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Bismarck is reported to be rapidly sinking.

Deaths by the late gulf storm are now estimated at 2,000.

A new law in Delaware forbids the catching of oysters under 21.2 inches in diameter.

The majority of farmers have a plenty of meat and bread, home-grown. They are in good spirits and say that they are better off than they were a year ago.

All Larry Neal has to do to beat McKinley is to make the people of Ohio believe the paralysis of business this year was caused by the tariff law and not by the threat of repeating it.

There are 13 gold standard nations, 14 silver standard and 16 double standard nations. More than three fourths of the population of the earth have either the silver or the double standard.

Gen Rosser of Virginia has written a letter of farewell to the Democratic party. We remember that when the look command of the cavalry in the valley, under Early, he was called "the Saviour of the valley, but the valley was saved."

The New York Commercial Advertiser has celebrated its ninety-six birthday and, notwithstanding its advanced age, shows more newspaper vim and enterprise than the majority of the recently inaugurated void fillers.—Post.

"The rivers and sounds of the South are filled with fish and its mountains are filled with minerals. And yet, blessed of God as few lands have ever been blessed, the South is the toiler for the North its slave and chief contributor to its mighty wealth."

The Democracy of the state of New York is in convention at Saratoga. Mr. Lockwood, temporary chairman, in the opening speech said "All the pledges of the party will be fulfilled." The name of President Cleveland evoked tremendous applause.

Concerning the Kinston postmaster, it now appears that the nomination of John P. Haskitt was the result of a clerical error. The President intended to nominate J. C. Wooten, and the mistake will be remedied at once.—Wilmington Star.

There is no more pathetic picture of patience than the spectacle presented by those persons who are waiting for Tammany Hall to disband. Tammany will stick together as long as the offices "hold out."

It is stated that an American house has concluded a contract for 2,500,000 tons of Japanese coal to be delivered at San Francisco in the course of the next two years. Hitherto the coal imported at San Francisco has been principally Australian.

Congressman Bryan, of Nebraska, who distinguished himself in the silver debate in the House is contemplating leaving the Democratic party because his state, in the late Democratic convention, refused to endorse him and stood by the President.

Mr. Lawrence T. Neal, the Democratic candidate for Governor of Ohio, writes to the New York World, saying that he is more than satisfied with the conduct of the campaign by the managers of his cause, and is convinced that he is going to defeat McKinley.

The Washington correspondent of the Baltimore Sun says talk of cloths in the Senate "is idle." It is more than that, it is absurd. You can hold a Senator up as Joe Blackburn once did Billy Chandler on that memorable occasion when he lifted him by the ears, but you can't close a Senator up until he runs down.

An old friend writing from Savannah, Ga., says: "Tom Watson is getting a strong hold here, and unless the Salons at Washington stop their wrangling and go to work to redeem their pledges I wouldn't bet a cent on Georgia at the next election. The country press of the State are hammering at Cleveland and his gold policy and they wield a great influence."

"The Senate Committee on Foreign Affairs has arrived at the decision that Mr. Van Alen, who had been named by the President as United States Ambassador to Italy is wholly worthy of that exalted honor. Malgarity itself could invent no charges to discredit this judgment, which will stand as an all-sufficient answer to the petty clamor of embittered partisan zeal."

Representative Davey, of Louisiana has introduced a bill appropriating \$25,000 for the relief of the sufferers from the late great cyclone on the Southern coast. It provides that the money shall be expended in stores and medicine under the direction of the Secretary of War, and that the means of transportation shall be authorized by him.

We are always glad to see North Carolina merit appreciated, and hence it is a pleasure to give place to the following: The new cotton mill to be erected in Portsmouth will have a capacity of 6,000 spindles. The contract for drawing plans and specifications has been awarded Mr. H. S. Chadwick, President of the Charlotte (N. C.) Machine Company, with instructions to complete work at once.

A CRUCIAL WEEK.

On a stormy day, following the acquisition of Mexican territory, when the "Omaha Bill" was before the Senate, Dickinson, of New York, said: "Today is the day, say it with sorrow, on which we will be brought to a halt."

