CLAYTON.

Strong Testimony against the Arkansas Radical Senator.

The Republican New York Tribune tells the Story, therefore it Must be True.

A Washington special to the New York Tribune says: Clayton's investigating committee met to-day, and Senator Clayton raised an objection to the testimony being used. It is presumed the senator referred to the publications already made, but he failed to refer pointedly to this fact. E. A. Fulton, a colored Republican member of the Arkansas legislature, was then sworn. In support of the charges that Clayton had manipulated the election and made corrupt combinations to secure his senatorial election, Fulton swore that Clayton told him he wanted none but his friends in the legislature, and referring to the then impending State election, declared that if witness wanted to be elected he must promise to vote for him (Clayton) for senator. Witness so promised, and was elected. Witness went to the State capital before the meeting of the legislature, and called on Clayton, who had sent for him. Clayton said he wanted the Republicans to vote for him, and particularly the colored Republicans; but if they would not do so he could get enough votes to elect himself anyhow. The legislature was organized in an unconstitutional and revolutionary manner by the Claytonites, and the latter combined with the Democrats to prevent anti-Clayton Republicans, who had been legally elected, from taking their seats. After the organization, Thomas M. Bowen, then a judge of the supreme court, and afterward appointed governor of Idaho, told witness that if he would vote for Clayton and act with him he [Bowen] would appoint witness station-master on the Mississippi, Ouachita and Red River Railroad, of which company Bowen was president, at a salary of one hundred dollars per month, and if the road was not finished at the adjournment of the legislature witness should be taken on the pay-rolls of the company anyhow. Bowen then told witness if he wanted any appointment from Clayton he [Bowen] would get it for him, and if witness did not receive it, Bowen would would bring him the promise in writing from Clayton. Witness replied he would think about it, and when Senator Alexander McDonald withdrew from the contest in a card denouncing Clayton's manipulation of the registration, witness conferred with friends of his district, who urged him to vote for Clayton, which he did. All of the Democrats voted for Clayton but three members.

Soon thereafter a contest ensued in the Hot Springs district, where Clayton members had been declared elected by gross fraud. Marr, a Claytonite, called on witness, saying that Thomas M. Bowen, since governor of Idaho, would give witness three thousand dollars to vote against the expulsion of the Clayton members. Witness replied that the evidence adduced showed they had no right to seats. Marr then offered four thousand dollars, saying that it could be got right off, if witness would go to the room of Bowen, who was then judge of the State supreme court. Witness declined, saying that not ten thousand dollars would induce him to vote that way.

The Bowen referred to by Fulton in his testimony was present, and aided Clayton in cross-examining the witness for three hours, but in no respect damaged his previous statements. Clayton is also aided by John McClure, whom he appointed chief justice of Arkansas. McClure now owns the State public printing, and edits the Clayton Arkansas organ. It is claimed openly by Clayton's intimates that the administration will have him whitewashed.

PERILS OF THE DEEP.

Particulars of the Burning of the Steamer America on the South American Coast.

Disgraceful and Cowardly Action of the Commander of the Burned Steamer.

NEW YORK, February 7.—A Rio Janeiro letter gives the details of the loss of the steamship America, on her passage from Buenos Ayres to Montevedio on the twenty-third of December.

The America sailed from Buenos Ayres on the twenty-second of December, taking one hundred and thirty-four passengers. Her company consisted of over thirty persons, including the captain, officers, crew and firemen. On the morning of the twenty-third when Cerro, a well known point in the river, was discovered twelve or fifteen miles ahead, one of the boiler tubes exploded, the steam rushed in to the engineroom and instantly scalded to death two firemen and one coal-heaver, who were oiling portions of the machinery, and at the same time extinguishing all the lights and scattering the live coals about the floor between the boilers and the steamer's sides. The heat was so intense that it was impossible to remain below. The chief engineer informed Captain Bosele of the fact and recommended that the pumps should be rigged and immediately set going. The pumps had not been used for some time and were in bad order. In the meantime it was deemed advisable to work the company for the saving of the passengers. The fire spread rapidly, consuming everything before it. The fire being amidships separated the steamer's company and passengers into two portions, naturally causing a panic and producing a deplorable confusion which it is impossible to describe. Of all the boats of the steamer only one of them could be lowered, the others not having been used in some time, were screwed so firmly in the boat-chocks that it was next to impossible to remove them. The two which were launched were immediately swamped by the hail crazed passengers. Some of the more energetic passengers tried to launch other boats but it was impossible. At this time the officers had lost all control over the crew, who, with revolvers, were desperately fighting with the passengers for the means of saving life. No signals were made to the passing steamer Villa de Salto which would indicate any unusual danger on board the America. Not until the flames burst out into sight was the officer in charge of the Villa de Salto aware of any trouble or danger, when he immediately put back to the assistance of the America.

