

The Democratic Sentinel

RENSSELAER, INDIANA.

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NEWS CONDENSED.

Concise Record of the Week.

EASTERN.

The village of East Lee, Mass., was inundated by the giving away of a dam at Mountain Lake. Eleven persons were drowned, and several factories were wrecked, including two paper-mills.

The explosion of a lamp caused a fire which destroyed the Merchant Mill, valued at \$150,000, at Harrisburg, Pa. The insurance aggregates \$40,000.

The rifle and sewing machine firm of E. Remington & Sons, at Ilion, N. Y., has placed its affairs in the hands of receivers.

The new business building at New York, erected on the site of the old Theater Comique, was partially gutted by fire, several firms losing large amounts. The police estimate the total loss at \$100,000, but others place it as high as \$750,000.

The Grant monument fund in New York now aggregates \$120,648.

Near Garland, Warren County, Pa., it is claimed that gold has been found in paying quantities.

The stove foundry of Sherman S. Rogers & Co., Buffalo, N. Y., employing 500 men, has shut down because of labor agitations.

By the burning of a railroad boarding-house near the famous Kinzua viaduct, in Pennsylvania, six Italian laborers lost their lives and two others were seriously scorched.

The suit of Janeway & Co., of New Brunswick, N. J., against the Pennsylvania Railroad for \$200,000 damages resulted in a verdict for the plaintiff for \$179,806 for loss of both property and trade. The suit was a result of the collision at New Brunswick of an oil and a freight train. The oil ignited and set fire to Janeway's paper factory, which was burned to the ground.

WESTERN.

Bishop Bedell and the city ministers of Cleveland, Ohio, are preparing to boycott the Sunday secular papers.

The furniture factory of A. H. Andrews & Co. was destroyed by fire; the loss will reach \$100,000.

Florus B. Plimpton, who has been on the editorial staff of the Commercial Gazette since 1893, died at Cincinnati of a complication of diseases.

The strike in the Lake Shore yards at Chicago was finally ended through a compromise, and all the switchmen resumed work energetically. It is understood that within sixty days the objectionable men will be transferred by the company to another field of labor.

The Grand Jury at St. Louis indicted nine boycotting bakers, who are charged with conspiracy, blackmail, and robbery; nine Deputy Sheriffs for manslaughter in killing Thompson on the Mississippi bridge, and a commission merchant named Charles E. Hoffmann for selling bogus butter.

The master plasterers of St. Louis have agreed to pay \$3.75 per day for eight hours. The present rate is \$4.50 for ten hours.

A dispatch from San Francisco announced that the railway war had ended. The rates given were \$62.50 to Chicago and \$81.50 to New York, limited. While the war was in progress twenty-five car-loads of passengers left Kansas City every day.

Governor Marmaduke, of Missouri, represents public sentiment in the Southwest as demanding that railway traffic be no longer disturbed by strikes. He holds that arbitration is better than the boycott.

C. E. McChesney, Indian Agent at Cheyenne River, has served upon all the residents of Fort Pierre, Dakota, notice to close at once their trading establishments on the Sioux reservation and depart within thirty days. The village has 800 inhabitants, and the enforcement of the order will entail a loss of \$500,000. The square mile on which the squatters live was once sold by the Sioux chiefs to the Chicago and Northwestern Railroad Company, but Congress failed to ratify the sale.

SOUTHERN.

Bessemer steel was last week made at Chattanooga for the first time from North Carolina ore. The plant has a capacity of eighty-five tons per day.

Father A. J. Ryan, the Southern poet, died at Louisville from disease of the heart. He was born in Virginia in 1840, and served as chaplain in the Confederate army.

Erasmus Sheppard, on trial for robbery at New Orleans, made a statement to the jury to the effect that when he was twelve years of age he was employed as messenger in a counterfeiting establishment at New Orleans, operated by a man who was recently Mayor of Galveston, who had with him as partners the then Mayor of New Orleans, city officials, Judges, the Chief of Police, and a man who now holds a judgeship in Baltimore. They turned out large quantities of Mexican coins and United States bills, which were put in circulation by the city banks. The descendants of these persons, Sheppard said, now occupy the highest social positions in the Crescent City.

