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VOL. V. WALTER S. BELL, Editor.

ELKIN, N. C., THURSDAY, MARCH 25, 1897.

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RAINS, STORMS AND FLOODS.

A Very Serious Situation Along the Mississippi River.

NOTHING IN SIGHT BUT WATER.

Storms and Cyclones Add Terror to the Situation—One Hundred Miles of Country Under Water.

Memphis, Tenn., March 19.—A further half-inch rise in the Mississippi means the devastation of property and probably a loss of life unequalled in the flood history of this section. The rise is threatened, because rain is still falling. Seventeen persons are reported drowned below Caruthersville, Mo. A stretch of land over 100 miles long, from a point 70 miles north of Memphis to a point 60 miles south of the Tennessee metropolis, is submerged, in places to a depth of 10 feet. The fertile valleys of Tennessee and Arkansas are completely inundated and many lives have been lost and stock drowned. Fencings and dwellings have been swept away and the inhabitants are destitute and homeless, left to starve or drown by the remorselessly rising tide. Reports from tributary streams show rains and rapidly rising rivers all of which will help to swell the rising waters. The floods now partake of the nature of a deluge. As far as the eye can see nothing but water meets the gaze.

Six hundred people were rescued yesterday on the Arkansas side of the river and taken to Memphis, but there are flooded districts which relief boats can not reach this side of the river. On island 80, one hundred suffered and considerable live stock were rescued by the steamer Itasca. Neither man nor beast had tasted food for 24 hours. Human beings and helpless brutes are huddled together awaiting assistance all along the iron mountain and Kansas City, Fort Scott and Gulf tracks. Five hundred people were forced to flee from the floods in Dyer and Obion counties, Tenn.

FIFTY-FIFTH CONGRESS.

Report of the Proceedings from Day to Day.

SENATE.

MONDAY.—The extraordinary session of the Fifty-fifth Congress was opened by reading the President's proclamation convening it. Sixty-eight Senators answered to roll-call, and the galleries were filled to overflowing. Mr. W. A. Harris, of Kansas, was sworn in as successor to Mr. Peffer. After appointment of a committee to notify the President and the House that the Senate was ready to begin its duties, a recess was taken until 2 p. m. At this session the President's message was read and referred to committee, and on motion of Mr. Allison, Republican of Iowa, the Senate at 3:35 p. m. adjourned until tomorrow at noon.

TUESDAY.—Many bills were introduced and referred, among them bills from Mr. Allen, Populist, of Nebraska, directing the forfeiture of the government lien on the Union Pacific Railroad; to prevent over-capitalization of companies doing an inter-State carrying trade; to prevent professional lobbying; to preserve the purity of national legislation, and to increase the circulating medium. A bill to facilitate the construction, working and maintenance of telegraphic communication between the United States, the Hawaiian Islands, Japan and Australia, was introduced by Mr. Chandler. A bill to provide for the twelfth and subsequent censuses. A bill for a government telegraph was introduced by Mr. Kyle, Populist, of South Dakota, and one to amend the immigration laws by Mr. Lodge, Republican, of Massachusetts. A new Nicaraguan Canal bill was introduced by Mr. Morgan, Democrat, of Alabama. Also a bill to create a board of trustees of the Union Pacific and Colorado Pacific Railroad Companies to fund their bonded indebtedness. Bankruptcy bills were introduced by Senators Hoar, Republican, of Massachusetts, and Nelson, Republican, of Minnesota. Altogether there were 438 bills reported, and a great number of them coming over from the last Congress. After a short executive session, at which today's nominations were referred, the Senate at half past 3 adjourned till Thursday next.

WEDNESDAY.—After a two day's recess the Senate re-assembled and a large number of bills, most of them survivors of the last Congress, were introduced and referred. (See, (Rep.) of Iowa, from the committee on Pacific railroad bills, which was pending last session, for the adjustment of the government debt through a commission, to consist of the Secretary of the Treasury, the Secretary of the Interior and the Attorney-General. It was ordered.

The constitutional amendment for the popular election of United States Senators was introduced and will be debated Monday.

At the close of the morning business the Senate proceeded to the consideration of executive business—the arbitration treaty. Morgan made a speech against it. A long debate is in prospect.

