

The Democratic Sentinel

RENSSELAER, INDIANA.

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A TURBULENT WORLD.

IMPORTANT HAPPENINGS OF THE DAY.

Foreign and Domestic Intelligence Transmitted by Wire—A Kaleidoscope of Interesting Occurrences—Political, Criminal, Accidental, and Industrial.

TERRIBLE POWDER EXPLOSION.

Twelve People Killed at the Dupont Mills, in Wilmington.

Seven startling explosions in quick succession announced to Wilmington, Del., a disaster at the Dupont powder-works on the Brandywine. The whole section of the works known as the "upper yard" was a complete wreck. One of the magazines went off first, and the rolling and drying-mills near by, set off by the concussion, followed in rapid succession. There were at least seven distinct successive explosions. Every building in the neighborhood was wrecked or unroofed. The force of the concussion even broke windows in some parts of Wilmington, four or five miles away. Twelve men were killed and many seriously injured. The office of the Dupont Powder Company is a complete wreck, and six mills are in ruins. Several members of the Dupont firm were injured by falling walls and broken glass, but none of them seriously. The dead were all employees of the company and were in and about the mills that exploded. Several workmen are missing and are believed to have been blown into fragments. The wounded received their injuries among the walls of their falling houses, and by broken glass and flying debris. The first explosion occurred in one of the packing-mills where a workman named Grau was receiving a can of hexagonal powder to be shipped for the use of the United States Government. In some way a spark communicated to the can and it blew up. Instantly the packing-mill exploded, and the other mills in the upper yards, seven or eight in number, followed suit at intervals of less than one second. Immediately after the explosion a large building known as the "refinery," located near the center of the village, took fire. It was a matter of life and death to the whole population that this fire should be extinguished before it communicated with the powder the building contained. The Dupont fire brigade valiantly fought the flames which had caught the roof and succeeded in extinguishing them. Had the roof fallen in, it is doubtful whether any man, woman, or child in the vicinity would have escaped death or serious injury. About fifty families are rendered homeless by the disaster. The total loss will be at least \$500,000. The shock of the explosion was plainly felt in Philadelphia, Millville, N. J., Chester, Pa., and other points thirty to fifty-five miles distant.

LOOKING FOR THE FIEND.

London Police Expect Jack the Ripper to Go to Work Again.

The Whitechapel scene in London has been thoroughly revived again. Every day is waiting now to hear of another murder. Very little heed was paid by the public to the three or four letters the ripper sent out last week saying he was going to begin operations, but the police, evidently acting on information of which the public was kept in ignorance, have taken extraordinary precautions. Superintendent Arnold and the most experienced detectives are persuaded another horrible crime is about to be perpetrated. The police incline to the belief that the various post-cards and letters received of late emanated from the real murderer, and it is a mistake to regard them as a hoax. Patrols in Whitechapel have been completely reorganized since Sunday. In every possible instance the officers who were on duty at the time the former crimes were committed have been recalled to their old beats. These men are more likely than others to detect the presence of strangers. Every person whose appearance causes suspicion is shadowed by plain clothes men, who are up in every style. If the suspicion is verified the party is politely conducted to the nearest police station to give an account of himself.

REPORTS HAVE BEEN EXAGGERATED

Ireland's Potato Crop by No Means a Total Failure.

The potato crop failure in the congested districts lying to the northwest, west, and southwest coasts of Ireland is complete, but in other parts the crop is about an average one, and other crops are entirely satisfactory. Irish editors are surprised at the American subscriptions. The reports sent to America have been exaggerated. There is plenty of work for laborers. People who have been relieved so often naturally look for money and become totally demoralized. Mr. J. N. Franks, Irish Land Commissioner, says it is not a mode of relief to lift 100 Irishmen out and plant them elsewhere. The Local Government Board in Dublin expresses the belief that it can cope with the question unaided.

The Conductor Acquitted.

At Buffalo, ex-Conductor Houtalling has been acquitted of the charge of manslaughter. He was in charge of the Lake Shore train, wrecked near Bay View, in which six persons lost their lives.

Destructive Prairie Fires.