William C. Nessen, a dry goods dealer in New Orleans, crazed by jealousy, shot his second wife through the right arm and took his own life. His daughter witnessed the tragedy.

Robert Fowler was hanged at Morganfield, Ky., for the murder of Miss Lydia Burnett, who had refused his hand in marriage.

The gallows at Fort Smith, Ark., was used for the seventy-first time in twelve years in the execution of James Wasson and Joseph Jackson for murders committed in the Indian Territory.

Henry Fryer, aged 68 years, while trimming a tree in a Baltimore park, fell, and his foot caught in the crotch of a limb, where he hung until life was extinct.

WASHINGTON.

The special committee appointed by the House of Representatives to investigate the labor difficulties in the Southwest commenced operations at Washington with the testimony of T. V. Powderly. He stated certain abuses along the Missouri Pacific Road in the way of exactions for a hospital fund; declared that nothing of a violent nature was ever counseled by the Knights of Labor, and thought he should soon be able to suggest legislative remedies for existing evils. Mr. Powderly said that the discharge of Hall was not the sole cause of the strike under investigation, and in proof of his statement he read the declaration of grievances published by the St. Louis Knights. Continuing, Mr. Powderly said:

While I was in the West I heard from the men of little abuses which I do not think the manager of the Missouri Pacific Railroad knows anything about. Along the Iron Mountain Railroad they have a system of taking 25 cents a month from the wages of a man who receives \$1 a day, and 50 cents from the wages of a man who receives \$2 a day, and so on in proportion, for what they call a hospital fund. These men claim that as soon as they are taken sick they are discharged, and are denied the right of entering the hospital. Then there are instances, which can be proved, where men have made contracts to buy land from the company on regular monthly installments, and when, having paid all but the last installment, they were discharged from the employment of the company. In that section of the country it is different from the East.

Witness said that the men had asked in vain for redress, the General Superintendent of the Missouri Pacific Railway refusing to agree to a conference. Continuing, he said:

I am told, also, that along the Iron Mountain Railway, and along the other roads in parts of Texas, the superintendents and foremen are interested in company stores, and that the men are compelled to deal in these stores. The employees are not told, in heavy word all that they must deal there, but they are reminded that it is to their interest to do so. If a murmur of complaint is to reach the ear of the President of the Company it must go through the Superintendent, and a man will be discharged as soon as he utters a word of complaint. The men whose money is invested in the railroad know nothing about this. In many places double prices are charged in these stores.

Mr. Powderly said that the committee would find proofs of all these things. The men complain, also, he said, that convicts are brought from the penitentiaries in Texas to work on the railroads, and that striped suits may be seen side by side with honest men engaged in track repairing.

William O. McDowell, a prominent member of the Knights of Labor, appeared as a witness before the Congressional Labor Committee at Washington, and explained the objects of the organization. These are, to use the witness' own words:

To elevate the members by helping them to educate themselves, by helping them to save that which the average workman has wasted through bad habits; to lift him from the condition into which he has fallen through such habits, and make him thereafter an employer instead of an employee; to educate him by comparison of ideas and by discussing questions that help to educate that he is able to deal with and grasp the subjects which affect not only himself but his employer; that he will become a better workman, command better wages, and by co-operating with his employer help him to co-profits that he will be able to pay better wages.

Mr. McDowell, being asked what was the original cause of the Southwestern strike, made a long statement, involving the difference between the principles of day work and piece work, and quoted Gould as saying that by making a change of that sort in the Western Union Telegraph Company he had effected a saving of 80 per cent. He added that the general cause of this strike and of recent strikes all over the country had been the successful strike on the horse-car lines in New York last February. That had commanded such universal public sympathy that workmen, whenever they had a grievance or wrong, joined together and made applications to form assemblies of Knights of Labor. This was so general that the order had increased more in the month of February last than it had in the prior eight years. As an additional reason he alleged the universal system of watering railroad stock, which made it necessary for railroad managers to screw down the rates of labor as much as possible.

