

# The Independent

ZIMMERMAN & SMITH,  
Publishers and Proprietors  
PLYMOUTH, INDIANA.

## DIED IN THE FLAMES.

### AWFUL HORROR IN A BALTIMORE RESIDENCE.

Inmates Suffocated Before They Could Escape—Death of Mrs. Marshall Field—"Bill" Nye Called to His Long Home—Booth Declares Independence

#### Baltimore Fire Horror.

As the result of a fire which started in the cellar of the four-story marble front residence of James R. Armistead, at Baltimore, at 8.15 o'clock Sunday morning, seven persons are dead, one is fatally and four others are slightly injured and a fine dwelling is completely wrecked. The most astonishing circumstances about the disaster is that although the fire broke out at an hour when many persons were on the streets, and hardly five minutes elapsed before the firemen forced their way into the house, the seven mentioned were past rescue. No more than a few inches from the furnace was a wood partition. This was ignited and with great rapidity the flames leaped up a stairway in the center of the dwelling to the roof. Hangings and woodwork furnished abundant fuel, and in the dense smoke the members of the household, some of whom had not yet arisen and none of whom had left their apartments, lost their way, groped about wildly, sank down, suffocated and perished.

#### Number of Dead Is Increasing.

The latest estimates place the number of deaths from the explosion of twenty tons of dynamite on a switch at Viendard, near Johannesburg, on Wednesday evening, at 120 and about 400 persons were more or less seriously injured. A number of the wounded have succumbed to their injuries. The white victims were chiefly of lower class of Boers. Whole families of white people were wiped out. President Kruger has been chosen president of the relief committee, and he is directing the work of clearing the ground at Viendard and sheltering the thousands of people who have been rendered homeless. The popular subscription raised in behalf of the distressed people already amounts to over \$500,000.

#### Nye Breathes His Last.

Edgar Wilson Nye, the humorist, died at his home, "Backslacks," eight miles from Asheville, N. C., at noon Saturday, of apoplexy. He had been in a helpless and hopeless condition since he was stricken on Tuesday night, not having spoken or recognized any one. Nye's brother, a prominent attorney of Minneapolis, Minn., arrived about three hours after his brother's death. His daughters arrived from Washington city, and were at the bedside until the end.

#### Now in Open Revolt.

Commander and Mrs. Ballington Booth are out at New York in a published statement saying that under no conditions whatever can they accept further proposals from London nor enter again under the authority of government of Salvation Army international headquarters in England. This is looked upon by the faithful as open rebellion. It is, however, greeted with quiet approval by all who have yet spoken upon the subject.

### BREVITIES.

While unloading logs at Calumet, Ind., Henry Stevenson, foreman of the Adams State Works, was instantly killed by a log rolling on him.

E. R. Campbell, ex-clerk of the United States District Court, was shot and killed by his son, Robert Campbell, in Nashville, Tenn. Young Campbell has been regarded as mentally unbalanced for some time.

A report is current that twelve or fifteen Buffalo men were lost on the ice outside the harbor during Wednesday night's storm. They were out to fish through the ice and were blinded by the spall that arose.

Conductor Bernard Mackell, formerly employed by Henry G. Hilton Jr., and his wife, Sylvia Gerrish Hilton, of New York, have brought suit against the latter to recover \$500 promised him for interposing when her husband attacked her.

At Gurley, Ala., Dick Childress, a notorious desperado, was shot and killed by Policeman Dick Irwin. Childress was sentenced to the State penitentiary for six years about eight years ago. He was charged with complicity in burning the jail at Gurley, cremating two men.

Samuel Chary, aged 88, died at Flemingsburg, N. Y. Chary had in his possession a hat which he had worn in the log cabin campaign of 1840, when Gen. W. H. Harrison was elected President. Mr. Chary's friends, in compliance with his dying request, will send the hat to Mrs. Dimmock on her marriage to ex-President Harrison.

A passenger train on the Chesapeake and Ohio Railroad ran into a buzzsaw, containing Richard Steele and his brother, John Steele, near Winchester, Kan. The vehicle was demolished and both men were instantly killed. They were among the most prominent farmers in Central Kentucky and were connected with the best families. Both were married men and leave families.