THURSDAY.—The calendar of business in the Senate this morning contained only four items: The notice of Mr. Turpie (Dem.) of Indiana, of his intention to address the Senate in favor of the proposed constitutional amendment to make United States Senators elective by popular vote; an amendment itself, which is on the table, and the two Pacific Railroad bills which were reported Thursday. The number of bills introduced in the Senate since Monday last, up to this morning was 768. Mr. Butler, Populist, of North Carolina, to establish a post office system; and one by Mr. Chandler, Republican, of New Hampshire, as to first and second-class mail matter. On motion of Davis, (Rep.) of Minnesota, the committee on the arbitration treaty, the Senate at 12:30 p. m. proceeded to executive business, and at 4 p. m. adjourned until Monday.

M'KINLEY'S FIRST MESSAGE.

Extra Session of the Fifty-Fifth Congress Convened.

BRIEF IN RECOMMENDATIONS.

Session Called to Deal With Deficits and Prevent Same in Future by Passing a Tariff Bill.

Washington, March 15.—The extraordinary session of the Fifty-fifth Congress was opened by reading the President's proclamation convening it. Sixty-eight Senators answered to the roll-call, and the galleries were filled to overflowing.

Mr. W. A. Harris, of Kansas, was sworn in as successor to Mr. Peffer. After appointment of a committee to notify the President and the House that the Senate was ready to begin its duties, a recess was taken until 2 p. m. Assistant Secretary Pruden announced and presented the message, which was read by the clerk, as follows:

To the Congress of the United States: Regretting the necessity which has required me to call you together, I feel that your assembling in extraordinary session is indispensable, because of the condition in which we find the revenues of the government. It is conceded that its current expenditures are greater than its receipts, and that such a condition has existed for now more than four years. With unlimited means at our command, we are presently spending more than we are receiving our public debt by borrowing money to meet the ordinary outlays incident upon an economical and prudent administration of the government. An examination of the subject discloses this fact in every detail, and leads inevitably to the conclusion that the revenue that allows it is unjustifiable and should be corrected.

We find by the reports of the Secretary of the Treasury that the revenues for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1897, from all sources were \$439,868,292.55, and the expenditures for all purposes were \$419,968,898.56, leaving an excess of receipts over expenditures of \$19,899,394.99. During that fiscal year \$40,570,467.98 were paid upon the public debt, which had been reduced from March 1, 1893, \$239,076,830, and the annual interest charges decreased \$1,464,576.60. The receipts of the government from all sources during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1896, amounted to \$461,716,561 and its expenditures were \$450,574,887, showing an excess of receipts over expenditures of \$11,141,674. Since that time the receipts of no fiscal year, and but with few exceptions of no more of any fiscal year, have exceeded the expenditures. The receipts of the government for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1894, were \$723,862,408 and its expenditures \$442,005,738, leaving a deficit, the first since the resumption of specie payments, of \$281,856,670. Notwithstanding the reduction of the public debt, the ordinary expenses of the government as compared with the previous fiscal year were still not sufficient to provide for its daily necessities and the gold reserve in the Treasury for the three fiscal years ending June 30, 1896, was drawn upon to meet them. But this did not suffice, and the government then resorted to loans to replenish the reserve.

In February, 1894, \$50,000,000 in bonds were issued, and in November following a second issue of \$20,000,000 was deemed necessary. The sum of \$117,171,795 was realized by the sales of these bonds, but the reserve was steadily decreased until, on February 8, 1895, a third sale of \$62,315,400 in bonds for \$58,116,344 was announced to Congress.

The receipts of the government for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1895, were \$390,378,303 and the expenditures \$423,178,426, showing a deficit of \$32,800,123. A third loan of \$100,000,000 was negotiated by the government in February, 1896, the sale netting \$111,166,346 and swelling the aggregate of bonds issued within three years to \$262,315,400. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 1896, the receipts were \$409,475,408, while its expenditures were \$434,678,554, or an excess of expenditures over receipts of \$25,203,146. In other words, the total receipts for the three fiscal years ending June 30, 1895, were \$157,997,998, and its expenditures, exclusive of postal service, \$195,414,000, or an excess of expenditures over receipts of \$37,416,002. In January of this year the receipts of postal service, exclusive of postal service, were \$24,316,394 and the expenditures, exclusive of postal service, \$30,269,393, a deficit of \$5,952,999 for the month. In February of this year the receipts, exclusive of postal service, were \$24,400,397 and the expenditures exclusive of postal service, \$28,798,098, a deficit of \$4,397,699, or a total deficiency of \$186,061,880 for the three years and eight months ending March 15, 1897. Not only are we without a surplus in the Treasury, but with an increase in the public debt there has been a corresponding increase in the annual interest charge from \$22,863,883 in 1892, the lowest of any year since 1869, to \$34,387,297 in 1896, or an increase of \$11,523,414. It may be urged that even if the revenue of the government had been sufficient to meet all its ordinary expenses during the past three years, the gold reserve would have still been insufficient to meet the demands upon it, but that as it may be clearly manifest, without denying or confirming the correctness of such a conclusion, that the debt would have been decreased in at least the amount of the deficiency, and business confidence immeasurably strengthened throughout the country.