The Secretary of the Knights of Labor, Frederick S. Turner, appeared as a witness before the House select committee, at Washington, and testified that there were twenty-one District Assemblies of the Knights of Labor in the United States, with about 6,000 local assemblies. In these local assemblies there were from 10 to 3,000 members. The Knights of Labor had no political object, and did not seek to influence legislation. He had known of no such movement on their part. He knew nothing of the petitions to Congress for unlimited coinage purporting to come from Knights of Labor. He thought they could be traced to societies outside of and unconnected with the Knights of Labor. Mr. Turner described the interview which he and his colleague, Mr. Bailey, had had with Mr. Hoxie in St. Louis. He said that Hoxie's treatment of them was very discourteous; that he stated he would have no conversation with them as officers of the Knights of Labor, but that he would receive them as American citizens. They informed him that they did not desire to stand on their dignity, and were willing to talk with him as private citizens; that all they wanted was to have the trouble settled, peace restored, and the men set back to work. Mr. Turner said that the general organization had the right to approve or disapprove of strikes. The present strike had not been approved. Witness indorsed the arbitration plan suggested by the President in his message to Congress.

A sub-committee of the House Committee on Pacific Roads has decided to report a bill providing for the annual payment to the Government of \$1,812,000 by the Union Pacific for seventy years.

POLITICAL.

There is a rumor that Gen. W. F. Rogers of Buffalo, a member of the last Congress, is to be appointed Public Printer in place of Mr. Rounds. Gen. Rogers is a practical printer and a successful man of business.

Both houses of the New York Legislature have passed a bill repealing the charter of the Broadway Surface Road.

Washington County, one of the largest in Georgia, has elected the Prohibition ticket by a majority of 224.

The majority report of the Payne Investigating Committee, recommending that the evidence adduced be certified to the President of the United States Senate, was adopted by the Ohio House by a strict party vote—61 to 53.

Washington telegram: "President Cleveland's message on the labor question is quite generally regarded here from a party point of view. Republican Senators and Representatives affect to see in it chiefly a bid for support of the Democratic party by workmen. Democratic members of Congress say that it is unjust to assert that it was written with any partisan purpose in view, while they admit that it may be made an effective campaign document. Neither Republicans nor Democrats are disposed to find fault with the general tenor of Mr. Cleveland's recommendations. Senator Beck heartily indorses the message, and says he would like to see a labor commission consisting of Messrs. Thurman, McDonald, and Conkling, which he says would command respect everywhere and settle the labor question. The representatives of the Knights of Labor who have been attending the meetings of the House special committee commend the message but do not think it goes far enough. Mr. Powderly wants a Department of Labor established and Mr. McDowell wants such a department, and to have it given jurisdiction over ocean and interstate commerce."

MISCELLANEOUS.

Twenty-two servant girls at Tarrytown, N. Y., struck because their mistresses refused to advance their wages. Six thousand men in the sugar refineries of the Eastern District of Brooklyn have struck work. About a hundred employees of the Brunswick & Balke Manufacturing Company, engaged in making billiard tables, struck at Cincinnati for a 20 per cent. increase in wages. In obedience to an order from the Knights of Labor 500 employees of the Missouri Car and Foundry Company at St. Louis have stopped work. A battle between strikers and police took place at the Havemeyer Sugar Refining Company's works at Green Point, L. I., the officers using clubs and the mob staves and bricks. Several shots were fired. The Lake Shore dead-lock was unbroken yesterday (says a Chicago dispatch of April 23). Sheriff Hanchett sent out a posse of 300 men at noon, and they patrolled the grounds at Forty-third street during the afternoon. One attempt was made to get out an engine, but the strikers persuaded the engineer to run the engine back to the round-house, greatly to the delight of the 1,500 spectators on the ground. The deputy sheriffs had injunctions to serve on all the strikers restraining them from interfering with the company's property. They succeeded in serving the papers on eleven of the men. Five of the strikers were arrested on a warrant charging them with unlawfully trespassing on the company's property.