The captain of the America, Bosis, was the first to abandon his steamer, and take refuge on board the Italian vessel of war, where he has since remained. His course has excited universal indignation in Montevedio and Buenos Ayres, and is threatened with being lynched if he appears ashore. The loss of life is not possible to learn with certainty, but it seems that more than sixty persons perished. No citizens of the United States were among the lost.

Naulvi Mohammed Salimuz yaman, the famous astronomer of Bampur, whose deductions have generally turned out right, has foretold that in the coming year a blaze of light resembling a shooting star, the light of which no mortal has yet seen, will be visible in the sky. It will dazzle the eyes of the people of particular places with lustre, and after remaining for twenty-four hours, will vanish. The direction in which it will make its appearance will be the north pole, and accordingly the people of northern countries will see it distinctly. Probably the natives of China and Persia will likewise have a sight of it. The effect of this meteor will be that the extent of country over which the light will fall will be visited by famine during the year, and a large number of the people inhabiting it will be destroyed, while vegetables will also be scanty.

FINANCE AND TRADE.

OFFICE OF THE DAILY APPEAL, WEDNESDAY, February 7, 1872.

FINANCIAL.

There is no change in the local money market to notice. Counter business was lively during banking hours. The demand for money on account of speculation in cotton is fair; rates, however, have undergone no change—10 and 12 per cent per annum.

No change in the rates of exchange; ⅛c discount buying and par selling on all points.

Gold in New York is 110. Dealers here pay 109⅞.

The local stock and security market was quiet with but little inquiry. The latest by mail from New York is that parties bid 30½c, but holders were asking 30¾c; dated 21 inst. Holders here have full confidence, and are holding at 30 to 35c. There are reports in circulation of a more exalted nature, but of which we have no information. Memphis and Charleston railroad stock is steady at 38@40, but no buyers, not anxious to invest at these figures, while holders are not disposed to take less. In city securities there is little doing. The currency bonds are quoted at 60c upon the streets, and 60½c by dealers. A lot of $1000 currency issue was offered upon the street at 60c, with no buyers. The gold issue is quoted at 65c. County warrants are strong at 92 to 95c buying and selling. Tennessee money is bought at 85@90c for the old, and 55c for the new issue, and is sold respectively at 87 and 87c.

On gross earnings for the year ending October 31, 1871, amounting to $3,595,540, the Illinois Central railroad company paid into the State treasury $351,687 82, being the 7 per cent tax reserved to the State on the company's charter.

Of the current season's crop of cotton it is estimated that mills in this country will take 1,300,000 bales—an increased consumption by them of 300,000 to 400,000 bales.

Business Failures in 1871.

The number of failures in the United States the past year, and the amount of money involved, according to the statistics of the Mercantile Agency of Dun, Barlow & Co., show a gratifying decrease from the previous year. The data are as follows:

Year.	—States North.— No.	Liabilities.	—In all States.— No.	Liabilities.
1867	2398	$95,218,000	2780	$99,666,000
1868	2197	57,275,000	2608	63,094,000
1869	2344	75,053,000	2799	75,054,000
1870	3176	76,697,000	3551	88,242,000
1871	2564	74,253,000	2915	85,252,000

