

The Democratic Sentinel

RENSSELAER, INDIANA.

J. W. McEWEN, PUBLISHER.

THE WORLD OVER.

A MIRROR OF THE IMPORTANT OCCURRENCES OF A WEEK.

Things That Do Happen—A Complete Record of Interesting Events the World Over—Shocking Accidents, Startling Crimes, Other Topics.

A MISSING CASHIER.

P. F. Pratt Runs Away with \$100,000 and a Grass Widow.

The doors of the First National Bank at Anoka, Minn., are closed. The cashier, P. F. Pratt, is in Canada, having stolen about \$100,000. A woman as handsome as she is wicked is in the case. The cashier went to Minneapolis recently and the authorities of the local bank received notice from the St. Paul Merchants' Bank that their account had been overdrawn \$20,000. Investigation showed that Pratt had drawn out \$8,000 due the bank and twice as much more on his cashier's check. The bank examiner was called in and found that Pratt was a thief to the amount of nearly \$100,000. The directors at once closed their doors, and a receiver was appointed. It is impossible to tell the extent of Pratt's villainy, as the bank's correspondents in New York and Chicago allowed him to over-draw \$15,000. In addition he raised \$30,000 on his personal note, indorsed by an ailed widow, whose affairs he managed. The woman with whom Pratt skipped was a Mrs. Jacobsen, a grass-widow. Mrs. Pratt never suspected her husband until an anonymous note told her of his doings. She then left him and went to her home in Boston, Mass.

NEW CHURCH PRESIDENT.

Wilford Woodruff Elected to Succeed Taylor in the Mormon Church.

Wilford Woodruff, who has been President of the Twelve Apostles since John Taylor became President of the Mormon Church at Salt Lake City, Utah, has been elected to succeed Taylor as President by the Mormon Conference. In his inaugural sermon he declared that the saints would yet triumph. All other religions were decaying. He urged the saints not to yield to those people there (meaning the Gentile authorities) who were working to make them do things that were wrong in the sight of God, but to continue to keep the celestial law. George Q. Cannon, Lorenzo Snow and others also spoke, eulogizing the Mormon church and declaring that its prosperity showed that it enjoyed God's favor.

AMERICAN TRACT SOCIETY.

The Anniversary Meeting at Washington Attended by Mr. Widdom and Others.

The anniversary of the American Tract Society was celebrated in the Church of the Covenant at Washington, D. C. The attendance was large, including Secretary Widdom and other prominent officials. Justice Strong presided. Dr. Shearer, the Secretary, read an abstract of the year's operations showing total receipts (one agency being estimated) at \$230,000; expenditures a little short of that sum. About 150 new publications have been added. Printing is done in New York in thirty languages, abroad in 150 languages or dialects. Donations and legacies amount to \$75,000. Over 45,000,000 pages of tracts were distributed gratuitously, about 200 colporteurs employed, and over \$10,000 was sent abroad in cash and publications.

LIGHT PUNISHMENT FOR MURDER.

Ben Scott Sentenced to Five Years' Imprisonment by an Indiana Jury.

The trial of Ben Scott, the Texan who killed Con Crowley, a young business man of Elkhart, Ind., on the 6th of last August, ended by the jury sentencing him to five years' imprisonment. On the date of the murder Scott, who had had some trouble with Crowley over some property that Crowley rented from him, approached the latter and stated that he understood Crowley intended to whip him. Crowley responded that he had not said so. Scott stabbed Crowley four times. George Newell, a bystander, once, and James Smith, a colored man, once, before he was captured. Crowley died in a few days.

A MAIL CLERK IN TROUBLE.

Herbert G. Stout, of St. Paul, Charged with Robbing the Mails.

Herbert G. Stout, railway mail clerk on the route between St. Paul, Minn., and Council Bluffs, Iowa, has been arrested by Postoffice Inspector G. M. Flemming and Marshal Daggett. Stout is charged with robbing the mails between St. Paul and Minneapolis; and it is supposed has been very successful in his operations during the last year. He was arrested in the act of making off with two whole packages of letters and has been spotted by marked money in decoy letters. Stout's brother is a Methodist minister in St. Paul, his family is highly respected, and he is connected with the most prominent people in that city.

From Foreign Lands.

The revolt against the German rule in Zanzibar is spreading.

The Belgian Government is preparing a circular convoking an international conference to be held in Brussels on the slave trade.