Mrs. Nanette Field, wife of Marshall Field, the Chicago merchant, died Sunday morning at her villa in Nice, Alpes Maritimes, France. Mr. Field received a dispatch Saturday night stating that Mrs. Field was very ill with pneumonia, but at the time was inclined to think that his wife's condition had been exaggerated. A second dispatch received Sunday afternoon announced her death.

For the first time since Sept. 7, 1895, the gold reserve Friday passed the \$100,000,000 point, the exact figures being \$105,092,843. After deducting Thursday's withdrawals the true amount will be approximately \$104,000,000. The total amount of gold so far received and reported on account of bond purchases is \$65,000,000.

A bank at McLouth, Kan., was entered and the safe blown open, the robbers securing \$3,500 in cash. The burglars then stole a team and drove to Lawrence, where they bought tickets for an east-bound train.

## CURE FOR PHTHISIS.

### "ASEPTOLIN" SAID TO BE A CERTAIN REMEDY.

Dr. Edson Discovers a Beneficent Form of Carbolic Acid—It Kills Germs, but Does Not Harm the Human Tissues.

#### Encouraging Number of Recoveries.

Dr. Cyrus Edson, ex-commissioner of health for the city and county of New York, announces that he has discovered a remedy for consumption. Already, he declares, many victims of the dread disease have been cured by it. In the last issue of the Medical Record, under the caption "A Rational Treatment for Phthisis Pulmonalis, Together With Some Notes on a New Remedial Solution," the doctor gives a description of his discovery. The name of the new remedy is "Aseptolin." It is a beneficent form of the ordinarily dangerous carbolic acid and is injected under the skin, by which operation it finds its way into the blood and to the seat of disease. Upon authority of Prof. Henry A. Mott, aseptolin is composed as follows:

Water ..... 37.2411 per cent  
Phenol ..... 2.7401 per cent  
Phosphoric-phosphorylhydrazide ..... 0.1888 per cent

In order to understand Dr. Edson's discovery it is necessary to remember that Pasteur and Koch discovered and established the fact that germ diseases had as their ultimate cause the presence in the body of minute organisms, called germs, microbes and the like. It was not long before these germs were cultivated, as it was called.

Having these cultivated colonies, scientists made many experiments. They found that these would kill the germs. They found, for example, that if a mixture of one part phenol or carbolic acid to three-thousand parts of water were floated over a colony of germs and left



DR. CYRUS EDSON.

there for twenty-four hours all these germs died. It naturally occurred to them that if carbolic acid would kill germs outside the body it would kill them inside, and the conclusion that if they could kill all the germs in the body they could destroy the cause of the disease and thus cure the latter was apparent. The experiment was promptly tried. The result was some of those in whom these injections were put developed abscesses at the point of injection. Far more, however, were poisoned by the acid and the idea had to be given up. It was too fascinating, though. Doctor of Paris made a mixture of one part of the acid to one hundred of water and, putting in a little salt, continued the injections, getting from them a larger percentage of cures.

#### Aseptolin Is Produced.

Dr. Edson had his attention directed to this subject in the early part of 1895, and after a long and tedious experiment produced a fluid which he called aseptolin. It is perfectly colorless, looks like crystal, and smells strongly of carbolic acid. It contains 2.75 per cent of carbolic acid, and to every ounce of it there is added one-hundredth of a grain of a new salt discovered by Dr. Edson during his work—a salt called phosphoric-phosphorylhydrazide. The aseptolin is injected under the skin and thus directly into the blood. The dose is 100 minims, or drops, injected with a hypodermic syringe once in twenty-four hours.

Now, what happens after the injection? If the total amount of blood in the person be remembered it will be seen that after the injection the blood becomes a liquid, having one part of carbolic acid to from 1,200 to 1,500 parts of blood. In other words, it is a liquid from 2 to 2 1/2 times as strong with the acid as was the one to 3,000 solution which killed the cultivated germs. The circulation of the blood applies this carbolic solution to every part of the body many times in an hour. Wherever there is disease and the germs which cause it that spot is being continually washed with this carbolic solution, in which no germ can live more than five hours.

