

The Democratic Sentinel

RENSSELAER, INDIANA.

J. W. McEWEEN,

PUBLISHER.

NEWS CONDENSED.

Concise Record of the Week.

EASTERN.

Inspector Byrnes arrested thirty boycotters, at New York, for interfering with the business of Messrs. Cavanagh, Sandford & Co., manufacturing clothiers. The warrants on which the boycotters were arrested were issued by Recorder Smyth.

General Butler, a famous trotting horse, died at New York last week. He contested the race with Cooley in Chicago, Sept. 22, 1886, when Wm. McKeever, the driver of Butler, was killed by some person who had speculated largely in pools on Cooley's winning.

H. H. Richardson, the famous architect, died at Boston last week.

The Baltimore and Ohio has finished its line to Chester, Pa., will connect with the Reading, establish a line to New York via the Jersey Central, and begin business shortly.

Three boot and shoe factories and an hotel at Natick, Mass., were destroyed by fire, the loss reaching \$50,000.

A petition is in circulation in New York asking for the pardon of James D. Fish, ex-President of the Marine Bank. It is said to have been signed by over nine hundred business men.

WESTERN.

An unparalleled crime is reported from Seward County, Kansas. The wife of a farmer named Jacob Freimuth was assaulted and murdered by Fritz Rupin, a half-witted German, who has been for some time enjoying the hospitality of the Freimuths, being homeless and without friends. During the absence of Mr. Freimuth Rupin assaulted his benefactor's wife, then bound her hand and foot, and cut her throat from ear to ear. He then secured an old rusty hoe, and while the woman was yet writhing in the death-struggle he disemboweled her with the blunt instrument. Mrs. Freimuth was encoined, and when discovered the unborn babe lay a few feet from the body of the mother, cut in two. When Mr. Freimuth returned and discovered the mutilated body of his wife he became a raving maniac. A neighbor in that sparsely settled region who happened to be passing by found him wild with frenzy, but dared not approach for fear of his personal safety. He rode rapidly to a settlement some eight miles distant and told the terrible tale. A party was at once organized and they returned to the scene of the outrage and found Freimuth weltering in his own blood. He had killed himself with a shotgun. A grave was dug, and the remains of the unfortunate people were buried. The posse then scoured the country for the murderer, and found him in a small ravine several miles from the scene of his crime, near the Cimarron River. A fractions horse was secured and saddled. One end of a long lariat was fastened around his neck and the other extremity was attached to the pomel of the saddle. The horse was then started, and amid the shouting of the men and crack of revolvers and rifles the frightened animal tore madly away. After a run of nearly five miles the beast fell exhausted and the lifeless body of the murderer was loosened as soon as the men came up. His head was almost severed from his body. The body was left lying on the prairie, uncovered.

The Union Pacific Road will at once begin the erection of a union depot at Omaha, to cost \$400,000. A large freight house will also be built.

The explosion of a land tank in the packing-house of Tobey & Booth, Chicago, caused the death of one man and the wounding of two others.

George E. Graham, the Missouri wife-murderer, was buried in the potter's field at Springfield. Mrs. Molloy has gone to Bolivia to attend Cora Lee, who is about to become a mother.

All the planing mills at Milwaukee, save two, shut down in preference to paying ten hours' pay for eight hours' work.

A heavy burden of real estate caused the suspension of the Bank of Marietta, in Ohio, with deposits in excess of \$100,000.

At the Ohio G. A. R. encampment at Cleveland, Col. A. L. Conger, of Akron, was elected Department Commander, and Rutherford B. Hayes was chosen delegate to the National Convention.

A loss of \$750,000 was the result of a fire, at San Francisco, in the furniture store of L. & E. Emanuel and the publishing establishment of A. L. Bancroft & Co. A spectator was killed by a falling wall.

The business portion of Keystone, Iowa, was entirely swept away by fire. The losses aggregate \$55,000, with insurance of \$20,000.

C. F. Robertson, Episcopal Bishop of Missouri, died in St. Louis from a complication of diseases.

United States troops are driving out of the Indian Territory large herds of cattle recently transferred there from Texas.