The case of the Maravillas Mining Company, in Mexico, against Andrew Tello, the claimant, has been decided in favor of the former. The litigation entailed costs amounting to \$500,000.

The business failures occurring throughout the country for the week numbered for the United States 169, and for Canada 25, or a total of 194, as compared with a total of 182 the previous week, and 215 the week previous to that.

Jay Gould says he is willing for Congress to adopt the voluntary arbitrary plan of settling difficulties. Congress thinks Mr. Gould is very kind in granting it this privilege.

FOREIGN.

Workmen excavating in Dublin beneath Christ Church Cathedral discovered a chapter house, which was buried in the ruins of the great fire in the thirteenth century. It contains carved effigies, coins, and tiles.

Galeote, the assassin of the Bishop of Madrid, says he did the killing to avenge his honor, and that God decreed the crime.

Lord Churchill thinks the chances for the land bill passing the British House of Commons are better than people are willing to admit.

The Turkish advanced posts attempted to surprise the Greeks, who had been erecting earthworks within the neutral line. They were repulsed by the Greeks, who pursued the Turks and captured two guns. The Greeks then occupied three positions within Turkish territory, which the Greek Government ordered them to evacuate. It is semi-officially stated that France will refuse to join the other Powers in the plan proposed by England to coerce Greece into disarming.

The watchmakers of Grammont, Belgium, having entered upon a strike, barricaded the bridges over the Deuder River and assailed the gendarmes with stones. A large number of the rioters were captured.

The Spanish Sanitary Council has authorized the general adoption of Dr. Ferran's practice of inoculation against cholera.

A collision between Orange and Catholic toughs occurred after the holding of a loyalist meeting at Glasgow. Later an Orange mob attacked a Catholic chapel, which was crowded with worshippers, and smashed the windows.

On the grounds of the projected international exposition at Paris will be erected an iron tower 234 feet high, to be surmounted by electric lights, visible for nearly two hundred miles. The scheme will require an outlay of \$1,000,000.

Queen Victoria and her daughter-in-law, the Princess of Wales, have come to an open rupture, owing to British intervention in the Turkish-Grecian question. The King of Greece is brother to the Princess of Wales.

The total number of deaths which have resulted from the conflagration which recently devastated the town of Stry in Austria is 128. The Burgo-master estimates that it will cost \$1,200,000 to rebuild the burned houses. The loss on private property was \$900,000.

LATER NEWS ITEMS.

The Union School building and contents at Manistee, Mich., were destroyed by fire. Loss, \$45,000. Insurance on building, \$21,546, and on the library, furniture, fixtures, etc., \$8,450. The fire was the work of an incendiary.

At St. Louis last week United States Commissioner Edmund T. Allen sold under foreclosure of mortgage at public auction the Wabash, St. Louis and Pacific Railroad, the total price paid for the entire property being \$625,001. The committee appointed by the stock and bond holders to look after their interests were the only bidders, and the whole system, excepting the St. Joseph and St. Louis Branch, was purchased by them. W. F. Nesbitt, its President, purchased the latter road for \$1.

The coal operators of the St. Louis district have averted a strike of several thousand miners by granting an increase in wages to two and one-half cents per bushel. Thirty grinders employed in the Deere plow factory at Moline, Ill., walked out because the scale of 1854 was not restored.

The issue of standard silver dollars from the mints during the week ended April 24 was 336,052. The issue during the corresponding period of last year was 162,998. The shipments of fractional silver coin since April 1 amount to \$299,738.

George E. Graham, the wife murderer, was taken from the jail at Springfield, Mo., by a mob of 300 men, and strung up to a tree. When the mob unlocked Graham's cell he greeted them with the remark: "You can hang me, but by G—d you can't scare me." The whole affair was conducted very quietly.

