

The Democratic Sentinel

RENSSELAER, INDIANA.

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NEWS CONDENSED.

Concise Record of the Week.

EASTERN.

An arch in a furnace in the Edgar Thompson Steel Works at Braddocks, Pa., collapsed, burying a number of men in the red-hot debris. Five men were fatally burned, their flesh being literally cooked.

Fire at Lebanon, N. H., destroyed over \$3,000 worth of property, with an insurance of \$110,000.

A horrible accident occurred near McKeesport, Pa., which resulted in the burning to death of Mrs. Cook and her two little children, and in the total destruction of the house. She was using petroleum oil to kindle a fire, when the contents of the can were ignited, and an explosion followed. The woman rushed out of the house with her clothing in flames, and perished in the yard. The house took fire and was consumed, and two little children who were in it perished in the flames. A third child only escaped a similar fate by following her mother out of the house.

The steamer Empire State was destroyed by fire at Bristol, R. I., with a loss of \$100,000.

The West Side haymarket and adjacent buildings in New York City were burned. The loss is estimated at \$165,000.

An effort has been started at Boston to secure the pardon of F. J. Moses, ex-Governor of South Carolina, who is in the penitentiary there for forgery. His health is said to be broken down.

WESTERN.

Mr. James Smith, living near Freeport, Ill., died last week, aged 102. He was a life-long Democrat; never rode on a railroad train; and never ate a meal at a hotel.

The planing mill, machinery, and a quantity of lumber at St. Louis, the property of Schuelenberg & Boeckeler, were burned. Loss, \$60,000.

La Crosse (Wis.) special: "John Ake, second baseman of the Duluth Club, was drowned here while on the river rowing with Earle and Barnes of the same club. The boat got in the waves made by a steamer and was capsized. Earle and Barnes swam to shore, which was about two hundred yards off. Earle says they turned and saw Ake sitting on the boat. They were about to go to his rescue with a skiff when they saw him leave the boat and attempt to swim ashore. He had covered only a small part of the distance when he held up his hands and shouted, 'Save me,' and sunk. He did not come to the surface again. Ake came from Altoona, Pa. He was 24 years of age, and was released from the Indianapolis Club to play the present season with Duluth."

California has had another earthquake shock.

Great forest fires are reported in Northern Wisconsin and the Northern Peninsula of Michigan.

A skeleton was found in Dakota, and near by it a bag containing \$5,000 in greenbacks and coin.

Natural gas has been struck near Wabash, Ind., at a depth of 900 feet. The well is pronounced the equal of any in the State.

Judge Sloan, of Milwaukee, has granted a stay of proceedings in the Grottkau case, and fixed the bail at \$2,000.

A brother of Land Commissioner Sparks attempted suicide at Litchfield, Ill., by sitting on the tracks in front of an approaching train. He was depressed over the road passing his property and failing to pay him damages.

Numerous citizens of Wellsville, Ohio, have devised a new plan to defeat the Dow liquor law. They have organized several private clubs to encourage drinking, elected officers, and purchased a large amount of liquor.

St. Louis was visited by an electric storm Sunday afternoon. Two persons were killed, several were injured, and considerable damage was done to property.

SOUTHERN.

Silas Stofer, the Police Justice of Mount Sterling, Ky., who recently released Cornelius on a writ of habeas corpus, has been arrested for aiding in the escape of a prisoner.

Mrs. McWha, aged 70, and her daughter, Mrs. Van Baker, were murdered in their home, at Halliday's Cave, W. Va., the assassin robbing the house of \$350.

The Grand Lodge of Freemasons of Maryland celebrated its centennial anniversary at Baltimore with imposing ceremonies.

The Kentucky Derby at Louisville was won by Moutrose, with Jim Gore second and Jacobin third. The odds against the winner were 15 to 1.

Albert Turner, one of the murderers of Jennie Bowman, at Louisville, Ky., has been indicted, pleaded guilty, and sentenced to be hanged July 1. It is only three weeks since the crime was committed.

