WEATHER FORECAST:
Raleigh and Vicinity—Clearing, followed by colder weather today.

The Morning Post.

THE POST
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SOUTHERN BANKERS MEET

Movement by the Atlanta Clearing House.

HOLD FIRST SESSION TODAY.

Action to be Taken at a Convention of Southern Bankers Which Meets at Atlanta Today What the Objects and Plans of the Delegates Are—Better Organization and Co-operation Other Items.

Special to The Morning Post.

ATLANTA, Dec. 14.—Tomorrow there will assemble in this city, in response to an invitation issued by the Atlanta Clearing House Association, bankers from all over the South to attend a convention in Atlanta behind closed doors for the purpose of organizing and co-operating in a united and systematic way with the American Bankers' Association and such other financial organizations as are seeking better banking facilities and a readjustment of the financial system of the United States upon a scientific basis. The committee of the Atlanta Clearing House Association, which issued the call for the convention consists of Geo. R. Dessau, James W. English, T. B. Neal, W. L. Peel and Robert J. Lowry. In the invitation copies of which have been received by bankers and clearing houses of the south, to committee say:

Objects of the Convention.

With the ruinous effects of the low price of cotton paralyzing the business of the South it is believed that it is now more than ever important that Congress should give us the benefit of a banking system and will enable us to use our resources to the best advantage. It is confidently expected that Congress will be in temper to do something at the coming session for the relief of the country and we believe that the opportunity for presenting our wants to Congress at hand, and that we should not fail to take advantage of it. The business of the convention will be to determine the best means to be used for the accomplishment of this purpose. We are of the opinion that it will be well for the convention to appoint two competent and fully informed business men from each State to go to Washington and present our case to Congress.

The undersigned members of the association were appointed a committee to extend the invitation and make arrangements for the convention. This committee earnestly requests that you get the bankers of your State and city interested in this movement at once, and inform them of your earliest convenient date of your success. Whether you can attend the convention yourself or not they would be pleased to hear from you, and they take the liberty of urging upon you the absolute necessity for action and the great danger in inactivity and inadvertence. They believe that the future prosperity of the South largely depends upon what comes through the Congress of the United States, such legislation as will place National and State banks upon a safe and permanent equality as to business, and can only be had through National legislation. You will readily see that this is a movement in the interest of all classes. Please have your clearing house association act on this invitation at once, lest opportunity.

Latest Advices.

NEW YORK, Dec. 14. The Southern Bankers' Convention which commences here today is likely to be a lively affair, as the need of a large majority of the delegates favor plans for currency legislation that will leave the supervision of Northern banks to the Treasury, the original idea, says the news, the need of facilities, and no guarantees. He favors a State Bank system, and giving State currency equal He thinks the the profits of who control Others do not much good is

A PENNSYLVANIA EVANGELIST.

Who Evidently Has a Number of Wheels in His Head.

Special to The Morning Post.

ATLANTA, Dec. 14. Rev. from Lincoln holding revival created a sensation here. He and wear- to dire pun would thus of- the condemn- and so work the women in them tore the in full sight

Blizzards, Snow, High Gales, Out West.

Rain, snow and unpleasant in Chester from general one in A blizzard, Nebraska and Mexico. The damage Plenty of winter wheat pros-

"Wheelers" a Suspect.

Special to The Morning Post.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 14. The Collector at Wilmington, N. C., telegraphed that the master of the "Silver Heels" had expired for Bermudas. An order was sent to detain the vessel until the course of proceedings was finally determined

CONGRESSIONAL OUTLOOK.

What the Two Houses May Do During the Next Four Days.

By Telegraph to The Morning Post.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 14.—It is very likely that the Congress will adjourn over the holidays, beginning on next Saturday, 18th instant. It looks very much that way today, and if the psesent programme is carried out Congress will certainly adjourn next Saturday.

In the House the next few days promises to be made memorable by the formal inauguration of the war against the Civil Service law. The legislative, executive and judicial appropriation bill, which will be taken up, contains the regular appropriations for the Civil Service Commission, and whether or not all the members who favor the repeal or modification of the law unite to strike down the provision for its maintenance as the quickest and most direct method of crippling its operation, undoubtedly some will advocate this course, and the whole civil service question will be dragged into the arena of debate. How long the debate will last it is impossible to predict, but as this is the only item in the bill which will attract much of a contest, Chairman Cannon hopes and believes the bill can be passed before Saturday. This latter day, under an order made on Thursday, has been set aside for paying tribute to the memory of the late Representative Cook, of Illinois.

