

TO BE A SHARP CONTEST.

Indications That the Financial Fight Will be to a Finish.

THE SUBJECT TO BE CONSIDERED IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE.

Senator Vest Introduces a Bill to Fix the Number of Grains in Gold and Silver Coins—Also a Bill Calling on Congress to Speedily Enact Such Laws as Will Maintain the Parity Between the Two Metals—Senator Hill Puts Himself on Record on the Money Question.

Special to the Record-Union.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 8.—The indications are that the financial fight in Congress will begin at once and that it will be fought to a finish. Investigations already show that the friends of the measure favor the question being settled in Committee of the Whole, without reference to a standing committee. Under the rules the question would have first to go to the Committee on Coinage, but there is a disposition to suspend the rules, and it is believed assurances will be given the silver advocates that they will be given a fair chance to debate the question in all its phases, and that, with this understanding, they will consent to its immediate consideration without reference to committee.

The intention of the advocates of the repeal of the Sherman Act is to suggest a reasonable time for debate on all questions, with the understanding that a vote will be taken at the conclusion. This course, it is understood, is with the consent, if not the advice, of the President.

The plan is to have the free-silver men open the ball with a bill embodying their demands, then the anti-silver men will present substitute bills embodying their views, whereupon the battle will be joined and the struggle begun. Both sides are of the opinion that a vote can be reached in two weeks after the debate has begun.

Cockran of New York, representing the anti-silver men, says they will not make more than three speeches, leaving the rest of the time to the silverites. It is hoped by this means to prevent filibustering and all parliamentary sharp practice.

Hill has given assurance that no attempt will be made by the silver men to filibuster.

Among the many compromises that will be proposed is one by Bankhead of Alabama, for the suspension of the Sherman Act till the end of the present year, and authorizing the national banks to increase their circulation to par with their bonds.

As a result of canvasses, the friends of the unconditional repeal of the purchasing clause of the Sherman Act are a good deal more confident that they will carry their point. It looks like a majority for the repeal, though it will not be put through without a hard fight. The claim is that the sentiment of the country is so strongly in favor of repeal that the opposition will not dare to filibuster against it.

The silver men, on the other hand, laugh at the proposition that repeal can be carried without a compromise. They declare it cannot be put through the Senate in six months.

Senator Carey of Wyoming has surprised his silver friends by coming out flat-footed for the repeal of the silver clause of the Sherman Act immediately and unconditionally. It is intimated that Manderson of Nebraska and others may be driven to vote for it rather than delay action.

Senator Vest to-day introduced a bill to fix the number of grains of gold and silver in the gold and silver coins of the United States the silver dollar to contain 494.4 grains of pure silver or 516 grains of standard silver.

Vest also offered a joint resolution setting forth that the American people, from tradition and interest, favor bimetallicism; that it is the established policy of the United States to maintain the parity between gold and silver, and that it is the duty of Congress to speedily enact such laws as will effectually maintain these objects.

The most significant bill introduced in the Senate, perhaps, was the one by Senator Hill of New York. The measure he presented to-day leaves no doubt as to his position on the financial issue. While repealing the purchasing clause of the Sherman Act, it unqualifiedly pledges the country to bimetallicism. Senator Hill's bill is as follows:

"A bill to repeal certain sections of the Act of July 14, 1890, entitled 'An Act directing the purchase of silver bullion and the issue of Treasury notes thereon, and for other purposes,' is hereby repealed.

Section 2. This repealing Act, however, is not to be construed as abandoning bimetallicism, but it is hereby declared that the policy of using both gold and silver as standard money of the country shall be established, and to the accomplishment of that end the efforts of the Government shall be steadily and safely directed."

The Western people are felicitating themselves to-night on the position assumed by Senator Hill. They are pleased that he should have taken a majority for bimetallicism, and do what as to indicate his willingness to favor subsequent legislation looking to the restoration of silver as a money metal.