Tuberculosis—consumption—is a germ disease, being caused by what are called tubercle bacilli.

Dr. Edson discovered aseptolin in September, 1895. To date, according to the doctor's statement, 217 persons having consumption have been treated with it. Of these, four showed no improvement, and of the four one died. The rest, 213, showed improvement. Of these, twenty-three have been discharged cured, sixty-seven live, in the opinion of the physicians having the cases, be discharged cured, making ninety in all. In ninety-one cases the patients have been under treatment for too short a time to enable the attending physicians to say anything except, "The patients are better." In thirty-two cases the improvement was only temporary, but this record means about 40 per cent of cures, and these cases have been those of patients with the disease in all stages.

As the result of Secretary Chamberlain's representations, Messrs. Phillips, Farrar and Fitzpatrick and Col. Rhodes have been released on bail at Johannesburg by the Transvaal authorities.

It is stated that a movement is under way by large stockholders in the United States wall paper trust to dissolve that corporation because of its failure to pass any dividends since last April on \$8,000,000 of preferred stock.

The total amount received and forwarded to Turkey for relief work thus far by Frank H. Wiggin, assistant treasurer of the American board, is \$70,022.59.

After having been aground off Fire Island for nearly a week the Wilson Line steamer Otranto has been hoisted.

## CROP REPORTS.

### "Farmers' Review" Correspondents Tell About Wheat and Rye.

Reports have been received from the Farmers' Review correspondents in ten States on the condition of winter wheat and winter rye.

In Illinois the condition is at present about fair, though presenting a great variety of developments. In the counties that report a low condition, the present state has been brought about by a dry fall and late seeding. In Indiana the growth has been fair, but there has been some damage by freezing and thawing. Ohio reports indicate the general condition as fair to poor, a great deal of the wheat not having made a fair growth by reason of a dry fall. Some of the seed sown did not come up at all. In Michigan the crop is in better condition, and has been covered with snow nearly all winter, though the plant generally made little growth in the fall. The condition in Kentucky is hardly fair at present, and in some counties is very poor. Missouri reports that in a good many counties the plant is not very small. It seems, however, to be healthy, and to have been injured little as yet by thawing and freezing. In Kansas the present outlook for wheat is good. Some localities report freezing and thawing of the crop, and there may be some little loss on this account. Nebraska reports a general average of fair, though in some counties the outlook is very poor. In Iowa the crop is very uneven, and the reports vary all the way from very fair to very good. Wisconsin reports indicate that the general condition for the State is low. Some counties report good, but in many the plant is in bad shape. Some counties have planted very little winter wheat.

Winter rye is in fair to good condition in Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Michigan, poor in Kentucky, fair in Missouri, generally good in Kansas, fair to good in Nebraska, Iowa and Wisconsin. In most of the States the plant is small, on account of dry weather in the fall.

### SLAIN BY DYNAMITE.

#### Explosion Lays Part of Johannesburg in Ruins.

An explosion of dynamite has occurred at Viendard and the poor quarter of Johannesburg, Transvaal, has been blown to pieces. The windows of every house in the city were broken by the force of the concussion. The scene of the explosion is the old town and is fortunately at a distance from the main business and residential portion of the city. It was inhabited largely by Kafirs, the dwellings being of an inferior order for the most part.

The explosion caused much excitement at first because of the recent disturbances in the Transvaal and the fear that it might have been due to a political coup. There was therefore a general turning out of the guards to see that no violence followed the work. The cause was soon learned and the excitement subsided in a measure. It rose again when the fearful nature of the catastrophe became known. The portion of the city demolished was thickly populated, although there were comparatively few whites who lived there. The dynamite which caused the catastrophe filled eight trucks, which were being shunted. The explosion caused an immense hole thirty feet deep. Every house within a radius of half a mile of the explosion was razed to the ground. Forty dead, nearly all terribly mutilated, have been taken from ruins. Two hundred of the most severely injured were admitted to the hospital, where several died.