Chairman Hitt, of the Foreign Affairs Committee, will again attempt to secure the passage of the bill to prohibit pelagic sealing by citizens of the United States. There is some very strong opposition to the passage of this measure in its present form, and the whole question of the Behring Sea negotiations may be precipitated when it is called up.

The Immigration Bill.

The work of the Senate so far as it has been mapped out includes the consideration of the immigration bill, which stands on the calendar as the unfinished business, the probable debate of the census bill and the pronouncing of eulogies upon the late Representative Holman, of Indiana. The general opinion among friends of the measure is that there will be no very strenuous opposition to the immigration bill, and that it may be passed after a brief debate. While its friends are hopeful of the speedy and favorable consideration of the bill, they realize the possibility of delay on account of opposing speeches. There appears to be no reason to doubt that when the vote shall be reached the bill will pass. By special arrangement between Senators Carter and Lodge, in charge, respectively, of the two bills, the immigration bill will be temporarily displaced, In order to give Senator Harris an opportunity to call up the bill providing for the next census.

Question of Annexation.

The friends of annexation on the Committee on Foreign Relations are now expecting to ask the Senate to take up the treaty during the week, though quite quite well aware of the impossibility of securing action before the holidays. They are decided also upon taking the treaty up as such, instead of attempting to obtain legislation on a joint resolution. They may, perhaps, postpone their request for consideration until January. The Senate leader express themselves as agreeable to the House programme of adjournment for the holidays on Saturday. The Senate eulogies upon the late Representative Holman will be delivered on Friday.

THE ANTI-CIVIL SERVICE REFORMERS

MR. RICHMOND PEARSON WANTS SOMETHING UNDERSTOOD

And that Is that He nor any Other Member of Congress Who Participated in Conference Desire Absolute Repeal of Law--Sub-Committees Appointed.

By Telegraph to The Morning Post.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 14.—The work of the committee appointed at a conference of Republicans who are anxious to secure a modification of the civil service law, is to be conducted by two sub-committees, which were appointed today. One will prepare a bill making such changes in the law as in the opinion of the committee will bring operations within the scope originally intended for it. The other will secure evidences of perversion and defects of law, with which to support the demand for the proposed change. Representative Pearson (Rep., N. C.), who is on the first committees of representatives who participated in the conference, desires it understood that only a very few of their number advocate or desire the actual repeal of the law. An overwhelming majority is in favor of the modification of the law, by which the law can be restricted to the clerical force in the departments at Washington, postal service and custom houses at each of which over 50 employees are engaged.

A Southern Baseball League.

By Telegraph to The Morning Post.

ATLANTA, Ga., Dec. 14.—Representatives of the baseball interests of the Southern League from New Orleans, Mobile, Birmingham, Savannah and Atlanta met in this city yesterday afternoon, and organized the League for the season of 1898.

The situation was discussed, and it was found that in each city that has asked admission into the League the outlook is very good. It is intended that the League be composed of New Orleans, Mobile, Montgomery, Birmingham, Atlanta, Savannah, Augusta and Charleston.

The season will open on April 11st, of next year, and continue for four months. The salary limit has been placed at $1,000, which includes manager. The next meeting of the managers will be held in Birmingham, Ala., on March 6th, 1898.

CABAL AGAINST MR. HANNA

Anti-Hanna People Claim National Chairman Must

COME IT ON FIRST BALLOT

Or He Will Be Defeated For Re-election as Senator—The Opposition to His Election and What It Consists Of—It Is Said that Twenty-five Republicans Will Desert Him After the First Ballot Is Over.

By Telegraph to The Morning Post.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 14.—A special from Columbus, Ohio, printed in the Post today says: Members of the Legislature are gathering, and it is believed from interviews that Senator Hanna may be the victim of a surprise. Matters had settled down to such an extent within the past two weeks that it was supposed all opposition to his election had disappeared. It now seems that the opposition has been working in the dark, and it is announced tonight that if Hanna is not elected on the first ballot his defeat is certain.

The problem of electing Mr. Hanna has resolved itself into a question of political dynamics. It is a conflict of forces, and the side able to exert the greatest pressure will win. The anti-Hanna forces—it is hardly fair to call them the Foraker forces in view of the fact that Mr. Foraker has refused to yield them aid and comfort, except of the most negative character, since the close of the campaign—claim twelve votes against Hanna upon the first ballot. If Mr. Hanna is not elected on the first ballot they have the promise of 25 votes for the second ballot.

