

APPROPRIATIONS FOR COAST DEFENSES.

The Bill Passes in the House Practically Without Objection.

A Measure Authorizing an Expenditure of Over Eleven Millions.

Greater Portion of the Senate's Time Taken Up by Chandler of New Hampshire in Advocacy of the Claims of Mr. Dupont for a Seat in the Senate to Represent the State of Delaware.

WASHINGTON, April 14.—The House to-day passed without division and practically without objection the bill making appropriations for fortifications and coast defenses. Its passage was advocated by Hainer (Rep.) of Nebraska, Sayers (Dem.) of Texas, Bartlett (Dem.) of New York, Livingston (Dem.) of Georgia, Hemenway (Rep.) of Indiana and Cannon (Rep.) of Illinois, all members of the Committee on Appropriations, and by Baker (Rep.) of New Hampshire.

The latter criticized the committee for not going further and appropriating all the money asked by Generals Flagler and Craighead. Berry (Dem.) of Kentucky was the only opponent of the bill. He said the money would be better spent in building ships than in fixing batteries. The Secretary of War estimated that \$8,545,153 could be expended in the coming year.

The bill carries specific appropriations amounting to \$5,842,337, and authority is given to the Secretary of War to make contracts involving the further expenditure of \$5,542,276, making the total authorized expenditures in the bill \$11,384,613.

The following shows the aggregate amount appropriated and authorized by contract under each subdivision of the bill, namely: Gun and mortar batteries, \$5,260,000; sites for fortifications, \$250,000; preservation and repair of fortifications, \$50,000; plans for fortifications, \$5,000; sea walls and embankments, \$1,975; torpedoes for harbors, \$100,000; armament of fortifications, \$5,562,673; proving ground at Sandy Hook, N. J., \$28,000; Watertown, Mass., \$5,500; Watervliet (N. Y.) Arsenal, \$3,500; Benicia (Cal.) Arsenal, \$4,500; Ordnance and Fortifications Board, \$100,000; Fortress Monroe sewerage system, \$9,800.

The House agreed to the conference report upon the legislative, executive and judicial appropriation bill so far as the conference had agreed, and opened another conference upon the matters still in dispute between the two houses. Bingham (Rep.) of Pennsylvania reported from the conferees on the legislative, executive and judicial appropriation bill the agreement made leaving the two houses still apart on some of the amendments made by the Senate. Bingham explained the grounds of difference substantially as stated by Senator Cullom yesterday. The total amount involved in the differences was \$189,590. Considerable discussion occurred over the amendment included in the disagreement, which provided for additional Senate employees.

Hartman (Rep.) of Montana moved to instruct the House conferees to recede from their disagreement and agree to it with an amendment providing annual clerks to members of the House, but it was ruled out on a point of order. The report of the conferees was agreed to, and a further conference on the disputed points ordered.

The debate was continued by Messrs. Sayers (Dem.) of Texas and Bartlett (Dem.) of New York, who advocated the passage of the bill. The whole people, irrespective of party, Bartlett contended, demanded the adoption and execution of a just system of coast defense.

Proceeding to details, Bartlett said the plan recommended for execution contemplated the expenditure of about \$90,000,000. It would necessitate the purchase of 203 twelve-inch steel guns, 190 ten-inch guns and 98 eight-inch guns. He exhibited engravings of the guns as mounted in the fortifications.

In closing, Bartlett quoted from the words of Mr. Tilden, whom he described as "a distinguished Democrat, and at one time President of the United States." This evoked laughter and groans from the Republicans, and Hardie of Indiana asked: "Did he draw his salary?"

"No," answered Bartlett, with deliberation, as he wiped his glasses. "He did not draw his salary, but he did receive a majority of the fair votes of the country, and that I believe is now conceded by everybody except the gentleman from Indiana."

Several gentlemen desired to ask Bartlett questions, but he declined to yield, saying he did not wish to be drawn into a political discussion.

number of guns or the number of men that could be assembled within that time for her defense. (Applause.) Mr. Baker (Rep.) of New Hampshire expressed his gratification that the bill was so much better than those of preceding Congresses, but regretted that the committee had recommended an appropriation of all the money that could be expended for fortifications in the year and authorized contracts for additional work, money for which would be provided in the coming session of Congress.