Prairie fires in Morton County, North Dakota, destroyed property valued at \$100,000. A herd of 500 cattle was burned. Many farmers were rendered destitute.

Confessed His Guilt.

W. H. Crawford, under indictment at Decatur, Ill., for the murder of Mrs. Col. Mathias, has confessed his guilt to the State's Attorney.

A Circuit Train Wrecked.

Sells Brothers' circus train was wrecked at Latour, Ark. Three horses were killed and an elephant badly injured.

Interest on Government Bonds.

The prepayment of interest on Government bonds to date amounts to \$10,912,274.

An Indian as a Grand Juror.

John Eastman, a full-blooded Sioux Indian and chief of the Flandreau tribe, is a member of the Grand Jury in the United States Court at Sioux Falls, S. D. This is the first instance on record of an Indian serving as a Grand Juror.

Committed Ten Murders.

In the Houston County (Ga.) Superior Court at Perry, Thomas G. Woolfolk was a second time sentenced to be hanged Oct. 29 for the murder of ten members of his father's family in Bibb County in August, 1887.

END OF A LONG SESSION.

Its Work Done, the National Congress Adjoins Sine Die.

BOTH houses of Congress adjourned sine die Oct. 1, after transacting urgent business and sending a joint committee to ascertain that the President had no other business to present. The Vice President laid before the Senate three veto messages from the President, two on bills referring to the Court of Claims (the claims of Charles P. Chouteau and of the Portland Company of Portland, Me.), and one on a bill prohibiting the working and selling of lottery tickets in Columbia, for the purpose of gambling. The President's objection to the latter bill is that it does not prohibit book-making and pool-selling, but, on the contrary, permits it in the case of the Washington Jockey Club and of other clubs owning race tracks. If that form of gambling was to be prohibited (as the President thinks it should be) the prohibition should apply to all persons and all places. The three messages were laid on the table. In his prayer the Chaplain of the House referred to the approaching end of the session and invoked the divine blessing upon the members during the vacation. Mr. McKinley, after consulting with the committee appointed to wait upon the President, announced that the President had no further communication to make, and the House then took a recess. During the recess nearly all the members left the hall to make preparations for their departure from the city, and when the Speaker reconvened the House that official looked down upon a vast array of empty seats. He merely said that, according to the concurrent resolution, he declared the first session of the Fifty-first Congress adjourned without day.

PRICES ARE ON THE JUMP.

The General Average is 6 Per Cent. Higher than a Year Ago.

R. G. Dun & Co.'s weekly review of trade says:

Never before has there been in any month so great an increase in the circulation, or so great a payment of principal in the month just closed. Domestic trade is improving in all directions, and at least for the time there is also improvement in exports, which now show for the last month a gain of 7 per cent. over last year at New York.

The actual payments through clearing-houses outside New York were, in September, 16 per cent. greater than last year. This is partially due to higher prices, for the general average of commodities has risen 1 per cent.

during the last week and has been over 6 per cent. above last year for the last month.

Chicago notes besides heavy receipts of grain, meat, and cattle, a larger trade in dry goods than last year, and a marked increase in clothing. St. Louis notes unusual activity in all lines with the dry goods trade exceeding any previous year. The details given show that in all parts of the country and in all important branches of business there is phenomenal activity, and nevertheless there is comparative freedom from speculative excitement or disturbances. The general soundness of trade is shown by the reports of failures, which for the third quarter of 1890 were smaller in number and amount of liabilities than for the same quarter of 1889, though in Canada rather larger in both respects.

FLOUR AT MINNEAPOLIS.

The Output of the Week Shows a Slight Improvement.

The Northwestern Miller, of Minneapolis, says:

The mills improved a trifle on the amount of flour got out last week. The aggregate output for the week was 170,230 barrels, averaging 28,375 barrels daily, against 164,540 barrels the week before, 151,300 barrels for the corresponding time in 1889, and 178,100 barrels in 1888. One less mill is running this week, and though only of 350 barrels capacity the tendency in the face of light sales of flour is in the direction of curtailment. There were eighteen mills in operation this week, and they are getting out over 28,000 barrels per week. Freight rates eastward are this week advanced 4 cents per barrel, and a desire to get considerable flour shipped before the new rate takes effect prompts part of the present activity. There is little life to the flour market, and unless the demand improves soon more or less shutting down will occur, as the mills are about all caught up on orders. The sales of the last week have been of a scattering, small-lot kind and fell a good deal short of the manufacture. Prices are generally lower and considerable effort is made to sell. Parties who were 15-20 cents higher than the lowest a week ago have reduced their figures quite a bit, and quotations came nearer being uniform than is often the case.

