

THE SILVER DEBATE.

Synopsis of the Discussion in the United States Senate.

On the 11th Mr. Pugh (dem., Ala.) spoke in opposition to the repeal bill. He said it was the determination and unalterable purpose of the supporters of the repeal to stand upon their convictions of public duty and fidelity to their pledges to the people whom they represented, and who had honored them with their confidence on the vital question, until their physical strength was exhausted.

Mr. Teller (rep., Col.) resumed his speech against the repeal bill. He asserted, and he believed it could be demonstrated, that if it had not been for a preconcerted effort in the money center of the country to prevent the passage of the Sherman law, the country would have been better times in the finances of the country than the people were experiencing today. The calling of congress did not relieve the country; in fact, the condition became worse from the time congress was called than it was when it first convened.

Mr. Teller next directed himself to stock operations. A New York paper had published daily for some time the depreciation in value of stocks or the destruction of values occasioned by the Sherman law, as the paper said. The paper had finally got the amount up to \$700,000,000. It said that the great many stocks were selling on the market today for more than they were worth. He cited Northern Pacific, which he said had fallen from 70 to 17. It was said all the great owners connected with it unloaded when it was at 70. That company had \$250,000,000 of indebtedness; \$75,000,000 held in Germany; a great amount owned in Holland and England. He then instanced Erie stock. He did not suppose anybody pretended that Erie would have been sold at 100 if it had not been for the Sherman law. He then referred to Reading. Did any intelligent man believe that any of those three great concerns were solvent? Did not everybody know they were insolvent? This disturbance did not come from the Sherman law. It came from the misconduct of officials. Mr. Teller said he did not mean to say criminal misconduct, but that they did not deal fairly with their investors. He believed congress, he said, when it came to legislate upon this subject, to find the cause of the evil, and if within its power, to remove the evil.

Mr. Teller then yielded to a motion to go into executive session, saying that he had reached a point where he could quit for the present and he would take up another branch of the subject some other day.

On the 12th Mr. Mitchell (rep., Ore.) spoke in opposition to the repeal bill. He said that the fundamental problem to be solved was: "Are we to become a nation of monometallists?" He decided that the Sherman act had been the cause of the panic. The causes leading up to it were in part world wide and their origin not in this country, but in speculative dealings between London bankers and the people of South America, which resulted (through the American bank panics and the fall of securities) in bringing ruin to the doors of the barings and other moneyed institutions. The same causes—overtrading and land speculation—brought bankruptcy to Australia. These great and sudden shocks to the business world caused a sudden hoarding of gold, but of gold, silver and paper; a general calling in of loans on the part of bankers, a refusal not only to make new loans, but to extend old ones, while general distrust reigned upon every financial community. These were some of the causes which, in his judgment, instigated the panic, whose storm center had passed from South America, Australia and certain European countries, and which so recently were the cause of the United States panic. Sherman act had no more, in his judgment, to do with it than had the man in the moon or the recent fan-tailed coo. The fear of tariff revision and of the inauguration of a free trade policy had also had much to do with the panic. The trouble was a large measure started by the banks. New York bankers nudged the chamber of commerce of the city of New York and the metropolitan press. The chamber of commerce, in turn, gave the cue to boards of trade and chambers of commerce throughout the country. The hoarding started in perfect unison—all inspired across the seas—and finally the thing got away from them, proved a boomerang, and the banks suffered along with the rest. Mr. Mitchell devoted some time to show that it would be impossible to secure international bimetalism.

Mr. Hawley (rep., Conn.) declared himself for the pending bill first, last and always. There was one general statement which had been repeated and reiterated until he was tired of it, and that was that there was somebody who believed in the total destruction of half of the currency of the world. It was a terrible misstatement. Everybody knew that silver had been used these thousands of years. No man, no body knew that, although Great Britain was a champion monometallist nation, the people of that country carried more silver money in their pockets than the people of the United States did. All senators expected to continue the average amount of silver money in the country, as questioned by Mr. Mitchell. Mr. Hawley said he thought legislation in regard to silver needs to be in order to carry out the views advanced by him, but now he wanted the Sherman law repealed.