### THE BROWN SNOW.

#### Chief of the Weather Bureau Explains the Phenomenon.

Amateur microscopists wiped the dust from their lenses and proceeded to study the snow which spread a slate-colored mantle over the Northwest Tuesday night. After long gazing and much figuring various opinions were reached. Each opinion had a public following until Prof. Willis L. Moore, chief of the weather bureau, sent a dispatch from Washington presenting his view of what spoiled the snow. Then the audiences of the amateur observers grew smaller. Prof. Moore said:

"The black snow that has fallen lately in Chicago and the Northwest is entirely similar to the great fall of January, 1885, the nature of which was thoroughly investigated by the weather bureau at that time. Microscopic examination proved that the black deposit contained organic structures—such as diatoms and spores—and about 6 per cent of the finest possible inorganic matter, such as make up the ordinary fine silt and clay soils. This fine material is easily caught up by the winds whenever they exceed twenty miles an hour. It may be carried great distances, and it is largely brought down by snow or rain. Large portions of the country from Nebraska southward are covered by this fine soil. A gale of wind has been known to carry away six inches of this fine soil and deposit it at a distance of 100 miles."



All the powers except England have assented to the Sultan's proposal to recognize Prince Ferdinand, of Bulgaria.

Andrew Boyd, of Montreal, accused of forgery and arson, was remanded in London to await the arrival of extradition papers.

Two young women have been appointed gardeners at Kew Gardens on condition that they wear trousers when at work.

Emmanuel Church, Lambeth, has just set up an alabaster and green marble record, carved by a workman in the congregation in memory of his wife.

Since Cambridge University admitted women to the honor of examinations fifteen years ago 659 women have obtained honors in mathematics, classics, moral and natural sciences, theology, history, law and Oriental, mediaeval and modern languages.

Admiral McClintock, in a London interview, said he could not believe Dr. Nansen had discovered the north pole. If he had succeeded in drifting around the pole, he said the news could not come from the Siberian side and the idea of a sledge journey was incredible on account of the distance to be traversed.

## BETRAYED BY A GIRL.

### A YOUNG MISSOURI COUNTERFEITER CAUGHT.

Gave His Sweetheart Spurious Coin to Pass, and She Was Arrested—Infernal Machine Found in Cuba's Capital—Fields' Bloody Deed.

#### Sweetheart Betrayed Him.

John W. Smith, a young farmer of Princeton, Mo., is under arrest at St. Joseph on charges of counterfeiting. Mrs. Larna Lenton, a sweetheart of Smith's, informed the officers. She claims Smith offered her counterfeit dollars to pass on merchants, and she was arrested and placed in jail. She wrote letters to John and Abe Brummett, of Princeton, threatening to expose them as members of the same gang of counterfeiters if they did not secure bond for her release. They easily secured the bond. Meantime the Federal officers got possession of the letters and other evidence against the Brummetts. They have not yet been arrested. A large amount of counterfeit coin was found at Smith's house.

#### Revolt in the Army.

Commander and Mrs. Ballington Booth have been forced to relinquish their command of the Salvation army. That they keenly feel their position is evidenced by a manifesto issued by them at New York Friday, in which words of strong rebuke are addressed to Herbert Booth, to whom they were compelled to surrender their keys and offices. It is possible that this said action will lead to a secession of the American army from the parent English body. By the general public the manifesto will be construed as indicating strained relations in the Booth family, which have heretofore been entirely unspiced. It has been intimated that Commander Herbert Booth is anxious to succeed Ballington Booth in this country, but after this statement of the manner in which he treated his brother, many members of the Salvation army would find it difficult to yield to him that loving and loyal obedience which the best interests of the army demand.

#### Confessed the Murder.

All within sixteen hours Alfred Fields committed one of the most brutal murders in Chicago police history, was arrested and confessed to the commission of a crime at which the most degraded of human beings must shudder. Mrs. Ellen Randolph was slain slaughtered in her bed in the flat at 2458 Dearborn street Thursday, just before noon. There were fourteen distinct wounds about her head and body, made by the blunt end of a hatchet, and the bed and other bloody evidences of the crime to have been set on fire by the murderer. Fields confessed he murdered the woman to secure \$75 which she had, but says he was hired by Ed McLaughlin, who is under arrest.