The Republican Senators held a caucus to-day and discussed the situation from various points of view. No fixed policy was determined upon. It was agreed that the Democrats must assume the responsibility for all that is done, but at the same time the Republicans will be guided by patriotic impulses, and do what they think is proper to help the country in remedying the evils that are believed to exist. It is probable another caucus will be held soon.

BEFORE CONGRESS.

The President's Message Read in Both Branches.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 8.—The Senate, after the morning routine, took a recess till 12:45 to await the arrival of a President's message.

Before adjourning the credentials of George C. Perkins, under appointment of the Governor of California, in place of the

late Senator Stanford, were presented, read, and the oath of office administered to the new Senator.

On reconvening the message was read. Sedition in the history of the Senate has a message been listened to with such close attention. Every Senator seemed on the nervous strain not to lose a word.

As soon as it was ended Voorhees moved that it be printed and referred to the Committee on Finance. The message was thereupon referred to the Committee on Finance, with orders that it be printed immediately.

Dolph of Oregon gave notice that he would, after the morning business, address the Senate on the subject of finance. A large number of petitions for and against the repeal of the Sherman Act were presented and referred. Then it was announced that the introduction of bills was in order.

The first bill of the session was introduced by Hill of New York. Its title was: "To Repeal Certain Sections of the Act of July 14, 1890, the Sherman Law." It was referred without reading to the Committee on Finance.

The next two bills were introduced by Stewart of Nevada. Their titles were: "To Restore the Right of Coinage," and "To Supply the Deficiency in the Currency." The latter bill was read in full. It directs the Secretary of the Treasury to issue silver certificates equal in amount to the silver bullion in the Treasury purchased under the Act of July 14, 1890, in excess of the amount necessary at its coinage value to redeem the treasury notes issued under that Act, and to use the same to provide for any deficiency in the revenues of the Government, the surplus to be used to purchase bonds at their market price, not exceeding twelve per cent. premium.

Stewart said that he desired to call the attention of the Finance Committee to the latter bill. Its purpose was to give immediate relief. Hill provided he said, for issuing \$100,000,000 of treasury notes to pay for bonds to be deposited by banks as security for the notes. The notes could be afterward retired with bonds. That would give about \$150,000,000 of increase in the currency, and would give immediate relief. The Senate should not delay action when the country was in such a state of panic. It would be unpatriotic for any man to get up a discussion now, but the silver men did not believe that they could allow the Sherman Act to be repealed, because they believed that that would be the end of silver coinage forever. They could not agree to that, but they did not want to be put in the position of contending against what was a solution necessary at the present time. He was in favor of any temporary measure that would give relief, and in the meantime discussion of the whole financial question could go on.

At the close of Stewart's remarks his bills were referred to the Committee on Finance.

Lodge introduced resolutions for a vote on the repeal of the silver-purchase law on the 23d instant.

Hale of Maine offered a resolution fixing the hour of daily meetings of the Senate after to-morrow at 11 o'clock. He said the President had very aptly, and in no uncertain tone, given the business to the Senate and House to attend to, and had quoted the maxim, "He gives twice who gives quickly." His object in offering the resolution was to strengthen the President's hands by increasing the length of the working day, and thus decreasing the number of days that must elapse before the adoption of legislation which the President recommended. If the Senate were to take a vote on August 23d, as had been proposed by Lodge, and which he thought two-thirds of the Republican Senators would favor, 10 o'clock would be a better hour to meet than 11, but he was willing to let it stand at 11. He did not propose to have a vote taken on it now, but would move its reference to the Committee on Finance.

He hoped the Committee on Finance would get together to-morrow, and could take a joint resolution repealing the purchasing clause of the Sherman Act, and the Senate could get to work upon it Thursday.

Gorman resented Hale's remarks as being made to gain partisan advantage. It was "small politics" that had suggested the resolution. The Senate dare not, as the Senator from Maine knew, dispose of such a question in haste. The Senators on both sides were divided in opinion as to the proper remedy to be applied. The joint resolution repealing the purchasing clause of the Sherman Act, and the Senate could get to work upon it Thursday.

