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THE MEMPHIS DAILY APPEAL.

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THE MISSISSIPPI.

The Importance of its Improvement Set Forth in a Special Message from the President.

Urging an Immediate Appropriation for Continuing the Work Under the Plans of the Commission.

The Hennepin Canal—The Campaign Circulars Distributed in the Post-office Department.

A Funny Scene Between Secretary Chandler and Ex-Senator Spencer—Patents—Capital Points.

FINANCE.

The Senate Committee Worrying Over the National Bank Problem.

WASHINGTON, January 8.—At a meeting of the Senate Committee on Finance, Senator Sherman's bill authorizing national banks to secure circulation to the amount of ninety per cent. of the market value of the bonds deposited, was under discussion. No conclusion was reached. Aldrich, Allison and Voorhees were absent. It was urged in support of the measure that it would enable the banks to use bonds for a long time bearing a rate of interest higher than three per cent. The passage was objected to on the ground that it would be dangerous to make the amount of the circulating medium subject in any way to a fluctuating standard. It is probable the bill in some form will be reported by the committee, and its support not be limited to either party.

LAND GRANT FORFEITURES.

The Committee Report in Favor of the Forfeiture of Seven Roads.

WASHINGTON, January 8.—The House Committee on Public Lands acted favorably upon the report from the sub-committee on land grant forfeitures, declaring forfeited the grants of seven roads, as follows: Gulf and Ship Island, Elyton and Beards Bluff, Savannah and Albany, Tuscaloosa and Mobile, St. Louis, Iron Mountain and Southern, formerly Iron Mountain; Mobile and New Orleans, and Memphis and Charleston. It was determined to hear the attorneys of the Texas Pacific road at a special meeting Thursday. On the day following the committee will consider the forfeiture of the land grant of that company.

PATENTS.

A Bill to be Reported Which Will Fill a Long Felt Want.

WASHINGTON, January 8.—The House Committee on Patents agreed unanimously to report favorably the bill authorizing the Attorney-General to begin proceedings in any United States Circuit Court to set aside a patent when it shall appear to his satisfaction that such patent was procured by fraud or misrepresentation, and empowering the courts of the United States to adjudge such patents void, in whole or in part, upon proof of fraudulent procurement. The committee also agreed to report favorably the bill to amend the patent laws so as to provide that when articles are patented in foreign countries previous to obtaining a patent in the United States, the patent granted in this country shall not expire until twelve years after the date of the issue of the foreign patent.

CAMPAIGN CIRCULARS.

The Document Recently Distributed in the Postoffice Department.

WASHINGTON, January 8.—Postmaster-General Gresham to-day, in response to the resolution of the House calling for information in regard to the alleged distribution in the department of circulars asking contributions of the clerks for political purposes, says: In reply, I have the honor to state that on Saturday, the 5th instant, I was informed there was distributed in the department a document or circular, of which the following is a copy:

"To Indiana Republicans in Washington:

"The Republican State Central Committee is now organizing the State campaign, with great confidence of success, if its efforts are properly seconded. Your attention is respectfully invited to the fact that money is now needed to meet the expenses of preliminary work, and the committee must rely on your zeal and sense of justice for assistance in the matter. They have sent a subscription paper asking a voluntary contribution from all Republicans from the State now in Washington, which has been placed in my hands, and I am ready to receive such subscriptions and remit the proceeds to them. The plan is to take money in subscriptions for six months, payable the first of each month. Please inform me at once the amount you will contribute, beginning December, 1883. Respectfully, etc., "W. S. ODELL.

"WASHINGTON, December 29, 1883."

THE MISSISSIPPI.

A Special Message from the President Urging an Immediate Appropriation for Continuing Its Improvement.

WASHINGTON, January 8.—The President to-day transmitted to Congress the following message:

"I transmit herewith a communication from Secretary of War submitting the annual report of the Mississippi River Commission. I take this occasion to invite the early attention of Congress to the continuance of work on the Mississippi river, which has been carried on under the plans of the commission. My sense of the importance of the improvement of this river, not only to the people of the Northwest, but especially to the inhabitants of the lower Mississippi river valley, has already been expressed in a special communication to the last Congress. The harvest of grain and cotton products in the region bordering on the Mississippi is so vast as to be of national importance, and the project now being executed there in the interest of cheap transportation should be sufficiently provided for. The commission report that the results due to the still uncompleted works has been remarkable, and give the highest encouragement for expecting the ultimate success of the improvements. The act of August 2, 1882, appropriated $4,123,000 for work on that part of the river below Cairo. The estimates of the commission already transmitted to Congress call for $3,000,000 for the continuation of the works below Cairo, and it appears from the report that all of the last appropriation available for active operations is exhausted, an immediate appropriation of $1,000,000 is urgently needed to continue the work without loss of time, in view of the approach of the flood season and its attendant dangers. I therefore recommend to Congress the early passage of a separate bill on this subject.

"CHESTER A. ARTHUR.

"EXECUTIVE MANSION, January 8, 1884."