The correctional tribunal at Paris has acquitted Senator Naquet and Deputies Lazuerre, Laisant, and Turquet and M. Paul Deroulede, leaders of the League of Patriots, and three other members of that organization of the charge of belonging to a secret society, but imposed a fine of 100 francs each upon them for belonging to a society not authorized by law.

THE NATION'S FINANCES.

During March the Public Debt Decreased Over \$13,000,000.

The following is a recapitulation of the debt statement for March:

INTEREST-BEARING DEBT.	
Bonds at 4½ per cent.	\$ 155,147,890
Bonds at 4 per cent.	681,139,000
Refunding certificates at 4 per cent.	14,450,000
Navy pension fund at 3 per cent.	14,000,000
Pacific Railroad bonds at 6 per cent.	64,623,512
Principal.	\$ 915,035,532
Interest.	9,939,921
Total.	\$ 924,975,453

DEBT ON WHICH INTEREST HAS CEASED SINCE MATURITY.

Principal.	\$ 1,941,345
Interest.	156,530

Total.

DEBT BEARING NO INTEREST.

Old demand and legal-tender notes.	\$ 346,737,823
Certificates of deposit.	14,450,000
Gold certificates.	128,826,517
Silver certificates.	251,263,671
Fractional currency (less \$8,375,934, estimated as lost or destroyed).	6,917,410

Principal.

TOTAL DEBT.

Interest.

Total.

Less cash items available for reduction of the debt.

Less reserve held for redemption of United States notes.

Total.

Total debt less available cash items.

Net cash in the Treasury.

Debt less cash in Treasury April 1, 1880.

Debt less cash in Treasury March 1, 1880.

Total.

Decrease of debt during the month.

Decrease of debt since March 1880.

CASH IN TREASURY AVAILABLE FOR REDUCTION OF THE PUBLIC DEBT.

Gold held for gold certificates actually outstanding.

Silver held for silver certificates actually outstanding.

U. S. notes held for certificates of deposit outstanding.

Cash held for matured debt and interest unpaid.

Fractional currency.

Total available for reduction of the debt.

RESERVE FUND.

Held for redemption of U. S. notes, acts Jan. 14, 1875, and July 12, 1882.

Unavailable for reduction of the debt:

Fractional silver coin.

Minot coin.

Total.

Certificates held as cash.

Net cash balance on hand.

Total cash in the Treasury, as shown by Treasurer's general account.

PACIFIC RAILROAD DEBT.

Debt of the Pacific railroads for bonds issued and interest paid by the United States, and condition of the sinking fund:

Principal outstanding.

Interest accrued and not yet paid.

Interest paid by the United States.

INTEREST REPAYD BY COMPANIES.

By transportation service.

By cash payments, 5 per cent. net earnings.

Balance of interest paid by the United States.

SINKING FUND.

Bonds.

Cash.

Total.

COMMERCIAL CONDITIONS.

Average Prices Still Receding—Money Easy and Collections Satisfactory.

In their review of trade for last week R. G. Dun & Co. said:

Railroad earnings show an increase of about 15 per cent. over last year for March. Trade at interior points is dull or quiet in nearly all the cities. Chicago and St. Paul are satisfactory; at Atlanta it is satisfactory, with some business well sustained; at Omaha it is considered good; at Kansas City improving, and at St. Paul trade in dry-goods and clothing is active. There is improvement at Detroit, particularly in ship-building, and lumber is firmer. The money markets are easy, and collections have improved somewhat at Kansas City and Detroit, but have fallen off at Atlanta. Wool has declined for nearly all qualities except Mexican and Texas. The outlook is favorable for a good market when the new crop appears. Depressing influences are felt in the several branches of the dry goods and clothing trade, not the least being the accumulation of stocks which the open winter left unsold. The sales of copper abroad were at about \$41 per ton. Oil has been a shade higher, but pork 50 cents lower. Pressure to sell abroad and fear of monetary troubles growing out of the Paris difficulty reduced the price of coffee half a cent. The average price of all commodities have again declined over half a per cent for the week. The most important change is the fall of 25 cents in wheat. Reports from grain and sowing regions continue to foreshadow a large yield this year, and the demand from abroad, though better since prices fell, is not large enough to promise a clearing of the surplus stock on hand. Corn has advanced 1½ cents, export demand continuing, and oats a fraction. The favorable crop prospects strongly sustain the confidence of those who look for a favorable year for legitimate business. The apprehension of a strike may have passed, and the heavy liquidation in securities on foreign account causes as yet no such withdrawal of foreign capital as has been feared. The business failure numbered 222, as compared with a total of 240 the previous week.

THE PRESIDENT'S PROCLAMATION.