Voorhees, Chairman of the Finance Committee, said that that committee would be convened day after to-morrow. Several Republicans—Why not to-morrow?—I shall issue a call to-morrow for the committee to meet Thursday to take up the great question, as it must be taken up, far away from speeches, and cheap demagogues, such as we have been listening to. The idea of dealing with the question in a hop-skip-and-a-jump style suggested by the Senator from Maine, is amazing in the Senate of the United States, particularly in the case of the Senator who is now forward to undo what he has helped to do. The Senator from Maine forgets that every course of the Sherman Act comes home to roost on that side of the chamber, not on this. Not a single vote on our side was given for that miserable Act. The idea of the Senator from Maine appealing to me to make haste to undo the infamy and fraud which he himself voted to hasten on this country, is about the most refreshing thing that I have witnessed in thirty years of public life. [Laughter and hand-clapping on the floor and in the galleries.]

Sherman said that the Act which was now sought to be reversed had been caused by the imminent danger of the two houses agreeing to a bill for free coinage of silver. On this subject Sherman went into some details which have been frequently published.

Vest said the Senator from Ohio had made extraordinary statements, which in justice to all Democratic Senators ought to be now considered. The Senator had stated that the Sherman Act had been enacted in order to prevent the passage of a free silver bill.

Sherman—To prevent a greater evil. Vest—is that the correct statement?

Sherman—The House provided for the monthly purchase of four and a half millions dollars' worth of silver, which would now buy \$500,000 ounces. To defeat that measure, and also to pre-

vent the passage of a free coinage bill, as passed by the Senate, this compromise measure was agreed upon.

Teller said the discussion would not be closed on the 22d of August. A question of so much importance could not be disposed of properly in thirty days, or in sixty days.

Discussion here closed, Hill's resolution and Lodge's resolution both lying on the table till to-morrow, when they will be again laid before the Senate.

Adjourned.

IN THE HOUSE.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 8.—After reading the journal the House took a recess till 12:45 P. M., pending the receipt of the President's message, the joint committee of both houses having unavoidably been delayed in the business of notifying the Chief Magistrate that Congress was organized and ready to hear from him.

When the House received the President's message it was read. The reading was listened to with intense interest and in dead silence. There were a number of broad smiles on the Republican side at the President's allusion to tariff reform as a secondary issue just at this time. At the conclusion of the reading of the message it was loudly applauded by the Democrats.

The Michigan election case was then taken up. Messrs. Weadock, Sprinzer, Brown, Heard and O'Farrell argued in favor of Richardson, Weadock stating that the action of the Supreme Court of Michigan was clearly without jurisdiction.

Oates of Alabama said the case was a difficult one to decide. Two members came from one district, each properly certified. The matter should not be disposed of in haste, and he suggested that the question be referred to the Committee on Elections when appointed.

Dingley moved that the matter be referred to a special committee of five members, with instructions to report within ten days.

Dingley's motion was lost—139 to 194.

Then came a vote on the Republican resolution, declaring Belknap entitled to his seat on a prima facie case, and it was defeated—yeas 114, nays 198.

O'Farrell's resolution for the immediate swearing in of Richardson was agreed to without division, and Richardson came forward and qualified.

On motion of Catchings, a resolution was adopted authorizing the Speaker to appoint Committees on Rules, Accounts, Enrolled Bills and Mileage, with the membership to which they were entitled in the Fifty-second Congress, and referring the rules of that Congress to the Committee on Rules.

Adjourned till Thursday.

Agent Murphy's Duties Enlarged.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 8.—Secretary Morton has decided to enlarge the scope of Special Agent Murphy's duties in Europe, and he will be instructed to use his best efforts to introduce other American produce beside cornmeal. It is hoped by this means the market for California wines, brandies and fruits may be enlarged.

UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD.

Plan Agreed Upon for Renewing Sinking Fund Bonds.

NEW YORK, Aug. 8.—At a meeting of the Union Pacific Board of Directors to-day a plan was agreed upon giving the present holders of sinking fund bonds an opportunity to renew the bonds under the present conditions and rate of interest for six years, the company reserving the right for the trust to draw at par after the first year, or redeem the whole amount of bonds September 1, 1894. The matter was placed in the hands of a special committee consisting of Orr, Gould, Atkins and Government Director Anderson to perfect details. Subscriptions have already been received from the directors for a material amount of the extended bonds upon the above terms.