THE HENNEPIN CANAL.

The President also sent to Congress a special message in respect to the construction of the Hennepin canal. Accompanying the message were copies of the act of the General Assembly of Illinois ceding to the United States the Illinois and Michigan canal, the record of the vote of the State upon the proposition to cede the canal at the State election succeeding the act of cession, and a letter of the chief of engineers transmitting to the Secretary of War a report of the surveys of the proposed Hennepin canal. In the message the President says:

"I submit a communication from the Governor of the State of Illinois, with a copy of the act of the General Assembly of the State, tendering the United States the cession of the Illinois and Michigan canal upon condition that it be enlarged and maintained as a national water way for commercial purposes. The proposed cession is a subject Congress had under consideration in directing, by the act of August 2, 1882, a survey for a canal from a point on the Illinois river at or near the town of Hennepin by the most practicable route to the Mississippi river at or about the city of Rock Island, the canal to be not less than seventy feet wide at the water line, and not less than seven feet depth of water, with a capacity for vessels of at least 280 tons, and also a survey of the Illinois and Michigan canal and estimates of the cost of enlarging it to the dimension of the proposed canal between Hennepin and the Mississippi river. The surveys ordered in the above act have been completed and the report upon them included in the annual report of the Secretary of War, and a copy is herewith submitted. It appears from these papers that the estimated yields of corn, wheat and oats were, in 1882, in the States of Illinois, Wisconsin, Iowa, Minnesota, Kansas and Nebraska, more than 1,000,000,000 bushels. It is claimed that if the cheap water transportation route, which is now continuous from the Atlantic to Chicago, is extended to the upper Mississippi by such a canal, great benefit in the reduction of freight charges will result to the people of the upper Mississippi Valley, not only upon their own shipments, but articles of commerce used by them, which are now taken from the Eastern States by water as far as Chicago. As a matter of great interest, especially to the citizens of that part of the country, I recommend the general subject to your consideration. C. A. ARTHUR.

"EXECUTIVE MANSION, January 8, 1884."

In a letter of the chief of engineers to the Secretary of War, dated November 27, 1883, he says: "The surveys demonstrated the perfect feasibility of a route for the Hennepin canal. Three lines were surveyed, known respectively as Marri's Dozer, Watertown and Rock Island routes." He submits the following estimates of costs of each route: Marris Dozer route, construction of canal and feeder, including right of way, $5,811,367; maintenance of ordinary repairs annually, $889,000. Watertown route, construction of canal and feeder, including right of way, $7,207,640; maintenance of ordinary repairs annually, $91,245. Rock Island route, construction of canal and feeder, including right of way, $6,672,890; maintenance of ordinary repairs annually, $94,820. These estimates are based on the following dimensions: canal, eighty feet wide at surface, seven feet deep; locks 170 feet long, thirty feet wide; cost of enlarging the Illinois and Michigan canal so as to conform to those dimensions, estimates $2,198,919; cost of annual maintenance and keeping it in repair, $50,000.

COLD WEATHER SIGNALS.

A New Regulation in Regard to Keeping Track of the Weather.

WASHINGTON, January 8.—The following will be inserted in the office regulations of the Signal Bureau, by direction of Gen. Hazen: White flag, black center, will be used to indicate a cold wave approaching, and whenever anticipated that the temperature will fall decidedly below normal, the assistant in charge of the indications division will send telegrams to observers at Chicago, St. Louis, Louisville, Nashville and Cincinnati to "hoist cold wave signal," and will direct them to be lowered when the temperature has reached minimum.

THE PUBLIC DEBT.

The Decrease Since August 31, 1865, When It Was at Its Maximum.

WASHINGTON, January 8.—The Secretary of the Treasury has furnished the Senate with an answer to its resolution of inquiry (adopted by motion of Senator Beck) concerning the sinking fund, from which appears the total debt of the United States, less cash in the Treasury. At its maximum point, August 31, 1865, it was $2,746,431,571; June 30, 1883, it was $1,551,091,207, showing a reduction of the debt, including interest, less cash in Treasury, of $1,195,340,363, or $455,115,332 more than would have been supplied by the sinking fund under the provisions of sections 3694 and 3696, Revised Statutes. Had the requirements of the sinking fund acts, and had the provisions of those sections been strictly complied with, the principal of the public debt would have been decreased the same period $960,477,398, or $210,222,958 more than it has been stated to be required for the sinking fund. The Secretary says the requirements of the law are, that a fixed proportion of the existing debt shall each year be paid under imperative purchase or redemption of United States bonds. Other provisions of the laws are cited, permitting the use of surplus moneys in the Treasury for the payment of the public debt.

BLISS'S BILLS.

Some of the Inside Workings of the Department of Justice.