Congress should promptly correct the existing conditions. Ample revenues must be supplied not only for the ordinary expenses of the government, but for the prompt payment of liberal pensions and the liquidation of the principal and interest of the public debt. In raising revenues, duties should be so levied upon foreign products as to pro-

COTTON FARMING.

How Two to Four Bales Per Acre Are Made on Very Poor Land.

We have not the slightest desire to assist in any manner in bringing about an increase in the number of bales annually raised throughout the Sunny South in general nor in Mississippi in particular, but we do desire that Southern farmers everywhere should realize the fact that the same 6,000,000 to 10,000,000 bales that are now raised annually may be just as easily, just as surely and far more economically and profitably raised on one-fourth the area it is to-day, leaving the other three-fourths to be put in provision crops, fruits or grass. We have had the good fortune to see and walk over many Georgia farms—farms, too, that were worn out and washed away many years ago—that are now made to produce from one to four bales of cotton per acre. This condition of things is made possible and actually brought about by the "intensive" system of culture and liberal yet economical fertilization.

As early in the new year as the weather will possible admit, of the old cotton stalks are "knocked," or cut, the roots are then plowed up with straight shovels; green cotton seed are then sown in this shovel furrow at the rate of ten to twelve lbs-per acre; two half-shovel furrows are next thrown on the seed to prevent the loss of ammonia; in a few weeks this small bed is opened with a long, narrow scotcher and 200 to 300 pounds of some good commercial fertilizer distributed in this furrow; the phosphate and potash being all sufficient, the cotton seed furnishing the necessary nitrogen; the land is then bedded out and out with straight shovel and is now ready for the reception of the seed. Under this plan, persistently followed, Georgia farmers have succeeded in so increasing the fertility of the soil that with a slight increase in amount of fertilizer used and a favorable season four bales per acre have rewarded their efforts.

A good heavy cow-pea stubble turned under will be found to be fully as beneficial to the coming cotton crop as the cotton seed; either one will supply all the nitrogen needed; but in the absence of a cow-pea stubble, the cotton seed should by no means be neglected. Stable manure may be used instead of either of above, but the fact should be kept in mind that all three of above are "nitrogenous" fertilizers, and are used mainly for the amount of nitrogen they contain; and either one or all three need the addition of phosphates and potash in liberal quantities (seventy-five pounds of liberal quantities of Potash or 300 pounds of Kainit, with 200 pounds of Acid Phosphate) per acre in order to make a complete fertilizer that shall be at once properly balanced and fully proportional. If the peas have been properly fertilized (with 200 to 300 pounds of Acid Phosphate and 200 to 300 pounds of Kainit), which they always should be when the object in raising them is that may be turned under as fertilizer, it would be hardly necessary to apply any additional fertilizer directly to the cotton. Georgia farmers break their land deep (eight to ten or even twelve inches) once about every three years; they say it does not pay to break them deep any oftener. In this deep breaking, the land is broken with a two-horse turning plow, plowing about one inch deeper than the surface soil, thus gradually deepening the soil. No crops are planted here at all without fertilizer being applied, and in the sandy portions of the State the farmers seem to be unanimous in the declaration that "Potash is the element that is most needed" and that "any fertilizer that does not contain as much as four per cent. of it is not worth applying." Cotton here is planted in four foot rows, barred off with half-shovel and cultivated the entire season "with cotton scrapes"—i. e. "heel-sweeps."

Burgess, Miss. G. H. TURNER.

CHAMPION FITZSIMMONS.

He Puts Corbett to Sleep in the Fourteenth Round by a Blow Under the Heart.

At Carson, Nevada, Wednesday after two years of doubt and vexatious postponement, the heavyweight championship of the world was decided beyond cavil, when Robert Fitzsimmons fought James J. Corbett helpless in his knees, with a left hand blow under the heart, after one minute and 45 seconds, in the fourteenth round of their battle in the arena. The great contest was won in the simplest manner, and the knockout was the result of the unwary move on the part of Corbett. The div patch says that the ex-champion is almost crazed over his defeat, but says that it was a fair fight and that he was not satisfied and would have it over. After the result was declared, Fitzsimmons' wife stepped up and kissed the bloody face of her victorious husband. After the big mill there were two side fights, which resulted: Hawkins put Fitzsimmons out with a left swing in 40 seconds, and Green defeated Smith in the thirteenth round. Large crowds witnessed the fights, and it is possible to estimate the amount of money that changed hands on the above results.