Further subscriptions are expected. The company reserves the right to reject any amount in excess of \$3,800. Circulars will be issued to bondholders as soon as they can be prepared. The September interest of extended bonds will be prepaid.

The following statement presents the matter in a condensed form, the statement showing the amount of the sinking fund of 8 per cent. bonds outstanding, amount of cash in the hands of the trustees applicable to the redemption of said bonds and the estimated amount to be received to September 1, 1893, for sales of mortgaged lands, etc.: Union Pacific Company sinking funds outstanding January 1, 1893, coupon bonds, \$4,721,000; registered bonds, \$455,000; total, \$5,176,000; balance in the hands of the Union Trust Company, trustees, January 1, 1893, representing the amount of the sinking fund contribution, \$251,504; balance in the hands of the Union Trust Company, trustees, January 1, 1893, representing the proceeds derived from lands sold, \$850,163; estimated amount of cash to be received from land sales, etc., for the eight months to September 1, 1893, \$500,000. Total, \$4,494,665. Balance of debt to be provided for, \$8,771,334; land or notes outstanding January 1, 1893, \$3,897,890; less estimated January to August, \$27,188. Total, \$3,870,702. Add then the estimated value of unsold land January 1, 1893, \$3,079,000, and the total becomes \$6,949,702. The amount of \$8,448,992, less the amount of \$3,771,334, shows a surplus of security in excess of the amount of indebtedness to be provided for, namely \$2,677,567.

NITRATE COMBINE.

Steps Taken in Chile to Break Up the Monopoly.

VALPARAISO, Aug. 8.—A joint committee has been appointed by the Chilean Congress to investigate the workings of the nitrate combine, and Colonel North's Tarapaca Railroad. It is claimed that the attitude of Colonel North and the nitrate combine is injurious to the true interests of Chile. The object of the investigation ordered by Congress is to bring about changes in the law which will prevent the combine from limiting the supply of nitrates and breaking up the monopoly. It is proposed to increase the production so that consumers will not be at the mercy of the combine.

Fatal Explosion in Powder Mills.

ST. LOUIS, Aug. 8.—The large powder mills, nine miles east of here, in Illinois, exploded at noon. The shock was distinctly felt and the noise of the explosion was heard in this city. They were the Phoenix Mills that exploded, and among the largest in the country. Two persons were killed and two others fatally injured. The cause of the explosion is not known.

WHAT IS THOUGHT OF IT.

Expressions of Opinion on the Message of Cleveland.

ABSENCE OF ADVERSE CRITICISM FROM A PARTY POINT.

Radical Silverites Differ From the Views of the Executive as to the Cause of the Present Financial Stringency, While Those Opposed to Free Coinage Commend the Document as Wise, Able and Honest.

Special to the Record-Union.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 8.—The message of the President received by Congress with a degree of attention and earnestness that has seldom been accorded to a State paper. A notable fact was the general absence of adverse criticism from a party point of view, and among those who have reserved an expression of their judgment Democrats are quite as numerous as the Republicans. For instance, Voorhees, Chairman of the Finance Committee, declined positively to be interviewed on the message, and Hill did the same.

Gorman said: "The message is a clear statement of the President's views. All the comment that I have heard in the Senate is that it is as terse and clear a statement as could have been made."

Senator Allison, one of the leading financial lights of the country, was very conservative. He remarked: "It is a very fair message. He states truly that the Sherman Act was a compromise between the free silver men and those of opposite views." Senator Allison thought the tariff references of the President calculated to disturb business further at a very critical time.

Senator Jones of Nevada: "I think the message illogical, and does not analyze the situation at all. The Sherman law has nothing to do with the present situation of affairs. The message is what was expected, and will do little to help the cause which the President champions."

Senator Teller: "The simple assertion of the President that the present financial condition is due to the Sherman law does not make it so."