The efforts of both sides will, from now on, be confined to one subject. On the Hanna side a valiant struggle will be made, first, to find out who the possible secessionists are, and, secondly, to bring them back into the ranks. The anti-Hanna men will oppose such action by the Hanna men. Every man who has been pledged to vote against Hanna will be either non-committal or else declare himself for Hanna, in order to avoid the pressure which would otherwise be brought to bear upon him. The managers of Mr. Hanna's campaign are blocked, because of this fact. They dare not attack any man who may be doubtful for by so doing, they may drive him into the ranks of the opposition.

There is a possibility that two caucuses will be held by the Republicans. One will be the regular Hanna clique, at which only Hanna and Hanna's men will be endorsed. The other will be the opposition.

TO ENFORCE THE TAX LAW.

Judge Sutton Orders the Sheriff of Mecklenburg to Furnish List of Delinquents.

From the Charlotte News.

Judge Thomas H. Sutton to-day made the following statement: "I instructed the sheriff from the bench this morning to prepare a list of all parties not having paid their taxes by Saturday night, the 18th inst., and to furnish the same to this court The list will then be handed to the Solicitor to be dealt with according to law. The sheriff has no voice in this matter."

The new revenue law provides the penalty of imprisonment for failure to pay taxes. This step shows that Judge Sutton means to enforce the law. His order takes the matter out of the sheriff and puts it in the courts.

[Judge Sutton was a member of the last fusion legislature that enacted this law, and evidently knows what the law was made for, and proposes to carry it out.—ED. POST.]

MOTHER M'KINLEY AT REST.

Interment at Canton, Ohio, Yesterday---Marked Respect Shown.

By Telegraph to The Morning Post.

CANTON, Ohio, Dec. 14.—The body of Mrs. Nancy Allison McKinley was buried beside that of her husband in the family lot, in Westlawn cemetery, this afternoon. The funeral was the largest ever held in Canton.

Some of the most distinguished men of the nation were present. Thousands of the residents of Stark county and Ohio, gathered to pay their respects to the memory of the President's mother. Brief services were conducted at the house at 12:30. The body was then removed to the First Methodist Church. The streets were filled about the building.

Thousands formed in line to take a last look at the body, and all business houses were closed. The Cabinet party arrived this morning on a special train. Dr. Manchester, pastor of the church, preached the funeral sermon. Thousands lined the sidewalks along the entire route to the cemetery.

MISER HUSSEY'S $70,000

Rescued From His Ragged Dockets Seven Months Ago Goes to Relatives.

By Telegraph to The Morning Post.

BROOKLYN, N. Y., Dec. 14.—Surrogate Abbott today upheld the will of the Alabama miser, Thomas Hussey, giving $70,000 of his estate to his grand nieces. Hussey was found starving in the streets about seven months ago, with $30,000 in securities in his clothes. He afterwards went to live with his grand nieces, in this city, and made a will in their favor four days before his death The other relatives unsuccessfully contested on the ground of undue influence.

Nebraska Covered With Snow.

By Telegraph to The Morning Post.

OMAHA, Neb., Dec. 14.—Ten inches of snow is today covering the entire State of Nebraska. Cattle and winter wheat were never in better condition.

Mr. W. J. Crawford, of Waynesville, is here attending the Supreme Court, as is his law partner, George H. Smathers.

MOTHER OF HON. C. B. WATSON DEAD.

She Was 93 Years Old, and Greatly Beloved by Her Distinguished Son.

Special Despatch to The Morning Post.

WINSTON, N. C., Dec. 14.—"Mother E. N. Watson, the greatly beloved mother of Hon. Cyrus B. Watson, of this city, late Democratic candidate for Governor of this State, died at her home at Kernersville, this county, late last night.

Mrs. Watson lacked only 7 years of being 100 years old, she being a little over 93 years of age at the time death came.

The degree of affection which her distinguished son bore for her, was as beautiful as it was to a great extent unusual—a fact which was as feelingly shown when Mr. Watson, after delivering his speech of acceptance in the Academy of Music of Raleigh last summer, concluded by saying he was going straight to his dear old mother—not his own home at Winston—but to the ancestral home of the old mother whom he loved above all others on earth, and tell her that his party had selected "her son" to fill the highest office within its gift.