WASHINGTON, January 8. — Secretary Folger transmitted to the Senate a transcript of the expenditures of the Department of Justice. Included in the mass of vouchers are those for payments on account of services of special attorneys, detectives, etc., engaged in the Star-route cases. The following is the list of items:

George Bliss, November 8, 1881, (un-itemized) $2500; September 9, 1881, services, two days at Long Branch in consultation with the Attorney-General and others; September 14, 1881, services, two days at Long Branch in consultation with the Attorney-General and others; September 18, 1881, entire day in the Library Law Institute examining authorities as to "informations," September 30th, eleven days in Washington in consultation with the Attorney-General and counsel in preparation of "informations" against Brady and others; October 21, 1881, three days in Philadelphia and Washington; October 29, 1881, three days in Washington; November 5, 1881, four days in Washington in argument of a motion to rescind the order permitting information as filed; November 7, 1881, drawing complaint against F. B. Lilly; same date, drawing complaint against George F. Brott; November 16, 1881, three days in Washington preparing complaints and procuring warrants against Brott and Lilly, A. O. Buck, W. S. Berringer and A. E. Boone; November 24, 1881, seven days in Washington; December 28th, five days in Washington; December 12th, four days in Washington; December 17th, one day in Washington; December 24th, two days in Washington; December 31st, five days in Washington; September 14 to December 25, 1881, constant services in New York between those days other than those occupied as above; total 600. Disbursements, September 9th to December 24th (not itemized), $388. March 2, 1881, George Bliss, for services as counsel in the Star-route cases, in making preparation for grand jury cases against Dorsey, Brady, Miner, Peck, Vail, Rerdell, Sanderson and Turner, examination of witnesses, arrest and examination in Police Court and indictment of Albert Boone, S. G. Cabell, jr., T. W. Donohue, Charles & Dickson, E. J. Sweet, W. W. Jackson, Kate N. Armstrong, A. O. Buck and others, with services in the cases of Litty & Boone, there being in all twenty-three indictments, consultations with officers of the Attorney-General, advice in cases at Philadelphia, attending correspondence, making eight journeys from New York to Washington and back, and forty-eight days absence from home entirely devoted to these cases, besides much labor and time bestowed upon them in New York, all since settlement of former account and prior to date, $5200. Expense account, $418. George Bliss, January 6 to March 16, 1883, $3700. George Bliss, April 5, 1883, $7100. George Bliss, November 19th, $9200. Wm. A. Cook, services as special United States district attorney, $2449 and $5250 still due. W. W. Kerr, $31,877. R. D. Merrick, $17,500. Benj. H. Brewster, on account of services in cases of United States against Brady and others, known as Star-route cases, $5000. Allen Pinkerton, $6330. B. M. Gibson, $5000. Various detectives, $2170.

A FUNNY SCENE

Between Ex-Senator Spencer and Secretary Bill Chandler.

Washington special: Quite a funny scene occurred at the Navy Department the other day between Ex-Senator Spencer and Secretary Chandler. Spencer came into the department before he was released from the contempt case and took a seat at Chandler's right hand. The Secretary received him very coldly and, taking it for granted that he had come to him to get help, said, "Spencer, you shouldn't come here to see me now. It is very indelicate of you. I can't do anything for you and you ought to know it. You should have acted more prudently. You have gotten your affairs all into a mess, and your coming here to get my help is sure to provoke scandal. You know how the acts of public men are scrutinized and made the subject of criticism." Spencer listened to this sort of talk for about five minutes and then spoke.

"My God, Chandler!" he cried, "I didn't come here to ask anything of you. I don't see why you should talk to me in this way. Are you talking for the benefit of the rest of the people in the room?"

Chandler made some further remark about the ex-Senator's lack of delicacy in calling upon a Cabinet officer when he was involved in a scandalous trial, whereupon Spencer sprang to his feet and began to pound the desk.

"See here, Bill Chandler," he thundered, "I used to run ten times the chance of making a scandal when you were dancing around the doors of my Senatorial committee-room, the lobbyist agent of John Roach and Charles F. Scott, and those days you were not much impressed with the fear of making a scandal. You had better take take the advice of a friend and resign."

At this Spencer walked out of the room.

CAPITAL BREVITIES.

WASHINGTON, January 7.—Mrs. Lucretia R. Patterson, wife of Ex-Senator John J. Patterson, of South Carolina, died of heart disease this morning.

There will probably be another call of three per cents made this week.

The President nominated Chief-Engineer Charles H. Loring, chief of the Bureau of Steam Engineering of the Navy Department.

D. P. Bailey, of Missouri, was made clerk of the Coinage, Weights and Measures Committee. Bland, chairman of the committee, thinks no bill will be reported for two or three weeks.

At a meeting of the House Committee on Postoffices and Postroads, Rogers, Ward, Taylor, Bingham and Wakefield were appointed members of a sub-committee on postal telegraph.

The Secretary of the Interior has ordered a sale at public auction, on February 27th, of 1200 acres of land at Hot Springs, for the Ojo Caliente Indian reservation, New Mexico. No bids less than $15,000 will be entertained.

A Democratic member of the Ways and Means Committee says the action of the protective Democrats in the House is still a matter of doubt, but the action of the Democrats on the committee is likely to unite the party in favor of tariff reform.

