

The Democratic Sentinel

RENSSELAER, INDIANA.

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NEWS CONDENSED.

Concise Record of the Week.

EASTERN.

A boy brought to the salesrooms of the American Tract and Bible Society in New York a box containing an infernal machine, which would have exploded but for the bungling way in which the spring was arranged. One of the clerks who had partially opened the box laid it aside, and sent for Anthony Comstock, whose office is in the same building, who, on his arrival, immediately recognized what it was designed for. Comstock tore the machine apart and calmly removed the deadly works within. Had it exploded it would have caused loss of life to many in the store.

Thomas Van Valin died at Syracuse, N. Y., Christmas Day, at the age of 104 years and 11 months.

Elliott Bros. & Co., dry goods, Philadelphia, are unable to meet engagements. They owe \$227,000, and offer 60 cents on the dollar.

It is feared that the plan of allotment proposed by the anthracite coal interests in Pennsylvania will be defeated by the opposition of the Pennsylvania Railroad.

Baltzer Gehr, who had resided in Crawford County, Pa., eighty-four years, died Christmas Day, aged 103 years and 6 months.

WESTERN.

Snow has fallen heavily in the pines of Wisconsin, and lumbering operations are beginning.

E. E. Israel & Co., of Waterloo, Ia., clothiers, have failed, with \$60,000 liabilities and \$55,000 assets.

The Interest and Deposit Bank, conducted by Douglas Gibson and Thomas Werner, at Jackson, Mich., has suspended business.

In consequence of a misunderstanding between the directors and the cashier of the Laporte (Ind.) Savings Bank, the institution has gone into the hands of a receiver. The liabilities are estimated at about \$75,000 and the assets at \$90,000. Depositors are assured that they will be paid 100 cents on the dollar.

Station Agent Harvey, of the Wabash Railroad at Panora, Guthrie County, Iowa, was attacked in his office by two masked men and robbed of \$2,000 in railroad funds.

Fire partially destroyed the Masonic Temple at Cincinnati, causing a loss of \$175,000. The temple suffered \$60,000 damage, \$75,000 was lost by the Scottish Rite fraternity, and \$30,000 by J. R. Mills & Co., printers, in whose establishment in the northwest corner of the building the fire started.

Peach buds and fruit trees have been killed by the intense cold in the Holland (Mich.) district.

Cornelius Aultman, the millionaire manufacturer, died last week at Canton, Ohio.

James Collins, Ticket Agent of the Pan-Handle Road at Cadiz Junction, Ohio, has disappeared with \$10,000. Part of the amount belonged to the railway company; the rest was borrowed from friends.

John Swin, a miser, was found half frozen near Delaware, Ohio, with more than \$2,000 on his person. He owns land in Franklin and adjoining counties in Ohio, valued at \$250,000, but has always existed by begging, his clothing being of the shabbiest and filthiest description.

A dispatch from Pierre, Dakota, says: Potter County is undergoing a state of excitement over the county seat location. A year ago the county seat was located at Forest City, on the Missouri River. At the last election Gettysburg claimed to have secured the county seat. Threats have been made to take the records by force, and 200 Indians are now concentrated at Forest City ready to meet all invaders from Gettysburg. Judge Smith is now hearing the case at Pierre while the Indians are guarding the records.

Miss Margaret Mather appeared at McVicker's Theater, Chicago, during the week, in a round of her favorite characters. Her engagement continues another week, when she will produce "Leah, the Forsaken," "Romeo and Juliet," "Macbeth," "As You Like It," and "The Hunchback."

SOUTHERN.

James Ruckman and his son, the former being one of the wealthiest men in Pleasants County, West Virginia, have been arrested for shoplifting at Parkersburg. For years small thefts have been committed where the Ruckmans resided, and hundreds of stolen articles have been found in their possession.

Three masked robbers, after vainly searching the residence of Elias Marting, near Wheeling, W. Va., applied red-hot pokers to his back, burned off his hair with live coals, and at last enveloped him in straw and set it on fire. He was found nearly dead by neighbors, but revived sufficiently to relate the story of his torture.

The north-bound express train on the New Orleans and Northeastern Railroad was thrown off the track by obstructions near Purvis, Miss. A number of passengers were injured, and the engineer and fireman were killed.

An aeronaut named MacNeal made a balloon ascension at West Point, Ga. The balloon fell into the Chattahoochee River, and MacNeal was drowned.

At Long View, Ky., an unknown assassin fired through the window of a farmhouse, instantly killing Jacob Torian, and dangerously wounding Peter Adcock.

Lewis Lucas, a Sheriff in the Chocaw Nation, invited Squirrel Hoyt to spend the night at his house, and then quietly shot him through the heart.

A well-digger at Atlanta, Ga., found, at a depth of sixty-five feet, oyster shells and varieties of sea shells never seen in the region. Geologists are investigating.

The Miles Block, at Alma, Ark., containing several stores, was burned, the loss exceeding \$25,000.

