

The Democratic Sentinel

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NEWS BUDGET.

Fresh Intelligence from Every Part of the Civilized World.

Foreign and Domestic News, Political Events, Personal Points, Labor Notes, Etc.

THE VERY LATEST BY TELEGRAPH.

LAMAR.

The Secretary of the Interior Sends His Resignation to the President.

SECRETARY LAMAR has tendered to the President his resignation as Secretary of the Interior, and it has been accepted by the President. Mr. Lamar's letter is dated Jan. 7, and closes as follows:

In terminating my relations to you as a member of your official family, I desire to express my gratified sense of the obligations and under to your personal courtesy, consideration, and kindness which have always characterized your treatment of me, and for the generous confidence and support which you have steadily given me in the trying and arduous administration of this department. I shall always be proud to have been associated with the honorable record you will leave upon the page of your country's history.

The President, in accepting the resignation, says:

I am sure that the close confidence and the relations of positive affection which have grown up between us, and the personal regard and affection which I find it utterly impossible to express to you personally, will induce you to me to finish this note without assuring you that the things which have characterized your conduct and bearing in the position from which you now retire—all your devotion to your country and your chief; your self-sacrificing care and solicitude for public interests; all the benefit which your official services have conferred upon your fellow-countrymen, and all the affection and kindness you have so often exhibited toward me personally—I shall constantly remember with tenderness and gratitude.

THE NEXT WHEAT HARVEST.

Present Condition of the Plant in the States of the Central West Better than Anticipated Last Fall.

The Farmer's Review, of Chicago, prints the following summary of the condition of the winter-wheat crop:

The winter-wheat crop is in better condition than could have been hoped for before the breaking of the drought in the fall. This is attributable to late rains just before the setting in of winter and the snow mantle which has quite generally covered the growing wheat since. Late reports of crop correspondents briefly summarized give the following percentages of condition as compared with an average: Ohio, forty-two counties, 62 per cent.; Indiana, 82 per cent.; Illinois, sixty-six counties, 98.7 per cent.; Missouri, forty-nine counties, 98.7 per cent.; Kansas, twenty-six counties, 103 per cent.; Wisconsin, twenty-two counties, 91.5 per cent.; Michigan, twenty-two counties, 88.3 per cent.; Kentucky, twenty counties, 87.2 per cent. These figures indicate an average condition of about 87 per cent. in the winter-wheat States of the Central West. November reports on acreage seeded to winter wheat in the same State indicated 94 per cent. of an acreage, which with the present condition indicates about 83 per cent. of an average amount of crop for the coming harvest, provided acreage conditions are meanwhile experienced."

MANY ROADS HAVE FAILED.

Annual Statistics Show Badly for Railways—The Alton Is Still Fighting.

In its last issue the Railway Age, of Chicago, publishes a statement showing that—

During the year 1887 thirty-one railroads in this country, with an aggregate funded debt of \$164,222,000, and capital stock of \$183,650,000, have been foreclosed and sold. Several very large companies contributed to swell the total to its appalling aggregate, notable among them being the Indiana, Bloomington & Western, Kentucky Central, New York, Chicago & St. Louis, Buffalo, New York & Philadelphia, Central Iowa, and Texas & Pacific, these six companies alone being responsible for nearly 70 per cent. of the mileage and nearly 80 per cent. of the capital represented in the aggregate for the year. The record of new cases of railway insolvency is also quite large, eight roads having passed into the hands of receivers during the year. These eight roads represent 1,046 miles of track, and have a funded debt of \$42,857,000, and capital stock aggregating \$47,431,000. The large amount of new construction during the past year is regarded as ominous, but the fact that the greater part of the new building has been by strong lines renders the railroad situation for 1888 stronger than it appears.

IOWA FARMERS SQUEEZED.

Unable to Take Up Mortgages Resulting from Meager Railway Facilities.