The arrangements had not been perfected this evening. But the interment will probably be at Kernersville, the old home of the family.

NEW ENGLAND MILL OPERATIVES.

Notices of Reduction of Wages Employes Posted Yesterday.

By Telegraph to The Morning Post.

FALL RIVER, Mass., Dec. 14.—Notices were posted today in all the cotton mills of this city announcing a reduction of wages beginning January 3d. The rate is not stated, but it is known that the price for weaving will drop from 18 to 16 cents per cut. Others have been reduced 10 per cent., excepting those whose wages are now low enough. They will be graded. The reduction applies to Treasurers also and is the second cut given them in the history of the trade. The first was 22 years ago, when the average salary was $2,000. Today 36 treasurers receive $230,000. Superintendents and agents will be cut also. This move will lessen the chances of the threatened strike, for it shows that the manufacturers are in earnest in their belief that a reduction is the only means of putting a stop to depression, now the worst on record.

The Troops Called Out.

By Telegraph to The Morning Post.

FRANKFORT, Ky., Dec. 14.—Gov. Bradley ordered the State troops to-night to protect the turnpike property at Danville, Ky., where the raiders threaten to blow up the gate. Col. Gaither, of Harrodsburg, ordered the troops to the scene, going there himself, on complaint made by J. T. Beasley, president of the Danville and Harrodsburg Turnpike Co., who said that the county judge had refused to extend protection.

South Receives $270,000 More Today.

By Telegraph to The Morning Post.

NEW YORK, Dec. 14.—Currency tranfers aggregating $270,000 was made to the sub-Treasury today to Southern cities.

EX-MINISTER M'DONALD DYING

MAY BE DEAD BY THIS TIME

Fatal Disease a Bronchial Trouble Contracted Abroad While Minister of the United States—Sketch of His Long and Useful and Honorable Career in the Service of the Country Which He Represented.

By Telegraph to The Morning Post.

LYNCHBURG, Va., Dec. 14.—Hon. Alexander McDonald, Minister to Persia under President Cleveland, is critically ill with pneumonia at St. Andrew's Home, this city, and may die at any moment.

For more than a year Mr. McDonald has been in feeble health, but until very recently his condition was not regarded as very serious. While in Persia he contracted a bronchial trouble, which, despite the efforts of the best physicians, became aggravated with time, and when he arrived in this country several weeks ago his friends became alarmed at his condition. After a few days' sojourn in New York he went to Washington, where he closed his relations with the State Department, bringing to an end a service honorable alike to himself and his country. On reaching Lynchburg last Tuesday the bronchial trouble developed into pneumonia, and today his physicians gave up all hope of his recovery.

Mr. McDonald was born in Lynchburg about twenty years ago, where he spent nearly his entire life. His father was Rev. James McDonald, for many years a well known minister of the Baptist church. From the elder McDonald, a man of force and ability, the son inherited many of those qualities of mind and heart that distinguished him throughout life, and enabled him to win the esteem and respect of his fellow-citizens. Few men were more generally known in Virginia than Mr. McDonald, a fact due to his prominence in all public movements and to the positions of trust and honor to which he was appointed or elected at various stages of his career. At an early age he engaged in the newspaper business, and continued in that profession until selected by President Cleveland as Minister to Persia, in 1893. At the time of his appointment he was editor of the Lynchburg Virginian, with which journal he had been connected in various capacities since 1850. In 1861 he was appointed postmaster of Lynchburg by President Lincoln, to succeed the late Maj. R. H. Glass, but before the appointment went into effect Virginia seceded from the Union, and President Davis continued Maj. Glass in office. At the outset of the Civil War, Mr. McDonald enlisted in the artillery branch of the Confederate service and served with gallantry throughout the struggle. After the war he re-entered the field of journalism, and many of his writings on political and economic subjects made profound impressions, and were widely quoted. In politics Mr. McDonald before the war was a Whig, but after the war became an earnest advocate of the principles of Democracy.

SOUTHERN COTTON GROWERS

Mostly Talk and Convention Still in Session.

THE MEETING AT ATLANTA

Yesterday—The Plans of Originator and Others Printed in Yesterday's Morning Post—Now Comes the Actual Proceedings the Convention.

By Telegraph to The Morning Post.

ATLANTA, Ga., Dec. 14.—As THE MORNING POST was notified yesterday, the convention of Southern Cotton Growers assembled in this city this morning.