#### Bomb in Havana.

It would appear that the long-anticipated demonstrations of the insurgents inside of Havana are commencing. Thursday night an infernal machine was found near the Aguila de Oro cigar factory. The police are trying to find the authors of the attempted outrage. The autonomist Mayor of Matanzas and his brother, who recently joined the insurgents, have been captured by the Spanish authorities. They will be tried on the charge of treason. According to a dispatch received at Madrid from Havana Antonio Maceo attacked James, burned the prison there and destroyed several houses by fire. The inhabitants, it is added, assisted the troops in repelling the insurgents, who lost twelve killed and many wounded.

#### Fitz Wins in One Round.

The big prize fight was fought despite the efforts of two countries to prevent it. It was a fizzle at the best, and was pulled off near Lantry, just over the Texas border. Peter Maher's championship aspirations expired in ten seconds after Bob Fitzsimmons landed a right cross on the big Irishman's jaw. The blow came after one minute and thirty-five seconds of actual fighting. It put a quip on Peter Maher; it gave Fitzsimmons a chance to chuckle over a second hand title, and it opened up the floodgates of Jim Corbett's wrath to see the title which once crowned his brow resting on the little pinhead of his hated Australian rival, earned with hardly an effort.

### NEWS NUGGETS.

Ex-Gov. George D. Robinson is suffering with apoplexy at his home in Chicopee, Mass., and his condition is critical.

All the powers have recognized Prince Ferdinand as ruler over Bulgaria in accordance with the request of the Sultan.

Charles H. Race, of Chicago, ex-cashier of the Burlington (Kan.) National Bank, is on trial at Fort Scott, Kan., charged with embezzling \$75,000 of the bank's funds.

"Pioneer" William Scott, of Delphos, Ohio, reached his one hundredth birthday. Although physically unable to move about, his mind is as active as ever. He claims to be the only original Jackson Democrat living.

Theodore Durrant, the condemned San Francisco murderer, was not executed Friday, owing to an additional respite of twenty days granted on the 12th inst., in order to permit the prisoner's attorneys to prepare their bill of exceptions. This will delay the consummation of the sentence pronounced by Judge Murphy until the early part of March, and the prisoner will probably spend the whole or the greater portion of the interval in San Quentin penitentiary, where he is at present confined.

Unmistakable of the fact that nearly all of the products of Uruguay are permitted entry into the United States free of duty, the Government of that country has seen fit to decide to impose duties ranging from 5 to 25 per cent, on agricultural and other machinery and on a list of essentially American products which have heretofore been on the free list.

The German residents of Montevideo, Uruguay, have taken steps to raise a fund with which to purchase a warship, to be presented to the Emperor of Germany. An appeal to the Germans of Argentina to join in the undertaking has been issued.

Chauncey M. Depew has declined an invitation to address the law students of the State University at Lawrence, Kan. His reason for making the declination, it is said, was that as the faculty had recently refused Col. Robert G. Ingersoll permission to speak before the students he could not accept.

## GEORGIA HORSE TRADERS.

### They Have a Gala Time on the First Tuesday of Each Month.

Did you ever attend a real first Tuesday horsewapper convention and wade around in the mud and listen to the swaggers and bluffs indulged in by the devotees of the horse yard? Did you ever stand around and listen to the hilarious greeting to one another as they ride, drive, lead, drag and God only knows how they do get some of the rips into town? Did you ever take a survey of the flapping, halting cavalcade of four-for-a-penny stock, of which you can never see one so bad but that another is worse, all drawn up on first Tuesdays to be swapped? Then, dear reader, you can tolerate a brief pen picture of a real horsewapper's convention, where liquid stimulants are required to give gab as well as check to the trader. Judgment is not so much required, as there is hardly a bare possibility of loss in any transaction that may occur.

"How'll you swap?" cries one would-be trader with a limping jade with both bow legs and knock knees, and of such stock the more a man owns the poorer he is.

"Right," is the answer of another trader with a sway-backed, big-legged monster that couldn't chew a lump of mush.

"Come this way and swap for the gray mare, just 10 years old (none of them is older than 9). I want to trade her for a horse."

And if such a trade is made in three minutes that same man is showing a proposition to trade that horse for a mare or a mule.