The "color line" occupied the attention of the Episcopal Diocesan Convention of South Carolina in session at Charleston. The question was the right of the colored clergy to admission to the floor as delegates. The discussion elicited much feeling and resulted in the secession of the lay delegates of fourteen parishes.

A passenger train in South Carolina was stopped by the myriads of caterpillars on the tracks.

WASHINGTON.

Secretary Fairchild has issued instructions for the rigid enforcement of the law which forbids the slaughtering of any fur.

bearing animal within the limits of Alaska or the waters thereof, except as specially authorized.

Reports received at the Treasury Department show that 6,500,426 trade dollars have been redeemed to date. The principal redemption was in Philadelphia. The law authorizing the redemption of trade dollars has already been in operation over two months, and has nearly four months to run. It was originally estimated that there were about seven millions of these coins in this country, and the redemptions show that the estimate is nearly correct. Imports from China and Japan may swell the amount to 8,000,000.

James W. Hyatt, Bank Examiner of Connecticut, who has been appointed Treasurer of the United States, was a Republican until 1872, when he "Greelyized." He is a man of large experience in affairs, reputed an able financier, and his appointment seems to be in every way creditable.

A motion for reargument in the Maxwell land-grant case will be filed in the United States Supreme Court. Gen. Butler will be engaged in the case.

The Government receipts this month have been very heavy and the expenditures less than usual.

Justice Woods, of the United States Supreme Court, died at Washington on the 14th inst. of kidney troubles, from which he had been suffering over a year. It is reported that Attorney General Garland is likely to be appointed his successor. The names of ex-Governor Hoadly, Secretary Endicott, Speaker Carlisle, Senators Pugh and George, and Congressman Hammond are also mentioned in connection with the appointment.

POLITICAL.

The Kentucky Republican State Convention, in session at Louisville, made the following nominations: For Governor, W. O. Bradley, of Lancaster; for Lieutenant Governor, M. O. Doherty, of Louisville; for Attorney General, John Felan, of Hopkinsville; for Auditor, R. D. Davis, of Carter. The platform favors Federal aid to education; a protective tariff, and national aid for the internal improvement of rivers and harbors. The President is condemned for refusing to sign the river and harbor bill, as well as for his veto of the pension bill.

New Orleans telegram: "The prohibition movement which has prevailed so strongly in Texas and Mississippi has reached Louisiana, and is receiving much encouragement from the negroes. A call has been read in all the negro churches in the city for a prohibition convention to meet in the St. Charles Avenue Methodist Church May 31 and June 1, for the purpose of effecting a permanent organization of the colored people of Louisiana to break up the liquor traffic."

Senator John Sherman has accepted an invitation from Republican members of the Illinois Legislature to deliver a political address at Springfield on June 1.

The Michigan House of Representatives has passed a bill taxing liquor-sellers \$500 each without any discrimination between beer and whisky. The brewers' tax remains as at present. The bill passed by a narrow margin of 52 to 35, 51 votes being necessary to pass a bill.

A bill permitting pool-selling on race-tracks has passed the New York Senate.

REGULATING THE RAILROADS

Judge Cooley, Chairman of the Interstate Commerce Commission, has addressed the following letter to the other members of the commission for their approval:

The Interstate Commerce Commission has had transmitted to it from the State Department, a communication from William H. Washington, United States commercial agent at London, Ontario, in which that officer lays before the department the disastrous effects of the recent act to regulate commerce upon the trade of the United States with Canada, and gives instances to prove their alarming nature.