What is CASTORIA.

Castoria is Dr. Samuel Pitcher's prescription for Infants and Children. It contains neither Opium, Morphine nor other Narcotic substance. It is a harmless substitute for Paregoric, Drops, Soothing Syrup, and Castor Oil. It is Pleasant. Its guarantee is thirty years' use by Millions of Mothers. Castoria destroys Worms and allays feverishness. Castoria prevents vomiting Sour Curd, cures Diarrhoea and Wind Colic. Castoria relieves teething troubles, cures constipation and flatulency. Castoria assimilates the food, regulates the stomach and bowels, giving healthy and natural sleep. Castoria is the Children's Panacea—the Mother's Friend.

Castoria is an excellent medicine for children. Mothers have repeatedly told me of its good effect upon their children.

Dr. G. C. Osborn, Lowell, Mass.

Castoria is the best remedy for children of which I am acquainted. I hope the day is not far distant when mothers will consider the real interest of their children, and use Castoria instead of the various quack nostrums which are destroying their loved ones, by forcing opium, morphine, soothing syrup and other harmful agents down their throats, thereby sending them to premature graves.

Dr. J. F. KIRCHHOFF, Conway, Ark.

Our physicians in the children's department have spoken highly of their experience in their outside practice with Castoria and although we only have a few of our medical supplies what is known as regular products, yet we are free to confess that the merits of Castoria has won us to look with favor upon it.

UNITED HOSPITAL AND DISPENSARY, Boston, Mass.

ALLEN C. SMITH, Pres.

The Centaur Company, 77 Murray Street, New York City.

OVER 100 HOUSES DAMAGED.

Dallas, Tex., March 19.—Special telegrams received this morning, state that northern Texas was swept by a windstorm last night, that at times developed the proportions of a cyclone. The worst damage reported so far, occurred at Denton, where over 100 houses were struck by the storm and all more or less damaged. It is believed that the storm in the vicinity of Denton has caused damage to the extent of \$100,000.

THE SENATE CONFIRMS THE FOLLOWING NOMINATIONS:

U. S. District Judge, District of Columbia, Ambassador to Great Britain; Horace Porter, of New York, ambassador to France; Henry White, of Rhode Island, secretary of embassy at London; Perry S. Heath, of Indiana, to be First Assistant Postmaster General.

THE HOUSE.

MONDAY.—The opening of the Fifty-fifth Congress, extraordinary session was witnessed in the House today by an immense crowd. Alexander McDowell, clerk of the last House, called the House to order. The election of Speaker was then proceeded with, the result being: Mr. Reed, 199; Mr. Bailey, 114; Mr. Bell, 21; Mr. Newlands, of Nevada, 1. The President's message was read and referred, on motion of Mr. Dingley, to the committee on ways and means. Mr. Dingley, therefore, moved that the committee on ways and means. Permission was given to the committee on ways and means to sit during the session of the House and to have all necessary printing done, and then, at 4 p. m., the House adjourned until Thursday next.

TUESDAY.—The Speaker laid before the House the recommendations of the Postmaster General for an appropriation of \$300,000 to be immediately available, to enable the government to defray the necessary expenses of the postal congress which will assemble in Washington in May next. The Department funds itself in the embarrassing position of having no congress on its hands, and with no means to provide for its reception and entertainment. Henderson (Rep.), of Ohio, stated the committee on ways and means would not be ready to report until Friday, therefore he moved that the House adjourn until then. This was agreed to without division, and at 12:16 the House was declared adjourned by Speaker Reed.

FRIDAY.—The first executive day of the House of the Fifty-fifth Congress gave every indication of an unusually lively session. Dingley, from the committee on ways and means, returned the tariff bill with the recommendation that it do pass, which, with the accompanying report, was placed on the calendar, and the general debate will begin Monday and end Thursday. The vote on the passage of the sundry civil bill was: Yeas, 167; nays, 72. The Republicans only voted for it, all others against it. The reading of the general deficiency bill was completed at 3:10 o'clock, but its third reading (by title) was ordered without a division, and the bill was then passed—117 to 89. One minute later the House adjourned. The Democratic members of the ways and means committee have authorized Mr. Bailey, of Texas, to prepare the minority report on the tariff bill. It will be laid before the House on Monday next.