Rainwater & Sterns' elevator at Dallas, Tex., was burned with 60,000 bushels of

grain. Three persons perished in the flames. The loss was \$30,000, and the insurance \$33,350.

Two of the train robbers involved in the job a month ago near Little Rock have been sentenced to six and seven years in the penitentiary respectively.

WASHINGTON.

Senators Bayard and Garland, says a Washington correspondent, have been urged not to accept places in the Cabinet, on the ground that their experience and ability will be needed in the Senate to support the administration against the Republican majority.

It is said that the House Appropriations Committee will disregard the naval bill just passed by the Senate, and will frame a regular bill for the next fiscal year. If the Senate does not accept this, an extra session of Congress will be unavoidable.

The protracted Swain court-martial in Washington is reaching a very large figure.

Lieut. Gen. Sheridan is confined to his house by illness, which, though serious, is said not to be dangerous. He is suffering from derangement of the stomach, and his physician has ordered him to remain at home and rest.

Secretary Frelinghuysen has sent to the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations a letter stating that the negotiation of the Spanish treaty was undertaken in accordance with a policy which had received Congressional sanction. He declares that there is no thought of the annexation of Cuba, but that the treaty will give us all the benefits of such absorption. He then argues against the objections of the sugar and tobacco interests.

POLITICAL.

Washington telegram: "Senator Pennington is the only Senator who declines to avail himself of a clerk, under the resolution passed by the Senate last winter to allow each Senator a \$1,000 clerk. He says he can not do so consistently with his views of the civil service."

Albany special to *Chicago Times*: "The Democrats of Connecticut believe their State ought to be represented in President Cleveland's Cabinet. One faction insists that Gov. Waller should be called into the councils of the new President, while another faction declares that William H. Barnum, Chairman of the National Democratic Committee, should receive from the man he did so much to elect to the Presidency one of the Cabinet portfolios. A delegation of Mr. Barnum's Connecticut friends came to Albany and called on Gov. Cleveland. The Governor stood while the spokesman of the delegation rehearsed the services of Mr. Barnum in the cause of the Democratic party of Connecticut and the nation. The President-elect gave the delegation no reason to believe that he would call Mr. Barnum or any other Connecticut Democrat into his Cabinet. The Connecticut men, after the conference, expressed gratification at the cordiality of their reception by Gov. Cleveland, and admiration of the manner in which he listened to all they had to say in the interest of their friend."

An extra session of Congress is thought not unlikely, in view of the fact that the business before it can hardly be finished before the end of the present session. If, as seems likely, the two houses disagree irreconcilably on the naval appropriation bill an extra session will be unavoidable.

MISCELLANEOUS.

According to *Bradstreet's*, the total number of failures in the United States for the year 1881 shows a large increase in the rate of mercantile mortality. This is made apparent by the following comparative table:

	No. of failures	Aggregate assets to Year.	Aggregate assets to Liabilities.	Liabilities.	Per cent.
1880	4,350	\$ 27,490,000	\$ 57,120,000	48	
1881	5,000	\$ 28,000,000	\$ 76,000,000	47	
1882	6,635	\$ 47,490,000	\$ 93,000,000	51	
1883	10,239	\$ 90,804,000	\$ 175,968,000	52	
1884	11,600	\$ 130,000,000	\$ 240,000,000	54	

Here is an increase of over 12 per cent. in the total number of failures for 1884, as against 1883, a probable gain of 44 per cent. in assets and of 37 per cent. in liabilities.

The total number of bank failures this year is 121, against 45 last year, or one and three-quarter times as many as in 1883; of which national bank failures have increased from 8 to 11, State banks from 5 to 22, and savings banks from 2 to 11. Of the 121 bank failures reported for 1884, the number which (so far as known) may be ascribed to speculation direct or indirect within them or on the part of those indebted to them is 67, or over one-half. For the nine months ended Sept. 27 the total number of "speculative failures" of banks was 55, of which 22 were of stock-broking "bankers," 15 were due to frauds or embezzlements based on appropriations of the banks' funds for the purpose of speculating, and 3 were caused by being large creditors of those who failed owing to unfortunate speculations.

There were 278 failures in the United States reported to *Bradstreet's* during the week, against 305 in the preceding week, and 260, 242, and 161 in the corresponding weeks of 1883, 1882, and 1881, respectively. About 80 per cent. were those of small dealers, whose capital was less than \$5,000.

In the principal trades they were as follows: General stores, 52; grocers, 41; clothing, 27; dry goods, 15; hardware and agricultural implements, 13; jewelry, 13; liquor, 13; shoes, 11; manufacturers, 10; millinery, 8; produce and provisions, 7; men's furnishing goods, 6; books, paper, printing, etc., 6; tobacco and cigars, 5; hotels and restaurants, 5; bakers and confectioners, 5; banks and bankers, 5; furniture, 5; rugs, 4; harness, 4; lumber and material, 4; carriages, 3; grain, 2; fancy goods, 2; butchers, 2.