Cannon emphasized the statement made by Hainer that this bill would do as much work as had been accomplished by all the fortification appropriation bills passed since 1882. The only opposition to the bill came from Berry (Dem.) of Kentucky, who said that the expenditure of money would be more profitable if it were put into the construction of the best type of battleships and coast defense vessels which could be assembled at any point threatened by a foreign foe, instead of fixed batteries.

The bill was read, and without amendment was reported to the House and passed without a division. At 4:25 o'clock, on motion of Hainer, the House adjourned until to-morrow.

IN THE SENATE.

WASHINGTON, April 14.—After a speech in the Senate to-day by Squire of Washington in support of his bill making large appropriations for sea-coast defenses, the rest of the session was taken up in the consideration of the Delaware election case, Chandler of New Hampshire arguing at great length in favor of the claim of Dupont to the vacant seat in the Senate.

The other side of the case is to be sustained to-morrow by the Senator from Delaware, Gray, who holds that Governor Watson was entitled to cast his vote in the Legislature as a State Senator and Speaker of the Senate, and that having so voted there was no majority for any candidate.

After some routine business Squire (Rep.) of Washington addressed the Senate on the subject of the national defense. He said:

"What an absurd spectacle has the Congress of the United States presented during the present session by its persistent talk in favor of the construction of the United States in behalf of Cuba and Venezuela. Every man who has informed himself on the subject of national defenses knows that as a nation we are not in condition to undertake war or suffer war. The people do not know how shamefully their interests were being bandied and played with by those who represent them in the halls of Congress. They suppose, in the simplicity of their hearts, that we are prepared to protect ourselves in case of war with any of the second or third-class Powers, or even against a first-rate Power. They know that the nation has millions of brave and patriotic men who would rush at the call to arms. But they do not know that there is no means of arming these hosts upon the emergency that may arise. They do not know that the great seacoast cities through which extend the arteries of trade and commerce with each other and with the people of foreign lands—populous though these cities may be and teeming with wealth—are yet exposed and defenseless against attack by foreign navies with vessels far outnumbering ours in strength."

The bill presented by the Committee on Coast Defenses is intended to meet the wants of the nation. It has received the approval of the Secretary of War and of the Chiefs of the two great Departments of Engineers and Ordnance. If it shall be adopted provision will be made for the construction of the fortifications necessary for the defense of the principal seacoast cities of the United States. The aggregate number of direct-fire, high-angle guns of all calibers required is 317; the aggregate number of mortars is 1,056; for the construction of these guns, emplacements and carriages about eight years will be required, and the sum of at least \$80,000,000. It is provided in the bill that the sum of only \$10,000,000 be appropriated for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1897, and that an expenditure be authorized of \$10,000,000 for each of the succeeding seven fiscal years ending June 30, 1904; thus the tax would be comparatively light for each year, not equaling that of the river and harbor bill, which for the past ten years has averaged annually between \$13,000,000 and \$14,000,000.

"Think of it; \$279,916,317 69 has been appropriated since 1872 for the improvement of rivers and harbors, and for the benefit of commerce, and yet we have been so afflicted with 'coast defense blindness' that we have expended only \$10,000,000 or \$11,000,000 for the protection of these harbors during the same period."

At the close of Squire's speech the present election case was taken up, and Chandler (Rep.) of New Hampshire addressed the Senate in advocacy of Dupont's right to the vacant seat in the Senate from the State of Delaware. He closed at 4:30 o'clock, when Gray (Dem.) of Delaware took the floor, but reserved his argument against Dupont's right until to-morrow.

COUNTERFEITED STAMPS.

Two Men Charged With the Crime Arrested at Chicago. CHICAGO, April 14.—W. B. Peters, an engraver, and John Voney, a lithographer and engraver, were arrested to-day by Captain Porter of the Federal Secret Service on the charge of counterfeiting two-cent stamps in large quantities and selling them.