The failures throughout the State of New York show an increase in number but a decrease in amount, viz: 309, with liabilities of $7,135,000 in 1870, and 388, with liabilities of $5,692,000 in 1871. The other States which show an increase are: Alabama, California, Connecticut, Georgia, Illinois, Iowa, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, New Jersey, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Vermont and Wisconsin—the largest increase having been in California, Illinois, Pennsylvania and some of the Southern States. This exhibit, taken as a whole, is certainly gratifying, and must give to those who had got a contrary impression, and were indulging in gloomy apprehensions for the future. When we consider that the number of failures and the aggregate liabilities last year, were not above the average of those of several years before the war, when the business of the country was not much more than half as large as it is at present, the statement becomes all the more encouraging. In the panic year of 1857 the failures reached 4662, with liabilities reaching $291,750,000. The fact to be deduced from these figures is that business generally having been conducted on a healthy basis, the mass of individual indebtedness is quite as limited as we have any reason to believe that it ever will be again.

COTTON.

The market to-day was fairly represented by all classes of buyers. Spinners' agents and exporters confining themselves mostly to low grades, as the views of the factors are above those of this class of buyers on middling and the higher grades. The market, though resulting in moderate sales, was somewhat excited, responding to the New York market, notwithstanding the fact that we are the highest market already outside of New York. Our people seem fully alive to the upward movement and the consequence is that holders are firm and stiff in prices. Receipts of cotton for five days at the ports are 61,495 bales, pointing to 90,000 for the week. Whatever may be the result in the present high prices is not easily foreseen, but of the position of cotton today, none need be at a loss to discover. We are now just where we were, in point of receipts and stocks, at this time in 1870, while the rate of consumption has increased 15 per cent; middling cotton then was 2½c. The receipts for the five days in this digest for one day we have had since the season fairly opened. New York advanced ⅛c to-day—middling 23⅛c. Liverpool advanced 1 16d, both markets closing steady. Here factors realized 22⅞c for middling, and selling 23c.

We quote:

Ordinary	20 @20½
Strict Ordinary	21 @21½
Good Ordinary	21½@22
Strict Good Ordinary	21½@22
Low Middling	22 @22½
Strict Low Middling	22½@23
Middling	23 @23½
Strict Middling	23½@23¾
Good Middling	24 @24¼

Sales to-day 2500 bales. Middling—11 at 22¾c. Bright middling—144 at 23c. Strict low middling—104 at 22½c; 110 at 22¾c; 9 at 22½c. Low middling—75 at 22½c; 96 at 22¾c; 75 at 22½c; 81 at 22½c; 39 at 22¾c; 69 at 22¾c; 230 at 22½c. Middling—11 at 22¾c. Strict low middling—104 at 22½c; 110 at 22½c; 9 at 22½c. Low middling—75 at 22½c; 96 at 22¾c; 75 at 22½c; 81 at 22¾c; 39 at 22¾c; 69 at 22¾c; 230 at 22½c. Strict good ordinary—73 at 22½c; 71 at 21⅞c; 25 at 22c; 104 at 22½c; 183 at 22c; 20 at 22c; 25 at 22c. Good ordinary—183 at 22½c; 68 at 21⅞c; 65 at 21½c; 72 at 21½c; 7 at 21¾c; 4 at 21½c. Strict ordinary—30 at 21c; 100 at 20½c. Ordinary—12 at 20½c. Clean stains—12 at 21¾c.

Middling here at this time last year	24¼
Middling in New York same date	23⅞
Uplands, Liverpool, same date	7⅝@8
Gold in New York same date	110¼

The following is a comparative daily statement of the receipts, shipments and stock on hand at this polnt:

	Bales.
Receipts to-day	389
Same day last year	3,720
Shipments to-day	1,300
Same day last year	3,304
Stock to-day	81,957
Same time last year	48,008
Total receipts to date	272,992
Same time last year	339,805
Total shipments to date	248,211
Same time last year	298,377

By the above table it will be seen that the receipts to this date have decreased 66,813 bales.

IMPORTS.