A freight train on the Missouri Pacific Road was wrecked on a curve just outside of Kansas City, on account of the removal of spikes from the rails. The engineer was seriously injured, and the fireman and a brakeman were killed. Vice President Hoxie has offered a reward of \$2,500 for the arrest of the wreckers.

Geronimo's band recently attacked the ranches at Casita, Mexico, on the Sonora Railroad, and killed fifteen Mexicans. A company of soldiers pursued the Indians toward the Sierra Madres.

Greece has definitely decided to disarm. The combined fleet of the powers has departed from her waters, and her claims against Turkey are to be submitted to arbitration.

The cable reports the destruction by fire of three-fourths of the Austrian town of Lisko.

The postoffice appropriation bill was reported to the Senate on the 26th of April. Washington C. Whitthorne (Tenn.), the successor of Judge Jackson, was sworn, and took his seat. Senator Van Wyck (Neb.) addressed the Senate in support of the interstate commerce bill. His speech consisted mainly of an arraignment of Jay Gould and C. P. Huntington, who had, he said, according to their own testimony, moved on State Legislatures, the courts and Congress, unblushingly purchasing judges and legislators. Senator Blair (N. H.) addressed the Senate in support of his proposed constitutional amendment prohibiting the manufacture or sale of alcoholic liquors as beverages. In the course of his speech he said that it was less possible for the Republic to remain permanently three-fourths for prohibition and one-fourth against it than it once was for the nation to remain permanently one-half slave and one-half free. W. T. Dowdall was nominated to the Senate for Postmaster at Peoria, Illinois. In the House of Representatives Mr. Springer introduced a bill to establish a department of labor, with a commissioner and two assistants, the expense not to exceed \$100,000 per annum. The Committee on Pacific Railroads reported to the House the bill formulated by the sub-committee providing for an extension of seventy years of the bonded debt of the Pacific Railroads to the Government. The bill makes provision for the payments of the indebtedness of the Pacific Railroads to the Government after the following plan: To the present debt is added the interest that would accrue during the lifetime (eleven years) of the existing bonds, assuming that no further payments are made by the companies, and the total debt is to be paid in equal payments, which are represented by a series of bonds falling due semi-annually, the last bond maturing seventy years after issue. The average annual payments by the companies would reach nearly \$4,000,000, which, it is estimated, would amount to a sum greater than the principal of the debt before the existing bonds would mature.

THE MARKETS.