A. J. Bodkin, who was manager for the Pauline Hoyt Formula Company at 504 Van Buren street, is charged with being a member of the gang. Officers were unable to find him to-day.

The mails lately have been flooded with hundreds of letters with counterfeit stamps on. The Post concern sent 600 such letters through this postoffice. It is believed as a test, before the manufacture and sale were conducted on a big scale from the factory on Western avenue.

A Posse After George Taylor. KANSAS CITY, April 14.—A Deputy Sheriff and posse this evening left Carrollton, Mo., for Bogard, seven miles south of there, where George Taylor, the condemned murderer, who escaped from prison Saturday night, has been located.

FIGHTING CONTINUES ON THE ISLAND OF CUBA.

Rebels Attack a Number of Plantation Laborers and Guerrillas.

Many Dead and Wounded Being the Result of the Battle.

Insurgents Lose Twenty-One Killed in an Engagement With Spanish Forces in the Province of Santa Clara—Government Troops Compelled to Fall Back Before the Advance Guard of Maceo's Forces.

HAVANA, April 14.—(From a staff correspondent of the United Press)—A band of rebels attacked a number of laborers who were employed in cutting sugar cane on the Constancia estate. The guerrillas, who were guarding the estate, went to the aid of the laborers, and in the fighting that ensued four of the guerrillas and seven workmen were killed. Four were wounded. The rebel loss is unknown.

The Colonel of the Luzon battalion reports an engagement between his command and a rebel force between Rodrigo and Amaro, in the Province of Santa Clara. The rebel loss, according to the report, was twenty-one killed, while only two of the troops were wounded.

People of all shades appear indignant over the report of the garroting of four negro murderers as sent out by the Chicago Associated Press, and printed in papers which arrived from the States yesterday. The report makes it appear that five Cuban patriots had been wantonly tortured to death by slow strangulation at the hands of a Spanish executioner, and a tale of horror is unfolded, the like of which has not been witnessed in modern times.

It is needless to state that no such statement was cabled from here. The local agent of the Chicago Associated Press at Havana is an ex-Lieutenant in the Spanish army, and is a good friend of Spain. He reported briefly to the press that "five negro murderers, violators of the laws, had been garroting, and that the new executioner made a bungling job in killing three of the men, and told how he dispatched the other two victims without trouble. From this a column account of the affair was turned out by the Chicago news factory."

The minutest details are given of the execution of the doomed men, one of whom is made to confess while the others pray for vengeance upon "those who had falsely sent them to the scaffold." Ruiz, the executioner, is made to act as if "he fumbled and fumed, alternately turning to a deathlike whiteness and flushing crimson with excitement." All of this is made out of whole cloth.

Ruiz, instead of "stumbling away from the deathpost and hissing that his assistant finish the day's work," turned to the new executioner, after killing two men, and said: "That is two ounces you owe me." The Government pays a ounce in Spanish gold, or about \$17, for each man, and Ruiz wanted his share. The United Press covered the actual facts in the case in the following dispatch:

HAVANA, March 5.—Five negroes were garroting here to-day. They were not rebels, but had been sentenced to death for crimes committed prior to the breaking out of the insurrection. The crimes were of the kind that have resulted in negroes being burned at the stake in the Southern States, and the execution was not more bungling than many hangings in the North.

The authorities at the palace were amazed when they read the story. They sent to the cable office and obtained the original dispatches as wired from here. This proved the story to be a fake manufactured in the United States, and the local reporter of the alleged news association was saved from decapitation.

SPANISH FORCES DEFEATED.

MADRID, April 14.—The Havana correspondent of the "Imparcial" telegraphs that the advance guard of Maceo's forces have had an engagement near Lechuga with the Alfonso XIII. Battalion. The Spaniards were compelled to fall back upon their main body near San Claudio. The troops lost four killed and fourteen wounded. Further details of the engagement show that the Spanish column occupied two hours in advancing from Mariel to the point where it met the main body of insurgents. On their retreat the troops were exposed to a constant fire from the rebels in their rear, and were frequently compelled to form squares to resist the charges of the enemy. It was necessary to use cannon to open a way for the retreat of the vanguard. The wounded Spaniards were embarked upon a schooner under the fire of the Alerta.