THE WHEAT CROP OF 1890.

Considerably Below That of Last Year.

The Visible Supply.

The relative smallness of the wheat crop of the United States this year is beginning to tell on the visible supply. The sum of stocks at principal points of accumulation is now only 16,800,000 bushels, the same being 4.6 per cent. of the average for the five years last preceding at this date.

After making allowances for the difference in quantities in private elevators at the principal cities, the total now will scarcely be more than half the average of the five years ending with 1889, and about one-third of the stock in 1886. The crop of spring wheat in the Northwest is moving with moderate freedom, but the outflow of winter wheat has been disappointing, even to many who recognized the fact that the yield was much less than that of 1889. The smaller surplus in the hands of farmers to begin with was taken so eagerly by interior millers as to disprove the claim of considerable reserves from the crop of last year. If there were a large demand for export it would develop the fact that wheat is really scarce. Of course the crop of the present year is far from being used up, but the farmers who can hold what they have for higher prices are evidently disposed to do so, and these may yet prove themselves to be masters of the situation in establishing the scale of quoted value for the last half of the crop year.

WHAT THE ALLIANCE IS DOING.

Advancing Money to Southern Farmers on Cotton.

General Manager Gaither, of the Farmers' Alliance Exchange, in Montgomery, Ala., is proceeding in a painstaking, methodical way to advance the farmers money on their cotton, and adds: "I wish to say to all Alliance men, when you have some to sell, get it in lots of 100 to 1,000 bales, and while you are bulketing it place it where there is a railroad station agent and tell this station agent to write his general freight agent and give you the through rate on the cotton from the particular station to Liverpool."

more original claims than were allowed during the fiscal year 1889, and 6,385 more than were allowed during the fiscal year 1888. The amount of the first payments in these 66,637 original cases amounted to \$92,478,041, being \$11,036,493 more than the first payments on the original claims allowed during the fiscal year 1889, and \$10,179,223 more than the first payments on the original claims allowed during the fiscal year 1888. There were 20,638 pensioners unpaid at the close of the fiscal year who were entitled to receive \$4,357,347, which has since been paid from the appropriation for pensions for the fiscal year 1891.

RECIPROCITY TREATIES.
They Will Follow as a Result of the Tariff Bill.

The "unofficial" hint from the State Department that Senator Carlisle was wrong in saying advantage would not be taken of the reciprocity amendment in the tariff bill has caused something of a flutter among the Latin-American legations. It is a clear reminder that any country which hopes to get the benefit of free-sugar entry into the United States without giving a reciprocal market to this country will be disappointed. There is reason to believe that at the short session the Senate may have a chance to begin on the subject by ratifying two or three treaties. One is almost certain to be inaugurated with Brazil, while in spite of disclaimers Mexico is anxious for better commercial relations. The fear that a new treaty would meet the fate of the one negotiated by Gen. Grant and be made inoperative by the failure of the House to legislate no longer exists. If one or two of the Pan-American countries make the start, their neighbors won't be able to hold back, because the power given the President to reimpose the sugar and other duties would have to be exercised in justice to the countries which did offer treaties.

CONTENT WITH ONE WIFE.

Mormons Announce that They Will Give Up Polygamy.

At the general conference of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, at Salt Lake City, the official declaration of President Wilford Woodruff forbidding future any marriages in violation of the laws of the land was read and the congregation, numbering nearly 10,000 persons, including the apostles, Bishops, and leading elders of the church, by unanimous vote, recognized the authority of the President to issue the manifesto and accepted it as authoritative and binding. When the result was announced, George Q. Cannon, of the First Presidency, said the step was an act of God; that President Woodruff had gone into an executive session with the Almighty, and nevertheless there is comparative freedom from speculative excitement or disturbances. The general soundness of trade is shown by the reports of failures, which for the third quarter of 1890 were smaller in number and amount of liabilities than for the same quarter of 1889, though in Canada rather larger in both respects.