SATURDAY.—The first week of the extraordinary session of the Fifty-fifth Congress closed with today's session of the House of Representatives. The record made is extraordinary. The tariff bill has been reported, and an order regulating its discussion adopted. Four appropriation bills, which failed to become laws in the Fifty-fourth Congress, were reported and passed, carrying a total of over twenty-two millions of dollars, have been passed, with the exception of one paragraph as they were finally agreed upon by the last House. Two of these, the agricultural and Indian, were considered and disposed of. The former, appropriating \$3,182,950, was passed, as had been the sundry civil and general deficiency bills Friday without change. One feature of the Indian bill, which provoked much opposition and was finally stricken out, by unanimous consent, before the bill passed. This was the paragraph opening the gilsonite or asphalt lands in the Uncompahgre reservation, Utah, to entry under the mineral laws, which the Senate adjourned to consider. The debate on the tariff bill will begin Monday.

ILLNESS OF GEN. HAMPTON.

Gen. Wade Hampton, the famous warrior-statesman of South Carolina, is dangerously ill at his apartments in the Metropolitan Hotel, Washington, and his recovery is regarded by some of his friends as doubtful. His health has been failing him for several months past, and in addition he has suffered greatly from the never-healing wound which followed the amputation of his right leg at the close of the war. His vitality has been further taxed recently by a distressing cough, which appears to have settled upon his lungs. The General is now nearly 80 years of age, and it is feared he has not sufficient recuperative power to withstand the latest attack upon his already depleted system.

SHORT IN HIS ACCOUNTS.

At Richmond, Va., the board of directors of the old Mutual Assurance Society of Virginia make public a defalcation of some \$25,000 as the result of the examination of the books of the association by an expert bookkeeper. Mr. F. D. Stegar, the assistant secretary, in whose account the defalcation occurs, was sent for to explain the matter, but did not appear, and it is said to have left the city. All the securities of the corporation, which is one of the oldest and strongest in the State, are intact, the loss being on collections.

CONSUMPTION CAN BE CURED.

T. A. Slocum, M. C., the Great Chemist and Scientist, will Send Free, to the Afflicted, Three Bottles of his Newly Discovered Remedies to Cure Consumption and All Lung Troubles.

Nothing could be fairer, more philanthropic or carry more joy to the afflicted, than the offer of T. A. Slocum, M. C., of New York City.

Confident that he has discovered a reliable cure for consumption and all bronchial, throat and lung diseases, general decline and weakness, loss of flesh and all conditions of wasting, and to make its great merits known, he will send free, three bottles to any reader of the Elkin Times who may be suffering.

Already this "new scientific course of medicine" has permanently cured thousands of apparently hopeless cases. The Doctor considers his religious duty—a duty which he owes to humanity—to donate his infallible cure.

He has proved the dreaded disease beyond any doubt, and has on file in his American and European laboratories testimonials of experience from those benefited and cured in all parts of the world.

Don't delay until it is too late. Consumption, uninterrupted, means speedy and certain death. Address T. A. Slocum, M. C., 98 Pine Street, New York, and when writing the Doctor, give express and postoffice address, and please mention reading this article in the Elkin Times.

The Porcupine's Quills.

The current opinion that a porcupine throws its quills at an enemy is not supported by facts. Says the Portland Oregonian:

The spines of the porcupine are very loosely attached to the body and are very sharp—as sharp as a needle. At the slightest touch, they protrude the point of a dog or the clothing of a person touching the porcupine, and stick there, coming away from the animal without any pull being required.

The facility of catching hold with one end and letting go with the other has sometimes caused people to think that the spines had been thrown at them. The outer end of the spines, for some distance down, is covered with small barbs. These barbs cause an spine once imbedded in a living animal to keep working farther in with every movement of the muscles.

Wanted—An Idea

Who can think of some sum of money to invest in a profitable business? We have a number of ideas for sale. Address: J. W. FLY, 311 E. KYLIE, Richmond, Va.

CONSUMPTION CAN BE CURED.

Leave Bonnetville..... 2 50 a. m.
Leave Madison..... 3 15
Leave Hope Mills..... 3 30
Leave Red Springs..... 3 45
Leave Fayetteville..... 4 00
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Refused to Fight Corbett.

After the big pugilistic fight at Carson, Nev., Fitzsimmons refused to fight Corbett again, and Corbett said he would punch Fitz's head on sight, and the latter replied: "If you do I will kill you."

HER LUMINOUS SOUL.

"She is a lovely woman."
"Lovely? She's soulful, man—soulful. Why, her soul is so strong it shines through her glass eyes."

ELKIN MFG. CO.

HIGH GRADE COTTON YARNS, WARPS, TWINES, KNITTING COTTONS, ELKIN, N. O.