According to military authorities here Colonel Sanchez Echevarria, who had received orders to act in connection with Colonel Debes and General Inclan, failed to arrive in time to assist the other two bodies of Spanish troops. The authorities say they arrived in time Maceo's force would have been badly whipped. Colonel Echevarria has been relieved of his command and ordered to appear before a court-martial.

HAVE OFFERS BEEN MADE?

LONDON, April 14.—A dispatch from Madrid to the "Pall Mall Gazette" says: "Senator Canovas del Castillo, the Spanish Premier, is ill and cannot be interviewed. His relatives, however, confirm the existence of a 'communiqué' from President Cleveland, but state that in the present state of public feeling it will be impossible for the Government to accept his offer."

Matters are very complicated, and while the Government will do everything in its power to avoid a quarrel with the United States, it will prefer to fight rather than lose Cuba through foreign pressure.

The coming Cortes will grant Cuba every reasonable franchise to be enjoyed under the Spanish flag. WASHINGTON, April 14.—Nothing is known at the State Department of any such communication from President Cleveland to the Spanish Premier, Senor Castillo, as is referred to in the telegram from Madrid. It is surmised,

however, that the matter is entering into Spanish politics, and is, perhaps, being therefore more or less distorted to serve party purposes.

TURF EVENTS.

Weather Cool and a Heavy Track at Ingleside. SAN FRANCISCO, April 14.—The weather was cool and the track heavy. Six furlongs, selling, Japonica won, Carnation second, La Flecha third. Time—1:38 1/4.

Six furlongs, selling, Over-the-Mountain Handicap, Kamsin won, Mobalasca second, Yankee Doodle third. Time—1:17. Four furlongs, Fleur de Lis won, Dunboy second, Dura third. Time—0:50 1/2.

Six furlongs, handicap, William Pinkerton won, Sam Leake second, Montallade third. Time—1:17. One mile, selling, imp. Miss Brumwell won, Service second, Tobey third. Time—1:45 1/4.

One mile, gentlemen riders, Walter J. won, Monita second, Ike L. third. Time—1:49 1/4. AT MEMPHIS. MEMPHIS (Tenn.), April 14.—Track fine, attendance fair and sport good. Summaries:

Half-mile, Lord Zeni won, Agent second, Elyria third. Time—0:53. Six furlongs, Ramona won, Panjandrum second, Plur third. Time—1:23 1/2.

One mile, Tennessee Club Handicap, Urania won, David second, Robert Latta third. Time—1:46 1/4. Mile and a sixteenth, Presidio won, Whisper second, Leonard third. Time—1:54 1/4.

Six furlongs, Eunuch won, Little Cliff second, Sycamore third. Time—1:20. Four furlongs, Sea Robber won, Goshen second, Lear third. Time—0:51 3/4. AT NEWPORT. NEWPORT (Ky.), April 14.—The talent had the best of it to-day, favorites capturing every race. Track good. Summaries:

Seven furlongs, Prince Imperial won, Derfargilla second, Uno third. Time—1:29 1/4. Six furlongs, Rubber Neck won, Aimee second, Plur third. Time—1:16. One mile, Booze won, Toots second, Basso third. Time—1:43.

Four and a half furlongs, Gwjaw won, Red second, Brossart third. Time—0:57 1/4. Four furlongs, Tempesta won, Leo Wecka second, Bessie L. third. Time—0:50. ARIZONA STATEHOOD.

The Bill Ordered Reported Favorably by the House Committee. WASHINGTON, April 14.—The Arizona Statehood bill was ordered to be favorably reported this morning by the House Territories Committee. This objectionable vote was cast by Low of New York and Hadley of Illinois. Owens of Kentucky, who was present, declined to vote, and subsequently withdrew from the meeting. Avery of Michigan and Harris of Ohio were paired with Knox of Massachusetts and Harrison of Alabama, the two latter being opposed to the bill.