Setting Apart an Hour for Prayer on Washington's Centennial.

The President has issued the following proclamation:

Bids were opened at the United States Treasury Department lately for approaches to the public buildings at Fort Smith, Ark. George D. Loer, of Fort Smith, was the lowest bidder, \$19,253, \$17,955, and \$16,204 for the work under three different plans. Bids were also opened for completing the roof of the Pittsburg Postoffice. The lowest bid was that of the Pennsylvania Construction Company, of Pittsburg, at \$42,280.

THE WILL OF JUSTICE STANLEY MATTHEWS.

The will of the late Justice Stanley Matthews has been filed for probate at Washington, D. C. It is dated June 23, 1886, the date of his marriage, which fact he mentions. It says that his wife is fully entitled, as against him and his representatives, to all the property which was hers before marriage. All his property is left to his wife and children, there being no public bequests.

BIDS FOR GOVERNMENT WORK.

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SUICIDE OF GEN. H. M. McCONNELL.

Gen. H. M. McConnel, a prominent attorney of Osaw, Kan., who was concerned in a sensational shooting affair with James McNames, a wealthy contractor, some two months ago, committed suicide at the Fifth Avenue Hotel at Topeka, Kan. McConnel was a general in the Army of the Potomac, was well known throughout the West, and was prominent in Grand Army circles. He left no reason for the rash act.

A BITAL STEP-FATHER.

Miss Nellie Eller, of Marion, Ind., who was kicked by her step-father, Sam Porter, and who brought suit for murderous assault, became hysterical in court while giving her testimony, and at night became delirious. Porter is said to be very much frightened at the aspect of affairs.

DON'T WIT FOREIGN MUSICIANS.

The Musical Union of New York under-

rules that of his predecessor, Judge Hawkins. Ammerman was a soldier in an Ohio regiment and was injured by his comrades, who were indulging in horse play while in camp. The claim was rejected on the ground that the injury was not received while the soldier was in the line of his duty. Bussey reversed the ruling of the office in this case and ordered the claim of Ammerman admitted. His position was that the claimant's injury was a result of his military service, in that the service placed him in a position where, without fault on his part, he received his hurt.

IT WAS LIKE THE CHICAGO FIRE.

Work of the Recent Prairie Fires in Dakota.

The stories of the Dakota farmers who suffered by the flames show that it was no ordinary prairie fire. It licked up everything combustible, and grass and stubble and wood broke into flame seemingly without coming in contact with fire. The combustion was almost spontaneous in the dry and heated condition of the atmosphere, set in motion by the terrible gale. The conditions seemed similar to those existing at the time of the great Chicago fire and the fires in the Wisconsin woods, when the atmosphere was almost ready to ignite and burn. Many people perished in the flames. The pecuniary loss will reach upward of \$2,000,000. Hundreds of families are homeless and destitute. Appeals for aid have been made.

MIXED FALL OF SNOW AND DIRT.

Apecular Phenomenon in Weather Noticed by Inhabitants of Minnesota.

A peculiar phenomenon occurred at Atkin, Minn. At 4:45 o'clock p. m. it became dark that lights were required in business houses. The air was filled with snow that was as black and dirty as though it had been tramped on. The dirt was very fine, something like emery, and contained particles that had a metallic luster. This dirty snow fell to the depth of half an inch, and the atmosphere at the time presented a peculiar greenish tinge. Solid chunks of ice and sand are reported to have been picked up in various places. Several parties saved small vials of the sand or dirt as a curiosity.

CROPS IN CALIFORNIA.

Greatly Benefited by the Late Rain and Promising Extremely Well.

TELEGRAPHIC REPORTS FROM CALIFORNIA SHOW THAT GRAIN, FRUIT, AND FLOWERS ARE DOING WELL. THE COTTON CROP IS REPORTEDLY GOOD. THE RICE CROP IS REPORTEDLY POOR. THE WHEAT CROP IS REPORTEDLY GOOD. THE BARLEY CROP IS REPORTEDLY POOR. THE OATS CROP IS REPORTEDLY GOOD. THE POTATOES CROP IS REPORTEDLY GOOD. THE CLOVER CROP IS REPORTEDLY POOR. THE BEANS CROP IS REPORTEDLY GOOD. THE PEAS CROP IS REPORTEDLY POOR. THE LIMA BEANS CROP IS REPORTEDLY GOOD. THE TURNIPS CROP IS REPORTEDLY POOR. THE CABBAGE CROP IS REPORTEDLY GOOD. THE