WEATHER FORECAST:

For Raleigh and Vicinity—Fair and cooler today.

The Morning Post.

THE POST

Prints all the news. The world's doings for a day accurately recorded.

VOL. 1. LAST EDITION, 4:00 A. M. RALEIGH, N. C., WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 8, 1897. No 7.

SECRETARY GAGE'S REPORT

Recommendations and Report Secretary Gage.

RETIREMENT OF GREENBACK

The Proposition to Allow National Banks to Issue Notes Equal to 25 Per Cent of Their Capital As An Insurance or Safety Fund—And Others.

By Telegraph to The Morning Post.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 7.—In their respective annual reports to Congress by my predecessors since the close of the civil war they have called attention with unfailing regularity to the menace to the public credit occasioned by the continued use of the large volume of demand liabilities, represented by the legal tender notes, and have constantly appealed for such legislative action as would remove the dangers pointed out. Although these warnings and appeals have not as yet met with the responsive action that their serious nature justifies, it is not now the part of wisdom to ignore them. In fact, as time has gone on all the reasons upon which these warnings and appeals were based, have received additional force. The enormous depreciation in the commercial value of silver as compared with gold has greatly increased the financial responsibilities of the government in its demand liabilities, and all the logical consequences of the fact should be boldly faced.

Under the act of 1878, requiring the purchase and coinage of silver, supplemented and enlarged by the so-called Sherman act of 1890, there were outstanding June 30, 1897, the sum of $410,337,570 in silver dollars or certificates representing them. Under the act of 1890, there were also outstanding $154,867,280 in treasury notes clothed with the quality of legal tender.

In the act of Nov. 1, 1893, repealing the purchasing clause of the act of 1890, it was declared to be the policy of the United States to secure by safeguards of legislation "the parity in value of the two metals (gold and silver) and the equal power of every dollar at all times in the markets and in the payment of debts."

Conformable to the spirit of this declaration, the Treasury Department in all its opinions has treated gold and silver coins, and the paper representatives of each, as of equal dignity and value. In the collection of its revenues, whether in the form of excise taxes or of customs dues, it has made discrimination against neither, while, upon the other hand, it has held itself ready to pay to the public creditor whichever of the two he might choose to receive as the more desirable to him. Even further than this it has declared itself ready, whenever necessary, to the maintenance of this parity, to exchange on even terms, at the pleasure of the holder, either form of the metallic money for the other. These practical operations and declarations were necessary, and they have operated to keep in concurrent circulation on terms of equality the two kinds of metallic money, notwithstanding the varying and never ceasing disparity between the natural or commercial value of the one as compared with the other. Nevertheless it must be recognized that this undertaking involves a large financial responsibility, and requires proper and adequate legislative provisions for its continued execution.

The responsibility of the Government in this respect means that in addition to its liability for redemption in gold on demand of $346,000,000 of legal tender notes, it must also hold itself in readiness to redeem in like manner $114,000,000 of the Treasury notes of 1890, and to maintain through its Treasury the free interchangeability with gold, any part or all of $470,000,000 in silver now current with our people. The aggregate of these liabilities amount to $930,000,000. It is not intended to convey the idea that the government will ever be called upon to pay at any one time or over any one period of time, however protracted, the total of liability thus shown. It is, however, indispensable that the Treasury be endowed with power and resources ample to meet all claimants who may come, and with margin sufficient to give full assurance to all who do not come, that its ability for continuance is unimpaired. The statement that the traditional $100,000,000 of gold reserve is insufficient for these purposes need not be supported by argument. It is manifest. The recognized inadequacy of that amount has on more than one occasion brought fear and derangement to all interests—industrial, commercial and financial. The losses suffered by the body of public through these derangements having their origin in the state of public Treasury cannot be named, although it is not beyond the limit of reasonable estimate to say that the total of such losses exceeds the total of the demand liabilities of the Treasury, as above set forth. It is urged in answer to those considerations that the state of the Treasury is fairly satisfactory now, that gold is flowing freely toward the Treasury and not away from it, and that there is a good state of confidence in our present financial condition, the answer must be received as a perfectly correct one. It might further be urged with probable truth that these favorable conditions will endure for an indefinite period. With public revenues sufficient for public expenditures, and a seasonable surplus accumulating, with trade relations normal, with ample crops carrying fair rewards to agriculture, with no war or well-defined rumors of war, we might go on with a growing sense of security. Unfortunately the continuance of these good conditions cannot be assured to us. Commerce and industry, sensitive to all unfavorable events, and watchful with anxiety against dangers, as yet unseen, need for their full recovery from past reverses and depression a renewed confidence that the government's finances are to be firmly placed on stronger and more enduring foundations than now exist.