Whips and spurs are in constant demand to keep awake or induce a stir among the stacks of horses that wearily drag about on exhibition, where every apology is made for any defects that may be apparent. The spavin-legged, hobbling skeleton of a horse, it is explained, fell through a bridge a few days previously and slightly injured his limb, but of course will be all right in a day or two. The swayed shadow is tenderfooted, if bony, and pricked with a nail, if shod, while some better-looking horse, doctored up for the occasion, but which in all probability is not worth the club it would take to knock him in the head, is represented to be hopelessly afflicted with every disease that horseflesh is heir to. By such representation the real condition of the horse is adroitly concealed, and a "go back," as they call it, for cheating, is estopped, because the horse was represented to have every conceivable complaint, though his appearance did not indicate it.

All sorts of jeers were thrown out with the shooting banners that are heard everywhere, such as, "How'll you swap that race horse for a put of peanuts?" or "How much boot will you give between that stump sucker and a bee course?" These sallies are given good-humoredly and received in the same spirit. Horses are exchanged for pocket knives, pistols, watches, suitcases, dogs, anything. Last Tuesday one man exchanged his horse for a cow, and, saddling her up, he mounted and rode around, scattering others for a trade. With as much complaisance as ever, and there is another wonderful feature about this business. Every horse trader, when his dozen trades are made and his day's work finished, returns home at night to brag of what he has made during the day, but the most astute financier would be greatly puzzled to figure out his profits. Any man, it would seem, could discover the loss incident to and growing out of his possessions. But this is a brief account of business in the horse yards of Carrolltown on first Tuesday.

### Uses of Perfumes.

Perfumes should be used sparingly, so that they may suggest faintly the odor of flowers. Says Harper's Round Table:

Fresh rose-leaves thrown into your bureau drawers and scattered in the boxes where you keep your faces and handkerchiefs, and sprigs of lavender or lemon verbena left there to dry, will impart a pleasant sweetness to whatever lies among them.

Orris-root powder in little sachet bags of china silk, or strewn lightly between folds of tissue paper, will give to your clothing in closet or wardrobe a delightful, faint odor of violet.

If you use a delicate soap, with a sweet, clean perfume, not of musk or anything strong or pronounced, and put a few drops of alcohol or ammonia in the water when you bathe, you need not be afraid of any unfavorable comment on your daintiness. Perfect cleanliness is always dainty. Soil and stain, dust and dirt, are never anything but repulsive.

### Love Laughs Again.

Mayne Pence and Frank Stanley are to be married. The engagement was announced recently at Anderson, Ind. This puts an end to a romance in which bloodhounds and all kinds of stage effects have played a part. Stanley, during the time he has been paying attentions to the young lady, was constantly harassed by his rivals, who stole his horse and buggy on several occasions, necessitating him to swim the river going home. They assaulted him, and, as a last resort, they cut off and stole Mayne's golden tresses one night while she was asleep. Two damage suits and half a dozen other litigations followed. The hair was never found.

### Call It a Locomotive.

A Scotchman (England) gentleman who undertook to drive a horseless carriage the other day on the highway was fined £1 15s 7d for not sending a man with a flag twenty yards ahead of his locomotive when it was in motion.

The less you think about some things, the more you know about them.

## WORK OF CONGRESS.

### THE WEEK'S DOINGS IN SENATE AND HOUSE.

#### A Comprehensive Digest of the Proceedings in the Legislative Chambers at Washington—Matters that Concern the People.

#### Lawmakers at Labor.

The speech of Senator Davis of Minnesota, supporting the resolution of which he is the author, enunciating the policy of the United States on the Monroe doctrine, was the event of Monday in the Senate. Senator Mitchell of Oregon, chairman of the Committee on Privileges and Elections, presented the views of the majority of the committee favoring the seating of Mr. Dupont as Senator from Delaware. The agricultural appropriation bill occupied the attention of the House. An amendment was pending when the House adjourned making mandatory the execution of the provision in the bill for the distribution of seed. An amendment appropriating \$42,300 for a new edition of the "Horse Book" was adopted. Mr. Dulzell, from the Committee on Ways and Means, reported a resolution of inquiry calling on the Secretary of the Treasury for an exhaustive report relative to the sale of bonds under the resumption act between the two periods of 1879 and March 1, 1893, and between the latter date and Jan. 1, 1896. The resolution was adopted.