From the communication's being sent to the commission I infer the department expects some notice to be taken of it, and though the Commissioners are just now separated, I venture to express my own thoughts. Mr. Washington's account of disastrous consequences I am well assured is excessive. They will not to any great extent be realized. Some inconveniences must necessarily arise from putting in force a law which attempts such considerable changes, but they will be greater at first than after the working of the law has become an instrument, and greatest while parties are hesitating to act because of doubts of constructions. Probably no important act ever passed by Congress has elicited such a variety of opinions and with such radical differences as the one in question. The terms of the act are not as clear as they might be, but it should also be said that the state of mind in which persons differently circumstanced have come to an examination of the law has not been congenial to harmonious views. A careful reading of Mr. Washington's letter seems to show that the consequences which he attributes to the law flow from the construction railroad managers have put upon it, and which may or may not be correct. In a recent visit of the Commissioners to the Southwest it was made very apparent in the testimony taken that some persons were excited by fears of the destruction of their business which were on no other basis than views of the law which were not to be substantiated by anyone. I cannot help thinking that equally unkind views have had much to do with the disturbances of trade of which Mr. Washington speaks, and that as these are corrected the disturbances will become comparatively unimportant and shall remain in that belief until further experience of the law shall show its error.

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The metropolis was brilliantly decorated in honor of the occasion, and great crowds lined the streets through which the royal procession passed. It was the first time her Majesty had visited the East End in many years.

The Marquis of Salisbury desires to send a note to Russia, intimating in vigorous language that no further negotiations will be entertained by England, and that any violation of the status quo of the boundary line of Afghanistan will be considered by England as a causus belli.

The American Exposition in London

is daily gaining in public favor, and enormous crowds visit Buffalo Bill's Wild West show.

When the Queen visited the show Sergeant Bates advanced and presented the American flag, whereupon the Queen stepped forward and ceremoniously bowed toward the flag as it was lowered.

The prospect of a speedy settlement

of the great strike in the building trades at Chicago is now wholly dispelled. Both employers and men have formally resolved to stand firm and fight it out, whatever be the cost. A Chicago dispatch says:

The representatives of the various building trades met and agreed to stand firmly together, and refuse any and all offers looking to compromising with the bricklayers. The material men renewed their agreement not to sell materials to the bricklayers in the fight, and the United Trades Council met and agreed to endeavor to organize the bricklayers in their fight on the ground that they had dragged the other trades into a needless trouble to carry a trivial point in their own interest. On the other hand, the bricklayers agreed to stand by their demand for Saturday as pay-day, and to refuse to work on any other terms, and thus matters stand.

MISCELLANEOUS.

R. G. Dun & Co. report 167 failures in the United States and Canada during the week, against 182 the previous week. In their weekly review they say:

A great revolution in business is going on. With radically conflicting accounts of serious losses at some localities and in some branches, and of wonderful gains at other places, or in other departments of trade and industry, the difficulty of reaching just conclusions is much enhanced. The interstate act is but one of several causes which contribute to produce this revolution in commerce; expansion in the volume and character in the kind of currency is another not less important. Many unexpected results are produced; the interstate act clearly helps those who bitterly opposed it, and as clearly injures others who expected great benefits from its operations. Thus the river business of the West is expanding under the influence of the law and the railroads are at the same time getting larger earnings from the part of the traffic they retain, while not a few cities find, as Cincinnati does, that trade in many lines is greatly embarrassed. One general tendency is disclosed by the urgent demands for suspension or change of the law, especially from those who most favored its enactments. Serious diversion of trade from Western cities, which have been chief centers of distribution is in progress and a multitude of smaller towns are reaping the benefit. Western products do not, as a rule, gain anything in Eastern markets: wheat has advanced 5½ cents since the act went into effect, corn and oats have declined a fraction, pork is about the same in price, lard ½ cent lower, hogs ¾ cent lower, and beef sells at the same price. Cotton has been advanced ¼ cent, but this change, like the rise in wheat, is clearly speculative, and therefore threatens reaction through curtailment of demand. Railroad building is also checked by the act as yet, and there is a probability that by encouraging traffic at many instead of few centers of trade, the law may tend to the building of numerous local roads and parallel or rival lines.

Editor William O'Brien of *United Ireland* wrote two long letters to his newspaper from Montreal. He praised the warmth and hospitality of the people of Canada, which, he said, astonished him more than anything else. A big anti-O'Brien mass-meeting, with over 10,000 people present, was held at Toronto. The Irish editor was roundly denounced, ringing resolutions were adopted, and the National anthem sung with the greatest enthusiasm. O'Brien made some informal speeches against Lansdowne at Montreal.