As long as the government shall operate to any important extent in supplying the currency of the country by the direct issues of its notes and by maintaining, through its guarantees of parity, so large a volume of silver money, so long will all our trade and industries remain in a state of dependency upon the financial wisdom, foresight and courage of Congress. This forced dependency on the one part begets corresponding responsibility on the other. Considered from the standpoint of national defense the argument is reinforced. We appropriate millions to create a navy, which, through the genius of invention, may speedily become obsolete and worthless. We appropriate other millions to provide coast defenses against attacks, which may never be made. Such action, timely and wise as it may be, is inconsistent with a treasury condition so extended in a time of peace as to bring panic and alarm to our own people before the first sound of the enemy's guns. In modern days a well supplied war chest with an impregnable credit is as important as are war ships, shore batteries or regiments of men.

The advantages of a strong position in the National Treasury, with its accompanying benefits to all commercial interests and great reinforcement of the public credit can, I believe, be secured without any unsettling legislation, in a manner easy to be apprehended by all, and with small cost to the people.

The recommendations I make must be construed not as being in themselves final measures, but rather as tentative steps in a direction, which, consistently pursued, will lead to conditions ultimately desirable.

In order to obviate to as great an extent as possible the defects and make the act more harmonious with proper business conditions. I recommend that it be enacted in the first place.

1st. Permit national banks to be organized with a minimum capital of $25,000 in any place having a population of 2,000 inhabitants.

2d. Reduce the rate of taxation on circulating notes secured by deposit of bonds to one-half of one per cent. per annum.

3d. Permit banks now organized, or hereafter to be organized, to issue circulating notes to the par value of the refunding bonds hereinbefore suggested, when deposited by them with the Treasurer of the United States; and, further, allow such banks as shall avail themselves of the opportunity to deposit as security with the Treasurer of the United States, greenbacks, treasury notes or silver certificates to a total amount of $200,000,000, against which there shall at once be issued to them by the Comptroller of the Currency national bank notes to an equal amount, it being further provided that from time to time, at his convenience, the Secretary of the Treasury shall substitute for the greenbacks all treasury notes and silver certificates so deposited to secure circulation, bonds of the same class and character as the refunding bonds first named to the amount of $200,000,000, such bonds to be chargeable to said banks, and by them accounted for at such price (not less than par) as the market quotations may indicate to be their fair market value. During the period intervening between the de deposit of greenbacks, treasury notes and silver certificates and the substitution of the bonds by the Secretary of the Treasury the circulating notes specifically issued therefor shall be exempt from taxation. Upon such substitution of bonds the fund released thereby shall at once be transferred by the Secretary of the Treasury to the Issue and Redemption Division.

4th. After said banks have deposited such bonds, greenbacks, Treasury notes, or silver certificates to the amount of 50 per cent. of their capital they shall be permitted to issue bank notes in addition to the 50 per cent. thus provided, to the extent of 25 per cent. of such deposit, which said 25 per cent. may be unsecured by any direct pledge of security, but issued against the assets of the bank.

5th. Extend the guaranty of payment by the government to all circulating notes for the bank whether issued against deposited security or against assets.

6th. To secure the government against loss, if any attaching to its guaranty a tax of two per cent. per annum on insecure circulation shall be levied to create a safety fund, which fund shall be invested by the Secretary of the Treasurer and the Comptroller of the currency in government bonds? In addition to such funds the government shall be further protected by having a first lien upon all assets in case of failure of the issuing bank.

7th. All notes shall be redeemed in the city of New York at the Sub-Treasury, and at such other Sub-Treasuries as may be designated by the Comptroller of the Currency with the approval of the Secretary of the Treasury. The control of such redemption shall be under the direction of the Comptroller of the currency and made from a redemption fund of 10 per cent., to be provided and maintained by the banks.

8th. Restrict the issue of National Bank notes to the denomination of $10 and upward.

An examination of the plan herein proposed will show that the amendments suggested are not of a distinctly radical character. * * *

Recommendations.