Venezuelan Question.

WASHINGTON, April 14.—The regular weekly meeting of the Venezuelan Boundary Commission to-day was devoted to the reading of the reports made by the various members on the subjects to which they were individually assigned. No executive action was taken, and the question of sending a member or members abroad to collect information was not discussed.

CONDITION OF WINTER WHEAT.

REPORTED EXCELLENT IN NEBRASKA AND KANSAS.

Also Looking Well in Iowa, Missouri, Arkansas, Tennessee and Northern Illinois.

WASHINGTON, April 14.—The Weather Bureau issued its first weekly telegraphic crop report of the season to-day. Winter wheat is reported as in excellent condition in Nebraska and Eastern Kansas, and is much improved and looking well in Iowa, Missouri, Arkansas, Tennessee and Northern Illinois. In some of these States it has been badly winter killed, and is generally in poor to fair condition. No corn has yet been planted north of the Ohio River. In the Southern States corn-planting is particularly good.

Missouri—Wheat much improved; grasses starting nicely, oats coming up well; corn planting in progress. Illinois—Winter wheat is in poor to fair condition in the central counties of the southern section; elsewhere it is in good condition, and much improved by rains and warmth. Oat-seeding mostly done; fruit buds in profusion. Iowa—Generally favorable reports received from a limited area wherein winter wheat is growing.

North Dakota—No seeding or planting done yet. South Dakota—Seeding progressing well in the southern counties, though little has been done in the northern portion. Nebraska—Over six inches of rainfall in several central counties. Oats mostly sown. Plowing for corn in progress. Winter wheat growing rapidly and in excellent condition. Kansas—Wheat much improved. Montana—Snow caused a suspension of plowing and seeding, but will prove of great value to ranges.

Wyoming—Early crops are starting nicely. Idaho—Early sown wheat coming up and looking fairly well. Colorado—Heavy snow beneficial; winter wheat in good condition.

New Mexico—Heavy snows of great benefit to stock ranges. Arizona—Rain in southwest and snow in northwest counties improved all crops. Utah—Showers very beneficial; grain looking well. Washington—Winter wheat has improved. Considerable hail. Earlier fruit injured; later fruit not injured.

Oregon—Cold rains somewhat injurious. Sheep-shearing has commenced. California—Rains beneficial to grain, grass and hay. Apricots, almonds and prunes were injured by frosts.

SHE IS A GOOD VESSEL IN ALL RESPECTS.

The Battleship Indiana Proves Worthy of All Praise Given Her.

Under Natural Draught Makes Over Thirteen Knots.

An Excellent Showing for a Ship Designed to Run Only Fifteen Knots Under the Best of Conditions—The Official Testing of the New Powerful Warship.

WASHINGTON, April 14.—The report of the Board of Naval Officers appointed to conduct the final or efficiency trial of the battleship Indiana has been received at the Navy Department. It shows that the vessel is worthy of all the praise that has been bestowed on her. Her hull, engines, machinery and fittings were found to be faultless. The trial took place on the voyage between Port Royal, S. C., and Norfolk, which the Indiana made in forty hours. Although run under natural draught, and with four boilers only, she maintained an average speed of thirteen and a half knots, an excellent showing for a ship designed to run fifteen knots under the best conditions. The horse-power developed was nearly 5,000. There was very little roll, the maximum being twenty degrees in a heavy cross sea.

This trial completes the official testing of the Indiana, and the percentage of the contract price retained to insure any changes or repairs for which the contractors might be held accountable will now be paid to the Messrs. Cramps.

TWO-THOUSAND-MILE TICKETS.

Conditions Under Which They May Hereafter be Used. CHICAGO, April 14.—The General Managers of Western Railroads reached an agreement at their adjourned meeting to-day with reference to the mileage ticket question. It was in line with the action of the General Passenger Agents at their recent St. Louis meeting as to the enforcement of the restrictive conditions of such tickets.