The session of the Senate Tuesday furnished a succession of breezy incidents with frequent sharp personal exchanges between Senators. Mr. Hill had a lively tilt with Mr. Tillman during the debate on Mr. Peffer's resolution for a Senate investigation of the recent bond issue. Mr. Allen joined issue with Mr. Gear and Mr. Wolcott over the course of the Pacific Railway Committee in conducting its inquiry. Two appropriation bills, the military academy and the pension bill, were passed. Efforts were made to amend the military academy bill by increasing the number of cadets by two from each State—ninety in all—but after a debate of three hours the plan was defeated. The pension appropriation bill, carrying \$142,000, was passed after ten minutes' debate. The House passed the agricultural appropriation bill. It carries \$3,158,192. The section of the revised statutes for the purchase and distribution of "rare and uncommon" seed which Secretary Morton declined to execute in the current appropriation law was repealed; the appropriation for seed was increased from \$130,000 to \$150,000, and its execution was made mandatory upon the Secretary.

The House devoted itself strictly to business Wednesday. The army appropriation bill, carrying \$23,275,902, was passed, the conference report on the urgent deficiency bill was accepted, and the bill to extend for five years the time in which the government can bring suits to annul patents to public lands under railroad and wagon road grants was passed. An amendment was adopted limiting the application of the act to "railroad and wagon road grants." The substitute for the bill offered by Mr. McRae (Dem.) of Arkansas to repeal outright the limitation of the act of 1891 was defeated, 72-149. In the Senate Mr. Carter of Montana offered a resolution to recommit the tariff bill to the finance committee for further consideration. The diplomatic and consular appropriation bill was passed during the day. About sixty private pension bills were passed during the day. The bill pensioning the widow of the late Secretary Gresham as brigadier general, at \$200 monthly, with an amendment making the amount \$100 monthly, went over without action in order to permit Mr. Voorhees to speak against this amendment.

The Senate Thursday was engaged in the Pacific railroad hearing. In the House the conference report on the diplomatic and consular bill was agreed to, the Senate amendments to the pension bill were sent to conference and the Indian appropriation bill was taken up. The latter bill carries \$8,630,935, or \$132,792 less than the law for the current year. In connection with a proposition to increase the salaries of Indian inspectors from \$2,500 to \$3,000, the salaries fixed by law—the bills of the last two years have only appropriated \$2,500 each for these salaries—both Mr. Cannon and Mr. Dingley, the Republican leaders on the floor, appealed to the majority in view of the situation of the treasury to keep down expenses and refuse to take steps in the direction of increased salaries, but their appeals were in vain and the action of the Committee on Indian Affairs in restoring the salaries was sustained, 87 to 59. Nothing else of importance was done.

The House devoted all day Friday to consideration of the Indian bill, and made slow progress. In committee of the whole it refused to reduce salaries of Indian inspectors from \$3,000 to \$2,500. The Senate was still occupied with the Pacific Railroad hearing.

### Hard on Alpine Guides.

The people who live to make life hard for others are at work in Switzerland. A Tyrolean court has recently ruled that the Alpine guide is to be held responsible not only for the adequate equipment, but for the physical soundness, of tourists who charter his services. This making a medical inspector of the guide will be a decided thorn in his path. The next slip will be to render sea captains liable if their passengers are seasick.

### Chameleon Silks.

Changeable or chameleon effects in silk, fancy satins and silk-and-wool mixed fabrics will continue to be very largely represented among spring importations, and to correspond with these will be made a superb display of wholly new Parisian and iridescent gowns, galleons, elaborate passementeries and appliques for dress garnitures.

The oil of tobacco found in the stems of long-used pipes, or obtained by distillation at a red heat, is one of the most active and powerful poisons known to the chemist. A single drop will often cause death in the case of a dog or cat.

The British navy contains 85 armored ships, 147 unarmored ships, with 6,403 guns, while the German navy has 25 armored ships, 27 unarmored ships, 33 gunboats and 200 torpedo boats, with 1,000 guns.