Peffer: "The banker will regard it as perfection. The farmer and workmen will see in it a further reduction of the product of their farm and their labor. It is the first attack of the money kings' final struggle for supremacy."

Bourke Cockran: "Admirable, admirable. Even the silver men must admit that it is the most perfect presentation of the question that could be made." Bland: "As nearly as I could make it out it was a plea for a single gold standard because England maintains it. If England would coin silver probably this country would do so. We seem to have lost the spirit of 1776."

CHICAGO PRESS COMMENTS.

CHICAGO, Aug. 8.—The following are some of the comments on the President's message:

Inter-Ocean: "It is a clear, forcible presentation of the subject now so prominent before the country. In the discussion of the money question he goes as far as to leave no possible room to doubt that he is in favor of a single standard, and that standard gold."

The Times: "While the President makes a well-argued plea practically for monometallicism, he seems to forget entirely the Democratic party, which pledged itself to maintain bimetallicism, and not to repeal the Sherman Act without a substitute."

The Record: "The President's message is a remarkable document in no respect save in its straight-forwardness and calm business tone. The question submitted to Congress is not of a political character, and should not be viewed from the angle of partisanship. Instead of endeavoring to lay the blame for the enactment of the Sherman law upon Republicans, he says mildly that it may be considered to have been a truce between advocates of free silver coinage and those intending to be more conservative."

WHAT NEW YORK PAPERS SAY.

NEW YORK, Aug. 8.—The World: "It is a characteristic document, plain-spoken, honest, terse and patriotic. The President placed the chief responsibility for the financial troubles just where business men of all parties have fixed it—upon the Sherman law. His statements of fact are undeniable. His conclusions are irresistible to all open and candid minds. The President's meaning in the last sentence doubtless is that power should be explicitly given to the Administration to reinforce the supply of gold when necessary. Such authority is needed, and should be given."

The Journal of Commerce: "The President's message is strong, broad and in the widest sense a politic document, strong, for it states with clearness and simplicity the duty of Congress at this moment; comprehensive, for it summarizes very fully the facts of the existing situation and their connection with the silver purchase law; politic, for while it suggests no compromise and holds out no vain hopes of an international agreement for the enlarged use of silver, and, in short, makes no effort to conciliate silver men in Congress. It does not show to workmen of the country a potent element involving population, but how disastrously they would be affected by the cheapening of the dollar."

The Times: "There is not a trace of partisanship or of that much more subtle temptation for men in high place—pride of opinion. There is nothing in it that can offend any section, any class or even any faction. The legislation which is so far the cause of troubles that its removal is essential to recovery is not denounced in any angry spirit, and no reflection is made upon the motives of those who brought it about. There is no harsh criticism of conflicting theories or theories, while there is a most moving appeal to the sense, patriotism and fairness of all. It is a message that every American must respect, and which all may feel with not only satisfaction, but pride."

The Tribune: "The President has done his part well. These are manly and strong words, and they leave little disposition to suggest that the responsibility has rested with him since the 4th of

March, and that every day's delay since that time might have been avoided if he had called Congress together. If it was a mistake in deferring action, he is plainly right now in asking Congress to do its part with promptness, without distinction of party. Men who care for the public welfare will sustain him wherever he is so clearly in the right."

The Sun, commenting on the President's reference to tariff reform, says: "We congratulate the Democracy on the fact that the President recognizes squarely and honestly the validity of his pledge. There is no sign of repudiation."

The Herald says: "The repeal of the Sherman law will stop the buying of silver. That is the pith of the message sent by President Cleveland to Congress. Now that Congress has been brought together for the special purpose of dealing with the question, it would be a positive crime for members of that body to waste time in absurd debates."

WHAT DENVER EDITORS SAY.