The Secretary then makes the following and other recommendations:

First. I recommend that proper legislation be enacted which will establish, separate and apart from the ordinary operations of the treasury, as they relate to revenues and expenditures, a department to be designated and known as the Issue and Redemption Division. To this division the sum of $125,000,000 in gold shall be set over from the general fund in the treasury, to be used only for redemption purposes, and all the silver dollars not used for the redemption or silver certificates, and all the silver bullion and dollars coined therefrom, bought under the act of 1890, should be passed to the same account. Further, that the sum of $200,000,000 in the legal tender notes of the United States, known as greenbacks, be collected as hereinafter described and deposited in said issue and redemption division, to be disbursed therefrom only upon the receipt in exchange therefor of an equivalent amount of gold coin; such gold, when so secured, to be held in said division as part of the general redemption fund.

Second. I recommend that provision be made for the issue of refunding loan bonds, payable after ten years, at the pleasure of the Government, such bonds to bear interest at the rate of 2½ per cent. per annum, payable, principal and interest, in gold coin; and that the Secretary of the Treasury be authorized to issue such bonds and receive in payment therefor, with an equitable allowance for the difference in interest, any part or all of the outstanding loans of the United States which mature by their terms of payment in the years 1904, 1907, and 1925.

* * * * * * *

It will at once appear to many that the proposal herein made to place in conditional retirement the sum of $200,000,000 in our legal tender (greenbacks) issues, is a discrimination against a form of paper money, which, under the influence of a worthy sentiment, has become to them a symbol of the unity and power of the Nation's life. A little reflection, however, will lead to a conclusion quite to the contrary of such an inference. Bearing in mind the fundamental truth upon which this argument rests, namely, the necessity for a reduction in the volume of demand liabilities, now constituting a menace to the public treasury, it is, economically speaking, a matter of indifference whether this reduction be made in the volume of silver, silver certificates, treasury notes, greenbacks, or in some agreed upon proportions of each; but the historical fact is that it has been through the greenback, the only unalloyed credit note of the government, that the "endless chain" has been worked. Once disbursed, these notes find their way, by a purely natural process, to the banking centers, where in case of an outward movement of gold, or because of any internal movement of distrust, they have been made a ready agency to deplete the gold reserve in the public Treasury. The proposition to retire a large portion of these notes into an issue and redemption division, there to be held until the public is willing to offer for them in fair exchange an equal sum in gold, is a proposition to dignify them with the honor of actual gold equivalency when they are passed out, as they have hitherto been honored with actual gold equivalency when pushed in upon the Treasury for redemption. The proposition is, therefore, quite different from a proposition the retire and destroy them. On the other hand, the proposal to thus presere and honor them will excite objections from another class, who will allege that the notes now in question should be retired and utterly destroyed. They will aver that so large a sum, no matter how held, will prove an irresistible temptation to which Congress will yield, when in some exigency extraordinary and pressing needs for public expenditure shall rest upon the Treasury, and that the restrictions now proposed, if adopted, will then be disregarded. In considering this objection, it must be remembered that if it were granted full force and yielded to as a determinative objection, there is nothing whatever to prevent the law-making power from issuing at any time and in any amount the legal tender notes of the United States to circulates as money. Such is the final opinion of the Supreme Court. from which there is no appeal. Neither must it be forgotten by such objectors that use and custom gradually acquire a restrictive power but little less binding than statutory enactment or constitutional prohibition. The so-called Treasury reserve of $100,000,000 of gold has no warrant in specific legislation although its propriety has been indirectly recognized by Congress, and yet there is a supreme confidence that no impairment in that provision will ever be authorized or sanctioned by Congressional action. The only real difference, then, between holding these Government notes in a separate department and their destruction is a difference which could at any time be covered by legislative action.

The important nature of the subject under discussion tempts to a fuller treatment. I must, however, be content with referring once more to that feature of this series of recommendations which touches the question of note issues by national banks. I am moved to press the recommendation as submitted, in view of the following considerations:

Paper money is the product of an industrial, commercial and financial evolution. Its economizing effect in the use of metallic money precludes the idea of its abandonment until society shall relapse into anarchy.

Credit is the base upon which it rests. Paper money is the evidence that a thing of value has passed into the possession of the issuer, and that the holder of that paper is willing to await payment. When payment is made the evidence of the transaction should be withdrawn, to appear again only when a similar transaction occurs.

The bank is an agency, the result also of a pure evolutionary movement, whose function it is to issue its various forms of credit instruments, of which paper money is one, against the pledge and promises to it of the less publicly known members of the industrial community. It thus becomes an intermediary in much the larger part of all trade and industry.

Whatever operates to render the bank a safe, efficient and available agency to the people, operates to the general prosperity.

