in the paths that I would have him walk have been without avail. Now, unless this young man ceases making threats and insinuations, I will be forced to reveal his true character to the world, it will be a story of degeneracy that will be shocking."

**Church Destroyed by Fire.**  
Norfolk, Va., April 11.—Ocean View church, inter-denominational, at Ocean View, was destroyed by fire about 7 o'clock tonight.  
The damage is \$3,000. The building is a frame structure and was entirely consumed by the flames.

## MINERS AND OPERATORS

### Scale Committee Complete Their Reply and Will Present it to the Mine Owners Today—It is Believed the Miners Have Made Concessions.

New York, April 11.—After having the counter arbitration plan of the anthracite operators under consideration nearly all day, the general scale committee of the hard coal miners completed the draft of their reply and will present it to the committee of mine owners at the joint session to be held here tomorrow. The strictest secrecy surrounded the work of the committeemen. It is believed the miners have decided to accept the operators' offer that the anthracite strike commission take up the dispute, but will ask that the tribunal be permitted to consider the original demands with certain important modifications.

The concessions said to have been decided upon are that, instead of an agreement being entered into between the operators and the United Mine Workers of America it be made with the anthracite mine workers, that the check off be limited to the wage workers who agree to an assessment to defray expenses incurred in carrying out the miners part of the agreement instead of all the mine workers—union and non-union—being compelled to contribute, and that the duration of the agreement be left to the commission.

If this proposition is accepted it would leave the commission free to take up the demand for an increase in wages; an 8-hour day; uniform pay for all classes of employment paid by the day or month, reconstruction of the conciliation board and a number of minor grievances. The operators want to limit the inquiry to wages and a method for the adjustment of complaints.

#### ATTEMPTED SUICIDE

### Nathan Isaacs Jumps From Bridge Into the East River—May Recover.

New York, April 11.—Nathan Isaacs, of this city, today jumped from the middle of the center span of the new Williamsburg bridge into the East river, 135 feet below and was quickly taken out of the water by the crew of a ferry boat. His clothing was torn to ribbons, his shoes were torn from his feet and he was terribly bruised by the impact of his body upon the water. Isaacs was unconscious when rescued, but soon revived and may recover. He made the leap at an hour when the morning rush of Brooklyn people to their work in the stores and offices of Manhattan was at its height and scores of people witnessed his drop into the river. Isaacs said that he had been too ill to continue work as a tailor and that he had expended all his savings before he attempted to take his life.

Isaacs was also depressed by the illness of his mother in Russia and by the recent death of his brother in this city. He is said to have been a graduate of a Russian university.

#### BOUND OVER TO COURT

### Norris Held in \$1,000 Bond on the Charge of Anson.

(Special to the Messenger.)

Raleigh, N. C., April 11, 1906.—The magistrate here held Norris, a prominent merchant of Raleigh, in a thousand dollars bond to appear before the superior court in July on the charge of burning a country residence owned by his wife, to obtain the insurance. The case is pressed by the insurance department and local insurance company. His attorneys express the belief that the grand jury will not return a true bill. They accuse the chief witness against Norris of having himself set fire to the house and say he was the last man at the place before the fire. The case is very sensational. Thomas rented the place last year, sub-let it, and had to pay the rent. He offered Norris a thousand dollars for it, but fifteen hundred was demanded.

#### Appropriation for Moore's Creek Battlefield.

Washington, April 11.—The senate today passed bills appropriating \$5,000 for the improvement of the monument on the Moore's Creek battlefield, North Carolina.

**To Protect the Sponge Industry.**  
Washington, April 11.—The senate today passed bills prohibiting aliens from gathering sponges in American waters and prohibiting the use of diving apparatus in the taking of sponges.

**Nominated for Postmaster.**  
Washington, April 11.—The president today sent to the senate the nomination of L. G. Funkhouser as postmaster at Roanoke, Va.

## ITALY'S HORROR

### Loss of \$20,000,000 by Mount Vesuvius Eruption

### 50,000 PERSONS HOMELESS

### Conditions in Section Affected Are Greatly Ameliorated

**Scientist are of the Opinion That the Volcano Has Spent Itself—People are Advised to be Calm—Troops Engaged in Clearing Roofs of Ashes and Sand—An Expenditure of Many Millions of Dollars and a Force of 100,000 Men will be Required to Raze Houses Rendered Unsafe by the Eruption.**

Naples, April 11.—Reports of the destruction of two towns, Sarno and San Genarro, the former having a population of more than 8,000 have proved to be without foundation. At Sarno 5,000 persons from nearby villages and farms have found refuge. Otaiano where many lives were lost on Monday, is now practically buried. There is great difficulty in ascertaining the actual condition of affairs in that part of the stricken district nearest the volcano.

The tram and railway tracks are deep under sand and ashes, the roads are obliterated, and even the fishermen who ply their calling on the bay of Naples are afraid to venture out on the water anywhere in the vicinity of Vesuvius. All these conditions make it difficult to give an intelligent estimate of the loss of property. One estimate is that \$20,000,000 damages have been done and that 50,000 persons have been rendered homeless. Everywhere in Naples and Castellammare and in the lesser towns nearby out of the danger zone, are beggared refugees who only a few days ago were prosperous and happy, though living almost underneath the shadow of that perpetual menace, the volcano of Mount Vesuvius. For these people whose homes and crops have been destroyed, there is little consolation in the statement of scientists that ultimately the valleys and hillsides will become as fertile as ever they were. Until communication can be restored and search made of the houses in the afflicted district, it will be impossible to determine how many people have perished by this eruption.

Robert Underwood Johnson, associate editor of the Century Magazine, who has been an eye witness of the events here the last few days, said today to the Associated Press:

"Each day it becomes more impossible to visit even at a distance the afflicted districts. The ashes have reached preposterous proportions, filter into everything, block the trains, trams, automobiles, carriages and horses. Only the soldiers seem to overcome the obstruction.

"Before the interruption I took a train for Torre Annunziata. On arriving at Torre del Greco the heavens seemed to open and we were soon half buried in ashes and hot cinders. The train drew up in total darkness, relieved only by lightning flashes. Thus we waited events. Soon the darkness took purple and yellow tinges, the detonations became louder than the loudest thunder clap and the ashes burnt our eyes. It was a perfect picture of Dante's Inferno. The train could not proceed, so thick were the ashes on the track and just at this point the train broke in half and the poor women fugitives, thinking they were about to lose their lives began to chant litanies for the dead, giving a last weird touch to the infernal scene.

"Carbineers came to our rescue and proposed to take us to the sea. We then found we were on a bridge with the sea on one side and Torre del Greco on the other side. In the darkness we descended hand in hand, forming a human rope, and a false step would have meant death. The port was so choked with ashes that small boats could not navigate.

"Wearily we trudged back to the station to find there was no prospect of another train. We had then been five hours in that plight, so, seeing that heroic measures were necessary, with a companion I trudged miles in two or three feet of ashes to Portici, where finally we found a cab which brought us to Naples."

Naples, April 11.—The "Mattino" in its issue today asserted that Sarno, a town in the province of Salerno has been destroyed.

(Continued on Eight Page.)