DENVER, Aug. 8.—The Republican says: "Taken as a whole, the President's message will prove a greater setback to the advocates of the single gold standard than to the upholders of bimetallicism. It recommends the unconditional repeal of the purchasing clause of the Sherman law, but does not contain a single argument to prove that the existing financial stringency should be relieved in any way by cutting off the only means now available for any increase in the already too limited circulation of the country. It makes no reference to the incalculable injury that would be done to the country by paralyzing its silver mining industry, which is capable under favorable conditions of adding \$80,000,000 to \$100,000,000 annually to the permanent wealth of the State. It will be hailed with delight in Lombard and Regent streets, and by holders of fixed debts wherever American securities are held, but it will sound like a death knell to all debtors all over the land."

The Rocky Mountain News: "The line is drawn. On one side is Grover Cleveland and all the power of his Administration to force the country, at whatever cost, to a gold standard. On the other are the people with all their interests struggling to restore the bimetallic standard, and thus save themselves and their country from utter business ruin. What he says will have no weight with intelligent and unbiased men, and will meet the approval of those only whose interests lie in the impoverishment of the masses of the country for the enrichment of classes, foreign and American, that own money, and are therefore advantaged by lessening the values of all other assets of the world."

WORLD'S FAIR.

End of the Undignified Squabble of the Board of Lady Managers.

CHICAGO, Aug. 8.—The Board of Lady Managers of the World's Fair spent three hours this afternoon in continuation of the undignified squabble over the Balm-Meredith affair. Finally Mrs. Isabella Beecher Hooker came to the front, and as a result of her vigorous speech, the whole matter referring to the warfare of the past three days was expunged from the records and a resolution adopted to prevent its again being brought up.

The humorous feature of the day was the arrival during the night of an anti-metallist delegation of the delegation of mated squabble of the delegation of women from all foreign villages in the Midway Plaisance. They had been invited to visit the Women's building in a body and attend a meeting of the board, that they might see what wonders their civilized sisters had performed. Their impressions have not been learned. Mrs. Palmer introduced them to the board, and they were sent on a tour of the building under escort.

There was no special feature at the fair to-day, but to-morrow will be a busy one, with the advent of the Knights of Pythias, dedication of the Virginia State building and dedication of the Walton House by the fishermen.

The exposition management filed an answer to Clingman's Sunday opening bill in the Superior Court to-day, praying for its dismissal.

The total attendance to-day was 141,365, of which 102,828 were paid.

THE MIDWINTER FAIR.

CHICAGO, Aug. 8.—R. Cornely, Assistant Director-General of the California Midwinter Exposition, is making his headquarters at the California State building at the World's Fair grounds. He came here to study the fair and induce exhibitors to take part in the Midwinter Fair, which opens in San Francisco about January 1st.

Chicago Workmen Destitute.

CHICAGO, Aug. 8.—Mayor Harrison made a remarkable declaration to-day in an address of welcome to the annual Convention of Surgeons of the National Guards of the United States. He said: "There are two hundred thousand people in Chicago to-day unemployed and the most destitute of money. If Congress does not give us money we will have riots that will shake the country."

Franco-Siamese Affairs.

SAYONG, Aug. 8.—Two hundred and fifty French sharpshooters and marines have gone to Chantoum, a town near the Gulf of Siam, which the French are to occupy temporarily in accordance with the terms of the supplementary ultimatum recently accepted by the Siamese Government.

The Navahos Come in Second.

LONDON, Aug. 8.—The week's racing of the Royal Victoria Yacht Club opened to-day off Hyde, Isle of Wight. A cup valued at £90 was sailed for by the Santania, a Britannia, Navahoe and Calluna. The course was fifty miles. The Britannia won, Navahoe second and Santania third.

Decrease in the Hungarian Crop Yield.

BUDA PESTH, Aug. 8.—Count Andrea Bethlen, Hungarian Minister of Agriculture, has issued a statement showing that there will be a decrease of about 4,500,000 hundred-weights in the wheat yield, 4,000,000 in rye and 300,000 in barley, as compared with the yield of those cereals last year.

The Whole Country in Arms.

CADDO (I. T.), Aug. 8.—News from Cedar County, where Governor Hodges removed the County Judge and Sheriff and appointed men of his political faith, announces that the ousted Judge has been murdered and the whole country is in arms.

Unable to Realize on Securities.