NEW YORK.		
BEEVES.....	\$4.50	@ 6.35
HOGS.....	4.50	@ 5.00
WHEAT—No. 1 White.....	.94	@ .96
No. 2 Red.....	.91 1/2	@ .92 1/2
CORN—No. 2.....	.45	@ .47
OATS—Western.....	.34	@ .35
POK—Mess.....	10.50	@ 11.00
CHICAGO.		
BEEVES—Choice to Prime Steers.....	6.00	@ 6.25
Good Shipping.....	5.00	@ 5.50
OATS—No. 2.....	4.00	@ 4.50
HOGS—Shipping Grades.....	4.00	@ 4.75
FLOUR—Extra Spring.....	4.75	@ 5.25
WHEAT—No. 2 Spring.....	.78	@ .78 1/2
CORN—No. 2.....	.36 1/2	@ .37 1/2
BUTTER—Choice.....	.29	@ .30
Fine Dairy.....	.24	@ .25
CHEESE—Full Cream, new.....	.11	@ .12
Skimmed Flats.....	.06	@ .07
EGGS—Fresh.....	.12	@ .12 1/2
POTATOES—Choice, per bu.....	.45	@ .53
POK—Mess.....	9.00	@ 9.25
MILWAUKEE.		
WHEAT—Cash.....	.79	@ .80
OATS—No. 2.....	.36	@ .38
CORN—No. 2.....	.23	@ .24 1/2
RYE—No. 1.....	.46	@ .47
POK—New Mess.....	9.00	@ 9.25
TOLEDO.		
WHEAT—No. 2.....	.88	@ .89
CORN—No. 2.....	.37	@ .40
OATS—No. 2.....	.30	@ .32
ST. LOUIS.		
WHEAT—No. 2 Red.....	.88	@ .88 1/2
CORN—Mixed.....	.33	@ .34
OATS—Mixed.....	.20	@ .30
POK—New Mess.....	9.25	@ 9.75
CINCINNATI.		
WHEAT—No. 2 Red.....	.88 1/2	@ .89 1/2
CORN—No. 2.....	.36	@ .38
OATS—No. 2.....	.32	@ .33
POK—Mess.....	9.30	@ 10.00
LIVE HOGS.....	4.00	@ 4.50
DETROIT.		
BEEF CATTLE.....	4.50	@ 5.75
HOGS.....	3.75	@ 5.50
SHEEP.....	3.25	@ 5.00
WHEAT—No. 1 White.....	.85	@ .86
CORN—No. 2.....	.33	@ .40
OATS—No. 2.....	.33	@ .37
INDIANAPOLIS.		
BEEF CATTLE.....	3.75	@ 5.50
HOGS.....	3.75	@ 5.50
SHEEP.....	2.50	@ 5.00
WHEAT—No. 2 Red.....	.87	@ .88
CORN—No. 2.....	.34	@ .36
OATS—No. 2.....	.30	@ .31
EAST LIBERTY.		
CATTLE—Best.....	5.50	@ 6.00
Fair.....	4.75	@ 5.25
Common.....	4.00	@ 4.50
HOGS.....	4.25	@ 4.75
SHEEP.....	4.00	@ 5.00
BUFFALO.		
WHEAT—No. 2 Red.....	.90	@ .92
CORN—Yellow.....	.44	@ .45
CATTLE.....	4.50	@ 5.50

CONGRESSIONAL.

The Work of the Senate and House of Representatives.

MR. BUTLER introduced a bill in the Senate on the 20th inst. authorizing the President to retire certain army officers. The Senate, in executive session, rejected the proposed treaty to reopen the Well and L'Alba claims against Mexico. Among the Senate confirmations were a number of Western men for various offices. Included in the same was Zach Montgomery to be Assistant Attorney General of the Interior Department. The majority of the Ways and Means Committee reported to the House of Representatives a joint resolution to give notice of the termination of the Hawaiian treaty. The minority only expressed its dissent. Mr. O'Donnell, of Michigan, from the Committee on Education, reported a Senate bill to provide for the study of the nature of alcoholic drinks and narcotics and their effects upon the human system in the Military and Naval Academies, and in the Indian and public schools of the Territories and of the District of Columbia. A bill to give honorably discharged soldiers the preference in public appointments was introduced in the House. A favorable report was made on Mr. Anderson's bill for the adjustment of Kansas land grants.

SENATOR MORGAN, of Alabama, introduced in the Senate, on April 21, his bill of last December directing the Attorney General to bring suit in equity against Benjamin Weil in the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia to determine whether the award made by the United States and Mexican Mixed Commission, or any part of it, was secured by fraud, and to recover the money which may have been paid to Weil; also a similar bill with respect to the awards made to the L'Alba Silver Mining Company. By a vote of 45 to 15 the Senate confirmed the nomination of William C. West, of Kentucky, for Governor of Utah. In the House of Representatives a bill was reported to pension Union soldiers who were prisoners during the late war. The Library Committee reported to the House a bill for the erection of a monument over the grave of Gen. Daniel Morgan. The House adopted a resolution calling on the Commissioner of Agriculture for information as to the amount of wheat and corn on hand in this country, where it is located, the number of acres of winter and spring wheat now in the ground, the amount likely to be required for exportation, and other information on the subject.