The assignees of the Bank of Marietta, Ohio, find \$9,000 in cash and \$10,000 in personal property and notes to pay claims of \$120,000. The concern owns 12,000 acres of wild land in West Virginia.

SOUTHERN.

The Mississippi levee has broken at Austin, Miss., causing the inundation of at least two counties in the State.

Capt. Alfred H. Brotherton, of the brig O. B. Stillman, was convicted at Baltimore of conspiracy to wreck the vessel.

Many survivors of the steamer Sultana horror held a reunion at Toledo, Ohio, last week. Near Memphis, on the morning of

the 27th of April, 1855, the boilers of the vessel exploded, and 2,141 persons perished.

The gross earnings of the Northern Pacific Company for the month of March were \$858,116; the operating expenses \$449,053, and the net earnings \$409,061.

The capital of Alabama was beautifully decorated on the 28th ult. in honor of Jefferson Davis, who delivered an address to a vast multitude in aid of the Confederate soldiers' monument about to be erected. From the dome of the State-house floated the national flag. The orator was escorted to the grounds by a procession half a mile in length, and greeted by military salutes.

A mysterious and fatal disease has broken out in Rowelsburg, W. Va., and physicians are powerless so far to save the lives of any attacked. The victims are first seized with a severe pain in the head and are dead within twelve hours. After death the bodies become spotted.

The corner-stone of the monument to be erected in honor of Alabama's Confederate soldiers was laid at Montgomery, Ala., on the 29th ult. The central figure of the occasion was Jeff Davis, who delivered the oration. The unhappy old man took occasion, as is his custom whenever such opportunities present themselves, to reaffirm his old doctrines of State rights and secession. Said he: "That the South did not anticipate, much less desire, war is shown by the absence of preparation for it, as well as by the efforts made to securing a peaceful separation. The successful party always hold the defeated responsible for the war, but when passion shall have subsided and reason shall have resumed her dominion, it must be decided that the General Government had no constitutional right to coerce a State, and that a State had the right to repel invasion. It was a national and constitutional right."

S. W. Floss & Co.'s notions and white goods establishment at Baltimore was gutted by fire, and adjoining buildings were badly damaged. The total losses will aggregate \$600,000, with insurance in excess of \$400,000.

Jeff Davis was given a grand ovation at Atlanta, Ga. He was greeted by thirty thousand people, the occasion being the unveiling of a statue of the late Senator Hill. Davis' trip from Atlanta to Savannah was a continuous ovation. At every station along the route crowds collected, and when stops were made Mr. Davis was called upon for a speech. Upon the arrival of the party at Savannah they were received by fifteen military companies and a vast concourse of enthusiastic citizens.

At Judsonia, Arkansas, many horses and cattle have been choked to death by inhaling buffalo gnats.

Memphis dispatches state that the floods in the South along the Mississippi showed signs of abatement, but reports showed that plantations on both sides of the river had been overflowed already, and the crops destroyed. The levees in the vicinity of Helena, Arkansas, were patrolled day and night to prevent the negroes cutting holes through them.

WASHINGTON.

Prof. Bell and Gardner G. Hubbard testified in the Pan-Electric inquiry at Washington. It was brought out by their examination that the New York World article was prepared by Gen. Sypher for Prof. Bell, by Bell sent to Hubbard, and by Hubbard sent to President Forbes of the Bell Company. Prof. Bell furnished the committee with this note from Gen. Sypher to Bell, which covered the article:

DEAR SIR—I hand you herewith an authentic statement of facts compiled by my associate, Mr. E. N. Hill, which may interest you. The scheme to destroy your patents was tolerably well matured, and it remains to be seen whether this reform administration will lend itself to its consummation.

E. N. Hill is the Lawyer Hill who figured in the Warder-Stealey investigation. He is a Washington lobbyist.

The House Committee on Territories has ordered an adverse report on the Senate bill to admit the southern half of the Territory of Dakota into the Union of States. The report will not be made until action is taken on other bills regarding the admission of Dakota.