Gen. McCook, secretary of the Senate, has advised Col. C. C. Morrow [Mo.] and Maj. Jere Williams, [Ky.], that they will be retained in their positions. These gentlemen are Democrats and ex-Union soldiers, and have filled their positions efficiently for several years.

Among the postmasters confirmed today were Walter W. Shaw, Texarkana, Ark.; Ada E. Bennnell, Newport, Ark.; Alois Smith, Van Buren, Ark.; Walter W. Brashear, Russellville, Ark.; F. M. Humphries, Hope, Ark.; Kate Brown, Gainesville, Tex.; Wm. C. Bailey, Hearne, Tex.; Adolph Wemmohs, Flatonia, Tex.

All interstate commerce bills before the Committee on Commerce will be considered by the whole committee, and have precedence over all other business. The chairman of the committee was instructed to report back to the House at any time for reference to the Committee on Rivers and Harbors all river and harbor appropriation bills and papers.

The House Committee on Military Affairs will report favorably the bill relative to the date of mustering in certain officers. The object of the measure is to pay these officers for all the time served. The members of the committee are of the opinion that nearly every regiment in the field had one or two officers who will be affected by the bill, who, in some instances, served a year or more before being mustered in.

James Stevenson, of the geographical survey, reported to Maj. Powell, as one of the results of last season's field operations, the discovery of several more ruined cave and cliff cities, differing in some respects from any before examined, the most remarkable of which was a village under ground. The dwellings are situated near the summit of the volcanic hills of the San Francisco mountains, in the San Juan region, Arizona.

Secretary Chandler is making arrangements to have the bodies of Lieut. Commander De Long and his companions appropriately received on their arrival at New York. He will direct a committee of naval officers to receive the bodies, and they will be accompanied by the relatives and friends of the deceased. Upon reaching New York, their bodies will be taken to the New York navy-yard, [where a temporary vault will be erected, in which they will remain till finally interred in accordance with the wishes of their friends.

A prominent member of the House Appropriations Committee said to-day that he was very certain that money would not be appropriated for any additional vessels for the navy at this session of Congress. "It is probable," said he, "that money will be appropriated judiciously for completing work already begun, but the effort to keep is decidedly against appropriating money to build ships so long as Chandler is at the head of the Navy Department. We all believe that we ought to have more of a navy, but Chandler is not the man to disburse the money."

Representatives of the tobacco-growing interests of the United States waited on Secretary Folger to-day and asked for a reconsideration of the department's ruling in regard to a recent importation of ten bales of Sumatra tobacco, on which a duty of only thirty-five cents a pound was assessed. They desire that the duty on importations be left to be estimated by the percentage of the entire consignment fit for wrappers instead of by the percentage of the tobacco fit for wrapping in each package. The Secretary promised to consider the matter.

THE HARBOR GRACE RIOT.

Number of Additional Arrests of Orange Sympathizers.

ST. JOHNS, N. F., January 8.—The following arrests were made at Harbor Grace to-day in connection with the recent riot: Head-Constable Doyle, Joseph Bras, Chas. French, Edward Ash, Ambrose Williams, Thomas Conrage and Edward Butt, all indicted for the murder of Cullihan and firing the first shots at the Reverheads men. These are all Orange sympathizers. Thirty persons are now arrested. Additional arrests of Orangemen will be made. The depositions upon which the arrests were made to-day, state that before the procession of Orangemen came up to where the Riverhead men had planted their standard, a delegation of five men from this party went forward and asked Head Constable Doyle to compel the Orange procession to turn down a lane in the vicinity, otherwise they promised to do dirty work if the two parties met. Some members of the procession then left the ranks and went to a neighboring fence and pulled out the pickets, saying, "We go on." Doyle is accused of encouraging the society by "Come on," and calling out, "Fire," and further, that Doyle fired the first shot.

LORD LANSDOWNE

Visiting Lieut.-Gov. Robinson at Toronto—His First Journey.

TORONTO, January 8.—The Marquis of of Lansdowne, Governor-General of Canada, and Lady Lansdowne and party, arrived here to-night from Ottawa, the guests of Lieut.-Gov. Robinson. This is the first time Lansdowne has ventured away from Ottawa since his arrival from England. The special train by which he traveled was well guarded by a *posse* of government police. Unusual precautions seemed to be taken in all his movements. He was met here at the depot by 100 volunteers, who will escort him wherever he goes during his stay. It was originally intended that the marquis should visit Niagara Falls, but owing to the recent excitement caused by the Fenian dynamiters the programme was changed. The party return to Ottawa Saturday.

The Illinois Grave-Robbers.

SYCAMORE, January 8.—The two supposed grave-robbers, Waterman and Shinkle, were arraigned to-day, and waived examination. They were committed in default of bail. Although abundantly able to procure bail, they considered it safer behind the protecting walls out of harm's way.