WELLSBURG (W. Va.), Aug. 8.—The Bank of Wellsburg closed its doors this morning because it was unable to realize on securities. Assets, \$300,000; liabilities, half that amount.

DYEING WORKS IN FLAMES.

Serious Fire Caused by the Explosion of a Tank of Benzine.

SEVERAL PERSONS NARROWLY ESCAPED CREMATION.

Another Indian Murder Committed in Redwood Valley, Mendocino County.

—A Large Iron Bridge Spanning Russian River Collapses—Gamblers Ordered to Leave Nevada City and Grass Valley Within Forty-Eight Hours.

Special to the Record-Union.

SAN FRANCISCO, Aug. 8.—Shortly after 11 o'clock to-day a tank of benzine in the rear of the F. Thomas Dyeing Works, 25 to 31 Tenth street, exploded, setting fire to the building. Immediately the entire rear of the building was ablaze, the flames rising far above the building. An alarm speedily brought a half dozen engines to the scene and the fire was soon deluged with water, which only tended to distribute the burning oil. Then four chemical engines were ordered upon the ground. The fire was a most rebellious one, and for some time it was feared that the entire building would be destroyed, as well as the adjacent buildings. But the effective work of the chemical engines confined the flames to the rear and cellar of the building, and every precaution was used to prevent the fire from communicating with the surrounding property. The same premises were badly damaged by fire in December last.

Eugene Duggane, an employe at the works, was so badly burned that his recovery is thought doubtful by the Receiving Hospital surgeons. He was at work in the vicinity of where the explosion took place, and burning benzine was thrown over him. He took in the situation at a glance, and, running through the flames, plunged into a vat of water, thus saving his life. As it was, his hair and clothing were burned nearly off.

Madame Hourtain, residing in the house adjoining on the south of the works, became so badly frightened that she jumped out of a second-story window and sprained both ankles.

H. Kennedy, foreman of Truck No. 3, and Robert Schultz and Michael Sheen, members of the same company, were considerably burned about the face and hands.

M. Bushway, a member of Engine Company No. 19, who resides at 320 Lombard street, inhaled benzine flames, and, as a result of the hard times in a collapsed state, but will probably recover.

Pierre Alexander Allamand, an employe at the works, was also caught in the flames and badly burned. The monetary loss is about \$2,000.

SOLANO COUNTY FAIR.

Despite Hard Times the Navy-Yard Town is Filled With Visitors.

VALLEJO, Aug. 8.—To-day was the opening day of the Solano County Fair and the meeting of the Solano County Agricultural and Speed Association. Despite the hard times the navy-yard town is thronged with visitors. For a week past there has been a concentration of horses, some of the best in the State being quartered at the race course, ready to compete for honors in the present series of races. There are 119 entered, and every prospect of several spirited contests.

The pavilion exhibition opened last night in advance of the date set, and was thronged with spectators, who viewed the exhibits of Solano and adjacent counties, including several from San Francisco.

There was a good race programme to-day. Three minute district trot, heats, Margaret Worth won, Lizzie R. second, Mollie Patten third. Best time, 2:57.

Free-for-all trot, heats, Lizzie F. won, Melvor second, King Oro third. Best time, 2:20.

Antress won two heats of the District 2:40 trot in 2:23 and 2:27. The finish was postponed until to-morrow.

IN EXPECTATION OF RICHES.

A Fresno Lady's Prospects of Finding Her to a Farmer.

FRESNO, Aug. 8.—Mrs. Anna E. Houghton, residing in this city, bids fair to become wealthy soon under peculiar circumstances. The lady in question is the daughter of George Piper, a wealthy citizen of Newark, O., who died intestate January last. It develops that when Mrs. Houghton was 10 years of age, her father and mother separated, she coming to California with her mother, and her only brother remaining with her father. The brother has charge of the estate and denies all knowledge of having a sister, but as the mother is still living and Mrs. Houghton has numerous letters from her father in his life-time, there is little doubt that she will be able to establish her claims. Her share will become \$50,000 or \$60,000.

PHILLIPS EXONERATED.