Gen. Sypher, an ex-Congressman from New Orleans, testified in the Pan-Electric investigation, and confirmed Professor Bell's statements that the New York World newspaper article was composed by E. N. Hill, a lawyer-lobbyist lately from Arkansas. Whitelaw Reid, of the New York Tribune, testified that the first article concerning Attorney General Garland's connection with the Pan-Electric Company had been prepared by Major Clark, one of the Tribune's Washington correspondents. The Tribune had not paid anything for the matter. T. C. Crawford, the Washington correspondent of the New York World, testified that he obtained the facts on which he based his letter, printed in the World and headed "Loud Call for Mr. Goode," from a United States Senator. He declined to tell the Senator's name, without his consent. He had obtained the original history of the case from E. N. Hill.

The Senate Committee on Commerce has voted to make a favorable report on a new Atlantic & Pacific Ship Railway bill as a substitute for the original ship bill. Jas. B. Eads and such others as may be associated with him are created a body corporate with the title of the Atlantic & Pacific Ship Railway Company, with power to issue capital stock and bonds not to exceed in the aggregate \$100,000,000. The United States will afford not to exceed the sum of \$7,500,000, under certain conditions specified in the bill.

Brigadier General Thomas H. Ruger has been assigned to the command of the Department of Dakota, and Brigadier General J. H. Potter to the command of the Department of the Missouri.

In the telephone investigation at Washington, Speaker Carlisle testified that he was notified of his election as a director in the Rogers Telephone Company, and that \$100,000 in stock had been placed to his credit for such services as he might render. He replied that while he remained in Congress he would not be interested in any enterprise requiring legislative action.

Representative Samuel J. Randall testified that he had no distinct recollection of having received either a letter or stock from Dr. Rogers. Representative Abram S. Hewitt testified that he had been solicited to embark in the Pan-Electric Company and had been offered a tenth interest, but had declined.

The following is a recapitulation of the national debt statement, issued on the 1st inst.:

INTEREST-BEARING DEBT.	
Bonds at 4 1/2 per cent.	\$250,000,000
Bonds at 4 per cent.	737,751.00
Bonds at 3 per cent.	168,775.30
Refunding certificates at 4 per cent.	210.01
Navy pension fund at 3 per cent.	14,000,000
Pacific Railroad bonds at 6 per cent.	64,623,512
Principal	\$1,200,656.32
Interest	9,270,647
Total	\$1,209,926.64
DEBT ON WHICH INTEREST HAS CEASED SINCE MATURITY.	
Principal	\$1,586,705
Interest	20,854
Total	\$1,607,559
DEBT BEARING NO INTEREST.	
Old demand and legal-tender notes	\$346,738,571
Certificates of deposit	1,411,000
Gold certificates	8,123
Silver certificates (less \$8,378,884)	50,733,111
Fractional currency (less \$5,577,000, estimated as lost or destroyed)	6,055,577
Principal	516,656,111
Interest	\$1,776,879,011
Total	\$1,866,365,552
Less cash items available for reduction of the debt	292,307,706
Less reserve held for redemption of U. S. notes	100,000,000
Total	\$3,233,776
Total debt less available cash items	\$1,403,877,846
Net cash in the Treasury	7,030,999
Debt less cash in Treasury May 1, 1886	\$1,410,908,845
Debt less cash in Treasury April 1, 1886	\$1,417,992,285
Decrease of debt during April	\$6,083,440
CASH IN THE TREASURY AVAILABLE FOR REDUCTION OF THE DEBT.	
Gold held for gold certificates actually outstanding	\$84,715,225
Silver held for silver certificates actually outstanding	90,733,141
U. S. notes held for certificates of deposit actually outstanding	11,715,000
Cash held for matured debt and interest unpaid	15,341,347
Fractional currency	913
Total available for reduction of the debt	\$232,307,706
RESERVE FUND.	
Held for redemption of U. S. notes, acts Jan. 14, 1875, and July 12, 1882	\$100,000,000
Unavailable for reduction of the debt	0
Fractional silver coin	\$23,851,482
Minor coin	4,631
Total	\$23,856,113
Certificates held as assets	\$3,473,333
Net cash balance on hand	\$7,030,999
Total cash in Treasury as shown by the Treasurer's general account	\$492,625,510

POLITICAL.