All day long the assembled cotton growers have talked. The discussion began at noon and adjournment was then taken until the dinner hour came.

The convention reassembled at 3 p. m. and talked until 6. The convention met again at 7:30, without practical results. The burden of all the discussion is to reduce the cotton acreage, in such a way as to make "the other fellow" do the reducing. A bomb was thrown into the body this evening by Hon. J. B. Hunnicut, of Georgia, in the shape of a resolution binding everybody to curtail the acreage next year 20 per cent. He said, "We may talk here until doomsday, but it will do no good, if we go home and increase our acreage from year to year, as we have been doing. The way to reduce is to reduce, and I put this resolution in order to test the sense of this assemblage."

The resolution went to the Committee on Resolutions. It will be up for discussion until midnight, if not later.

When the Convention met this morning J. C. Wellborn, President of the State Alliance of South Carolina, was elected President.

The Committee on Resolutions is composed of Dr. J. W. Stokes and J. H. McCall, of South Carolina; J. E. Johnson and W. A. Broughton, of Georgia; A. J. P. Sossaman and W. T. Bachellor, of North Carolina; I. S. Culver and Hector D. Lane, of Alabama; R. Cheatham; of Mississippi, and S. E. Watson, of Texas.

Among the general resolutions, all spoke of 5 cent cotton as "starvation prices," and suggested many modes of relief, some of them strange ones.

Strange Schemes Elucidated.

There was one which called upon farmers to burn all their low grade cotton, as its existence was made use of to batter down prices; that it encouraged buyers to sample it low and they, in turn, would raise its grade when sent to the mill; that by collusion between millmen and buyers they sampled down cotton so that to the seller it was worth no more than four cents.

Another plan submitted was explained by this example: "Take a 10,000,000-bale crop, as at present, and suppose we wish to destroy 2,000,000 bales of low-grade cotton, which at present prices would be worth about 4 cents per pound or $20 per bale, or $40,000,000. Then if supply and demand control price, shortage of American crop having been created, there will be a rush of all mills to take in supply, and the result would be the immediate and considerable advance in prices, no doubt to double the present value. Then, to pay for 2,000,000 bales destroyed, would be an easy matter. Say if middling cotton will net 10 cents in Liverpool, let our Southern Cotton Exchanges assess that price amount per pound equal to $5 per bale, to be paid by every dealer in cotton into some safe deposit, to be used in paying for cotton destroyed, amount per pound, or $5 per bale on 6,000,000 bales left, would equal $40,000,000 value of 2,600,000 bales destroyed, and greatly increase the price of the remainder, and would thus be to the profit of the farmer and dealer."

At this hour it does not appear likely that the convention will take more than advisory action now, as there is a strong feeling to unite forces at Memphis.

Fire at Dover.

By Cable to the Morning Post.

DOVER, England, Dec. 14.—A fire was discovered in the precincts of Dover Castle this morning. A strong wind was blowing, and the efforts of the entire garrison could not prevent the flames from spreading. The officers' quarters were gutted, and another block of buildings, a hundred yards in extent, are ablaze. There is no hope of saving it. The flames have reached the castle, and it is feared that the structure is doomed.

Federation of Labor Oppose Annexation.

By Telegraph to The Morning Post.

NASHVILLE, Tenn., Dec. 14.—At the American Federation of Labor session here today an important resolution, disapproving annexation with the Hawaiian Islands, and urging the Senate to reject the treaty of annexation, and to take such other steps as may be necessary to maintain amicable relations with Hawaii, was adopted, and the Convention voted to send a committee before the Senate and urge the rejection of the treaty. The government postal savings scheme was endorsed.

The Alabama Way.

By Telegraph to The Morning Post.

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., Dec. 14.—Lewis and John Bonner, negro brothers, residing near Kennedy, Lamar county, were murdered last night by white caps. They lived together, and the place was broken into and about midnight the negroes were shot. Lewis was a government witness against certain parties, and a State witness against alleged white caps who shot another negro to death some months ago.

To Suppress Newspapers.

By Cable to The Morning Post.

PARIS, Dec. 14.—The government contemplates the suppression of the newspapers which are alleged to be systematically inventing Dreyfus stories.

SOME WASHINGTON NOTES.

The Tar Heel Pie-Hunters at the Capitol—Harry Skinner, Et Al.

Special to the Charlotte Observer.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 14.—Senator Pritchard makes the statement today upon the authority of the Civil Service Commission that Assistant United States District Attornies are not subject to the civil service regulations and may be removed without cause.

