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Essex County Herald.

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Essex County Herald.

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NORTH STAR CHAPTER, No. 25, O. E. S. Stated Meetings the third Monday in each month.

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Water power is largely relied upon in Maine, New York and Wisconsin.

The English language is taught in all Japanese schools by order of the Government.

Dr. Munhall, the Kansas revivalist, says it is cheaper to convert a man than to hang him.

It is estimated that forty per cent. of the members of the last two Congresses were college men.

According to the *World*, there are 500 men in New York, each of whom could check $1,000,000 from bank.

The Johnstown sufferers have received enough clothing in the shape of contributions to last the people twenty years.

Up to the present time nearly $500,000,000 have been spent in supplying drinking water to the people of the United States.

This has been a year for horrors. While not yet half gone, 1889 witnessed the Samoan tidal wave, the Conemaugh flood and the Seattle fire.

Wyoming is proud of one of its qualifications for Statehood, says the New York *Telegram*. Of its adult population only 2 6-10 per cent. are illiterates.

Millionaire C. P. Huntington, of New York, has been solicited by King Leopold, of Belgium, to secure an American interest in the Congo (Africa) Railroad.

Judge Prendergast, of Chicago, in a lengthy decision regarding the Cook County (Ill.) insane asylum, recommends that the institution be removed from political influence.

The Emperor of China desires to reorganize the police and fire departments of that country, and he has directed a representative of his minister at Washington to go to Chicago and get pointers.

A war cloud is rising in Brazil. A contest is imminent between Bolivia and Paraguay, and Brazil is so bound up by treaty obligations with Paraguay that she will almost certainly be drawn into the strife.

Idaho and Wyoming have gone to work in a way that indicates a belief in their early admission as States. In both territories constitutional conventions have been called, and the necessary machinery set in motion to place them in a position to apply to Congress next winter for admission.

The incorporation at Chicago of the American Executing Company, organized to execute criminals who are sentenced to death, is either a huge joke, thinks the Detroit *Free Press*, or one of the grimmest of commentaries upon the capacity of the American to turn everything to business advantage.

American breweries have only whetted the British appetite, and the English investor now wants more. What shall it be? queries the New York *Post*. Pennsylvania steel or Minnesota flour? Both are on the bill of fare, and both exceedingly attractive, and the hungry Briton, menu in hand, ponders the question.

A patient English gentleman, who collects statistics, brings out some figures to help the cause of peace. It seems that from 1852 to 1877 war killed 1,948,000, people, and what is still more wonderful the killing of each man cost more than $10,000. The total cost was $12,065,000,000; so that peace has its good points from an economical side.

The review of the acreage and condition of the cotton crop for the year, as published by the New York *Financial Chronicle*, shows that an increase of acreage of cotton in the whole South of 2 34-100 per cent., the increase in Texas being 7 per cent. The acreage of the whole South in cotton this year is 20,309,480 acres, being an increase of 464,050 acres.

The London *News* tells this interesting anecdote in a sketch of the late Laura Bridgman: When Carlyle impertinently asked, "What great or noble thing has America ever done?" somebody replied: "She has produced a girl, deaf, dumb and blind from infancy, who, from her own earnings, has sent a barrel of flour to the starving subjects of Great Britain in Ireland."

A Belgian murderer named Hoyos will live in the annals of crime. Fourteen years ago he insured his wife's life for $20,000. A few weeks afterward she was killed by a horse's kick, Hoyos said, but it was proved that he had just previously bought a horseshoe and fastened it to the end of a mallet. He was a man of enormous physical strength, and there is little reason to doubt that he killed the woman with the strange weapon. But Hoyos was acquitted in the absence of actual proof.

NEW ENGLAND NEWS.

The semi-annual returns of the average amount of deposits in Maine savings banks during the six months ending April 23, received at the state treasurer's office, show that notwithstanding the stampede of capital to western and southern states, the amount has steadily increased during that period. On the last Monday of November, 1888, there was deposited in Maine savings banks $36,862,577.01. The last return shows that $39,646,812.42 is on deposit, an increase of $2,784,235.41 during the six months. The last semi-annual tax was $133,234.51; that now being assessed will be $148,975.55, a gain of $10,441.04 against $4340.60 gained during the previous six months.