Prohibition met with an overwhelming defeat at Richmond, Va., the election resulting in a majority of 5,681 in favor of licensing the sale of liquors. The vote in Manchester, a suburb of Richmond, was anti-prohibition; majority, 628. The colored vote was almost unanimously anti-prohibition. The Anti-Prohibitionists carried Lynchburg by 1,138 majority.

The Republicans of Oregon, in convention at Portland, nominated Binger Hermann, the present incumbent, for Representative in Congress by a unanimous vote. John B. Waldo, of Portland, was nominated for Supreme Judge, Thomas R. Cornelius, of Washington County, for Governor, and George W. McBride, of Columbia County, for Secretary of State. The resolutions adopted condemn the economy of Postmaster General Vilas, through which Oregon has been deprived of the ordinary mail facilities; denounce the alleged civil-service reform of the party in power as a sham, and the secrecy in withholding the causes of removal of officers as infamous; condemn the appointment of unrepentant Confederates over the heads of ex-Union soldiers; and insist that the bill to pension soldiers of the Mexican war be passed.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Near Libertad, San Salvador, the steamship Honduras, valued at \$70,000, was wrecked. The passengers' baggage and 12,000 bags of coffee were lost.

James Walker, colored, was hanged at St. Augustine, Fla., for the murder of Charles Harper in November last. The hangman also closed the careers of J. M. Armstrong at Perryville, Ark., George Carroll at Searcy, in the same State, and Richard J. Lee and Louis Somerfield at Washington. Giuseppe Scoma, an Italian convicted of the murder of one of his countrymen, committed suicide in his cell in the jail at Hudson, N. Y. Kit Ross and Lincoln Sprella, white, Calvin James, colored, and Blue Duck, a Cherokee, all murderers, have been sentenced to be hanged at Fort Smith, Ark., July 23.

There were 172 failures in the United States reported to Bradstreet's during the week, against 175 in the preceding week, and 167, 151, 132, and 105 in the corresponding weeks of 1885, 1884, 1883, and 1882, respectively. About eighty per cent were those of small traders whose capital was less than \$5,000.

FOREIGN.

A Chinaman who murdered Captain and Mrs. Wickersham, in Sonora County, California, and escaped across the Pacific Ocean, hanged himself in the jail at Hong Kong.

A cablegram from Athens announces the resignation of the Grecian Minister of War.

At Strasbourg a French officer in uniform was followed through the streets by 3,000 people shouting "Vive la France!" The police dispersed the mob.

Statistics show that during the last three months 698 families, comprising 3,477 persons, were evicted from holdings in Ireland. During the same period 256 outrages were committed.

In Prussia the police have been directed to interfere in case strikers intimidate workmen, and extra vigilance is ordered.

Cardinal Gibbons says that organization of workmen is necessary to protection and progress, but he does not commit himself on the question of the church condemning or endorsing the order.

LATER NEWS ITEMS.

Gov. Larrabee of Iowa has issued a proclamation relative to the enforcement of the prohibition law. He calls earnestly upon all temperance societies and other bodies organized for kindred purposes to exercise new energy in assisting the enforcement of the law. Priests, ministers, teachers, and the press are especially urged to use their best efforts to enlist the moral forces of the State in the cause. He says: "Let the Judges, attorneys, and officers of the courts be painstaking and persistent in enforcing the law, both in letter and in spirit. Let the Sheriffs and peace officers be fearless and vigilant, and let the Mayors and all other municipal officers awaken to new zeal in their efforts to secure its observance. I exhort all citizens to lay aside partisan differences and by determined efforts banish the dramshops from Iowa."