On and after May 1st the 2,000-mile ticket, which is sold for \$50, cannot be used except when the conditions of the purchase have been complied with. It is non-transferable, and the conductors will have to take it up if they believe it is presented by any other person than the original purchaser. The non-transferable restriction will be practically enforced by a provision that the refund of \$10 on each ticket now made by agreements of each road independently, shall be made through the Chairman of the Western Passenger Association, or his agents, at the principal points in the territory. The refund will be refused if the agent thinks a scalper or his agent is the holder of the ticket. As these mileage tickets represent the stock in trade of the scalper, the refund of \$10 is usually his profit on each book. This action of the Western roads will be a body blow at their business.

Two or three of the Western roads at the General Managers' meeting yesterday did not feel disposed to vote for the complete extinction of party rates in the territory east of the Missouri River, but their votes were recorded in the affirmative at to-day's meeting. All the roads felt that they ought to make reduced rates for theatrical and social parties, and to show their friendly sentiment they named a special committee to see if some means could not be devised whereby such parties could be legally and protectively given reduced rates.

The managers adjourned until next Tuesday, when the details of the new mileage ticket will be added to.

FILIBUSTER BERMUDA.

The Owner of the Vessel Under Arrest at Philadelphia. PHILADELPHIA, April 14.—John D. Hart, the steamship owner of this city, was arrested this afternoon on the charge of violating the neutrality laws between this country and Spain in connection with the last voyage of the steamship Bermuda, and was given a preliminary hearing before United States Commissioner Bell and bound over in \$500 bail for a further hearing to-morrow.

This is the second time Mr. Hart has been arrested on the charge of filibustering, and it was only a day or so ago that he was acquitted in New York on the first charge. Warrants of arrest are out for Captain O'Brien, master of the Bermuda, Mates Murphy and Simpson and Colonel Emilio Nunez, one of the Cuban leaders, and who was a passenger aboard the Bermuda on the last voyage.

Arrangements have been entered into between counsel for the alleged filibusters and the Government officers, by which the cases will be transferred from this district to the court in New York. The information upon which the warrants were sworn was made by Jose Congosto, the Spanish Consul at this port. Dr. Congosto is said to have received the evidence upon which he made the information from six or eight of the seamen of the Bermuda, who are said to be dissatisfied with their treatment on the voyage.

Mr. Hart's hearing before Commissioner Bell this afternoon was merely a preliminary one, and no evidence was taken. DEMOCRATIC POLITICS.

A Few Sound Words From Chairman Hartley.

PHILADELPHIA, April 14.—In speaking to-day of the political situation in the Democratic party Chairman Hartley said:

"I certainly do not agree with those who expect that there will be two Democratic National Conventions or a bolt from the regular convention. I recognize and appreciate the fact that the free silver element of the Democratic party up to the present time is more moderate than the sound money men of that organization. The free silver men are systematically and logically at work, with a view to electing delegates and delegations who will favor

the free, unlimited and independent coinage of silver.

"It is generally believed that in the States in which the free silver element of the party prevails and are in the majority, the unit rule will be adopted, in order that the States in question may prove as effective as possible in the interest of free silver. This will apply to the adoption of a platform as well as the nomination of candidates. As you know, a majority of the convention has the power to make the platform, but it will take two-thirds of the convention to nominate its candidates."

"I can only repeat what I have heretofore said, that while I still believe that the sound money element of the Democratic party will be in control of the Chicago convention, yet what now seems likely to be a majority may easily become a minority, by reason of the supineness or neglect of the sound money men of the party. I would say to the sound money Democrats of the country, organize, organize everywhere, if they want to adopt a platform and nominate candidates that will be for the best interests of the country and conducive to the permanent welfare of the Democratic party."

TRAIN WRECKED.

Plunged Through a Trestle—Eleven People Injured. NEW ORLEANS, April 14.—A train consisting of combination baggage car, two day coaches and sleeping plungers through a trestle on the Bogue and Crescent road, three miles above Vossburg this morning. The heavy rainstorm which swept through Louisiana and Mississippi was responsible for the wreck. The latest information received at this point is that eleven passengers were injured, one seriously. Nothing is said of the train crew.