A BILL appropriating \$15,000 in aid of a national monument at Plymouth, Mass., passed the Senate April 22. The bill taxing railroad lands was discussed without action. The Senate confirmed, among other nominations, those of W. S. Rosecrans, Register of the Treasury, and E. Gross, Governor of Mexico. The nomination of A. B. Keith, Postmaster at Denison, Iowa, was rejected. The Senate removed the injunction of secrecy from the report in the case of George Wise, nominated to be Postmaster at Hamburg, Iowa. Wise brought charges of incompetency and inefficiency against Coolbaugh, the incumbent, and the latter was removed. The committee's report submits evidence furnished by Coolbaugh, which, it says, completely disproves Wise's charges. The committee also reported the rejection of Wise's nomination. The House of Representatives, in committee of the whole on the river and harbor bill, adopted a clause appropriating \$121,200 for the improvement of the Monongahela River. The House passed the Adams bill relating to the oaths of ship-masters, owners, or factors on making entries or reports. President Cleveland sent to both houses a special message urging the creation of a commission of labor, charged with the consideration and settlement of controversies between capital and labor, to be engrained upon the Bureau of Labor.

The President's message on the labor question came up in the House on the 23d, and was referred to the Committee on Labor, with instructions to report on or before May 15. Mr. Butterworth moved its reference to the committee of the whole, but the proposition was rejected by a vote of 147 to 77. The struggle over the reference of the bill gave rise to lively debate. Mr. Butterworth attacked the President's message and charged the Democrats with fishing for votes among laboring men. Mr. Randall defended the President. He declared that there was not a word in the message that appealed in any particular to any party, or any class of men in the United States. On the contrary, it appealed to Congress as a body of American citizens wishing for the public welfare. Messrs. Weaver (Iowa), Gibson (W. Va.), O'Neill (Mo.), McCleary (Ky.), and Springer (Ill.) supported the motion to refer to the Committee on Labor, and Mr. Reed (Maine) opposed it. The House, at the instigation of Mr. Voorhees, delegate from Washington Territory, adopted a resolution for the appointment of a select committee to inquire whether any and all of the House having the privilege of the floor is agent or attorney for any corporation interested in any claim or bill now pending. The Senate was not in session.

BILLS to permit the Covington and Cincinnati Road to bridge the Ohio River, and to punish robbery and horse-stealing in Indian Territory, passed the House of Representatives April 21. This was the only work performed by the House on that day that is worth recording. The Senate did nothing, not being in session.

Longfellow's First Poem.

He was thirteen years old when, after hearing a story about an Indian fight years before at Lovell's Pond, there appeared in the Portland Gazette a poem on that event. The last verse will answer for a specimen:

They died in their glory, surrounded by fame,
And victory's loud trump their death did proclaim.
They are dead, but they live in each patriot's breast,
And their names are engraven on honor's bright crest.

Other boys of thirteen have written better verses, and their "only interest lies in their being the first of his printed." With a trembling and misgiving heart he had dropped them into the printing office letter-box. On the evening of the publication of the paper he stood shivering in the November air, casting many a glance at the windows as they trembled with the jar of the ink-balls and the press, but afraid to venture in. His sister, who had been let into the secret, shared the impatience with which next morning he watched his father slowly unfolding the damp sheet and holding it before the wood fire, and then reading the paper, but if he saw the verses signed "Henry," saying nothing of them. At last they got hold of it. To the boy's inexpressible delight the poem was there, and he read and reread it with immense satisfaction. In the evening he went with his father to a neighbor's, and the talk turned upon poetry. "Did you see the piece in the paper to-day?" asked the neighbor. "Very stiff; remarkably stiff. Moreover, it is all borrowed, every word of it." The boy would gladly have sunk through the floor, and his pillow was wet with his tears that night. It was his first encounter with the "critic," but it did not discourage him. From time to time other pieces appeared in the Gazette, and he wrote a carriers' New Year's address; but "they are not worth reprinting." Although he himself won a wider fame than Bryant, his early efforts were not as successful, Bryant's "Thanatopsis" being regarded as unexcelled by few, if any, of his later poems.