The appointment of an assistant attorney for the Western District lies between Eugene Carter, of Asheville, and Spencer Blackburn. The impression is that Carter will get the appointment.

There are three new entries in the race for the Eastern District attorneyship. Ex-Congressman Joe Martin, Capt. Bill Day and J. L. Chapin, of Harnett, are now mentioned as possibilities. The impression grows that the opposition to Cook cannot be overcome.

The arrival here today of G. Z. French makes it certain that the appointment of postmaster at Wilmington will not be settled without a vigorous contest. He is endorsed by the Chamber of Commerce, Board of Trade, Merchants' Association, all the bank and railroad presidents in Wilmington and 15 out of 19 of the Republican County Committee. It is understood that he is Governor Russell's candidate and that may hurt him, but otherwise he seems to have a clear swing.

It seems to be settled that it is Judge Dick's intention to retire from the bench next March, and all the Republican talk points to Assistant Attorney General Boyd as his successor.

Something About "Harry Skinner, Congressman."

From Washington News-Letter.

"This notable Populist is on hand as bright as a dollar. He says that North Carolina occupies rather an exceptional position in favor of prosperity, as there are a great many truck farms which have been fairly remunerative in results, and that there is a good deal of tobacco raised in his State, but upon the whole he believes that the cry of returning prosperity is much overestimated.

"Mr. Skinner will be remembered as the gentleman who did the eagle-eyed Butler to a 'dun brown' in the election of Senator Pritchard. Butler staked his entire political fortune upon two questions: the first defeating Pritchard; and second, showing the Populists of the United States that Skinner was a fraud—Skinner having a tendency to walk in the middle-of-the-road. The result vindicated Skinner in the path in which he had concluded to travel. Butler in the meantime has hardly political substance enough left out of which to manufacture a very poor article of soap."

This contains some things interesting and some things amusing to North Carolinians.

The Louisiana Method.

By Telegraph to The Morning Post.

NEW ORLEANS, La., Dec. 14.—A mob in Iberville parish, which dealt with the murderers of George Babin, last night lynched three men—James Thomas, Joseph and Charles Alexander. Thomas Made a confession before death, in which he implicated ahe two Alexanders. Watson Carter, Frank Osborne and Laurence Dominick, who took minor parts in the murder, were whipped by the mob, and Carter was ordered to leave the parish.

Weather For All North Carolina.

By Telegraph to The Morning Post.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 14.—Weather for North Carolina: Partly cloudy weather; westerly winds; colder in eastern portions.

THE HOUSE DEMOCRATS IN CAUCUS

DECLARE THEY SHOULD RESIST RETIREMENT GREENBACKS.

They Ought Also to Resist Further Extension of National Bank Privileges—Also Declare the Senate Cubad Belligerancy Bill Shouldbe Passed.

By Telegraph to The Morning Post.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 14.—At a caucus of the Democratic members of the House tonight it unanimously adopted the following, offered by Mr. Bailey, leader of the minority:

Resolved, That it is the sense of this caucus that the Democratic members of the House of Representatives ought to resist all efforts, direct and indirect, to retire greenbacks and Treasury notes.

Resolved, That we are opposed to, and will resist, all attempts to extend the privileges of National banks, or to reduce the taxes which they now pay.

Resolved, That we favor the early consideration and passage of the Senate resolution recognizing that a condition of war exists in Cuba, between the government of Spain and the Cuban people.

"Resolved, That we favor the early enactment of a wise and just bankruptcy law."

The Hawaiian annexation question was passed over, with the suggestion that, when necessary, to take action at another caucus to be held.

A Democratic Congressional Committee, to manage the campaign of 1898, to consist of nine Senators and one Representative from each State and Territory, was appointed.

To Colonize Mormon Converts.

By Telegraph to The Morning Post.

CHIHUAHUA, Mexico, Dec. 14—Representatives of the Mormon Church at Utah have contracted with the Mexican Government for the purchase of 3,000,000 acres of land in this State. It is the intention of the church to locate 40,000 Mormon colonists within two years, many from Utah, but the greatest number will be new converts to the Mormon faith from different parts of the United States.

Virginia's Football Bill Up Tomorrow.

By Telagraph to The Morning Post.

RICHMOND, Va., Dec. 14.—Senator Barksdale's football bill came up in the Senate today, but was postponed until Thursday, when it will be made the special order.