Mr. Teller (rep., Col.) said he knew what senators who talk about being bimetalists mean. They have never taken a single step leading to bimetalism, and they never will. This is a fight for the preservation of silver as money among the people of the earth, and there is not a man in this chamber who does not know it. Follow Great Britain if you want to. My allegiance is to our own people—to the people of my section and to the people of the country at large. I will devote my time to their interests, and no law, no measure, no contingency that can be put upon me will "phase" me in my opposition to this damnable bill.

Mr. Hawley replied to Mr. Teller by saying that after two or three or four months it should appear that the repeal of the Sherman law was going to desolate the west and the east it would be quite competent for congress to modify its action, and it would be very likely to do so.

On the 13th Mr. Shoup (rep., Idaho) spoke against the repeal of the Sherman law. He said the purchasing clause of the Sherman law was to repeal the Sherman act would be to remove the United States from the head of the nations which produced the precious metals; it would be to contract the currency to such an extent that the government would be compelled to issue fiat money; it would be to back the progress of the western states and ruin thousands of workmen. He would oppose with all the vigor of which he was capable the repeal of the Sherman law until some better substitute was adopted.

Mr. Dolph (rep., Ore.) reiterated some statements to the effect that the business disturbances were due to the threats of hostile tariff legislation, and proceeded to argue against the free coinage of silver and vigorously criticized those senators from the silver states who had attempted to make this question a sectional one.

On the 14th Mr. Daniel (dem., Va.) made an argument against the repeal bill. He said he brought to the discussion the subject of sympathy with every class of his fellow citizens who had been smitten with an evil financial dispensation. It would be unwise to say the Sherman law produced the panic. The state of its incipency cannot be traced to any act of local legislation. It began in South America, where there is no Sherman law. It swept over Great Britain, a gold standard country, where there is no Sherman law. The panic swept on to Australia, where the people are the richest, people in the world per capita, where there is no Sherman law. The panic got to Austria, Italy and India, and is now going all over Europe, without the dreaded presence of the Sherman law.

The republican party is delighted to attribute the panic to the Sherman law in order to escape its responsibility to the tariff. The McKinley bill sought the sheltering arms of the Sherman law. The gold monometallists are delighted to hide behind it; the work of their own hands. The bankers are interested in seeing the Sherman act repealed, because it would enable them to issue on which they can base currency.

Law after law, called why I oppose the repeal of

the Sherman law now, after having opposed its passage in 1890. My answer is this: "Is there a man who, having a patched coat, would throw away in the dead of winter before he got a new one?" Do the supporters of the repeal bill propose to restore the conditions existing at the time of its passage? O. no. The Bland-Allison act—a democratic measure—was repealed by the Sherman law, but the repeal of the Sherman law will not restore the Bland-Allison law.

The democratic platform does say: "Repeal the Sherman law," but it also says: "Repeal the McKinley law." But would senators repeal the tariff law and leave the treasury without a cent? Would they repeal the Sherman law and leave the country without silver money? I do not doubt the repeal of the Sherman law would have some beneficial effects in many directions. It would give some immediate ease to business and transactions partly through the hush which would be made. Commerce would revive, but the revival would be temporary.

If the declaration in the Voorhees substitute were changed into legislative provision (as suggested by Mr. Wallcut last week) the vote for it, and the Sherman law would be repealed without another hour of debate. What is international conference wanted to settle the silver question? The American senate is the place to settle it.

As to the president, I supported him loyally in three campaigns and expect in many a day of battle yet to bear his colors and defend his cause. I shall not pay him the tribute of a courtier and flatterer who would say: "Behold a brave and honest man who has convictions." But I will show him an American senator and also his convictions and is brave and honest enough to be true to them. Not for a class, but for all the people; not for a section, but for the union; not for a special interest, but for the whole do feel.