The school census just completed shows the whole number of children in Rutland, Vt., between 5 and 18 years of age is 1754, divided as follows: Public schools, 976; parochial schools, 882; private schools, 54; non-attendants, 342.

For some time goods in transit over the Fitchburg railroad have been stolen, and detectives have been puzzled by the shrewd work of the thieves. Sheriff Loftus, Chief of Police Fuller and town officers recently raided the Williamstown freight yard and arrested Silas M. Owens, yard master; P. F. Breu, telegraph operator; Walter Wilson and George Mowers, freight conductors; Moses Auber, car inspector; Orrin Blanchard, A. McLellan, Andrew Todd, Thomas Quinlan, Joseph Young and James Higgins, yard men, on warrants charging them with stealing from cars, and they are now in the police station at North Adams, Mass.

A. C. Anderson of Portsmouth, N. H., has been appointed superintendent for the construction of a life-saving station at Rye Beach and also one at Wallis Sands.

Boys at Oakland, Me., had a large cannon which they were firing on the Fourth. They loaded it in a barn, ran the gun out into Depot square and fired it. It burst and flew into fragments. One large piece, weighing 19 pounds, was hurled over five stores and a hotel and struck the side of a house in the second story. Entering through the wall, it passed through the head of a bed and then the footboard, carrying both away. A man was asleep in the bed, but, curiously, he was not so much as scratched.

Geo. Godfrey, who induced his son to fire his own buildings at Hallowell, Me., with people in the upper tenement, and who was arrested a short time since on suspicion, has confessed the crime of arson.

Randolph, Vt., is at present considering the application of six electric light companies for a franchise. The selectmen have decided that either the Westinghouse or the Thomson-Houston systems will be adopted, but have not yet decided.

At Windsor Locks, Conn., G. P. Clark, manufacturer of rubber wheels and rolls, has invented a novelty barrel truck, made of cast iron, with wrought iron braces, and at each end of the frame one of Clark's patent rubber castor wheels, the truck being only three inches high and adapted for private families and stores.

The derelict Norwegian barque Ottawa, which was found waterlogged and abandoned about 125 miles south of Halifax, N. S., by the Philadelphia iron steam tug Argus, and towed into Boston harbor, is in charge of United States Marshal Lovering, awaiting an order of the court regarding her disposal. This case is one of peculiar interest, from the fact that derelicts are usually found by accident, while the Ottawa, having been reported abandoned at sea, the tug Argus, which had been employed for some time in towing ice barges between Philadelphia and the Penobscot river, was taken off and ordered out by her owners in search of the reported derelict.

The annual census of the school children in the state of Maine has been compiled at the office of Superintendent of Schools Luce, and shows a decrease in the school population of the state of 565.

It is understood, after several conferences between the druggists and the mayor and chief of police of Boston, relative to the recent stringent prohibition of the sale of tobacco, cigars and candy on Sunday, that the prohibition of such traffic will be annulled provided the druggists draw their curtains on holidays between the hours of 10 and 1 o'clock and sell no candy to persons under 16 years of age.

George Essex and Jean Kelley, alias Sullivan, of Boston, have been arrested at Concord, N. H., charged with stealing a horse and buggy from I. W. Hastings of Newton, Mass. The men disposed of the horse in Manchester and the buggy at Concord. The property was recovered.

The four masted schooner Pocahontas, Capt. Sawyer, has arrived at Salem, Mass., with 2250 tons of coal. The Pocahontas is a new vessel, and has just completed her first voyage.

The total number of cases of shoes shipped by the Auburn, Me., shoe factories for the week ending July 3 was 2389, and total weight of leather received 59,512. Last week 2978 cases were shipped and 96,595 pounds were received. In the corresponding week of 1888, 2596 cases were shipped, and the weight of leather received was 87,034.

The lasters' strike at Cheshire, Mass., is still unsettled. The company refuses to allow any advance. Several of the lasters have gone to Athol and North Adams. The lasting machines set up are doing but a small part of the work required, and many of the other help are compelled to lay off.