Another shocking robbery has been discovered at Rochelle. The sheriff, while searching the college at Chicago for the corpse of old Mrs. Hoyt, discovered the body of a young girl. An investigation of of the graves at Rochelle proved the body to be that of Mrs. Croft and an old schoolmate and friend of Shinkle's. Hall and Coffey, the first parties arrested, have been released, it being proven that they were only teamsters, and have given valuable information.

Heavy Suit.

NEW ORLEANS, January 8.—In the United States Circuit Court Fletcher, Weisenberg & Co., contractors, who built the Lake Pontchartrain bridge, filed action against the Northeastern Railroad Company for $261,620 exclusive of cost and interest. The petition shows the contractors' claim for the entire work, including additions and alterations, to be $1,232,000.

The Kaiser's Address.

BERLIN, January 8.—The Emperor, in an address replying to New Year's greetings by the Berlin magistrates, dwells upon the unveiling of the monument of Germania and the Neiderwald and Luther anniversaries, and closes with the prediction that the peace of the empire will be maintained.

"Bank Day" at Boston.

BOSTON, January 8.—"Bank day" reports are not quite as favorable as a year ago. This condition of things, however, has resulted in a general overhauling of papers, collateral and other assets, and the destruction of all of a doubtful character. The general policy has been made much more conservative.

Fee aged man, women, weak and sickly children, without a rival. Will not cause headache. Brown's Iron Bitters.

APPEAL SPECIALS.

Meeting of the Mississippi Legislature—Hon. Wm. Inge Elected Speaker of the House, and

R. O. Reynolds President Pro. Tem. of the Senate—Murder and Lynching Near Birmingham, Ala.

JACKSON, MISS.

Meeting of the Legislature—An Organization Effected in Both Branches.

[Special to the Appeal.]

JACKSON, January 8.—The Legislature convened in regular session at 12 o'clock to-day. The Senate was called to order by Lieut.-Gov. Shands. The Hon. R. O. Reynolds, of Monroe, was elected president *pro tempore*; D. P. Porter, of Hinds, secretary; George T. Hamilton, of Holmes, sergeant-at-arms, and G. W. Hibler, colored, of Tate county, doorkeeper. A committee was appointed to notify the House of the organization of the Senate. At 3:30 o'clock, the House of Representatives not having completed its organization, the Senate adjourned until 11 o'clock to-morrow morning. The House of Representatives was organized by the election of the Hon. W. M. Inge, of Alcorn, Speaker on the first ballot, over the Hon. A. J. Baker, of Lafayette, and the Hon. J. S. Montgomery, of Oktibbeha. Gen. H. E. Williamson, of Marshall, was elected clerk; H. M. Vaiden, of Carroll, sergeant-at-arms, and Samuel Coleman, of Warren, doorkeeper. The House did not perfect its organization until 7 o'clock p.m., when it adjourned until 11 o'clock to-morrow morning, when the Governor's message will be received.

Con Ryan, connected with Williams's foundry, was shot by John Hansberry, a livery stable keeper, in a personal difficulty. His wound is supposed to be mortal. Ryan first shot at Hansberry.

The weather is extremely cold.

BIRMINGHAM, ALA.

Building During the Past Year—Murder and Lynching.

[Special to the Appeal.]

BIRMINGHAM, ALA., January 8.—Information has just been received here that last Friday, about forty-five miles west of Birmingham, in Walker county, a negro, name not learned, killed a railroad contractor named Pope, and that a party of white men came upon him together lynched the murderer on the spot. Pope and the negro altercated on a train running from Columbus, Miss., into Walker county, and when they got off the negro got a pistol and shot Pope. No further particulars can be learned, as there is no railroad or telegraphic communication between Birmingham and the scene of the lynching.

Of all that has been before written about Birmingham nothing presents its growth so strikingly as does a statement published in the *Age*, of the building done in the city last year. The list includes new buildings, and additions and improvements to old ones, and foots up $435,941. Several of the houses put down are not yet finished, but they were all begun and well advanced by the first of the year. The new buildings, especially the business houses, are, as a rule, much better than the old structures.

Congressman Hewitt has returned to Washington, promising before he left to get for the Board of Trade here all the information to be had in regard to the proposal to establish a government foundry; and if it is decided to build the foundry the board will memorialize the Secretary of War in favor of its location at Birmingham. It of course would not require much trouble to get it a strong showing with those most powerful of pleaders, figures, in abundance, as to Birmingham's advantages for the purposes of the proposed foundry, as well as for any other branch of iron manufacture.

Mr. Hewitt has a bill before Congress to divide the Northern Judicial District of Alabama into two divisions and to have semi-annual sessions of the United States courts held at Birmingham as well as at Huntsville, as heretofore. A committee of Birmingham lawyers is getting expressions from the lawyers and court officers of the counties out of which it is proposed to constitute the Birmingham division, and as favorable expressions are expected, it is thought the bill will pass.

The Board of Trade is after the railroads about the lack of passenger accommodations at Birmingham. A committee has been appointed to urge upon the superintendents the building of a union passenger depot at once, and if the right sort of assurances are not had, to lay the matter before the Railroad Commission.