THE NATIONAL LEGISLATURE

Telegraphic Account Yesterday's Deliberations.

REPUBLICANS ARE AT ODDS

Over the Civil Service Laws and the Attacks Being Made Upon It By Men Like Linney and Pearson—Kyles' Immigration Bill Up in Senate, After Which Adjourned in Respect to the President's Mother.

By Telegraph to The Morning Post.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 14.—Among the bills introduced in the Senate today was one by Kyle (Pop., South Dakota), establishing additional regulations concerning immigration.

Mr. Kyle explained that his bill differed from that now pending, py requiring education test to be made before the United States Consuls in foreign countries, instead of in United States ports, where the immigrants might be affected by a species of "stage fright."

The usual routine morning business having been disposed of, Senator Hoar arose and said:

"All the Senators are aware that a great calamity has overtaken the household of the Chief Magistrate of the nation, and that the funeral of his mother takes place about this time. As a token of sympathy and respect for him, I move that the Senate do now adjourn."

The Senate adjourned at 12:20 o'clock until tomorrow.

House.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 14.—There is apparently an irreconcilable difference in the ranks of the Republican members of the House, sharply shown in course of the brief debate today on Civil Service question. It came up on consideration of the bill making appropriations for legislative, executive and judicial departments of the government, which contains provision for carrying on the work of the commission.

Barrett, (Mass.) responding to the challenge given out today by his Democratic colleagues, announced the purpose of the Massachusetts Republicans to stand by the principles of Civil Service Reform, and support the President in his administration of the law. He recalled circumstances surrounding the passage of the bill in the House, in 1883, which he witnessed, and said that of 47 Representatives who voted against the bill, but three were now members of the House.

That Bland (Mo.), McMillan (Tenn.), Steele (Rep., Ind.), affirmative voters, included among the ten still in the House, whom he named; and President McKinley, Messrs. Brumm (Penn.) and Marsh (Ills.), Republicans, called Mr. Barrett's attention to the fact that he had overlooked them among the negative votes on the bill, and announced, (while being applauded by their associates) that they were proud of their votes.

Steele stated that he had never felt compelled to apologize for his vote; while Messrs. Bingham and Cannon informed Barrett and the House that if they had imagined the law would ever be carried to the extent it has been, they should not have voted for it.

The debate went no further than this today, for the House adjourned shortly before 2 o'clock, out of sympathy for the President.

Argument will be continued at a later date probably, however, but not until after the Christmas holidays it is thought.

Dingley gave notice of the intention of the Committee on Ways and Means to report the resolution providing for a recess, to begin after the adjournment on Saturday next, the 18th inst.

THE WHEAT CROP.

Indications Point to a Yield of 530,000,000 Bushels.

By Telegraph to The Morning Post.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 14.—The Agricultural Department has issued the following:

The special wheat investigation instituted by the Department of Agriculture, indicates a crop of 530,000,000 bushels. These figures are subject to slight modification in the final report.

[The yield in the whole country for 1895—the latest statistics available—was 467,103,000 bushels.—ED. POST.

SENATORS ELECTED BY PEOPLE.

The Congressional House Committee Reports Bill Favorably.

By Telegraph to The Morning Post.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 14.—The House Committee on the election of President, Vice-President and Representatives has reported favorably on the joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution, providing for the election of Senators by people instead of by State legislature.

Great and Fatal Storm In Far South.

By Telegraph to The Morning Post.

NEW ORLEANS, La., Dec., 14.—The storm at Pointe la Hache yesterday destroyed 24 houses in and around that town, including the St. Thomas Catholic Church. This church was destroyed in 1893 by a similar great storm, and it had just been rebuilt. Father Cole was slightly injured. The cemetary attached to the church was badly wrecked. Lugger California capsized and a sailor was drowned.

Mr. Pearson Refuses Extra Pay.

By Telegraph to the Morning Post.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 14.—Regarding the appropriation made on yesterday for the payment of mileage of members for the extra session, Mr. Pearson (Rep.) of North Carolina, when the House session opened, said he could not accept the money, owing to the stand he had taken in the campaign of 1894, when he denounced taking of money by members of the House.

THE PEST COMMISSION.

San Jose Scale Wiped Out In Nurseries—Mr. Fix Elected Secretary.

There was a meeting of the Commission for the extermination of pests in this State Monday evening. There was present the Chairman, Prof. W. A. Withers, Mr. J. Van Lindley and J. F. Mewborne.