The cemetery mystery, which included an outrageous assault on Mrs. Margaret Burke and her attempted murder in an East Providence, R. I., graveyard, wears a changed aspect. The woman's statements, many of them, proved untrue, and the developments indicate that she attempted suicide, cutting her own throat with a stolen razor.

George Foster and Charles Harker, who were arrested near Portland, Me., on suspicion of committing burglaries, in that vicinity, have been arraigned in the police court at Biddeford, and bound over to the September term of the supreme court. The stolen articles were found in their boat.

The body of an unknown man was found floating in the harbor at New Haven, Conn. Some of his clothing was marked "S. B. Allen." He is thought to have committed suicide as he was seen strolling along the dock an hour before his body was found.

Anna, the 12-year-old daughter of Frank Stanley, has arrived in Wenham, Mass., from Chattanooga, Tenn., having come the entire distance without a companion.

A new talc mine is being developed in Chittendon, about eight miles from Rutland, Vt. Experts pronounce the mine valuable. Hooper and Bugber of Ticonderoga and Nelson Parker of Chittendon owned the entire property until recently, but have sold one-third interest for $9000 to parties who will make it a substantial enterprise. Machinery is being made ready for its development, and it is rumored that 100 or more men will find employment.

The Beverly, Mass., selectmen gave a hearing on the application of the Foster Robinson Electric company to establish a plant and furnish power for manufacturing purposes. Hon. John I. Baker, representing the Beverly Electric Light company, opposed the introduction of the new plant, and said the local company would furnish power within ten days if they were guaranteed five horse power. The selectmen will take the matter under consideration.

It is estimated that 200 men, getting out 20 carloads per day, will be six months completing the contract made by A. D. Morse, Barre, Vt., to furnish $1,000,000 worth of paving stones to New York city.

The schooner Thetis, from a trip to the various fishing banks, is landing a cargo of codfish estimated at 240,000 pounds at Gloucester, Mass. This is the high line fare thus far this season.

Thomas Shields, the boss track repairer on the New York, New Haven & Hartford road, through whose carelessness the death of Miss Mary A. Brigham, at New Haven a week ago, was due, has been held responsible for the accident by the coroner, and he will be arrested.

In Portsmouth, N. H., the board of education has raised the salary of the principal of the high school to $1800, while the first assistant will have $800 and the other assistants $650 each. The principal of the Sawyer grammar school will have $1000 and of the Belknap $600. The music teacher is to receive $11 a week and the janitors each $600 a year.

John Holmes, who was tried for arson for an alleged attempt to burn the Carson buildings at Togus, Me., and who was released on bail, has been arrested on new testimony.

Mr. John F. Chase of Augusta, Me., has made a flying machine which he thinks will prove a success.

A little daughter of John Paine of Revere, Mass., was seriously bitten about the face by a large mad dog, which was afterwards shot.

The largest taxpayers in Rochester, N. H., are these: Cocheco Manufacturing company $4001, Norway Plains Manufacturing company $3673, E. G. & E. Wallace $1924, Gonic Manufacturing company $1312, Rochester Aqueduct and Water company $1283, Hon. John McDuffee $1234, Dominicus Hanson $899, and Sarah Dodge $513.

A movement is being made to form a chorus of singers within a radius of eight miles of Harwich, Mass., to rehearse for a day's festival, closing in the evening with an oratorio, the first ever given on Cape Cod.

The assessors of Cohasset, Mass., have completed their labors and make out that the town's real estate is worth $2,143,679, an increase of $87,065 over last year. Personal estate is valued at $1,436,559, an increase of $48,297, while the total increase in valuation is $135,363.

Prof. David P. Todd of Amherst college observatory has just received papers from the state department at Washington appointing him chief of expedition to observe the total eclipse of the sun, visible Dec. 22 in southwestern Africa. Prof. Todd will be accompanied by a large staff of scientists and assistants, and intends to leave New York for his destination, St. Paul de Loanda, in the Portuguese province of Angola about Oct. 1.

The new high school building at Pittsfield, N. H., will be of brick, with granite trimmings and slated roof, two stories above basement, 82 feet in length by 55 deep and will furnish accommodations for 200 scholars.