On the 15th Mr. Lindsay (dem., Ky.) spoke in support of the repeal bill. He called attention to the fact that the bill contains not a word looking to the discontinuance of silver coinage under existing laws, and that it leaves unimpaired the provisions of the act of 1890 for the coinage of silver in the future. He characterized as most extraordinary the position taken that we ought not, but as the law is, to repeal it until it is known what further legislation in the interest of silver the president will propose. To the common mind it would seem that the best thing to do with a bad law would be to repeal it, and to a business man it would seem that the best thing to do with a losing transaction would be to abandon it. The question in the president's mind had been whether the country could afford to continue its purchase of silver bullion. Replying to Senator Pugh's recent speech, he said he had read the president's message in vain to find the evidence upon which the senator rests his belief that the president does not intend to keep faith with his people and the people.

Mr. Lindsay announced that he would accept amendment to the pending bill which tolerates the further purchase of silver bullion.

On the 16th Mr. Allison (rep., Ia.) spoke in favor of repeal of the silver purchasing clause of the Sherman law. He said that for sixteen years, up to 1892, no political party had gone before the people favoring the free coinage of silver or the destruction of gold as the measure of value. The law of 1890 was a temporary law. It was a compromise, and it was a mistake. Nobody believed at the time that it would stand upon our statute books. It is just as plain as the noon-day sun that if we go on purchasing silver and putting it in the treasury as bullion, it is only a question of time when we will find that we are paying for silver when we will find that we are paying for gold, and then we will be at a silver standard. He continued:

"I want to repeat my belief now, that all history discloses the fact that when you make even a small difference between the established ratio and the true commercial ratio, the result is disastrous. I undertake to say that it is utterly impossible for us to deal with this question of ratio at this time. The ratio of 16 to 1 would be an increase of ratio because we have known the price of silver to change by 20 per cent. in a single day. The moment the action of the India council was known silver went down 20 per cent. In the next week it went up 15 per cent. How, then, can we make a ratio that will measure the value of all debts and all credits on the basis of the bullion value of silver? The situation in India has changed the situation here. We are trying now to keep up the price of a thing that will go down below the cost of production. It is a matter of fact that we have up to the British policy in India. The inevitable effect of what we are doing here is either to uphold or to destroy or impair the ability of England to maintain its policy in India. If we cease to purchase silver, we will be unable, in my opinion, for England to carry out that policy and it will become an utter failure. "If this government will undertake the policy of an international agreement between silver and gold, I believe that policy will be accomplished, that within a brief period we will be able to restore the parity between the metals and practically to rehabilitate silver. My belief is that if we are to have an international agreement we must make it appear to the world that we are serious and we ourselves do not mean to take care of silver."

DEATH OF MILTON HAY.

Close of the Busy Career of One of the Foremost Lawyers of Illinois.

SPRINGFIELD, Ill., Sept. 16.—Hon. Milton Hay, one of the oldest citizens of Springfield and for many years a leading attorney, died Friday, aged 76 years. He had been in failing health for several months, a sufferer from Bright's disease. He was brought home from Mackinac, Mich., two or three weeks ago in a feeble condition, and it was then quite evident that the end was near, though his death was unlooked for at the time it occurred. Friday afternoon he was sitting on the lawn talking with his daughter and had just eaten some ice cream, when he expired suddenly in his chair.

(Milton Hay was born in Fayette county, Ky., July 3, 1817, and emigrated with his father's family to this city in the year 1832. Until coming of age he worked for his father, attending the common schools at intervals and receiving such education as these schools afforded at that time. He studied law in the office of Stuart and Lincoln, and was licensed to practice in 1840. He began practice at Pittsfield, Pike county, and there practiced his profession until the year 1858.