The requirement that the bank shall invest its capital in public securities as a precedent to the issue of its credit instruments—paper money—is a requirement which operates by so much to reduce its efficiency to commerce and industry. It cannot use its capital in two directions at the same time. Only a necessity to control the banks' capital for the public use or an indispensable need for security in such a form to the note holder can justify this requirement.

The exegencies of the government's finances in 1863 induced Congress to require from all note-issuing banks a preliminary investment of their capital in the government's bonds. The many disastrous losses incurred by the people from the note issues of irresponsible banks previously authorized to do business by ill-considered provisions of many separate States, seemed to justify the National Government in requiring from banks of issue a pledge of the bonds in trust for the security of their note holders.

Without further extension of the historical statement, it is recognizable that the exigencies of the government do not now require the absorption of banking capital in aid of its own finances. In fact, with Treasury conditions once normally established as to revenue and expenditure, the funded debt will, within a few years, be entirely liquidated. The importance of banking in its relation to industry and commerce demands for it, in view of the considerations thus enumerated, careful and timely attention.

The question is complicated by the fact that for a whole generation our people have been schooled in a system of bank note issues secured by pledges in the hands of a public trustee. It is not good system, but it ought not to be yielded until, in some other form, adequate quantities for the solvency of bank note issues are provided.

The problem is a two-fold one: How to withdraw the specific form of security now provided, since it will ultimately disappear, and how to provide a substitution which will be recognized by the people as adequate security, and which will at the same time allow to banks within well-guarded limits the most useful freedom in their note issues. The problem is too large, its results too far-reaching, to be solved off-hand or by expert dictum. Its solution must be gradually reached by the path of safe experiment. To allow national banks to issue circulating notes equal to 25 per cent. of their capital upon a payment of 2 per cent. per annum as an insurance or safety fund upon amounts so issued, is, as shown by the demonstration drawn from the Comptroller's office, a proposition well within the limits of safety. Nevertheless, whatever risk there is should be assumed by the government, obnoxious as it may be to the general principles of governmental action. It is by such action that the situation as it exists had been evolved. Upon the government, therefore, rests the duty of seeing it properly solved.

Some years of experience along the line suggested will prove what is an adequate provisional tax for the security of note holders, and will allow such amendments at time will justify, involving as one of the features, a complete withdrawal of the government's guaranty from bank note issues.

L. J. GAGE, Secretary.

To the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Destitution Among Gold Hunters.

By Telegraph to The Morning Post.

MONTREAL, Dec 7.—Harry Wilson, mining engineer, who left here Aug. 7th with a party of nine for Klondike, has returned for supplies He left other members in winter quarters in the woods three miles from Lake Bennett. Wilson says that under the snow along the route between Dyea and Lake Bennett lie the bodies of at least 3,000 horses, representing nearly $300,000. About $6,000 persons, equipped at the rate of $1,500 per man, which would give a total of $9,000,000, are represented in parties using the White Pass trail. There are about 700 persons, all in comfortable circumstances, camped along White Pass trail between Skagaway and Lake Bennett.

There is no destitution among the parties camped this side of Yukon. Beyond and approaching Dawson City it is hard to say how those in winter quarters are faring. Between Lake Bennett and Skagaway 150 log cabins have been erected. The inmates are looking forward to an early start in the spring.

Commissioner Kerchmer of the Northwest mounted police, whom Wilson met on his way to Montreal, informed him will start from Edmonton this week with two parties of mounted police to succor parties.

Marvelous Gold Find.

By Telegraph to The Morning Post.

SAN FRANCISCO, Cal., Dec. 7.—News of a marvelous strike, that in richness it is said exceeds the Klondike, has been brought from Alaska by K. A. Smith, an old miner. Smith says Dawson City was in a whirl of excitement on November 1, when the first report was brought in of the big strikes on Dog Creek, fifty miles from Dawson City. The first claim was located by Chubby Peterson, of Peoria, Ills. He struck bed-rock at seven feet. His first clean-up showed nearly $8,000. Other claims were immediately located. When Smith left there were five panning out $1,200 daily. A stampede resulted. Hundreds of claims were located. Men who have been nearly famished from the want of food summoned up and renewed strength to reach Dog Creek.

A Western Lynching Affair.

By Telegraph to The Morning Post.

CARSON, Nev., Dec. 7.—Adam Uber, who last week killed Hans Anderson, at Gardnerville, was brought to Genoa yesterday by 25 armed men after midnight and hanged. The body was riddled with bullets.

TIMELY NEWS NOTES.

From Warrenton and Vicinity—A First-Class Teacher Secured, Etc.

Special Cor. of The Morning Post.