A. H. George of Canaan, N. H., a postal clerk, has been promoted to the fifth class with a salary of $1300.

Counterfeit silver dollars of the issue of 1885 have been deluged upon Providence during the past week. A gang from New York is believed to be engaged in the work. The piece is of excellent color, and the figures are distinct except the "M" on the neck of the bust. The most noticeable thing about the counterfeit is that it has lighter weight than the genuine dollar; the milling is not cut but molded.

Sunday "Blue Laws" are being enforced at Laconia, N. H., every confectionery store being closed. Sunday papers were not obtainable at any price, the dealers not daring to sell them.

The old ship Constitution is to be towed from Portsmouth, N. H., to Washington, where she will be used as a receiving ship.

A new industry is about starting up at West Cove, Moosehead lake. Parties from the west have purchased land opposite the steamboat wharf and will put in a veneering mill there.

The Diamond Match company, Damariscotta mills, now have in stock 2,700,000 feet pine logs and 400,000 hemlock and spruce. They also have a large stock of boards on hand for their match cases and will use this year 400,000 feet of boards for boxes. They are working 75 to 80 men and eight boys and girls. They are getting out a new match card that is selling very fast, much faster in fact than they can be made at present, and more machinery will soon be put in.

In Manchester, N. H., during the last quarter, the whole number of pupils in the public schools was 3084, with an average daily attendance of 2590.

The elopement of J. E. Ricketts, a teacher of New Haven, Ct., and a high school girl named Etta Davis, is reported.

C. M. Foster of New Haven, Ct., has disappeared, leaving many debts.

Frank W. Sutton of Naugatuck, Conn., aged 24, went to his room at Mrs. Pease's boarding house, and after stripping went to bed, then shot himself dead with a revolver. He had been employed by the Goodyear Metallic Rubber Shoe company for some time. He had a wife and two children at New Haven, where he formerly lived, but his married life was not a happy one. Sutton was suffering from temporary aberration caused by drink.

The National Granite company at Barre, Vt., has an order for 400 carloads of granite for a bank building in Pennsylvania to cost $90,000.

HOME FOR GERONIMO.

He and His Band Will Be Located on a North Carolina Tract.

Capt. John G. Bourke of the 3d cavalry and Prof. Painter of Boston, representing the Indian Rights association, have returned from a trip through the south, undertaken at the instance of the Indian Rights association for the purpose of selecting a site for a future home for Chief Geronimo and his band of Apaches, and they are now engaged upon their report to the war department. These Indians are at present confined in very cramped quarters at Mt. Vernon barracks, Alabama, and it is the wish of the Indian Rights association to provide them with a tract of land containing about 10,000 acres. Capt. Bourke and Prof. Painter have found such a tract in the Indian reservation in Swaim county, N. C., which is at present occupied by about 2000 Cherokees. The Cherokees are willing to sell, and the citizens of that locality are anxious to have the Indians come, as they believe it will increase the market for their produce. Geronimo is delighted with the prospect of removal, but is disappointed at not getting back to Arizona. The government will not, however, allow him to go west of the Mississippi again, notwithstanding his protestation that he wants to be a good Indian.

Captain Bourke and Professor Painter will recommend the removal of the band, and as the removal is authorized by the secretary of war the Indian Rights association will buy the land for them.

A CROSSING HORROR.

Four People Killed by a Train at Long Branch.

At Little Silver crossing, three miles north of Long Branch, N. J., a carriage containing the mother of Joseph Ward, collar and shirt manufacturer of New York, Mr. Keating, Mr. Ward's brother-in-law, a New York hat manufacturer, Elsie Keating, a child, and her nurse, was struck by the 3.30 express train from New York on the Central railroad of New Jersey and smashed to pieces.

Mrs. Ward, Mr. Keating and the nurse girl were dreadfully mangled and their bodies carried over a hundred feet. The child Elsie was also badly mangled, but she lived an hour and a half. The horse was killed and dismembered.

SALEM'S FATAL FIREWORKS.

Two Children Instantly Killed and Four Others Injured.