Chairman Withers submitted his annual report. Among other things he reported that the San Jose scale, which was found in three nurseries in the State last spring had been exterminated. There were no evidences of the scale in the nurseries during the fall. This shows that with proper care and treatment of trees, the people of the State can keep the scale out. The Chairman also noted the fact that the railroads had been very careful in observance of regulations relative to the shipment of trees.

Mr. J. M. Fix, of the Experiment Station, was elected Secretary of the Commission.

Prof. Massey's resignation as botanist and entomologist of the Experiment Station was read. No action was taken and an election will not be held until the next meeting in January.

Mr. D. D. F. Cameron, of Southern Pines, was made local inspector of orchards in the Southern Pines vicinity. There the scale has been very bad.

A new form of tag, for the shipment of trees, was adopted. The new tag will be card-size instead of a large sheet.

The chairman was authorized to appoint local inspectors wherever the necessity arises.

ENGINEER BLOWN TO PIECES.

Three Negroes Killed at a Charleston Explosion.

By Telegraph to The Morning Post.

CHARLESTON, S. C., Dec. 14.—A steam engine in Townsend's wood-yard exploded this afternoon, wrecking the building and killing two negroes and fatally injuring the third. The boiler was thrown a block away, and all the windows in the neighborhood broken. Engineer Dallas was blown to the top of a three-story building, and mangled beyond recognition.

PITIFUL TALE FROM CUBA.

Over 500,000 People Said to Have Died of Starvation and by War, Etc.

By Telegraph to The Morning Post.

HAVANA, Dec. 14:—The Bishop of Havana, and the priests of all the parishes report to him a number of persons who have died in their districts from famine, epidemics, or war during the last year up to this time. According to trustworthy information the figures show that 500,000 persons have died in Cuba in this short time. The largest estimate of the population of the Island before the war was 1,600,000. The Pacificos assassinated by the Spanish troops, Spanish and Cuban soldiers killed in battle, thousands who died in the country of smallpox, dysentery, beri-beri and starvation, not included in the starvation statistics, and with the 100,000 persons who have emigrated from the island, it can be seen that the Bishop's statistics confirm the estimate before made that 800,000 persons have either died or left Cuba. The situation has not in the least improved under Blanco, but, on the contrary, is growing worse. In the insane asylum at Havana the inmates are dying of hunger.

ABOUT CUBAN INDEPENDENCE.

Various Items Bearing On the Question and Outlook.

By Telegraph to The Morning Post.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 14.—There is a suspicion in official circles which is gradually becoming a conviction to some of the most credulous, that Spain is preparing to turn Cuba over to the Cubans.

There is no doubt that the Spanish government and people are sick of the war. Some of the officials here suspect that Spain would be glad to get rid of Cuba if she can do it gracefully and without seeming to acknowledge she had been whipped.

Minister De Lome received today a cablegram from Blanco, saying that amnesty had been granted to all political exiles rrom Cuba. This includes all the Americans whom Weyler expelled from the island. Everybody now who conspired against Spain, except common criminals, can go back.

MR. BRYAN IN MEXICO,

He and Celebrated Bull Fighter Become Great Friends, etc.

By Telegraph to The Morning Post.

CITY OF MEXICO, Dec. 14.—Mr. W. J. Bryan spent a busy day here, visiting points of interest about the city. He is the recipient of great attention at the hands of high government officials and American colony. He has a magnificent suite of rooms at the Hotel Sans, which adjoin those of Luis Mazzantina, a celebrated Spanish bull fighter, who has just arrived here from Spain, and who received five thousand dollars for each performance. He and Mr. Bryan have become warm friends, and the free silver orator will occupy a box of honor at Mazzantini's great full fight next Sunday.

Of the two great men at the Hotel Sans, the bull fighter has received more marked attention at the hands of the Mexican people than Mr. Bryan.

OLD BONNER-KING FEUD AGAIN.

Breaks Out and More Lives Given Up in a "Duel" With Knives.

By Telegraph to The Morning Post.

DALLAS, TEX., Dec. 14.—March Bonner and Frank King yesterday afternoon fought a duel with knives in a street in Crockett, Texas. King was mortally wounded. Bonner is slashed in many places and may die. The duel was the revival of a feud of a dozen years' standing, in which at least a half dozen men had been killed. Hiram Woods, a member of the Bonner faction, was waylaid last night ten miles from Crockett, and shot to death.