

THE ROAD TO FORTUNE.  
The Road to Fortune is through Printer's Ink.—P. T. Barnum.

### THE BOERS' PLANS

It is Thought They Will Not Defend the Free State.

### INDICATED BY BRIDGE DESTRUCTION

Mafeking Apparently Still Awaiting Relief.

### SWITZERLAND'S ATTITUDE

LONDON, March 21.—The second edition of the Times today publishes a dispatch from Bloemfontein, dated Monday, March 19, which says:

"The blowing up of bridges by the Boers is an evident sign that the Transvaalers intend to abandon the defense of the Free State."  
All is quiet in the south and west. A corps of young Boers from the farms around Bloemfontein, under an Imperial officer, has been detailed for police work and to prevent the further looting of abandoned farms by the Kaffirs.

The Boers at Alwal North are reported to be still holding a position in the high hills on the Free State border.

The only news from South Africa showing activity on either side comes from Warrentown, north of Kimberley, where desultory fighting occurred last Sunday, resulting in the retreat of the Boers toward Christiana under shell fire. The progress toward Kimberley is reported to be slow.

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### FREIGHT ELEVATOR FELL

Thirty Men Injured in a Chicago Printing Office.

### Narrow Escape From Fatalities Although Many of the Victims Were Badly Hurt.

CHICAGO, March 21.—Thirty persons were injured shortly after 6 o'clock this morning by the falling of a freight elevator in the rear of the building at 126 Market street, where the victims of the accident were employed by the Blakely Printing Company. It is thought none of the injured will die, although several of them were badly hurt.

Following are the most seriously injured: George Hale, Albert Christian, Joseph Hoffmann, Albert Seibert, Ernest Heine, James Delaney, Walter Hartwig, Patrick Foley, Edward Lee, James Thomas, Geo. Wetke, John Rambo, Geo. Hall, Edw. Laville, Edw. Wolf, Edw. King, Louis Stanton, Geo. Compton.

The men had worked all night in the elevator at the top floor. The big elevator moved slowly down the shaft till the third floor was reached.

Chicago men who had taken hold of the rope which set the machine going, something snapped, and an instant later the elevator fell to the basement.

"First aid to the injured" work was done in neighboring buildings into which the victims were taken, but some time before a sufficient number of ambulances were secured to remove the injured to their homes or in the more serious cases, to the hospital.

### JOINT HIGH COMMISSION.

Canadian Premier's Statement Causes Some Speculation.

OTTAWA, Ont., March 21.—In the house of commons yesterday Sir Wilfrid Laurier, in reply to a question by Sir Charles Tupper, made the announcement that the Anglo-American joint high commission would assemble at a date to be given out shortly.

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### GEN. WHEELER'S CASE

Was Not Settled at His Call on Mr. Root Today.

### PRESIDENT DESIRES TO HONOR HIM

Legislation Required to Accomplish This.

### PROPOSED RETIREMENT

Gen. Wheeler called at the War Department this morning and officially reported his return from the Philippines to Secretary Root, in accordance with the orders of the department. It was expected that the question of Gen. Wheeler's future military status would be determined at this meeting.

The men had worked all night in the elevator at the top floor. The big elevator moved slowly down the shaft till the third floor was reached.

Chicago men who had taken hold of the rope which set the machine going, something snapped, and an instant later the elevator fell to the basement.

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### OTIS' DEATH RATE

Officials Indignant Over Persistent Misstatements.

### WHAT ACTUAL REPORTS SHOW

Classes of Diseases Which Caused the Mortality.

### MORE SURGEONS SENT

War Department officials deprecate the persistent efforts made in various anti-administration quarters to show that disease is making great havoc among the troops in the Philippines. Great indignation was expressed by many of them today over the sensational statement that Gen. Otis' campaign is costing upward of 1,000 men every month.

The Cincinnati express train, due at the Baltimore and Ohio depot at 7 o'clock this morning, struck a milk wagon on the F street crossing, killed a horse, partly demolished the wagon and injured two young men who were in the wagon. At the time the accident occurred the gates were up and there was nothing to warn the passers-by that the dangerous grade crossing was not properly protected.

Soon after the accident occurred the sixth precinct police were notified and the injured men were taken to the Casualty Hospital, where Dr. Reeves dressed their numerous injuries. Peck was able to go home after his wounds had been attended to, but Connor was obliged to remain in the hospital.

Before reaching the crossing, he said, he saw that the gates were up. Then he looked up and down the track for a moving train, but saw none. As soon as his team had started over the several tracks at this crossing, however, he saw smoke, and, fearing trouble, he whipped up his horse and got over as soon as possible. He said he remembered nothing until he was hurled from the track looking for his friend Peck. He does not remember how he was thrown from the wagon. Had he not hurried his horse over the tracks, he said, the accident would probably have been more serious.

Patrick McLaughlin, the gateman, who was on duty at the time, told the police that the gates were up at the time of the accident.

An occurrence somewhat similar to that of this morning was reported at this crossing early in the morning of the 22nd of last month. David Marcey, driver of a coupe, was injured at that time and his vehicle was overturned. That accident, it is said, was the result of the failure of the gateman to have the gates down. Marcey would have prevented the accident, it is said, had it not been for the parking of cars on the tracks.

The F street crossing is represented to be one of the most dangerous ones in North-east Washington. With the exception of H street, the street is probably traveled more than any other which crosses the Baltimore and Ohio railroad.

Members of the Northeast Washington Citizens Association have discussed the dangers of this particular crossing a number of times. In conversation with a Star reporter today a member of the association said he thought it would be well to remind members of Congress of the necessity for prompt action on the bill intended to abolish grade crossings.

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### STRUCK BY TRAIN

Wagon Damaged and Horse Killed by Railway Train.

### NARROW ESCAPE OF TWO YOUNG MEN

Each Sustains Painful Injuries, but 'Neither Will Die.'

### GRADE CROSSING ACCIDENT

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### DISTRICT IN CONGRESS

Full Text of the Telephone Resolution of Inquiry.

### Bill to Incorporate the National Daughters of 1812 Approved.

The House District committee has taken prompt action upon the suggestion to look into the matter of the Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Company's occupancy of the streets of Washington by its wires. At the meeting this morning the following resolution was adopted:

"That the Commissioners of the District of Columbia be, and they are hereby, required and directed to forthwith communicate to the House of Representatives full, specific and complete information as to all telephone companies doing business in the District of Columbia, including the name of each company, by virtue of what authority any telephone company or companies are occupying the streets of the city of Washington and doing a telephone business in the District of Columbia, and a full and complete copy of any information on file or known to the Commissioners relative to the right of any telephone company or companies to do a telephone business in the District of Columbia."

The resolution will be called up in the House for passage as soon as practicable.

### To Incorporate the 1812 Daughters.

The committee authorized a favorable report on House bill 8867 to incorporate the National Society United States Daughters of Eighteen Hundred and Twelve. The bill provides that Mrs. Florence Adams Darling of New York, Mrs. William Garry Slade of New York, Mrs. Louis W. Hall of Pennsylvania, Mrs. Edward Roby of Illinois, Mrs. Sunderland Smith of New York, Miss Helen G. Bailey of New Hampshire, Mrs. Alfred Russell of Michigan, Mrs. William Lee of Massachusetts, Mrs. William Tom of Massachusetts, their associates and successors, be created a body politic in the District of Columbia by the name of the National Society United States Daughters of Eighteen Hundred and Twelve, for patriotic, historical, educational and fraternal purposes, the objects of which are as follows: "To perpetuate the memory and spirit of the men and women who were identified with the war of 1812 by publication of memoirs and other historical documents, and by