At the fireworks exhibition on the common Georgie Sewell, only son of Charles Sewell, and Frankie Anderson, a five-year-old lad, were instantly killed, and four others were badly injured, and probably fatally. The accident was caused by the bursting of a shell in a mortar, which was blown to pieces. The injured are Martin Ryan, arm shattered and had to be amputated; Willie Thompson, ribs broken and fatal internal injuries; Christina Anderson, fingers broken; Victor Tremblay, nose broken and lip cut.

NEWS IN GENERAL.

The report comes from the village of Albany, 20 miles west of St. Cloud, Minn., on the Manitoba road, that black diphtheria has broken out in 113 families. Both churches and the schools have been closed. No deaths have occurred so far.

Intense excitement was created at Silverton, Col., July 4, by the actions of Joe Ainsworth, a burly Cornishman and a recently converted Mormon, who started out early and made a raid upon the American flags used in decorating the town. These he tore down as fast as he could until a policeman arrested him. Ainsworth declared that the flags were opposed to his principles, and he wished to destroy them. The indignation in town is at fever heat, and there are threats of lynching Ainsworth.

The first jute mill on the modern system has lately been started at Rio de Janeiro to make coffee sacks, of which there are two sorts; those in which the coffee is exported from Brazil, which are worth 6d., and those which are sent up country to bring the coffee to the port for manipulation, which are worth 1s. 2 1-2d. These prices have, however, nothing to do with the price charged by ancient custom to the shippers in Rio de Janeiro, which is, and always has been 1s. 5d. To protect the above jute mill the government is empowered to increase the duties on manufactures of cotton and jute, in order that similar products of Brazilian manufacture may not suffer by competition. The Dundee manufacturers are sure to suffer under this authorization.

There was a great celebration at Oklahoma on the Fourth, with a large crowd from the neighboring states as well as from the territory. A grand stand containing 2000 people fell, killing one, fatally injuring 100, and slightly injuring many others.

Advices received at Ottawa, Ont., by the fisheries department are to the effect that the mackerel catch along the Canadian seaboard is proving a failure this season. The catch has been decreasing since 1884, and this is attributed to the extensive use of purse seines. Commander Gordon of the Canadian fisheries protection service has presented to the government the necessity of adopting a restrictive measure.

Parties representing a large electrical manufacturing establishment, located at Cincinnati, O., are reported as being in Dallas, Tex., negotiating for a location to move their entire plant there. They manufacture motors, electric appliances, etc. The cost of the building and value of machinery will exceed $150,000.

Cholera morbus in its worst form has made its appearance at Johnstown, Penn. Dr. Foster attended over 100 cases among the workmen in one night. Gen. Hastings and Col. Douglas were stricken down with the complaint and confined to their beds. The physicians say that the disease is caused by the continued wet weather.

The body of the wife of the Rev. Henry Duncan, the preacher who eloped with Miss Baldsee, has been exhumed at Birmingham, Ala., and it was found that she had been poisoned. The place where Duncan bought morphine and strychnine a week previous to her death was also found. The father of Miss Baldsee is nearly deranged by the developments. A report received announces the arrest of Duncan at Dalton, Ala. The people declare that if he is brought back to his home he will be lynched.

Chicago bucket shops have gained a point on the board of trade, the court deciding that the board could not withhold its quotations, as they were public property.

The Bulgarian government has concluded a loan of $5,000,000 with a New York bank. A syndicate was prepared to advance $20,000,000 to the government.

Exceedingly unfavorable crop reports from Manitoba and the Northwest are received at Toronto. Advices are that owing to want of rain the wheat crop has been prematurely injured. It is said that the crop cannot be more than one-half or two-thirds of an average season's yield.

Fred Douglass sees a glorious future for the Haytian Republic, and says she is in the process of evolution, not of decay nor of retrogression.

The Daily News of London says that communications between the English and American governments have resulted in an understanding which will avert any collision in Behring sea during the seal fishing season.

Five young people belonging in Allegheny, Pa., were drowned while on a Sunday school excursion.

Two millions of dollars in the business part of Ellensburg, Washington territory, have been wiped out by fire.