At one time he was associated in law practice with Gen. John M. Palmer, again with Senator Colton, the firm being Hay & Colton, and for several years was senior member of the firm of Hay, Green & Little. He was twice married, his first wife being Catherine Green, who died in 1857, leaving two children. In 1861 he married Mary Logan, daughter of Judge Stephen T. Logan. She died in 1874, leaving two children—Kate, now Mrs. Stuart Brown, and Logan, who now resides in this city. Hay was elected to the constitutional convention of 1872 from a district composed of the counties of Logan and Sangamon, and although not of the dominant party in the convention was made chairman of the committee on revenue, and also served on the judiciary committee. He actively participated in all of the proceedings of that body and in forming the new constitution, which was subsequently adopted by the people. In 1874 he was elected as a representative of Sangamon county to the legislature and acted as chairman of both the judiciary and revenue committees of that body. He was one of the committee of five appointed by the legislature to revise the laws of the state, and their work was adopted at an adjourned session of the legislature. In 1885 he was appointed by Governor Oglesby to revise the revenue code. The work of this committee, however, was not adopted by the legislature to which the report was submitted.)

Samuel L. Copeland has been arrested at Sioux City, Ia., charged with being one of the two men who robbed the National bank at Moorhead, Minn., June 27, of \$4,600.

AWFUL DISASTER.

Two Sections of a "Big Four" Passenger Train Collide Near Kankakee, Ill.—Seven Persons Killed and Many Injured.

MANTENO, Ill., Sept. 19.—The second section of the Big Four express, No. 45, south bound, crashed into the rear end of the first section at 9:20 o'clock Monday night. Seven persons were killed and twenty severely injured and it is probable that many bodies are buried under the wreck. The disaster occurred near this place. The engine of the second section ran clear through one sleeper and two coaches. Not all of the bodies, it is thought, are yet recovered, as the wreckage is piled about the tracks in such a manner that the small wrecking force has not been able to make much impression on the mass.

In the confusion it has been impossible to secure the names of but two of the dead. These are Chris Kimmel, of Dayton, O., and David Jackson, of Cynthiana, O. The injured so far as known are:

Albert Jay Sholter, Ripley, O., had cut face and head, probably fatal; George Brackney, Wilmington, O., limbs crushed, probably fatal; C. B. Wischart, Franklin, O., internal injury; William Evans, Fowlerton, W. Va., internal injury; Miss Sadie Evans, Fowlerton, W. Va., internal injury; Mrs. Chris Kimmel, Dayton, O., head and body injured; L. H. Blanton, Cincinnati, fatal; James W. Brown, Wilmington, O., internal and head; Mrs. James W. Brown, Wilmington, O., internal injury; Olive Patton, Carmel, O., body bruised; Emily Temple, Sinking Springs, O., head and body; J. W. Means, Chester, S. C., slightly injured back and head; Blanche Belson, Sinking Springs, O., limbs badly injured; Anna Cowles, Lower Albany, Ind., Jessie Morse, Cincinnati, badly injured internally; Emma Gallatin, Columbus, O., back and limbs bruised; Miss Libbie Jackson, Cynthiana, O., internal and other injuries, probably fatal; J. W. Foster, Springfield, O., scalp wound, and eye gouged; Mrs. J. W. Foster, ribs broken, internal and probably fatal.

The first section of the train carried one Ohio & Mississippi sleeper for Louisville, Ky., one Ohio & Mississippi chair car for Greensburg, Ind., five day coaches and baggage and express cars. It had run down the road to a point two and one-half or three miles south of Manteno when a local train which was preceding it at some distance slowed up and the flagman on the local was sent back up the track to intercept the on-coming first section of train No. 45 from Chicago. The engineer on the first section obeyed the signal and at once drew his train to a standstill. The flagman of the first section of the through train in turn started to the rear, but the second section of the train was following along so near that he had gone but a few yards when around a sharp curve in the track the headlight of the following train appeared. The first section was now at a standstill and the locomotive pulling the second section had not in the least lessened its full speed of 35 miles an hour. The curve in the track, behind which the train on ahead was not visible, was much too near the doomed coaches to allow the engineer of the approaching train to diminish his speed noticeably.

The frantic flagman, seeing the train coming on with a great rush and hissing of steam and trembling, jumped down the steep embankment just in time to save himself from death. The engineer, upon observing the danger as his locomotive rounded the curve reversed his engine, seeing the hopelessness of any attempt to check the speed of his train in so short a distance, and realizing the danger, he jumped from his cab down the embankment, and his fireman followed him.