THE PREACHER MUST PAY UP.

The jury in the breach-of-promise case of Annie Husaboe against the Rev. Peter Roberts, brought at Scranton, Pa., returned a verdict in favor of the plaintiff for \$3,000. She sued for \$50,000.

SUING THE SALOONKEEPERS.

At Cedar Rapids, Iowa, Mrs. Alice Keogh has sued three saloonkeepers and the owners of the property on which the saloons were located, for \$2,000 damages each for selling liquor to her husband.

RAILROAD WRECK.

A passenger and a freight train on the Cincinnati, Wahash and Michigan Railroad collided at Anderson, Ind., causing a loss to property of \$25,000. No one was hurt.

AN AFFRAY AT ST. LOUIS.

One policeman was shot dead, another was cut to pieces, and a negro was fatally wounded in a St. Louis dive which the officers had entered to quell a disturbance.

AN ADVANCE IN PRICES.

Chicago dry goods merchants and tailors announce a rise in all lines of merchandise, owing to the passage of the McKinley tariff bill.

WOULDN'T ANSWER QUESTIONS.

Three farmers near Danville, Ill., were refused over to the United States Court for refusing to answer the questions of census enumerators.

NO MORE INDIANS IN THE SHOW BUSINESS.

Acting Indian Commissioner Bell instructed the agents of the various tribes to allow no more Indians to engage in the "Wild West" show business.

MAKING BEET SUGAR IN NEBRASKA.

The Oxnard Beet Sugar Company began operations at Grand Island, Neb., and in twenty-four hours turned out 300 barrels of refined sugar ready for market.

GAVE HIMSELF UP.

Nathan S. Pinckney, who robbed the Michigan Southern Railway of a large sum while in the road's employ at Grand Rapids, Mich., surrendered to the Aitkin (Ia.) police.

GOOD MEDAL FOR BEWITT.

At the Iron Congress, at New York, Mayor Hewitt was presented with the Bessemer gold medal. The Lyman Holley statue in Washington Square was also unveiled.

CLARKSON WILL GO TO CHINA.

It is announced by a Washington newspaper that ex-Fox's Assistant Postmaster General Clarkson will be appointed Minister to China.

WANT TO SEE THE PRESIDENT.

Kansas City is making efforts to have President Harrison pay her a visit on his Western trip.

RAILWAY BUILDING IN 1890.

During the first nine months of 1890 there have been 3,782 miles of new roads added to railway mileage of the United States.

TOO MUCH INTEREST IN POLITICS.

In a shooting affray growing out of politics at Livingston, Tex., one man was killed and three fatally injured.

A VERY OLD NEGRESS.

The death of a negro woman was 12 years reported from Antonio de los Cabos, Cuba.

THE FRENCH PRETENDER IN NEW YORK.

The Comte de Paris has arrived in New York. He was met by old army comrades.

THE MARKETS.

CHICAGO.

CATTLE—Common to Prime..... \$3.25 @ 5.95
HOGS—Shipping Grades..... 4.00 @ 4.75

SHEEP—No. 2 Red..... 3.00 @ 4.75
CORN—No. 2 Red..... 95 @ .95
OATS—No. 2..... 38 @ .33
RYE—No. 2..... 59 @ .60

BUTTER—Choice Creamery..... 29 @ .23
EGGS—Fresh, Full Cream, Sets..... .05 @ .09
POTATOES—Western..... 17 1/2 @ .18 1/2

INDIANAPOLIS.

CATTLE—Shipping..... 3.50 @ 5.00
HOGS—Choice Light..... 3.00 @ 4.75

SHEEP—Common to Prime..... 3.30 @ 4.50
CORN—No. 2 Red..... 40 @ .40
OATS—No. 2 Red..... 38 @ .33
RYE—No. 2..... 50 @ .50

ST. LOUIS.

CATTLE..... 3.50 @ 5.00
HOGS..... 3.00 @ 4.50

SHEEP—No. 2 Red..... 30 @ .40<br