Frank Hoyt, paying teller of the First National bank of Hoboken, N. J., has been arrested and locked up for embezzlement. The bank officers suspected Hoyt of wrong doing, and examined his accounts recently. A shortage of at least $18,000 was found. Hoyt confessed.

The Massachusetts riflemen won another victory at the Nunhead range, July 5, defeating the London rifles by a score of 1068 to 1025. The Americans led at the 200-yard range by 28 points; at 500 yards by 4 points, and at the 600 yards by 11 points.

Judge Bond of the U. S. circuit court has heard at Baltimore, Md., the habeas corpus petition of Lewis O. Shaner of Lynchburg, Va., which turned upon a question of the legality of a tender of Virginia coupons as payment for a fine and costs upon a criminal charge in that state. Shaner was arrested for assault and was fined $200 and costs. He tendered coupons in payment and the magistrate refused to accept them. Judge Bond decided that the tender was a legal one and discharged the obligation.

Er. Bennett, the Indian agent, has issued a proclamation prohibiting non-residents from hunting in Indian territory. The penalty is $500 fine and the confiscation of the firearms. The matter excites great interest among sportsmen here.

According to the careful reports received by the Northern Pacific and the St. Paul, Minneapolis and Manitoba railroads, the wheat crop in Minnesota and North Dakota, although not as encouraging as early indications led them to hope for, has been considerably improved by good rains within the last three or four days. It will hardly be an average crop.

The past six months has been the most disastrous period for railways since 1885. Eight roads, with a total length of 2690 miles, were bankrupted. There were also eight foreclosures during that period.

It is officially announced that the marriage of Princess Sophia, sister of Emperor William, and the duke of Sparta, crown prince of Greece, will take place on Oct. 18.

Business failures reported to Bradstreet's number 152 in the United States this week, against 211 last week and 149 this week last year. Canada had 13 this week against 35 last week. The total failures in the United States, January 1 to date, is 6037 against 5401 in 1888.

Robert Downing, the actor, who succeeded John McCullough in heroic portrayals, has lost his health. He broke down suddenly last season, lost his voice for a time, and had to abandon his tour. Some time ago he suffered another physical collapse, which is now described as having been very serious. He is resting at his farm near Washington.

A box has been received at Samoa from the state department at Washington containing about $100 worth of gold and silver watches and other articles and $3900 in gold coin to be distributed among the natives who rendered assistance to the American ships during the hurricane last March. The distribution of the gifts will be made by Consul Blacklock.

President Austin Corbin of the Reading Railroad company has given notice that the 2800 employes of the Reading iron works which was recently purchased by the railroad company can expect a resumption at an early day. He notifies them that none will be employed who belong to labor organizations or who indulge in strong drink. They must renounce both and sign a paper to that effect.

The Utah wool output for 1889 will be nearly 12,000,000 pounds at prices ranging from 14 to 19 cents, with an average of 17½ cents. The quality is excellent, owing to the fine feed secured by May rains. The exports of mutton have been very brisk, so that scarcity has been occasioned and prices will be stiff all summer.

The steamer George W. Clyde has arrived in New York from St. Marc. There are 22 cases of smallpox and much fever at St. Marc. President Hyppolyte and his cabinet are there, and there is great excitement. Legitime's best friends have left him. He is at loggerheads with the French minister, and his soldiers are leaving him every day. The only thing left him is his men-of-war. Jeremie, Cayes and Jacmel have revolted against Legitime. He was obliged to send his war ships to quell the insurrections at these ports.

H. D. Miller cashier of the Malta National bank at Malta, Ohio, has disappeared. There is a shortage in his accounts of from $32,000 to $50,000. His father and his brother-in-law, Hon. E. M. Stanberry, his bondsmen, have made good the loss to the amount of $20,000. Before leaving he made a confession, and turned over his property and $10,000 stock in the bank to his bondsmen.

Deputy Marshal Swayne has arrived in Fort Smith, Ark., from Chickasaw Mountains with 14 prisoners, two dead men and one nearly dead. One of the dead men is Cornelius Walker, who has been shot 13 times. He was approached by the officer near Paul's Valley in the Chickasaw nation, but resisted and shot one of the posse named Williams, who died next day. Swayne at once returned the fire, shooting Walker 13 times before he fell dead.