The crash came then, and the locomotive drove ahead with mighty force into the heavy sleeping-car, smashing the framework of its rear end into kindling wood. The sleeping car was in turn driven into the day coach next forward, which gave way more completely, its timbers being lighter. This coach and the coach just forward of it were almost completely demolished. All of the three cars were crowded with people, more than half of those in the sleeper having retired for the night. The passengers were thrown from their berths and from their seats. Some were crushed under beams and between the broken, grinding timbers of the wrecked cars. Awful confusion and grief prevailed.

People from farmhouses in the vicinity heard the crash when the collision occurred. Twenty men were on the scene within half an hour and began helping uninjured passengers and trainmen in the work of rescue. One brave fellow, whose hat had blown off and who hadn't stopped to put on his coat, was the first to rush to the scene. The right of one of them. On the contrary, he is a man whose speech-ax he bro- rate, are made in plain, rational style, just as and found he were talking to an in- the blank. It may be surmised The upper that when Mr. Teller be- middle and the chief actor, in fact the struck the actor, in the most dramatic Having of the session it had great passengers upon his colleagues, who, into the pr they agree with him or and children recognize the honesty of his rendered unconscious by the blow, had partly recovered their wits and were crying piteously. The men were hunting for a way out. The passengers were helped out of the windows that had been broken and were told to remain together and be as brave as they could until doctors, who, the train people assured them would soon arrive from Kankakee, came. All of these persons were hurt severely. They could not join in the rescue work. One woman staggered about for a moment and fell to the ground. A little girl fell sobbing on her prostrate form. Having got the living out of the death-trap the rescuers went back and brought out four ghastly bodies, two of them women. The two coaches that were crushed presented an awful sight to the rescuers. They carried or helped out sixty people, two of whom were stone dead.

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WORK OF FIENDS.

Unknown Men Murder an Indiana Farmer, His Aged Mother, His Wife and Two of His Children—A Third Child Fatally Injured—Robbery Their Object—Blood-hounds Placed Upon Their Trail.

WASHINGTON, Ind., Sept. 20.—A farmer came galloping into Washington Tuesday to announce that six murders, all in one family, had been committed early that morning in Harrison township, Daviess county. This section of the county has been long notorious for its disrespect of all law. It is 9 miles from this city. The tragedies had occurred at the farm residence of Denson Wratten.

A neighbor had called at the house to inquire after the condition of Mr. Wratten, who had been in bed with a violent case of typhoid fever. He saw the side door open leading into the farmer's sitting-room. In the middle of the floor, with the blood still oozing from several deep gashes in her head, lay the body of Mr. Wratten's aged mother. There was evidence that she had engaged in a terrible struggle with her assassins. The walls were bespattered with blood and several pools were on the floor. Both hands of the old lady were nearly severed at the wrists. She had held on to her leather sack containing several hundred dollars of pension money until her clutch had to be broken with blows from the robbers' weapons. This money is supposed to furnish a motive for the crime.

Near the body of old Mrs. Wratten was the lifeless form of her daughter-in-law, who had apparently stood by the side of the elder woman and fought the murderers until she received the fatal blow that cleft her forehead, splitting the skull to the crown of the head. A sharp hatchet or ax had been used, and there were several deep gashes in the shoulders and arms of the younger woman.

Two little children were found in a corner of the next room behind the bed with their heads chopped. One, a girl of 15 years, was not dead, but unconscious. A 3-year-old baby was found in its crib. The entire family had been butchered.

On the floor beside the bed was the body of the typhoid patient with his throat cut and head nearly severed. Two of his fingers were cut nearly off, showing that even in his weakness the sick man had attempted to combat with his assassins.

The murders were probably committed with a hatchet, and entrance was made through a window on the porch, which entered the room of the grandmother. Inspection of the premises showed the footprints of three men in the barnyard and it is believed a party of tramps did the work.

The murder was probably committed early in the night, for when an examination was made by physicians they stated that, from the discoloration of the skin, the blows must have been made ten or twelve hours before.