WARRENTON, N. C., Dec. 7.—The Warren County Board of Commissioners were in session yesterday. After the general routine business the election of a chairman was gone into. On the first ballot Mr. M. J. Hawkins was elected. The Board stands politically: Two Democrats, two Populists and one Republican (colored.) Mr. Hawkins makes one of the best County Commissioners the county has ever had.

Cards are announcing the marriage of Mr. Wiley G. Coleman, Jr., and Miss Lucie Fleming, two popular young people of our county, on December 14th.

Rev. T. J. Taylor will attend the Baptist State Convention in Oxford this week.

Our people are much elated over the school question just now. Prof. John Graham, of Ridgeway, who was burned out some time ago, has decided to move his school to Warrenton and will unite with Prof. R. Harry Watkins, of the academy. Money has been raised and the building will be put in thprough repair, and our people may expect the best school we have had for years, commencing the 1st of January. Professors Graham and Watkins are both excellent teachers.

IN HONOR OF GENERAL CLINGMAN

BURGWYN AND OTHERS SPEAK WORDS OF PRAISE.

In Honor of His Memory—Over 2,000 Persons Participated in the Event—Clingman Had a Brave and Unconquerable Spirit to the End.

Special Despatch to The Morning Post.

ASHEVILLE, N. C., Dec. 7.—There were 2,000 persons present at services in honor of Clingman here today. The weather was beautiful. The procession which escorted the body to the cemetery, after the speeches on the public square, consisted of police, Mayor, Aldermen, Brigadier General James M. Roy and staff, Governor's representatives and staff, fire companies, batallion State Guard, Veterans and Sons of Veterans. Addresses were made by Col. A. L. Davidson, Bishop Dudley, of Kentucky, Col. V. S. Lusk, W. H. Burgywn. Prayers were offered by Dr. J. S. Flint and Dr. C. W. Byrd. There was a cannon salute of three rounds by the Bingham Cadets as the line arrived at the cemetery. Songs were rendered at the grave, "Jesus, Lover of My Soul," and "Rock of Ages" being among the hymns.

The burial services were conducted by Rev. McNeely Dubose. The military batalion fired a salute after the burial. Burgwyn's was the chief address at the public square. He gave a glowing account of the war career of Gen. Clingman. Lusk paid tribute to him as an orator and statesman. Dudley paid a beautifully impromptu tribute to a brave brother Confederate. Col. Davidson was cheered by all old comrades.

Col. Burgwyn, in his speech, related an incident to show the general's indomitable spirit was unconqured to the end.

Near the close of the war, when all hope had left the people, Gen. Joseph E. Johnston collected his army at Smithfield. Gen. Clingman visited him and addressed him in these words: "Much has been said of men 'dying in the last ditch.' You have left here 1,400 men, brave as the sun ever shone upon. Let us take our stand, and let us show to the world how far we can surpass thermopylæ of the Greeks!"

After a moment, Johnson replied: "Gen. Clingman, if they all were like you, I would do it, but there are many young men here who have a future, and I ought not to sacrifice their lives."

Dudley in his impromptu words said he "had stood up in London and told the English people they were mistaken in thinking there was a gulf between the people of the South and North. I told them the men who followed Lee, Jackson, and Clingman would defend the stars and stripes as quickly as they would the men who followed great men on the other side." "What is the reason for this?" he continued. Why, men of the New South are sons of men of the Old South. We are here to do honor to our dead, and the brave men who fought against him are just as ready to do him honor,

"I'm not afraid that any of the men who marched behind Grant or Sheriden will criticise us in honoring our gallant Confederate dead."

Looking Out For No. 1.

By Telegraph to The Morning Post.

RICHMOND, Va., Dec. 7.—The Chamber of Commerce tonight decided to establish a Bureau of Industrial Development and raise $5,000 annually for the salary of manager, to be chosen later. The duties of the mrnager will be chiefly to induce outside capital to establish manutacturing enterprises here.

Disputes Among Turfmen.

By Telegraph to The Morning Post.

NEW YORK, Dec. 7.—The Board of Review of the National Trotting Association at its annual session today, listened to disputes among turfmen growing out of the season just ended. Maj. Johnston, of Kentucky, presided. Testimony as to alleged personating, aliases, last August, was taken, but no decision was made.

Georgia's Governor Vetoes Foot Ball Bill.

By Telegraph to The Morning Post.