It is thought that 80 per cent. of the rags imported from abroad will be disinfected at the ports from which they are shipped. This will necessitate the appointment of inspectors in foreign countries.

FOREIGN.

The crofter tenants of the Duke of Argyle refuse to pay rent, and an armed company of marines has been sent to his assistance.

A Christmas toy sold in Paris represented Bismarck and Ferry embracing.

General Wolseley reports the delay in the concentration of troops will retard the movements in the desert, until the second week in February.

The liabilities of the Bohemian Land

Credit Company, which recently suspended at Prague, are 23,000 florins, and its assets are in excess of that amount.

Austria has reached an agreement with the African International Association. An Italian expedition has left Genoa for the Congo country. Eighty native chiefs have proclaimed Spanish sovereignty over fifteen thousand square kilometers of land on the Gulf of Guinea.

Owing to the inauguration of an active colonial policy Germany is about to double its forces of marine infantry.

LATER NEWS ITEMS.

A bundle of counterfeit Russian bank-notes, representing a face value of \$325,000, was found accidentally by some children in Berne, Switzerland.

An exploring expedition of scientists, under the auspices of the Austrian Government, is being organized to explore the northeastern corner of Africa. The expense is to be borne by a rich land-owner. It has the sanction of the English Government, which is anxious to annex the city of Herat.

Tonquin advises report daily encounters with the Chinese and French at the outposts. The Chinese continue pouring troops into Tonquin and Formosa.

A story is told to the effect that the emeralds in the crown of the ex-Empress Eugenie, which were bought by an English nobleman for £40,000, proved to be false, and the money was returned.

Apostle Cannon, from Utah, is preaching the Mormon faith in Switzerland to large audiences, and without molestation. Quite a number of converts are being made among the spinsters. He has arranged for a vigorous campaign and mass-meetings in all the large cities and towns.

Henry N. Austin, a prominent young man of Milwaukee, committed suicide. His mind had been troubled for some time.

The great seal of Dakota has been transferred from Yankton to Bismarck, where the Territorial Legislature is to meet January 18.

Smith & Rosebach, wholesale and retail tobacconists, Minneapolis, made an assignment for the benefit of creditors. The liabilities are stated to be about \$40,000.

Henry S. Hopkins & Co., bridge builders, of St. Louis, Mo., made an assignment. The assets are about \$88,000, and the liabilities unknown.

Austin Brothers, boot and shoe dealers at Auburn, Ind., have failed, with \$25,000 liabilities.

Paquet, the Toronto infidel who was recently paralyzed while denying the doctrine of eternal punishment, died the other day.

More robberies of the mails are reported along the Rocky Mountain division of the Canadian Pacific Railway.

An attachment has been made upon the property of Brooks & Dickson, the theatrical managers, to satisfy a claim of the Strobridge Lithographing Company, of Cincinnati, Ohio, for \$15,000.

C. B. Simmons, local Treasurer at Louisville, Ky., of the Louisville and Nashville Railroad, is supposed to have gone to join the American colony in Canada. He disappeared Christmas Day, leaving a deficit in his accounts of \$34,699.

There is an impression that the Spanish treaty may be withdrawn, and one more liberal in its stand offered.

The aggregate internal revenue receipts for November were \$371,942 less than for the corresponding month of last year.

Secretary Chandler is said to have informed Congressman Randall that the appropriations contemplated by the Senate bill will regard the Secretary's objections as a good excuse for refusing to pass the bill.

Secretary McCulloch has obtained from the Attorney General and the Solicitor General opinions that on the filing of an exportation bond there is no reason why distilled spirits may not be permitted to remain in Government warehouses for a reasonable period after the expiration of three years.

This will affect, for perhaps nine months, the rate of 27,000,000 gallons of whisky.

A move is on foot in Washington looking to having President Cleveland parcel out all of his appointments between the Senators and Representatives—that is, giving them the selection in the several States and districts. It is not thought, however, that the President will delegate away his power in any such manner.

THE MARKETS.

NEW YORK.

BEVERES..... \$6.25 @ 6.75

HOGS..... 4.25 @ 4.75

FLOUR—Extra..... 4.50 @ 6.25

WHEAT—No. 2 Spring..... 82 @ 83

NO. 2 Red..... 82 @ 86

CORN—No. 2..... 34 @ 32

OWATS—White..... 34 @ 38

PORK—New MESS..... 12.50 @ 13.00

BEVERES—Choice to Prime Steers..... 6.00 @ 6.50

GOOD Shipping..... 5.50 @ 5.75

COMMON Fair..... 5.20 @ 5.50

HOOS..... 4.25 @ 4.75

FLOUR—Fancy White Winter Ex..... 3.75 @ 4.25

GOOD to Choice Spring..... 3.25 @ 3.75

WHEAT—No. 2 Spring..... 71 @ 72

CORN—No. 2..... 72 @ 74