Friends of the Des Moines River land bill, who have been threatening to try to pass the same over the President's veto, are a good deal discouraged at the outlook. They have pretty carefully canvassed the Senate, and think the chances of its passage rather slim.

On a farm near Tekonsha, Michigan, Randolyn Shedd killed his wife with an ax and then took his own life with a razor. He was one of the pioneers of Calhoun County, and she was a widow whom he married seven years ago.

The business section of Fairview, Pa., was swept away by fire, entailing heavy losses. Thirteen families lost all their household goods, and are homeless. The insurance amounts to \$50,000.

MR. INGALLS' resolution making April 30 instead of March 4 the beginning of the Presidential term and of Congress was favorably reported to the Senate on the 3d inst. Mr. Dolph offered an amendment to the fortification appropriation bill appropriating \$10,000,000 for the construction of fortifications and other works of coast defense. The Senate considered without action the postoffice appropriation bill. Senators Vest and Colquitt opposed the subsidy amendment. Senator Enstis advocated it. Speeches were made by Senators Ingalls and Miller. The Committee on Privileges and Elections reported favorably to the Senate a bill creating a commission, to be appointed by the President, to select an accurate ballot-box and counting device, which shall be used in all Congressional elections. The House of Representatives the delegate from Arizona introduced a bill to authorize the President to offer a reward of \$25,000 for the killing or capture of Geronimo, the Indian chief. The House passed under suspension of the rules bills providing for the adjustment of land grants made by Congress to aid in the construction of railroads in Kansas and for the forfeiture of unearned lands, and appropriating \$153,000 for the repair and enlargement of the public buildings at Des Moines, Iowa. Mr. Breckinridge, of Arkansas, introduced a resolution to give silver certificates a full legal tender character, and providing for the issue of certificates of the denominations of \$1, \$2, and \$5. Mr. Findley introduced a resolution declaring a reduction of the tariff duties impolitic and impractical and abolishing the excise taxes on tobacco and its sale and manufacture.

LORD BEACONSFIELD ON WOMAN'S OBSTINACY.

A French critic of Lord Beaconsfield's letters, recently published, adds an anecdote of his own which, at least, deserves citing. Some one was discoursing in his presence on the obstinacy of woman. "Yes," interposed Mr. Disraeli, as he then was; "take the example of my wife. I had all the difficulty in the world to induce her to range herself among the women of 30. At length she consented, but no power on earth can, after an interval of twenty years, induce her to loosen the connection."

No woman is educated who is not equal to the successful management of a family.

There are now 3,000 teachers of elocution in this country, and hardly a dozen orators.

About \$3,000,000 worth of American-made locomotives are sent away yearly.

THE MARKETS.