ATLANTA, Ga., Dec, 7.—Gov. Atkinson today vetoed the anti-foot ball bill, saying "it is a species of legislation which seeks to usurp the responsibility of the faculty and the parents, and to take charge of the young men in their sports; that it is fundamentally wrong—governmental paternalism of the most vicious type."

THE GREENSBORO MURDERER

Has Been Sentenced to be Hanged December 23d.

INTERVIEW WITH PRISONER.

He Was More Nervous Yesterday When Sentenced Than He Was When He Defiantly Shouted His Guilt When Taken to Jail—The Post's Correspondent Thinks the Prisoner's Mind Must be Affected.

Special Despatch to The Morning Post.

GREENSBORO, N. C., Dec. 7.—The wife-murderer, Robert Ryan, who killed his wife Saturday night (as was wired THE POST at the time) was sentenced at 2:45 p. m. today to be hung Thursday, December 23. Judge Adams, who presided, was visibly affected, and the prisoner was quite nervous.

A representative of THE POST this evening had an interview with Robert Ryan, the self-accused and condemned murderer of his own wife, who had been the mainstay of a family of seven children, while the husband and fatner spent his time elsewhere at gambling and eluding officers of the law, several warrants or indictments standing against him in the Guilford Superior Court.

The action of Robert Ryan in pleading guilty to the charge of murder in the first degree has been the talk of the town since yesterday at noon. His action has resulted in a division of public opinion.

There are a large number of thoughtful people who hold that Ryan's actions, both before and on the trial, show that he is mentally unbalanced. Others think that he is shrewdly playing a part.

Early this morning he sent for THE POST's representative. When the reporter reached the jail he found Ryan just getting up.

"Good morning, Ryan; how do you feel?" remarked the reporter.

"I feel better," he replied. "The nearer the time comes for me to leave this world the better I am pleased."

Ryan, who has shown marvelous coolness and nerve since the commission of the crime, was evidently laboring under suppressed feeling of some kind—whether of fear or remorse it was impossible to tell. His voice was unsteady; he kept his eyes fixed on the floor of his cell, and shifted his feet nervously during the interview.

Though he had sent for the reporter, he was evidently undecided as to what he should say.

"Have you anything you wish to say?" he was asked.

"Nothing I have to say would be believed, so it is no use for me to say anything. I want to leave as quickly as possible and get with her," indicating his murdered wife.

"Do you mean to say that you are anxious to be hanged?"

"I want to leave somehow, I don't care how. I tried to 'go with her' at the time, but the pistol would not fire. I took the cartridges out and threw them down and went to the store to get more when they arrested me."

"Did you not try to take laudanum when you were arrested?"

"Yes, I denied it at the time, but there is no use for me to lie now."

"Why did you refuse counsel yesterday?"

"Because if I could have taken counsel and come clear I would not have done so. The more quickly I am executed the better I will be pleased."

"Do you care what people think of you when you are gone?"

"No, not for myself; but I do for my children. No man ever loved his wife and children more than I did."

"Why did you kill your wife, then?"

"Because my life was ruined."

"Did you not commit the deed in a fit of jealousy?"

"No, I was not jealous."

Some of the leading members of the bar here doubt whether Ryan could have been convicted if he had stood a trial. They question his sanity very seriously.

New General Scheme of Coast Line Signaling.

By Telegraph to The Morning Post.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 7.—The Navy Department has abandoned its plan of utilizing life-saving stations in the new Coast Line signal system about to be established, and have adopted a new system. Various first-class lighthouses along the Atlantic Seaboard will be required to manage semaphores and other signal appliances, to be installed under the Navy Department, and to transmit and receive messages between the fleets and the Navy Department. The department is now proceeding to install necessary appliances. New telephone and telegraph lines are to be constructed from the lighthouses to the nearest direct system of lines, and where telephones of life-saving stations can be used the navy will ask the Treasury Department for permission to send messages over the wires. The whole seaboard will be included in the general scheme of coast line signalling, operated jointly by the Naval Militia and the lighthouse service.

China Willing to Pay a Million Taels.

By Cable to The Morning Post.

LONDON, Dec. 7.—A dispatch from Shanghai says that China is willing to pay 1,000,000 taels indemnity to Germany in satisfaction of all claims, including the cost of the occupation of Kiao Chou Bay, which she will temporarily cede for the use of the German navy. She is also willing to grant concessions for railways and mines in Shantung, degrade the Governor and execute the murderers of the German missionaries. Another despatch represents that China will never consent to Germany retaining possession of the seised territory.

DEATH OF MRS. W. B. HICKS.

A Lovely Christian Woman Suddenly Called to Her Reward.