Various theories have been advanced, and the most probable one is that the perpetrators were after money which the old lady was supposed to have, as she had been receiving a widow's pension for many years, and was thought to have from \$1,000 to \$2,000 secreted around the house.

The contents of the drawers were turned out on the floor and the whole house seemed to have been ransacked, but in their hurry they overlooked \$32 sewed in the dress of the younger Mrs. Wratten and \$7.66 in the bureau of the room which the older Mrs. Wratten occupied.

While the coroner went to the house to take evidence the neighbors for miles around gathered and with several scores from the city formed a hunting party and started to scour the country for the murderers. Word was sent to Seymour for the bloodhounds used there in tracking thieves. They arrived Tuesday afternoon and were taken to the house in the country and set on the track of the robbers.

YELLOW FEVER SPREADING.

Discouraging Reports Received from the City of Brunswick.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 20.—The yellow fever situation at Brunswick, Ga., is constantly growing worse and there seems little hope now of averting a yellow fever epidemic. A telegram has been received from R. D. Murray, surgeon of the United States marine hospital service, addressed to Dr. Wyman, stating that twenty cases of yellow fever are now under treatment at Brunswick and that there was a hood on Monday. He believes relief is no need of more physicians, and states that volunteers do not seem to be welcome at this time. He also states that none of the nurses from abroad seem to be immune from the disease, and that it is inevitable. A local remedy is to be opened. The city do not seem to be in any better condition. The situation is one of the most serious of the season. It is a matter of life and death.

Star of a Michigan Jurist. Judge Albert Miller was stricken with paralysis. He died at an early hour Tuesday morning. Judge Miller was born in Vermont in 1810 and came to Michigan in 1830, located in Saginaw county in 1832, and has since lived in the Saginaw valley. He built the second sawmill in what is now Bay City. He was one of the first members of the Presbyterian church, and has had more to do with the development of northern Michigan than any person now living. He was 83 years of age.

MINIE BALLS.

The duke of Cambridge, who is commander in chief of the English army, has never smelt powder except at a review, and is not likely to if he can help it. He was a major general at the age of twenty-six, thanks to his good fortune.

SERGE PROKOP DOGONINIKO, a Russian soldier, committed suicide lately because a young girl would not marry him, but instead called him an "old man." This was more than the giddy fellow, who was not much over ninety-nine years of age, could stand.

THE "BIG FOUR" DISASTER.

The Revised List Shows Eight Dead and About Eighteen Wounded—Criminal Negligence Charged Against Trainmen.

KANKAKEE, Ill., Sept. 20.—Eight persons killed and eighteen injured in the record of the "Big Four" collision at Manteno, Ill. Three more deaths may yet be added to the list. The list of injured is about the same as already published. The revised list of dead is as follows:

Charles Dickendasher, Columbus, O.; Miss Minnie Dugan, Lower Albany, Ind.; David Jackson, Cynthiana, O.; Christ Kimmel, Dayton, O.; James W. Powell, New Vienna, O.; Mrs. Mattie Scholter, Ripley, O.; Jake Simper, Columbus, O., and L. L. Sweet, Louisville, Ky.

Daylight brought little mitigation of the horror of the accident. It increased the list of the dead by one and the responsibility of those to whom were entrusted the lives of the passengers on the train. Monday night there was talk of a heavy curdy in the track, of blinding clouds of dust, and of lights that could not be seen. Dawn showed many things. It showed a stretch of track straight as a taut bowstring and bedded with dustless road metal. It brought to light the testimony of a man who saw the lights on the rear of the ill-fated train, and with it came the ugly rumor of an engineer asleep at his post and a flagman negligent of his duty.

Train No. 45 leaves Chicago in two sections, ten minutes apart. Each train is made up of mixed sleepers and day coaches. Ahead of the first section Monday night was train No. 23 of the Illinois Central. A little south of Manteno No. 23 got a hot box and had to pull up. A flagman was sent back to flag the approaching No. 1 section of train 45. The signal was observed and this section stopped.