A RECENT dispatch from Des Moines, Iowa, states that—

Complaints of the scarcity of cars continue to come from the farmers of Northwestern Iowa. Railway Commissioner Coffin recently paid a visit to that part of the State, and has since been urging upon the roads the importance of furnishing necessary facilities for farmers to move their surplus produce. One of the chief articles of shipment is baled hay and a dispatch states that while there is a shortage of cars for all purposes, the hay may not get out one-tenth or less of the cars that could be used. Millions of dollars in mortgages are just due in that part of Iowa. A strong effort should be made to relieve the farmers in some form, as they are at the mercy of the collectors and attorneys. If collections are enforced it will create a panic, as they have as a rule received credit during the season, and perhaps borrowed money to get along with, with the exception of a market for the hay and chances for shipments.

REQUISITES FOR STATEHOOD.

Enabling Acts for Some of the Territories Likely to Be Passed.

MR. SPRINGER, Chairman of the House Committee on Territories, in an interview at Washington the other day, said:

Very probably enabling acts will be passed for some of the Territories; that is we may pass an act enabling some of the Territories to adopt State constitutions, and to construct the machinery of State government preparatory to recognition as States. The admission of a new State is a very important matter and cannot be done on a mere application or on any mere arbitrary basis. Somehow an impression has got abroad that a territory must have a certain population to qualify it for admission. There is no law and no custom about it. The admission of a new State is entirely a matter of legislative discretion. It is within the power of Congress to erect "No Man's Land" into a State and admit it to the Union. The State of Illinois was admitted when she had less than 40,000 people. Dakota has over 600,000. The Congress, in its discretion may exclude Dakota and may admit "No Man's Land."

WEEKLY BUDGET.

THE EASTERN STATES.

JANASUSCHEK, the actress, has instituted suit for \$20,000 damages against Henry Bull, Jr., proprietor of the Perry House at Newport, R. I., for injuries sustained by falling down stairs, May 17, 1887, and breaking her arm.

A DESPERATE fight between drunken Poles is reported by telegraph from Wilkes-Barre, Pa. A large part of the population consists of Hungarians and Poles. A grand debauch was in progress over a christening at one of the Polish houses, when a fight began, in which fully thirty men were engaged. Clubs, knives, bottles, jugs, and glasses were used freely. The furniture was broken and the inside of the house was wrecked. They fought for fully half an hour, and hardly one escaped mutilation. One was found just outside the house with six knife-wounds in the head and body, his arm broken, one eye gouged out, and his nose smashed. He is dead. Two others were fatally hurt and seven others were seriously injured. It is not probable that any one can be convicted of the murder, as all were too drunk to know who inflicted the wounds.

THE WESTERN STATES.

JUDGE SHIRAS, of the United States District Court, at Dubuque, Iowa, has rendered a decision against what are known as the Glidden barb-wire patents, under which the Washburn-Moen Company has exacted vast royalties from manufacturers and laid heavy taxes upon farmers using barb-wire fences. The defendants in the suit proved that the original barb-wire fence was invented as long ago as 1859, or fifteen years prior to the issue of the Glidden patents. The case will be appealed to the United States Supreme Court.

The billiard tournament at St. Louis, says a dispatch from that city, was enlivened by a general fight, the result of which may be the termination of the tournament, owing to the bad feeling aroused. Some time ago Dick Roche offered to put up \$60,000 against \$100 that Donovan would not take first money in the tournament. Roche did not take the bet, but was offended at its terms, and spoke in a derogatory manner of Roche. The latter took him to task, and assaulted Donovan with his fist. The latter responded with a fierce blow from a billiard-cue. Joe Ullman, the well-known bookmaker, knocking him down, and assaulting him on the floor. John Davis, a leading lawyer of St. Louis, came to Donovan's rescue, and attacked Roche. The fight then became general, and a number of persons were more or less injured.