During the last six weeks the Samoan islanders have enjoyed a period of quiet such as has not been known for many months before. The native parties virtually declared a truce early in May, and since that time the political situation of the country has assumed a peaceful aspect. The only man-of-war there now is the German gunboat Wolf, which arrived from New Zealand June 15.

Broomcorn has advanced $20 a ton in the last thirty days, and the large broom manufacturers at Indianapolis are a good deal disturbed over the matter. It will force the price of brooms up 25 to 50 cents a dozen above present prices.

The Canadian government is endeavoring to convince the administration that our tariff on lumber is too high, and that reciprocity on this commodity would be advisable.

FIFTEEN BLOCKS WIPED OUT.

A Disastrous Fire Causes a Loss of $1,250,000 at Bakersfield, Cal.

Fire broke out in the kitchen of N. E. Kelsey's house in the same block as the southern hotel at Bakersfield, Cal. In spite of all efforts it spread to the adjoining building, also of wood, and to the Southern hotel. There it spread rapidly, with the result that every business house in town is burned, besides about 40 dwelling-houses, involving a loss of perhaps $1,250,000. The insurance is $300,000. The fire department could not begin to cope with the fire, it came so quickly, burned so fiercely and spread so rapidly. Thirteen blocks are wiped out. No hotel, restaurant or business house is left. As soon as the fire subsided measures were taken to feed the homeless. The fire came on so suddenly that there was no time to save stocks of merchandise. One hundred extra policemen have been detailed to guard the little that was saved. Bakersfield is the northern part of what is locally termed Southern California, and has a population of 5000.

BAD RAILROAD SHOWING.

Eight Roads in Six Months Go Into Bankruptcy.

The Railway Age says that the amount of mileage and capital involved in railways that have gone into the receivers during the past six months exceed the aggregate for any similar period since the disastrous year of 1885. Eight roads were bankrupted, with a total length of 2690 miles, and an apparent investment of $125,570,000. The St. Louis, Arkansas & Texas, the International & Great Northern and the Chicago & Atlantic make up the bulk of the bad showing. Railway foreclosures during the six months were also eight in number, which would not be an important exhibit were it not that the mileage of the roads aggregates 1575, and the bonds and stock $92,675,000. Nearly two-thirds of these totals, however, were furnished by one company, the Wabash.

PERHAPS A CLUE.

Alleged Finding of a Letter From a Man Who Helped Kill Cronin.

A water soaked letter with illegible address has been found on the shore of Third Sister Island by C. B. Smith of Niagara Falls. It is now in the hands of Superintendent T. V. Welch. It purports to have been written by a man premeditating suicide, to his brother, and is dated May 20 and signed "Ed."

The writer tells how he helped at Chicago to get rid of C. "that devilish traitor and spy," and how long he has waited for "the trunk," and now overcome by fear that the plot has miscarried and by remorse at his crime, he will seek death in the rapids. What lends color to the authenticity of the letter is the finding on June 27 of a decomposed body of a man which was buried without identification at Drummondsville.

A TERRIBLE TRAGEDY.

A Polish Captain Shoots His Wife and Then Parades on His Roof.

Capt. A. Goshinski of the Polish Guards of Lasalle, Ill., fired three bullets at his sleeping wife and then tried to end his own life. Mrs. Goshinski jumped through a window and ran to a neighbor's house.

With two revolvers, one in each hand, Goshinski climbed out upon the balcony of his house, where he defied the police, and the fire department was called out, a stream of water was turned on the enraged captain, whereupon he placed the muzzle of one pistol over his heart and the other in his ear, and pulled the triggers. Both he and his wife are still alive, but have no chance of recovery. Financial difficulties formed the motive for the tragedy.

SHARP SHOOTING.

Three Men Killed in a Gambling Fight.

While some negroes were gambling at Red Mountain, Ala., Henry Nichols shot and severely wounded one Johnson, a white, and fled. The other negroes boarded a train at Gate City, expecting Nicholls to get on the train further down toward Birmingham. They were right, and when Nicholls came aboard and saw his pursuers armed, he opened fire with a pistol, killing John Saunders and Robert Dickinson. He was riddled with bullets, but jumped from the train, ran a short distance and dropped dead. John Chaney (white), a switchman, was seriously wounded.