Oliver C. Duncan, brakeman of this section, says he swung off his train and went back to flag the second section. Section No. 2 of 45 was pounding along behind at the rate of forty-five miles an hour, but the brakeman claims he had time to go back quite a distance. He says that he signaled the train. His alleged signal was not heeded and the second section tore down upon the rear of the train ahead.

The track was straight, and is straight for miles each side of the spot, yet it was not until the headlight of No. 930 gleamed upon the rear coach of the train ahead that Engineer Ames reversed his lever. As he did so he jumped. His fireman stuck to his post.

What happened then is soon told. Driven on by the ponderous weight of engine No. 930, backed by momentum, those two heavy Pullman cars simply came together. Caught between their mammoth mass was the little day coach, and the day coach went to pieces. It was annihilated. The roof was flung off bodily, and one side fell out, but of the remainder not a piece the size of a man's hand could be found.

All the dead and all the injured were in the coach that was demolished. There was no telescoping of cars; engine No. 930 is a bit bent and the rear sleeper has lost its roof, but nothing else was damaged. It was only the one car that suffered, and of the people in it not one escaped injury. They were caught and crushed. Eight were tortured to death.

After the collision the crews of both trains vanished as though they had never been. Among railroad men in Kankakee the belief is openly expressed that the engineer of the second section was sleeping at his post. At any rate, according to the statement of Flagman Duncan, given above, no attention was paid to his signal. Duncan's story is corroborated by his conductor, W. B. Tanner, one of the oldest employees of the Big Four system, especially that portion of it which declares that his signal was not heeded.

J. T. Tamscott, fireman of the engine pulling the second section, flatly denies all this. He says no light was sent back and that the first section had no business to be where it was. He said: "The first section sent back no light. It was due in Kankakee ten minutes before the time when the accident took place and we never thought of its being just ahead of us. When we approached Manteno Law Ames, my engineer, step to the side of the cab and look out. I also looked out and saw a little red light ahead that seemed to me to be a turned switch light. I had no time to jump. The next minute we struck the car ahead of us. The engineer jumped, but I stuck by the engine and came out all right."

Coroner Willman, of Kankakee county, in which Manteno is situated, impaneled a jury and began taking testimony Tuesday afternoon. The two engineers and Fireman Thometz were the only persons examined so far, the inquest having been adjourned until this morning at 9 o'clock. The evidence so far as given tends to show that the cause of the wreck was the lack of bright-red lamps on the rear of the first section of train No. 45.

FLOODS IN VIRGINIA.

Village of Criglersville and Four Large Mills Swept Away.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 20.—Advises received here from Madison Courthouse, Va., say that the floods in that section have caused immense damage to crops and fencing. Four large mills on the banks of the Rapidan river and three dwellings in the county have been washed away. The village of Criglersville, on Robinson river, is almost swept out of existence. Many narrow escapes have been made, but so far no lives are reported as lost.

Sent to Italy.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 20.—The president has nominated James Van Allen, of Rhode Island, to be ambassador of the United States to Italy.

STUE ENDS OF THOUGHT.

Good pay inspires a poet. POVERTY is hereditary. HEALTH is Hope's best tonic. A MILLION dollars means a million cares. FRAGRANCE is the invisible beauty of flowers. The finer the church the greater the congregation's vanity. If ambition tapers off at the top it would be less dangerous. WHAT a man thinks depends largely on what he eats and drinks.

CONFESSION.

Fireman La Liberty Tells the Story of the Mineral Range Train Robbery—Most of the Gang Captured and Part of the Stolen Money Recovered.

CALUMET, Mich., Sept. 19.—George La Liberty, a locomotive fireman lately discharged from the Duluth, South Shore & Atlantic railway, has been arrested, supposed to be the man who handled the throttle on Engineer Shuler's engine at the time of the train robbery Friday. He is said to have made a confession implicating King and his companions, and also Express Messenger Hogan. La Liberty told the officers that the money was contained in a trunk which he shipped from Houghton to Marquette Saturday morning. The trunk was found by the officers, but the money was not there. The officers now feel that they have the right men and made no mistake in holding King and his companions. D. W. Hogan, the express messenger, was arrested at 1 o'clock Sunday night at his boarding house in this city.