AMZI BALDWIN, late cashier of the Fidelity National Bank of Cincinnati, who was indicted along with E. L. Harper and other officers of the bank, but who had not yet been tried, died of a stroke of paralysis on Thursday. He was 58 years old.

A SAN FRANCISCO telegram says that Nathan S. Sutton was hanged at Oakland, Cal., for the murder of Alexander Martin, a ranchman, in September, 1886. Strenuous efforts were made in Sutton's defense and for commutation of sentence, but Gov. Waterman refused to interfere. Since Waterman acquired office by the death of Gov. Bartlett four months ago, six executions have taken place in the State, and, though efforts in behalf of the condemned men were made in every case, Gov. Waterman refused pardons or commutations. When Sutton was placed on the scaffold he made a speech. Among other things he said:

I admire the firm stand Gov. Waterman has taken in the matter of granting commutation and pardons. If he holds his grip the community will have but little to complain of as regards the showing of executive clemency.

THE NATIONAL CAPITAL.

ACCORDING to the debt statement, the decrease of the national debt since June 30, 1887, has been \$53,830,335; total cash in the Treasury available for the reduction of the debt, \$295,919,424; total cash in the Treasury, \$527,265,556. Following is the official statement:

INTEREST-BEARING DEBT.

Bonds at 4% per cent. \$ 230,544,600

Bonds at 4 per cent. 732,449,100

Refunding certificates at 4 per cent. 151,530

Navy pension fund at 3 per cent. 14,000,000

Pacific Railroad bonds at 6 per cent. 64,623,512

Principal. \$1,041,761,512

Interest. 12,001,801

Total. \$1,053,763,543

DEBT ON WHICH INTEREST HAS CEASED SINCE MATURITY.

Principal. \$3,163,955

Interest. 178,392

Total. \$3,342,347

DEBT BEARING NO INTEREST.

Old demand and legal-tender notes \$340,738,121

Certified deposit. 6,983,000

Gold certificates. 95,934,075

Silver certificates. 176,855,423

Fractional currency (less \$8,375,934, estimated as lost or destroyed). 6,942,214

Principal. \$634,254,815

TOTAL DEBT.

Principal. \$1,679,180,522

Interest. 12,180,193

Total. \$1,691,360,705

Less cash items available for reduction of the debt. \$ 29,919,424

Less reserve held for redemption of United States notes. 100,000,000

Total. \$ 305,919,424

Total debt less available cash items. \$1,295,441,281

Total cash in the Treasury. 69,842,873

Debt less cash in Treasury Jan. 1, 1884. \$1,225,598,402

Debt less cash in Treasury Dec. 1, 1887. 1,240,183,052

Decrease of debt during the month. \$ 14,584,650

Decrease of debt since June 30, 1887. 53,830,335

CASH IN THE TREASURY AVAILABLE FOR THE REDEMPTION OF PUBLIC DEBT.

Gold held for gold certificates actually outstanding. \$96,734,057

Silver held for silver certificates actually outstanding. 176,855,423

U. S. notes held for certificates of deposit actually outstanding. 6,983,000

Cash held for matured debt and interest unpaid. 15,344,148

Fractional currency. 796

Total available. \$205,919,421

RESERVE FUND.

Held for redemption of U. S. notes, acts January 14, 1873, and July 12, 1882. \$ 100,000,000

Unavailable for reduction of debt: Fractional silver coin. \$ 24,327,528

Minor coin. 55,761

Total. \$ 24,383,289

Certificated held as cash. 69,842,873

Net cash balance on hand. 69,842,873

Total cash in Treasury as shown by the Treasurer's general account. \$ 527,625,556

An Associated Press telegram from Washington says:

Chairman Mills, of the Committee on Ways and Means, says that he will get the committee together without delay, and will proceed at once to the consideration and formulation of a tariff-reform bill, having in view revenue reduction as well. "I do not think," said he, "that it will be necessary to allow any protectionist hearings of manufacturers or others interested in this class of legislation. We have ample material at hand of the character from which source all necessary information may be obtained. These hearings, if granted, will only cause delay. The condition of the country and the Treasury is such that it requires immediate action upon the question of reduction of revenue. The President asks it, and the Secretary of the Treasury urges it, and I shall do all I can to carry out their wishes. If any effort should be made to defeat the measure in which we think will cover the ground the parties engaged in it will suffer." Congressman Burrows of Michigan, chairman of the House committee, declares he will fight to the bitter end for a reduction of the surplus revenue on a protectionist basis. He says he is thoroughly committed to the policy of protection for the United States, and will not allow any reduction made with his consent on free trade lines.

THE SOUTHERN STATES.

An accident on the Cincinnati Southern Railway, near Greenwood, Kentucky, resulted in the death of seven persons and the injury of a large number, some of whom may die as a result.

The city of New Orleans has been thrown into a fever of excitement by an affray between partisans of Nicholls and McEnery, rival candidates for Governor, resulting in the killing of Hon. Patrick Mealy, and the wounding of two or three other men. Over twenty shots were fired. Mealy was Commissioner of Police, and the most popular Democratic leader in the city.

A HUNTSVILLE (Texas) special says that armed citizens, calling themselves reformers, shot dead Bill Bolo at Madisonville, the county seat of Madison County, Texas, and hanged "Red" Paige and another man whose name is not known. Al Whitten, a friend of Bolo, was driven from the town. Bolo and his friends were in favor of saloons. Sheriff Black has applied to the Governor for troops.

THE INDUSTRIAL REALM.

The strike among the flint-glass workers has extended from the western manufacturers to the eastern factories. In the east and west about fifteen thousand men are now out. The strike bids fair to be a long and bitter one.

By the strike in the anthracite regions it is estimated that 35,000 men and boys are thrown out of employment. It is feared that many large factories and iron-works will be compelled to shut down because of a shortage in the coal supply growing out of suspension of work in the mines. A Reading telegram reports that

Out of the sixty-eight collieries in the Schuykill valley, only twenty are controlled by the Reading Railroad Company, only four resumed operations, and these with one-third of their usual forces. Had the strike of the Reading Railroad proven successful and traffic been entirely paralyzed, there could not have been more genuine alarm throughout the great industrial regions of the Schuykill valley than there is to-day. The proprietors of large furnaces and iron works in this section predict that if the mines are shut down for two weeks the majority of the large establishments will be obliged to close, owing to the lack of a supply of coal. Many of them have been running for weeks short of coal, and most of them have less than a week's supply on hand.

All the Reading Company's mines, forty-five in number, are stopped, and 20,000 miners at least are idle, says a Reading telegram of Thursday. Some place the number of idle men as high as 50,000 in the Schuykill basin alone, which with 20,000 in the Lehigh, makes the strike a great one. Several of the individual collieries are at work, but the Reading mines are without workmen.

THE FOREIGN BUDGET.

A cable dispatch says that two express-trains on the Dutch State Railroad collided near Meppel, Holland. Twenty-six persons were killed and many others injured. An 1,800-ton bark, believed to be an American vessel, was wrecked at the entrance of Waterford (Ireland) harbor. Her crew, consisting of twenty-five persons, were all drowned. The vessel is supposed to be the ship Eureka, Captain Southard, of San Francisco. A large vessel was wrecked off Duncannon, Ireland, and all hands are believed to be lost.

The winter is unusually severe in many parts of Europe. In Vienna the water-supply is beginning to fail on account of cold weather, and, owing to ice in the Danube and heavy snows in Bulgaria, the mails due at Constantinople failed to arrive on time.

THE BODY OF ARCHIE MCNEIL, who went to France to report the Smith-Kilrain prize fight and had been missing since, has been found on the beach at Boulogne, says a London dispatch. There were distinct marks on his throat, showing that he had been strangled. He had in his possession when last seen coin, Bank of England notes, and a watch, all of which were missing when