The Dominion Government is about to engage in the construction of an extensive system of coast defenses. The matter has been under consideration in the Canadian Senate, which body seems to be deeply impressed with the wisdom of preparing for such possibilities as a rupture with the United States, or a war between France and Russia and England, which would expose Canada to an attack.

FOREIGN.

The stringent commercial regulations just adopted by Russia, which seem to be directed chiefly at Germany, are bitterly denounced by the semi-official press of the latter country. The proposed increase of the German corn duty also causes much apprehension in Austria-Hungary.

Advices from China say that the steamer Benton, plying between Singapore, Penang, and Malacca, was run into by the steamer Fair Penang and sank in half an hour. Of the 220 persons aboard only fifty are known to have been saved. Most of those lost were natives.

A complete rupture is reported between the French Cabinet and the Budget Committee of the Chamber of Deputies over a refusal to accept a reduction in the Government estimates of 13,000,000.

The French Government has closed a factory near Luneville owned by a German who employed men belonging to the German imperial army. This action is supposed to be the forerunner of other reprisals against the Germans.

The Russian Government persists in its refusal to abate any of its claims regarding the Afghan frontier. The Czar declined to receive the members of the British Commission while they were at St. Petersburg.

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LATER NEWS ITEMS.

The Mexican Commission now examining into the recent seismic disturbance in the Sierra Madre Mountains, have sent the following dispatch to Gov. Torres, of Somora:

In the pueblo of Babiste City seven persons were killed and nineteen injured; in Oputo nine were killed, and both pueblos were destroyed. The inhabitants of Babiste, Baceraca, Oputo, and Guasabas are living in the fields under trees and in dug-outs. There have been repeated successions of shocks. A panic existed everywhere, and a number of women died from fright. A wide extent of territory is seamed with crevices and immense chasms. The earth has sunk in many places and is flooded with water, making swamps where water never existed before. In many mountain areas there have been volcanic eruptions, and continuous smoke and smoke action. This region has not yet been explored, owing to continuous tremors and great chasms, making the approach thereto at present most difficult and dangerous.

"Mr. Blaine, Gov. Bodwell, and others of his lieutenants," says an Augusta (Me.) dispatch, "are preparing for the summer at Bar Harbor. It is not believed that Blaine will go to Europe June 6 as announced, since in that event he will lose his grip of the labor vote and will be unable to watch Sherman. A conference of Republican leaders will be held at Bar Harbor this summer, when the pulse of the party will be felt. By the time Mr. Blaine closes his cottage he expects to know whether it will be possible for him to get the nomination in 1888. In case his strength in the Presidential line fails him it is fully believed he will conclude to go back to the Senate."

George E. Reed, City Treasurer of Bismarck, D. T., has disappeared, and his accounts are \$9,000 short. Reed, who is supposed to have gone to Canada, took his bond with him, thus relieving his sureties of obligation to pay the deficit.

A plan is on foot at Lima, Ohio, to organize a producers' oil exchange to oppose the Standard Oil Company. The leaders claim that under the interstate commerce law they could obtain equal rates with the Standard and thus be able to enter into competition with the great monopoly.

Some time ago New York paper published a sensational story of alleged hardships and indignities inflicted upon the Apache captives at Fort Pickens, Florida. A report just submitted to General Sheridan by the Inspector General of the Division of the Atlantic says the captives occupy clean and wholesome quarters, and are docile and obedient. As to their treatment the report is silent.

Archbishop Corrigan, of New York, in a public address in that city, denounced Henry George's land theory as "a fallacy against both philosophy and common sense, and as against the teachings of the Catholic Church." He also stigmatized as "error" the idea that the Pope has the right to command and be obeyed only in matters of faith and morals. Henry George will, doubtless, fire another nine-column paragraph at the Archbishop.

Gen. Boulanger's plan for the mobilization of the French army causes uneasiness at Berlin. If France mobilizes Germany will mobilize.

The boycott is still in vogue in Ireland. The latest victim is the agent of Lord Clanricarde's estates in County Galway.