The entire community was deeply shocked and pained yesterday morning to hear of the unexpected death of Mrs. W. B. Hicks at the home of her father-in-law, Col. W. J. Hicks, on West Edenton street. Until late Monday night her condition was not considered critical, even by the members of the family; yet Tuesday morning, at 7 o'clock, the spirit of this lovely woman went to join the dear ones who had gone before.

Mrs. Hicks came from her home near Aberdeen last week to visit her husband's parents and attend the sessions of the Methodist Conference. She appeared to be in perfect health and never did she look more beautiful. She was present at nearly all the meetings and derived much enjoyment from the sessions. Last Saturday she was unwell, bnt this did not deter her from attending services Sunday. Even Monday her condition was not considered in the least serious. Monday Col. Hicks had an important business engagement to fill, but he told her that he did not want to leave the city while she was ill, but, with her usual thoughtful consideration for others, Mrs. Hicks insisted that he should not neglect his business on her account. Col. Hicks yielded, and went. Yesterday morning he was summoned by a telegram announcing her death. He returned from Durham, arriving at noon. There was not an intimation that Mrs. Hicks was seriously ill until Monday night, but as soon as this was known a message was sent to Mr. William Hicks, her husband, and he came immediately on an engine, arriving at 2 o'clock Tuesday morning. Medical attention proved ineffective, and at 7 o'clock she passed away.

Mrs. William Hicks, before her marriage, was Miss Josephine Page, daughter of the late James Page and a niece of Mr. A. F. Page. She has numerous relations in Raleigh. Her brother, Mr. Charles Page, came early yesterday morning. About four years ago Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Hicks were married, and they have one little son. Mr. Hicks formerly lived in Raleigh, but he is now engaged in the lumber business. His family spent much of their time at Aberdeen, but his home was at Burt, in Moore county.

Mrs. Hicks was considered one of the most attractive and beautiful women in the State. Upon her lovely face there shone a beauty and sweetness which only a Christ-like life can bestow. She was educated at the Greensboro Female College, and was the recipient of the love and admiration of every one of her schoolmates and all those who have enjoyed her friendship in after life. She was an enthusiastic worker in the Methodist Church and was never happier than when on some mission of mercy, or engaged in aleviating the sorrow of the suffering and ameliorating the pain of the wounded. Faithful and kind, with a heart full of love, every act of her life had been, as it were, a preparation for death, and when the angel came her spirit was found ready to go to her Master and enjoy the victory of eternal happiness which she had won.

For her grief-stricken husband and motherless son the entire community pours forth the deepest sympathy.

The funeral will be held in the Edenton Street Methodist Church today at 12:30 o'clock.

GERMAN DEMANDS SATISFIED.

Haytian Flagship Has Dipped Her Flag to the German Flagship.

By Cable to The Morning Post.

PORT AU PRINCE, Dec. 7.—It is understood that the Government has conceded all of the German demands, growing out of the arrest and imprisonment of Herr Emil Leuders. The first of these were satisfied last night, when the Haytian flagship dipped its flag to the German standard, then saluted the German flagship with 21 guns. The second part of the ceremonial carried out today, when the German Minister was formally received by the Haytian authorities, who have promised that summary justice shall be dealt out to the officials responsible for the events leading to the breach between the two countries.

The foreigners who took refuge on ships in the harbor have returned home. It is not expected anything will result more serious than a Ministerial crisis, but the Government has taken precautions against possible surprises.

Great Scheme for the Convicts.

By Telegraph to The Morning Post.

ATLANTA, Ga., Dec. 7.—The Georgia Senate wants to send the State convicts to Cuba to assist the insurgents. The upper body has never had an opportunity to vote on the convict question.

Today, when the House killed the reform bill, leaving the State's three thousand convicts without any legal or human maintenance, Senator Wilcox introduced the following resolution: It was referred to a committee which will probably report favorably tomorrow.

"Resolved, That all Georgia convicts be ordered and conveyed to Cuba, and turned over to Gomez, there to engage in the struggle for human liberty and the independence of the dear little "Pearl of Antilles."

Not a Real Murder at All.

By Telegraph to The Morning Post.

WHEELING, W. Va., Dec. 7.—George Bowers, a 14-year-old boy, whose confession caused the arrest of his brother Wylie, on the charge of murdering Henry Kiel, the dairyman, broke down on the witness stand, and said the story was a lie, wrung from him by detectives.

"Mother" McKinley Still Living.

By Telegraph to The Morning Post.