MRS. HARDY'S "HUSBAND."

A Queer Suit in Boston, in Which the Wrong Man Gets the Money.

BOSTON, January 8.—Mrs. Hardy, a Spiritualist, was in 1869 married to John Hardy, and subsequently by mutual agreement and by the payment to Hardy of $5000 she procured a divorce in Utah. She then married Ezra G. Perkins, and shortly afterward when dying bequeathed half her personal property to her "husband." Suit was brought by Hardy involving the point as to who was the legal husband at the time of the woman's death. Perkins having also died leaving $100,000. The Supreme Court decides the Utah divorce illegal; that Hardy was the legal husband of the testatrix at the time of her decease, and was entitled to half of her personal estate, he not having consented in writing to her will. Hardy was not legatee of the will, and Ezra G. Perkins, it is found, is the person meant by the word "husband." Hardy married again several years ago, and is now living here.

DESPERATE AFFRAY.

Three Men Killed at Abilene, Tex.—Cause of the Difficulty.

ABILENE, January 8.—Recently Frank Collins, as member of the Board of Aldermen, has been active in attempting to suppress gambling. In a saloon this evening, Zeno Hemphill, a gambler, struck Collins with his fist. Collins immediately executed a pistol at Hemphill's head, whereupon Deputy Marshal Walter Collins rushed in between the angry pair and struck the pistol up. In the confusion incident to the interruption, Hemphill drew a pistol and shot Walter Collins in the breast, and then a deadly combat began between Hemphill and Frank Collins, both employing their revolvers. When the firing ceased all three men were found upon the floor weltering in blood, Hemphill with six bullet holes in his body and through the heart. Frank Collins has four wounds and will probably die. Walter Collins expired within half an hour.

WIRE WAIFS.

New York, January 8.—The divorce suit of Edith against Frederick De Belleville, the actor, is discontinued.

Somerset, Tenn., January 8.—Frank Slage, whose execution was fixed for today, has been respited for thirty-five days.

Freehold, N. J., January 8.—Samuel Brower, aged seventy years, a well-to-do farmer, hanged himself in a log house in which he was born.

Austin, Tex., January 8.—The Texas Real Estate Association met here to-day, but, owing to the absence of the secretary and records, adjourned without action till to-morrow.

Wichita, Ks., January 8.—All the saloons in this city, over thirty in number, were closed to-day by the concerted action of theirkeepers, who it is understood have gone out of the business for good.

Milwaukee, January 8.—The scaffolding of the third story of the Conros block fell this morning, and John Dunn, contractor, killed; Henry Howe, Cassimer and Kilphoetke, brickmasons, fatally injured.

McKeesport, Pa., January 8.—Work was resumed to-day in the National Rolling Mill and Forge Company, the workmen accepting the reduction, ranging from twelve and a half to twenty per cent. Wood's iron works also started in full blast at former wages. The National Tube Works will resume to-morrow at a reduction.

St. Louis, January 8.—The Board of Police Commissioners elected Maj. Lawrence Harrigan chief of police to fill the vacancy occasioned by the dismissal of Col. Campbell.

Boston, January 8.—The United States has brought a civil suit against Goodrich H. Brush, a distiller of Westfield, to recover $80,000 alleged due the government on transactions of the distillery.

Troy, N. Y., January 8.—The Citizens' Committee proposed to enjoin the payment of sheriff's and constables' bills on the ground of illegal charges. The county treasurer respects the protest of the citizens.

Galveston, January 8.—The Norwegian bark Norma, from Stettin with a cargo of cement for Galveston, ashore two miles to the west, will be a total loss. She is valued at $25,000. The cargo will probably be saved.

Chicago, January 8.—The Board of Trade election which failed yesterday owing to the multiplicity of candidates, and the fact that none of them received a majority, resulted in the choice of E. N. Blake for president.

New York, January 8.—The Mutual Reserve Fund Life Association has brought suit against Steven English, editor of the *Sunbeam Times*, for the recovery of $100,000 damages for libel. The answer alleges justification.

New York, January 8.—Among the failures reported to-day are the following: Thomas Chancellor & Co., general merchants, Ennis, Tex.; liabilities, $30,000; Eben Sutton, woolen manufacturer, North Andover, Mass., and William Sutton, Salem, attached for $100,000.

Lexington, Ky., January 8.—A train was thrown from the track on the coal road at Live Hill to-day. P. M. Cunningham, superintendent, was killed, and Charles Bachman severely injured. Cunningham came from Oswego, N. Y., three weeks ago, to take charge of the road.

Reading, Pa., January 8.—Work was resumed in all departments of the Reading Iron Works. The works employ 1000 men. Sheet-mill puddlers are reduced from $3 50 to $3 25 per ton. A number of other manufacturers are preparing to resume work, and the outlook for the iron trade is generally brighter.

ABE SLAUGHTER SHOT

At Covington by a Companion Named Will Douglass.