La Liberty's confession shows that he covered the engineer and fireman while the others looted the train. King smashed the express car door with a sledgehammer; Chellow and Butler rifled the safe and the rest carried away the plunder. He implicated Express Messenger D. W. Hogan, of the Mineral Range train, which was robbed, whose arrest followed at Hancock.

Then followed a detailed account of where the trunk was left along the line of the Mineral Range road, and a special train and some officers were sent after it. They found the trunk, and on its arrival at the Houghton national bank it was opened and found empty. On La Liberty's information \$14,000 was recovered by the officers, it is claimed. The empty condition of the trunk is accounted for by the suggestion that the money was stolen a second time from the robbers themselves.

The men now under arrest are: A. S. Cannon, of Hancock, a young man of good family, whose trunk was used to carry away the money; John Ling, an athlete, Chellow, a saloonkeeper, of Negaunee; Michael and John Shea, saloonists here; Tom Winters, baggage man; Moses Loggin, brakeman on the train robbed; D. W. Hogan, the messenger on the robbed car; Ed Hogan, saloonist; W. Shoup, coach driver, and a man named Butler, an inmate of Chellow's place.

AN AMERICAN DOLLAR.

A Proposition Offered in the Senate by Senator Stewart of Nevada.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 19.—At the opening of the senate Senator Stewart (rep., Nev.) submitted an amendment to the silver repeal bill, authorizing the president to invite the governments of the republics of Mexico, Central and South America, Hayti and San Domingo to join the United States in a conference to be held in Washington within four months from the passage of the act to secure the adoption of a common silver coin (which shall be a dollar of not more than 383.3 grains, nor less than 359.9 grains of pure silver) to be issued by each government, to be a legal tender in all commercial transactions between the citizens of all the American states. The amendment proposes an innovation as to the character of the conference in that it provides that the action of delegates shall be binding upon the government which sent them. When the common coin is agreed upon each government represented at the conference shall open its mints to unlimited coinage for the benefit of depositors of silver bullion.

FOREST FIRES STILL RAGING.

Ashland Overhung by a Cloud of Smoke—Valuable Timber Burned.

ASHLAND, Wis., Sept. 19.—The city is overhung by a heavy pall of smoke, and a bad forest fire is burning south of the city along the line of the Wisconsin Central road, within a mile of town. Fires are also raging in the direction of Bayfield. On the Odana reservation and in the White river district, according to the reports of land hunters who have explored the skirts of the burned district, several settlers have been burned out, although all efforts to obtain the names of the persons whose homes have been destroyed have proved fruitless. The destruction of the pine on the reservation, however, has been enormous, and Capt. Day, one of the pine-land hunters who has viewed the burning forest, estimates that no less than 75,000,000 feet of pine on the reservation were burned, causing a loss to the government of at least \$630,000.

FOR PAID-UP PENSIONS.

Plan of Congressman Hudson to Settle Claims of Pensioners in Full.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 19.—A bill proposing the settlement and payment in full of pensions growing out of the late war of the rebellion has been introduced in the house by Representative Hudson (Kan.) It provides that any pensioner may surrender his certificate and receive in full payment of all claims against the government on account thereof, ten times the annual payment thereon. This act shall not apply to the obligations of the government toward minor children of deceased soldiers now on the pension rolls. Widows and minor children of pensioners who shall surrender their certificates under this act shall not be entitled to receive any other pension.

A Fisheries Congress.

CHICAGO, Sept. 19.—An international congress of people interested in fisheries and fish culture will be held here beginning October 16. This includes the study of every form of life in the waters of the globe that is or has been the object of industry. There are five general sections or divisions—fishery laws and administration, the science in relation to fisheries and fish culture, methods of capture and distribution, fish culture, the world's fisheries. Each section has its own presiding officer.

M. B. Scanlan, a Boston commercial traveler, was drugged, perhaps fatally assaulted and robbed of \$200 by crooks at Niagara Falls.