CANTON, Ohio, Dec. 7.—Dr. Phillips, at his last visit (11:30 p. m.) to Mother McKinley, reported her resting easier and that tomorrow morning would prob-ably find her still alive.

CONGRESSIONAL CAPERS

Republicans Lock Horns on Currency Reform.

CIVIL SERVICE DENOUNCED.

By Grosvenor and Other Republicans, the Former "Taking Occasion to Publicly State" that President was Mistaken in Thinking Civil Service Popular—Other Proceedings in House and Senate.

By Telegraph to The Morning Post.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 7.—The Senate met at the regular hour, and one of the first bills to be introduced was that by Chairman Hale of the Committee on Naval Affairs, for the reconstruction of dry docks. It authorizes the construction of a first class battleship of 11,500 tons for service on the Pacific Coast, to cost, without armament, $3,750,000; also six torpedo boats and three torpedo destroyers. It also authorizes contracts for the construction of dry docks, in accordance with Secretary Long's recommendations, at Boston, Algiers, La., Mare Island and Portsmouth, N. H. It also provides $160,000 for the enlargement of the granite dock at Norfolk and $75,000 for the wharf adjoining the timber dock at Port Royal.

HOUSE.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 7.—One of the first things to happen to the Republicans in the House today was to lock horns on the civil service and currency question. The expression of their differences animated a two-hours session. The Democrats took only an incidental part. Trouble was precipitated by the introduction of what Dingley termed the usual resolution from the Committee on Ways and Means, distributing the topics of the President's message to the several committees.

Walker, chairman, and Johnson, a member of the Committee on Banking and Currency, insisted upon a settlement of the jurisdiction of their committee, before agreeing to the resolution.

Dingley finally accepted the amendment to the resolution, and being acceptable to Walker and Johnson, which gave their committee jurisdiction of all matters relating to banking and currency. Thus amended, the resolution passed.

During the discussion Grosvenor took occation to 'publicly state' that the President was "mistaken" if he believed the civil service law met with public approval. Grosvenor announced to those who stood with him that he would insist upon a modification of the law, confining it to clerical force in departments and postal service. They would not submit, they said, to the building up of a privileged official class.

Johnson (Indiana) expressed astonishment at Grosvenor, the recognized spokesman of the President (!) should have sunk so low as to have "sought the embrace of Democratic spoilsmen." He warned Grosvenor that no repeal of the law could be rushed through the House.

Bailey (Texas) raised a laugh by extending to Grosvenor the thanks of the Democrats for his speech, which was based upon literal quotation from the Chicago platform. After the resolution passed, the House adjourned.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 7.—The Senate foreign committee will tomorrow decide the Hawaii treaty's fate. It is admitted that a two-thirds favorable vote is impossible. It will probably drop the treaty and try to pass the annexation bill.

To Pay Government Obligations in Gold.

By Telegraph to The Morning Post.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 7.—Among the bills introduced in the House are the following: By Mr. Pearson, of North Carolina, a bill to repeal the act to regulate and improve the civil service; also to require banks to furnish the Treasury a list of shares and holders, and to require publication of transfer of bank shares. By Mr. Evans, of Kentucky, joint resolution pledging the faith and credit of the United States to the payment in gold coin of certain of its outstanding obligations; to the maintenance of the par value in gold of all previously coined silver dollars, and prohibiting the further coinage of any silver dollar unless it shall contain sufficent standard silver to make the dollar, when coined, intrinsically worth par in gold.

By Mr. Evans, also, a resolution to modify the Civil Service act by having it hereafter apply only to department clerks in Washington and those in public offices throughout the country whose salaries are from $900 to $1,800 per annum, letter carriers and railway mail clerks.

Mr. Adamson of Georgia, introduced a bill to provide a uniform and stable currency; also a project for giving stability to the currency and preventing the appreciation of the dollar.

Miss "Christine" Writes Secretary Long a Letter.

By Telegraph to The Morning Post.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 7th.—The one-sided controversy, raised by Miss Harriet Richardson over her claim to the honor of christening the battleship "Kentucky" was again settled today by a note from Governor Bradley's daughter accepting Secretary Long's invitation to act as sponsor. Her note was dignified and womanlike. It says: "Kindly accept my sincere thanks to the honor with which you have clothed an unpretentious little Kentucky girl, who loves her State second only to her county."

Killed in a Prize Fight—Another.

By Cable to The Morning Post.

LONDON, Dec. 7.—Conroy, the English pugilist, who was knocked out by Barry, of Chicago, last night in the morning of concussion of the brain.