

CURRENT TOPICS.

THE NEWS IN BRIEF.

FIFTY-THIRD CONGRESS.

THE July cotton reports show a slight improvement in condition over the report for June—89.6 against 88.8.

THE cash balance in the treasury at the close of business on the 11th was nearly \$120,000,000, of which nearly \$85,000,000 was gold.

ON the 13th the sugar planters at New Orleans appointed a committee to visit Washington and protest against the repeal of the sugar bounty.

ASSASSIN PRENDERGAST received the news of Judge Bailey's adverse decision, on the 11th, with a troubled look upon his face, which belied his claims to insanity.

SHERIFF BOWERS arrested twelve miners, on the 11th, on charges growing out of the recent strike at Cripple Creek, Col. Gov. Waite instructed Gen. Brooks to release them.

A HUMOROUS report in favor of repealing the 'statute regarding the docking of members' salaries who do not attend sessions of congress was made by the house judiciary committee on the 11th.

THE armor plate fraud investigation having resulted in nothing, the Carnegie company will endeavor to have the government return that \$140,000 fine assessed when defects in the plates were first reported.

THE loss in wages to the American Railway union men on strike is placed at \$150,000 per day, the total loss up to the 10th being about \$2,000,000. The loss to the railroads to the same date is estimated to be \$5,165,000.

THE failures in the United States, as reported by R. G. Dun & Co., for the week ended on the 13th, were 237, as against 374 for the corresponding week of last year. In Canada the failures were 49, against 25 last year.

SEVERE shocks of earthquake were experienced in Constantinople and vicinity on the 10th. Many houses in the Turkish capital were razed, and within a few hours accounts of fifty deaths resulting from the disturbance had been received.

EDGAR V. DEBS, the indicted president of the American Railway union, was called into Judge Grosscup's court in Chicago, on the 11th, and the private letters and papers taken from his office the previous night were, by order of the court, restored to him.

THE last barrier between the assassin Prendergast, sentenced to hang on the 13th for the murder of Mayor Harrison, of Chicago, and the gallows, was removed, on the 12th, by Judge Grosscup, who refused an application for writ of habeas corpus and a plea for stay of execution.

E. GILLMAN, a prominent business man of Arkadelphia, Ark., died at Indianapolis, Ind., on the 10th, while on his way to Asbury Park, N. J., in search of health. He was exposed en route to many hardships by reason of the railroad strikes, which greatly aggravated his condition.

THE federal grand jury at Chicago, resumed its work of investigating strike cases on the 12th. The cases of the men who had been arrested at different times since the strikes began were taken up and the testimony of detective and railroad employees who witnessed acts of violence was heard.

A MOB of non-English-speaking strikers at Ladd, Ill., attacked a passenger train that was guarded by regulars on the 10th. They were ordered to desist, but paid no attention to the warning, when the soldiers fired a volley which caused the death of two and serious injury to several of the rioters.

AN anarchist plot to burn the new French iron-clad Carnot was discovered when flames burst from her hold while being launched at the navy yard at Toulon on the 13th. A workman, arrested for causing the fire, confessed himself an anarchist and disclosed the names of several accomplices in the attempt to destroy the vessel.

WORD reached Indianapolis, Ind., on the 9th, of the death of Gen. Daniel McCauley at Gananoque, Nicaragua. Gen. McCauley was agent of the canal company, and died on the 6th. President Zelley has directed that he be buried with military honors. Gen. McCauley was an Indiana man, and was at one time mayor of Indianapolis.

THE Paris police are in possession of information that an anarchist who has manufactured bombs to be exploded in the Elysee palace, the chamber of deputies, the palace of justice and the bourse simultaneously, has started from the United States on an English steamer, his intention being to remain a short time in England before going to France.

THE threatened order calling out the allied trades unions of Chicago, numbering in the aggregate about 150,000, was issued on the 10th. At the same time General Master Workman Sovereign issued a manifesto and appeal to the Knights of Labor of the entire country to cease work until the prevailing labor troubles should be satisfactorily arranged.

GEN. JAMES B. FRY died at his residence in Newport, R. I., on the night of the 11th. The funeral took place in Philadelphia on the 13th, and was marked by an absence of military display, the family preferring to have the ceremonies attending the burial as private as possible. As head of the provost marshal's bureau, Gen. Fry was instrumental in recruiting the army during the civil war with more than 1,000,000 men.

THE skeleton of John Robbins was found in a hollow tree in Fulton county, Ind., on the 13th. He had fallen in, was unable to get out and had shot himself.

CHANCELLOR CANFIELD, of the Nebraska state university, has been elected president of the Ohio state university.

IN the senate, on the 9th, the naval appropriation bill was passed. The chaplain, in his opening prayer, invoked divine restraint upon the violence of lawless men who set themselves up against the statutes of their country. Mr. Peffer offered a series of resolutions looking to government ownership of inter-state railroads and coal beds; to the supply of money by the government alone; to a reform of the revenue system, and the revision of the revenue laws. In the house, after the transaction of some routine business, the remainder of the session was taken up with the consideration of district of Columbia business in committee of the whole.

IN the senate, on the 10th, the post office appropriation bill was passed; also house bill for the admission of Utah as a state, the latter not even requiring the calling of the yeas and nays. Most of the session was taken up in a fruitless discussion of Mr. Peffer's resolutions for government control of railroads, coal mines, etc. In the house a bill to amend the land-grant-forfeiture law of September 29, 1890, greatly extending its operations and restoring about 50,000,000 acres of land to the public domain, was discussed but not disposed of. In the consideration morning hour a number of bills of a more or less private or local nature were passed. The contested-election case of Thrasher vs. Elopoe, from the Eighth Tennessee district, was decided in favor of the latter.

IN the senate, on the 11th, the diplomatic and consular, the invalid pension and the military academy appropriation bills were passed without opposition. The pension bill appropriates \$150,000,000. The Daniel resolution endorsing the action of the president in his efforts to suppress lawlessness in connection with the Pullman boycott strike, was adopted without a division. In the house, the bill to amend the act of September 29, 1890, providing for the forfeiture of certain land grants, increasing the scope of the present law by including \$4,000,000 of land within its operations was passed.

IN the senate, on the 12th, the army and the fortifications appropriation bills were passed without encountering any opposition. The republican members of the committee on committee on the tariff bill having been excluded from the meeting of the conferees, Mr. Hale offered a resolution directing the chairman to inform the senate whether a full and free conference is being held. The resolution went over under the rules. In the house an even dozen bills of no general interest were passed, and senate amendments to the bill to provide for the admission of Utah into the union and the post office appropriation bill for the year ending June 30, 1895, were agreed to. Senate amendments to the pension, military academy and diplomatic and consular appropriation bills were non-concurring in and conferences ordered.

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