Memphis and Charleston railroad	82
Mississippi and Tennessee railroad	29
Memphis and Ohio railroad	324
Memphis and Little Rock railroad	168
Steamers	267
Estimated per wagons	230
Total	1,299

EXPORTS.

Memphis and Charleston railroad	135
Mississippi and Tennessee railroad	494
Memphis and Ohio railroad	432
Total	1,061

TRADE.

Front street presented its usual lively appearance this morning after the disagreeable weather during the past few days, and except a cool air, was pleasant. There was considerable inquiry, but there was some trouble experienced in filling orders on account of light receipts the past few days. Stocks in most articles of consumption were low, comparatively. Meats, however, are in better supply; so with corn, but the shipping movement to New Orleans, of the surplus, will again leave our market steady. There is nothing favorable from the gorge at Columbus. The weather is still cold, and our latest information is to the effect that there must be a material change in the weather before the gorge can possibly give way. Railroads are still literally blocked with freight for the different points South, both from St. Louis and Cincinnati. Parties have had supplies on the road since the 15th of last month. This cold spell will probably be the last this winter. Fears are entertained that the river will be as much too high, as it has been too low, when the rise begins, which must be as soon as the weather moderates, as the whole northwestern country is covered with heavy snows.

There was but little doing in the grain market this morning. Dealers are pretty well stocked for the present, and don't care to buy on speculation, as steamers are now moving with corn, and will probably be in in a day or two. One holder shipped 1000 sacks to New Orleans on speculation; another party sold 1500 sacks to a party destined for the same point. The telegraph market reports from New Orleans still omit quotations of corn and bulk meats. There were expressions of dissatisfaction on Front street, and, in order to get quotations, quite a number who are interested were compelled to telegraph to New Orleans, at a cost of from $1 to $1 25. 1500 sacks of yellow corn, new gunnies, sold at 65c. Oats sold at 58c and 59c; out of store, 60 to 65c, from mixed to white. Very little bran is on the market, selling out of store, $20@20. 250 bales of hay, prime, sold at $20 50; hay is lower. Receipts are more liberal. A boat load arrived last night. A car load of corn in the husk sold at 50c.

Receipts of eggs were better, and prices in consequence were lower, ranging from 20@22c.

Butter continues dull for common to prime, selling at 15@20c; strictly choice in small packages, 25c.

Cotton-seed, etc.—At mills we quote: Cottonseed in demand at $11 per ton. Oils—for refined, 60c; for good, 45c. Oil cake, 21c. Meal, 23c.

There is no change in the provision market. Bulk meats are firm at quotations, 7¾c being the inside figure for clear rib. Bacon is still improving. The demand is good. Sales were made yesterday and to-day at 7½c for clear rib, and reported as the inside figure. Supplies of both bacon and bulk are good, equal to the demand. There was some talk this morning of shipping to New Orleans. There is no change in fresh meats. We quote: Mess pork, $15; in bacon—clear sides at 8½c; shoulders at 7¾@7½c and scarce; clear rib, low in the market at 7¾@8c, with but little demand. Bulk—clear sides, 7½@7¾c; shoulders, 5½@6c; clear rib, 7¾c. Breakfast bacon quoted at 10c. Sugar cured hams, 13½@14c. Dressed hogs are in light supply with a good demand; Memphis dressed, 7½c; country, 6@6½c, owing to condition. Dressed beef, 7@8c; mutton, 10c, and in demand. Lard—tierce, 9¾@10½c; keg, 10½@11c; peddles, 11¾@12½c; pail, 12½c. Some merchants are asking even figures for lard.

There is a good demand for hides, and we give the following as the quotations: Flint, per lb, 16c; dry salted, 15c; green salted, 9½c, and green, 7@8c. Dry deer-skins sell at 30c. Shoepskins, No. 1, are worth $2 each, and common 25c@$1.

Turpentine we quote at 86c, on orders by dealers. A lot of $1000 currency issue was offered upon the street at 60c, with no buyers. The gold issue is quoted at 65c. County warrants are strong at 92 to 95c buying and selling. Tennessee money is bought at 85@90c for the old, and 55c for the new issue, and is sold respectively at 87 and 87c.

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