His Wound Probably Mortal—A Fight Over Pool.

Intelligence reached the city of a difficulty at Covington, thirty miles from Memphis, on the line of the Chesapeake, Ohio and Southwestern railroad, which is likely to result in the death of a citizen of that place.

THE AFFAIR OCCURRED

some time Monday evening. The exact hour could not be learned.

Abe Slaughter and Will Douglass were engaged in a game of pool in the back of a saloon for some time, and during the course of the game took several drinks each. There were a number of pool checks left after the game had been finished and they seem to have been the

CAUSE OF THE DIFFICULTY,

each claiming that he was entitled to a certain number of the checks. They finally quarreled and called each other hard names. When near the door Douglass drew a pistol and fired at Slaughter, the ball striking him in the left leg below the knee, the ball passing through the fleshy part of the leg, and lodging in the door facing. Slaughter fell to the floor, and Douglass, thinking he had done the deed he had intended, ran out of the door and down the street, pursued by a crowd of citizens, who had witnessed the affair from the adjoining rooms. Douglass was not overtaken, and is still at large. Slaughter was carried to his home, and Dr. Price was called in to attend him. The ball was not extracted, and the wound is considered dangerous.

Douglass is a young man of about twenty years of age, and is the son of Justice D. C. Douglass, and has always been wild, reckless and quarrelsome. Douglass has a similar reputation, and though both young men are of excellent family, neither of them stand very high in the estimation of the community in which they live.

THE FIRE RECORD.

DALLAS, TEX., January 8.—It is reported to-night that the town of Baird was almost swept away by fire this afternoon.

BUFFALO, KY., January 8.—Hugenmeyer & Co.'s saw and planing mill burned. Loss, $13,000; insurance, $7000.

CLEVELAND, O., January 8.—The cause of the Meadville conflagration is not known. The total loss is estimated at $500,000.

CLEVELAND, January 8.—Fire at 3 o'clock this morning destroyed the operahouse block at Meadville, Pa. The loss will reach $100,000, which is probably fully covered by insurance.

PADUCAH, KY., January 8.—A fire yesterday burned the Merry House, J. N. Glober & Bro., and the saloon of Nicholas Haus, and damaged the store of S. H. Clark. Total loss, $11,000; insurance, $9000.

KANSAS CITY, January 8.—A Pittsburg (Ks.) dispatch says a fire yesterday destroyed five frame buildings in the business part of the town. The principal losers are Strepker Bros., drugs; Goodhilles & Fisher, drugs, $5000. Total loss, $21,000; insurance, half.

H. A. MONTGOMERY.

Gen. R. F. Patterson's Acceptance.

MEMPHIS, January 8, 1884.

To the Citizens of Memphis:

The call published in the APPEAL and *Avalanche* Sunday morning and the *Ledger* this evening, requesting me to permit the use of my name on the ticket for the Board of Public Works of the Taxing-District at the ensuing election, signed by so many citizens of every class, showing the purpose to eliminate politics and looking only to honest, efficient government, is most flattering and regarding it the duty of every honest citizen to contribute his service to the common welfare, even at some personal sacrifice, I authorize the use of my name as requested, and, if elected, will discharge the duties of the office to the best interests of the people. Very respectfully, R. F. PATTERSON.

Mr. Graham Accepts.

MEMPHIS, TENN., January 8, 1884.

To the Citizens of Memphis:

Appreciating the high honor you have paid me in calling on me to become a candidate for member of the Board of Public Works of the Taxing-District at the ensuing election, I hereby accept and announce myself a candidate, and, if elected, will discharge the duties of the office to the best interests of the people. Respectfully, T. J. GRAHAM.

Texas Land Frauds.

AUSTIN, January 8.—The minority report of the land fraud board calls attention to the provision in the constitution prohibiting the sale of public lands except to actual settlers, and in lots not to exceed 160 acres. The report recommends that where the law has been violated the Legislature direct officers to proceed to the recovery of the property and return of the money to the purchasers. An immense tract of land is involved. The report says: "We want no principalities eating out the heart of our State."

Tried and Acquitted.

NEW YORK, January 8.—James C. Townsend and wife, an aged couple of Oyster Bay, were found unconscious on their premises, the former assaulted with a hammer. The house was robbed. The lady is a sister of Gen. Winder, of the Confederate army, who had charge of Libby prison during the war. Their recovery is doubtful. A negro was arrested.

"Assisted" Emigrants.

BOSTON, January 8.—The steamer Illyrian, from Liverpool, brought ten emigrants, shipped as seamen, who are at present wretched in appearance. Four, it is said, came from the workhouses in London, one is of unsound mind, one partially paralyzed and none able-bodied. The alien commissioners notified the British consul not to allow them to land.

Texas Live-Stock Association.

AUSTIN, TEX., January 8.—The annual convocation of the Texas Live-Stock Association commenced at the courthouse today. Forty-five members were present. Ninety new applicants were elected to membership. In consequence of the demoralized condition of the stock interests throughout the State all standing committees, except the Transportation Committee, announced that they had no report.