NEW YORK.	
BEEVES	\$4.75 @ 5.50
HOGS	4.50 @ 5.00
WHEAT—No. 1 White	.95 @ .97
" " 2 Red	.91 @ .92
CORN—No. 2	.46 @ .49
OATS—No. 2	.39 @ .42
PORK—New Mess.	10.00 @ 10.50
CHICAGO.	
BEEVES—Choice to Prime Steers	5.50 @ 6.00
Good Shipping	4.75 @ 5.25
Common	4.00 @ 4.50
HOGS—Shipping Grades	3.75 @ 4.50
Flour—Extra Spring	4.50 @ 5.00
WHEAT—No. 2 Spring	.78 @ .79
CORN—No. 2	.36 @ .36 1/2
OATS—No. 2	.29 @ .30
BUTTER—Choice Creamery	.18 @ .19
Fine Dairy	.14 @ .15
CHEESE—Full Cream, new	.10 1/2 @ .12
Skimmed Flats	.06 @ .07
EGGS—Fresh	.10 @ .10 1/2
POTATOES—Choice, per bu.	.33 @ .35
PORK—Mess.	8.75 @ 9.25
MILWAUKEE.	
WHEAT—Cash	.78 @ .79
CORN—No. 2	.36 @ .37
OATS—No. 2	.29 @ .30
RYE—No. 1	.65 @ .66
PORK—New Mess.	8.75 @ 9.25
TOLEDO.	
WHEAT—No. 2	.86 @ .88
CORN—No. 2	.37 @ .38
OATS—No. 2	.30 @ .31
ST. LOUIS.	
WHEAT—No. 2 Red	.86 @ .87
CORN—Mixed	.32 @ .33
OATS—Mixed	.29 @ .29 1/2
PORK—New Mess.	9.25 @ 9.75
CINCINNATI.	
WHEAT—No. 2 Red	.88 @ .90
CORN—No. 2	.38 @ .39
OATS—No. 2	.32 @ .33
PORK—Mess.	9.25 @ 9.75
LIVE HOGS	3.75 @ 4.50
DETROIT.	
BEEF CATTLE	4.50 @ 5.50
HOGS	3.50 @ 5.00
SHEEP	3.25 @ 4.50
WHEAT—No. 1 White	.84 @ .85
CORN—No. 2	.37 @ .38
OATS—No. 2	.33 @ .37
INDIANAPOLIS.	
BEEF CATTLE	4.00 @ 5.50
HOGS	3.75 @ 4.50
SHEEP	2.50 @ 4.75
WHEAT—No. 2 Red	.87 @ .88
CORN—No. 2	.34 @ .38
OATS—No. 2	.30 @ .31
EAST LIBERTY.	
CATTLE—Best	5.50 @ 6.00
Fair	4.75 @ 5.25
Common	3.25 @ 3.75
HOGS	4.00 @ 4.50
SHEEP	3.50 @ 4.50
BUFFALO.	
WHEAT—No. 2 Red	.88 @ .89
CORN—Yellow	.41 @ .42
CATTLE	5.00 @ 5.75

CONGRESSIONAL.

The Work of the Senate and House of Representatives.

THE Chair laid before the Senate, on the 27th ult., a communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives of the State of Ohio, transmitting a transcript of testimony taken by a committee of that House, and the report of the same committee on the subject of charges against the official integrity of certain members of that House in connection with the election of the Hon. Henry B. Payne as United States Senator. Mr. Payne at once rose in his seat in the Senate and entered a most emphatic denial of charges and invited the most exhaustive scrutiny of all his acts and of his private correspondence. The whole thing, he said, was an attempt to circulate baseless gossip and scandal, everything substantial in the way of charges having been discredited and disproved by the testimony. He was willing to leave the matter with the Committee on Privileges and Elections of the Senate, to which committee it was referred. The Senate passed bills allotting lands in severalty to the Indians of the Round Valley Reservation, California; appropriating \$300,000 for the extension of the White House, and authorizing the building of railroad bridges across the St. Croix River, between Prescott, Wis., and St. Water, Minn., and across the Missouri River at or near Kansas City, Mo., at or near Council Bluffs, Iowa, on the line of railroad between either Clay or Jackson County, Missouri, and the county of Wyandotte, Kansas, near Atchison, Kansas, at or near Saline City, Mo., near St. Charles, Mo., at or near St. Joseph, Mo., and near Chamberlain, D. T. The Senate has confirmed the nomination of C. West as Governor of Utah. In the House Representatives Mr. Brockinridge introduced a bill to reduce the number of internal revenue officers and to amend the internal revenue laws. The House Judiciary Committee reported adversely a bill to prohibit aliens from acquiring title or owning lands within the United States.

The postoffice appropriation bill was discussed in the Senate on the 28th ult., the bone of contention being the amendment appropriating \$800,000 for carrying South and Central American, Chinese, and Australian mails and authorizing the Postmaster General to make, after due advertisement, contracts for five years with American steamships. The House of Representatives debated the river and harbor bill, and passed the bill providing that hereafter no alien who has not declared his intention to become a citizen of the United States shall be granted a license as pilot, engineer, or captain, or other officer, of any steam vessel carrying the flag of the United States.