Such may be the present situation. It was announced that on Wednesday, the 14th of October, the crucial test would be made. The bill will be brought to a final vote by sitting continuously, the purpose being to tire out the opponents of the bill. The Washington Post says: "If the plans of the repealers are successful the bill will probably come to a vote before the close of the week."

"But if the silver men succeed in the attempt to break a quorum and force an adjournment, they are obliged to pass a compromise measure or allow the entire repeal measure to fail."

There is a cloud overhead, and no one can tell whether it will break in blessing on our heads, or bestrew our seas with lamentable wrecks.

We are not of those who look upon the repeal of the silver law as a mere technical matter. It is a question of principle, and one which will affect the lives of millions of people.

Whatsoever the future of the repeal measure may be, it is a question of principle, and one which will affect the lives of millions of people.

But this crucial week is not monopolized by the silver bill. Other important measures are passing through the ordeal of debate and will probably be brought to a decision. Foremost among these is the Tucker bill to repeal the Federal Election Laws. This is a measure demanded by the National Democratic platform and approved by Democrats in all parts of the Union. If it is not passed during the present week it will become Democrats in the House consider it impolitic to press its passage just now.

It is not improbable that the Appropriation Committee will have much to do during this present extraordinary session of Congress. Indeed we hope that the session will soon close, and allow the members to go home and rest and refresh themselves before the regular session commences on the first Monday in December. But if the 53rd Congress fails to pass a large number of appropriation bills it will be very different from most of its predecessors.

Now we call the attention to members from North Carolina to the duty of procuring ample appropriations for this State.

We are taking time by the forelock with the idea that it is useless to lock the stable door after the horse is stolen.

North Carolina has never had her share of the appropriations. There is no part of the Atlantic coast that has more need of enlightened benefactions than which skirts our own coast. Several vessels to be built and repaired, and the improvement of our waters in general. The appropriation bills in this line have been utterly neglected. An appropriation for the improvement of the navigation of the Cape Fear River has been thrown away. Our Senators and Representatives have done nothing to this matter in time.

With our waterways properly improved there is no reason why New Bern and other places similarly located may not become commercial emporiums.

THE TARIFF. Congressman Cockran is quoted as saying that the McKinley bill will be repealed, but that the present Congress will immediately pass another tariff bill prepared as nearly as possible on the line of the McKinley act, for the reason that Democratic members from the Eastern States have been much impressed by the arguments of the manufacturers before the Ways and Means Committee.

We have never believed in the propriety of holding meetings of the Ways and Means Committee in the interest of manufacturers. It is not the purpose of the Democratic party to construct a tariff for the benefit of monopolies—that would be a most unwise movement. They are not the people's representatives, but the representatives of the interests of the few.

Mr. Cockran's remarks are an administration leader in the House. It turns out that Mr. Cleveland is for a second edition of the McKinley act. His tariff policy will meet with more opposition than his silver views have provoked. Party lines are entirely too loose at Washington. There seems to be more anxiety to conform to the wishes of the East than there is to preserve the integrity of the Democratic party. "To your tents, O, Israel!"

PHYSICAL ENDURANCE.

The argument having been exhausted on the Vorhies repeal bill, the test of physical endurance is about to be tried in the Senate.

Some years ago it was not uncommon, when two lovers met at the house of their father, for them to try and see which would have the last word with the lady. On such occasions the old man of the house would be made, and who was to give the bill for the rights. He said he did not see any prospect of either coming down to business, and he was tired of paying expenses.

Congress is not disputing any business, and the expense of a count is hardly increasing. An actual count of the Senate will be made. The Senate is engaged in such a contest as has never before been known in the history of the Republic. It is a long and hard fight, and it is the imperative duty of the Senate to vote and the speaker to do so. The speaker is to be for the count. If Congress will do as they should, they will have a victory. It is not a matter of pride, but of honor.

SAM JONES' NEIGHBORS.

Extract from one of His Royal Majesty's orders.

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THE GOLDEN DOORWAY.

Reverend has travelled far. He found home delight him more. Over strange ways his journeying, Shows old times still left him more.

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WILMINGTON STARTLED.

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