SNOW-STORMS

Raging Throughout Western Pennsylvania and West Virginia—The Heaviest Fall for Years.

Business and Travel Suspended at Wheeling and Pittsburg—Storms at Other Points.

HARRISONBURG, January 8.—The snow is ten inches deep and still falling.

Heavy Fall at Atlanta.

ATLANTA, GA., January 8.—The heaviest fall of snow here for several years.

Twelve Inches at Lexington, Ky.

LEXINGTON, January 8.—A foot of snow fell last night, and there is a prospect of more.

Another Storm at Toronto.

TORONTO, January 8.—Another snowstorm is prevailing. Two feet has fallen. The railways are blockaded.

Heavy Snow-Storm at Wilkesbarre, Pa.

WILKESBARRE, January 8.—A heavy snow-storm is prevailing. The wind is blowing with terrible velocity. The storm caused the suspension of many collieries.

Eight Inches at Pittsburg.

PITTSBURG, PA., January 8. — Eight inches of snow has fallen since 1 o'clock this morning, and at noon there was no indication of clearing weather. Trains are delayed in all directions.

Snowing All Day at Cincinnati.

CINCINNATI, January 7.—Snow has been falling with not much intermission for more than twenty-four hours, but the fall has been light. The thermometer was about 20° all day. The river was not gorged, and no damage done.

The Heaviest Snow-Storm on Record in West Virginia.

WHEELING, January 8.—A heavy snow has been falling over this section since 3 o'clock this morning. An average depth of twenty inches is now on the ground. Trains on the Pittsburg division of the Baltimore and Ohio, and the Pittsburg, Wheeling and Kentucky division of the Pittsburg, Cincinnati and St. Louis road are almost abandoned, and all roads are badly delayed. Street-car traffic was suspended here early in the day, one line substituting sleds. It is the heaviest continuous snow on record here.

The Heaviest Snow-Storm for Years in Western Pennsylvania.

PITTSBURG, January 8.—Western Pennsylvania was visited to-day by the heaviest snow-storm for years. It has been snowing steadily since 7 o'clock this morning, and at 12 o'clock to-night the signal office reports a fall of two feet. The streets are blocked and street-cars are running with difficulty, and in some places the ordinary travel will be entirely suspended. Trains on all roads are from one to eight hours late, but no accidents are reported. A number of flat roof houses in the city are in danger of falling on account of weight of snow. Two accidents are reported from parties clearing roofs. A Nunumbery, while shoveling snow from a three-story house on Liberty street, slipped and fell from the roof and was fatally injured. About 7 o'clock Annie Dunn, aged twelve, was struck by a brick knocked from a house and her skull fractured. Both will die.

THE OHIO SENATORSHIP.

Payne Nominated on the First Ballot to Succeed Pendleton.

COLUMBUS, January 8.—The Democratic caucus, on a secret ballot to-night, nominated H. B. Payne, of Cleveland, for Senator to succeed Pendleton. The nomination was made on the first ballot, as follows: Payne, 48; Pendleton, 15; Ward, 17; W. J. Booth, Columbus, 1; G. W. Geddes, 1.

The Contest in Kentucky.

FRANKFORT, January 8.—The joint Democratic caucus to nominate a Senator met and adjourned till next Monday night by a vote in the Senate of 17 to 15, and in the House of 45 to 38. The negative vote is regarded as representing Williams's positive strength.

MORE OF THE INQUEST TRADE

Judge Greer Charges the Grand Jury to Investigate

And to Bring in Indictments for Frivolous Cases.

The grand jury were charged by Judge Greer yesterday to investigate the manner in which inquests were being held. Judge Greer said it was a somewhat remarkable circumstance that, to speak in round numbers 200 out of about 1200 deaths, which have occurred in the county in one year, should have been so mysterious or bloody as to demand investigation, and the fact was made more remarkable from the circumstances that in no case had the investigations of coroner's juries aided in the prosecution of crime. The Court went on to say that if the jury believed from all the evidence they could gather from witnesses named in the subpoenas that any magistrate had held inquests without reason, that it was their duty to indict the offender for extortion and malfeasance in office. Judge Greer spoke of the inquest business at some length, and is evidently determined that if there is a remedy, it shall be vigorously applied. If any one will carefully examine the list published in the APPEAL of yesterday morning he will be struck with the frivolousness of numerous deaths that have in reality been caused by some common disease such as pneumonia, dysentery, etc. "Neglect and want" is a favorite way of putting it. A large number were held on stillborn infants. The law provides for inquests in all those cases were death occurs without the presence of a physician, and the inference is that this law has been taken advantage of to heap up a heavy expense on the county. A gentleman who is on the inside, and knows a great deal about the ways that are dark, said that the magistrates who held inquests get more than $5. Five dollars is put down as the magistrate's own fee, fifteen cents for summoning the jury and twenty-five cents each for witnesses. The subpenas are never served, but the fee is collected by the magistrate in