MR. BECK (Ky.) spoke for three hours and a half in the Senate on the 29th ult. in opposition to the subsidy clause of the postoffice appropriation bill. Mr. Hale (Me.) addressed the Senate in favor of the subsidy amendment. The Senate passed the 4th of July claims bill, with an item of \$67,000 for the heirs of Ayres P. Merrill, of Mississippi, for supplies furnished the Union army during the war. In the House the amendment of Mr. Humphreys, of Iowa, to the river and harbor bill, that the appropriation for the Missouri River shall be expended under the direction of the Secretary of War without the intervention of the Missouri River Commission, was reported. The House reported to the House providing for the reception of trade dollars at their face value in all payments to the Government, or for exchange at the Sub-Treasury for standard dollars, to be transmitted to the mints as bullion. Mr. Hale (Iowa) gave notice that he would call up the Campbell-Weaver contested election case May 4. The Committee on Public Lands reported a bill to grant the right of way through the public lands to any canal or ditch company formed for the purpose of irrigation.

The postoffice appropriation bill occupied the attention of the Senate on the 30th ult., and Mr. Hale, of Maine, finished his speech in support of the subsidy amendment. Mr. Brown, of Georgia, also spoke in favor of it. The bill to make Omaha a port of entry was vetoed by the President for the reason that at that place the Government does not have the necessary officers for the appraisement of goods, merchandise and the collection of duties. The President sent the following nominations of Postmasters to the Senate: At Brooklyn, N. Y., Joseph C. Hendrix; at Baltimore, Md., Frank Brown; at Parkersburg, W. Va., J. C. McCune; at Shippensburg, Pa., J. C. McCune; at Washington, Kansas, James S. Vedder. In the House of Representatives the Committee on Indian Affairs reported favorably a bill giving the Chicago, Kansas and Nebraska Railroad the right of way through the Indian Territory. The House rejected an amendment to the river and harbor bill offered by Mr. Varner (Ohio), providing that the appropriation for the improvement of the Mississippi River shall be expended under the direction of the Secretary of War instead of the Mississippi River Commission, and providing for a Congressional committee to investigate the work of the Mississippi River Commission. The House refused by a vote of 33 to 133, to strike out the levee clause.

The Senators took a rest, and the House of Representatives only was in session on the 1st inst. Mr. Cox, of North Carolina, from the Committee on Foreign Affairs, reported a bill amendatory of the Chinese immigration act. Also, providing indemnity to certain Chinese for losses sustained within the jurisdiction of the United States. Mr. Ward, of Indiana, from the Committee on Postoffices and Roads, reported a bill authorizing the employment of messengers in the mail service. Mr. McAdoo, of New Jersey, from the Committee on Naval Affairs, reported a bill authorizing the construction of dry-docks at certain navy-yards.

India-Rubber Gathered in Colombia.

When the hunter has found a rubber tree, he first clears away a space from the roots, and then moves on in search of others, returning to commence operation as soon as he has marked all the trees in the vicinity. He first of all digs a hole in the ground hard by, and then cuts in the tree a V-shaped incision with a machete, as high as he can reach. The milk is caught as it exudes and flows into the hole. As soon as the flow from the cut has ceased the tree is chopped down, and the trunk raised from the ground by means of an improvised trestle.

After placing large leaves to catch the sap, gashes are cut throughout the entire length, and the milk carefully collected. When it first exudes, the sap is of the whiteness and consistence of cream, but it turns black on exposure to the air. When the hole is filled with rubber, it is coagulated by adding hard soap or the roots of the mehuacan, which have a most rapid action, and prevent the escape of the water that is always present in the fresh sap. When coagulated sufficiently, the rubber is secured by bark thongs, carried on the back of the hunter to the bank of the river, and floated down on rafts.

The annual destruction of rubber trees in Colombia is very great, and the industry must soon disappear altogether, unless the government puts in force a law that already exists, which compels the hunters to tap the trees without cutting them down. If this law were strictly carried out, there would be a good opening for commercial enterprise, for rubber trees will grow from 8 to 10 inches in diameter in three or four years from seed. The trees require but little attention, and they begin to yield returns sooner than any other. Those that yield the greatest amount of rubber flourish on the banks of the Simu and Aslatto Rivers.