The injured are: C. H. Ball, address unknown; J. P. Petterich, Atlanta; J. T. Bates, Slidell, La.; R. L. Chisolm, Marion, Miss.; Mrs. James Snell and child, England; J. Isaacs, Ellisville, Miss.; S. C. Ferguson, Cincinnati; Mrs. John Dymond, New Orleans; A. B. Avery, Hatchburg, Miss.

IVES WON.

Beat Daly in the Billiard Game at Boston. BOSTON, April 14.—Ives and Daly were down to show Bostonians the cushion game to-night, and 500 spectators paid admission to Ives' Hall to see their dexterity. Ives broke the record with a run of 85, and won. He gave a display of judgment of force such as the old-timers here never saw before, and their enthusiasm knew no bounds. The applause when Ives passed the half-hundred mark was tremendous, and the silence when he neared the record 77 tom-poke. The score was: Ives 300, Daly 270. Winner's highest run 85, loser's highest run 29; winner's average, 5 30-54, loser's average 4 38-53.

Preached Too Much Politics.

NEW YORK, April 14.—A dispatch to the "Recorder" from Watertown, New York, says: Rev. William Cleveland, brother of Grover Cleveland, was to-day dismissed by the Presbyterian Church at Chamont. Dr. Cleveland has been pastor of the church for the past five years. Complaint was made against him by part of the congregation because he preached sermons that were in favor of Democratic principles. The committee to whom the matter was referred expressed its appreciation of the high Christian character of Dr. Cleveland, and regretted the necessity of dismissing him.

United Mine-Workers.

COLUMBUS (O.), April 14.—The annual convention of the United Mines Workers of America opened here to-day with about 100 delegates present. The day was spent mainly in preliminary work. President Tobin of the National Boot and Shoe Workers addressed the convention, urging assistance in the boycott of Harding & Tobin, shoe manufacturers of Rochester, N. Y. President Penna's report was encouraging. After Secretary McBride's report was presented the convention adjourned until to-morrow morning.

Attempt to Wreck a Train.

CLEVELAND (O.), April 14.—The express train due here at 4:30 this morning on the Cleveland and Pittsburg road would have been wrecked near the southern limits of the city but for the removal of the obstructions which had been placed there by the would-be wreckers. A man on his way to work saw several ties piled across and parallel with the tracks, and he had only just moved them when the train rushed by at the rate of fifty miles an hour.

Wheelmen Win a Victory.

ASBURY PARK (N. J.), April 14.—The first election in New Jersey to vote on an appropriation for the construction of a cycle path took place to-day in Asbury Park, and the wheelmen carried the day by a vote of 218 to 37. The path will be six feet wide, and will extend from Asbury Park to Trenton, a distance of fifty miles. It is thought that the path will be built before the end of the coming summer.

Pensions Increased.

WASHINGTON, April 14.—The House Committee on Invalid Pensions to-day ordered a favorable report on the bill to adjust the pensions of maimed Union soldiers and sailors of the Union who served during the war of the rebellion. The measure makes an average increase in the pensions of this class of about \$13 per month, and creates a pension for those who have lost a hand and foot.

Fire at New York.

NEW YORK, April 14.—The five-story building, 78 Grand street, and the adjoining building, 33 Green, which was occupied by Affmold & Co., was gutted by fire to-night. Estimates of total damage so far, \$300,000 to \$500,000. The insurance on the stock is nearly \$1,000,000.

Eight Miners Killed.

DURHAM, April 14.—An explosion occurred in a colliery at Wellington. Eight miners are known to have been killed, and it is believed that eighteen persons will lose their lives through the disaster.

Death of an Ex-United States Consul.

CHARLESTON (S. C.), April 14.—General John D. Kennedy, ex-United States Consul-General to Shanghai, died at Camden, S. C., to-day. He was Lieutenant-Governor of the State and President of the State Senate in 1882. Gold Reserve. WASHINGTON, April 14.—The treasury gold reserve at the close of business stood at \$126,715,801. The withdrawal for the day was \$197,000.