IRELAND'S NEW SCHEME.

Irishmen Will Buy Lower California and Start a New Republic.

A number of Irish-Americans held a private meeting recently, at which an organization was perfected, to be known as the "Irish-American Republic association." It is the intention of the projectors to organize a land syndicate.

It is understood that Mexico would be willing to dispose of Lower California or neighboring territory, with the privilege of establishing an Irish-American republic thereon.

WASHINGTON NEWS.

The attorney-general has received a package of petitions weighing several pounds for the pardon of E. L. Harper, the convicted vice president of the wrecked Fidelity National bank in Cincinnati. The signers of these petitions are national bank men, merchants and personal friends of Harper all over the country. A small number of protests against Harper's pardon have also been received. As Harper is believed by the government officials connected with his prosecution to have been the instigator and promoter of the broken bank's unlucky speculation, he is not likely to get much sympathy from the administration.

Capt. Stanhope E. Blunt, ordnance department, has been relieved from duty at the headquarters of the army as inspector of small arms practice and ordered to report in person to the chief of ordnance. The official order says that Capt. Blunt's services in connection with the development of an effective system of rifle practice in the army have been of the highest importance, and his name will long be honorably connected with this great advance in the military service of the country. He was a member of Gen. Sheridan's staff.

The secretary of the treasury has under consideration the case of the twenty-five English glass blowers who landed at Boston April 12, and subsequently secured employment with Chambers, McKee & Co., of Jeannett, Westmoreland county, Penn. It is charged that these men were brought over by the Universal Federation of Glass Workers in violation of the alien contract labor law. The case will be referred to the United States district attorney at Pittsburg for investigation with the special purpose of ascertaining the precise circumstances attending the immigration of these people.

A statement prepared at the treasury department shows that there was a net decrease of $17,324,701 in the circulation during the month of June, and a net decrease of $12,610,887 in money and bullion in the treasury during the same period. The decrease in circulation was principally in gold certificates and national bank notes, and the decrease in treasury holdings was principally in silver bullion. The circulation July 1 is stated at $1,380,146,050, and the money and bullion in the treasury at $652,081,843.

Assistant Secretary Tichener and Mr. Kimball, superintendent of the life saving service, has left Washington for the purpose of inspecting life saving stations on the New England coast. Assistant Secretary Tichener will also inspect the customs service of New York, Boston and Portland. Among the business to be transacted on the trip is the location of life saving stations on Block Island, Nantucket Island and at the mouth of St. George river, Maine. The trip will take about two weeks' time.

Secretary Windom has sent a letter to Secretary Rusk setting forth the opinion of the treasury officials that imported crude potash and sulphate of potash cannot enter this country free under any circumstances. The secretary of agriculture had requested that those products might come in free, when used for the manufacture of manures, under the provision of the free list for guano, manures, and all substances expressly used for manure.

Hadji Hosseia Ghooly Khan, the Persian minister to the United States, will leave shortly for Europe. In an interview lately he told a reporter that he would not come back, and that he had been driven out of the country by the unkind and ungenerous things which had been written about him and his sovereign in the American newspapers.

Warner P. Sutton, consul-general at Nuevo Laredo, Mexico, has been appointed secretary of the congress of the American Republics to be held in October next. Mr. Sutton is now engaged in certain work preparatory to the meeting of the congress.

A very numerously signed petition for the pardon of E. L. Harper, the convicted vice president of the Fidelity Bank of Cincinnati, has been received at Washington. A small number of protests have also been received. He is not likely to get much sympathy, as the government officials believe him to be a big rascal. Harper was sentenced to ten years' imprisonment. He has served about two years of this in the Columbus penitentiary, where he is allowed to manage an immense private factory outside.

One of the express safes that was on the Norfolk & Western wreck near Thaxton, Va., recently was received at the treasury department and its contents examined. The express company made application to be reimbursed for the bank and treasury notes contained in the safe, amounting to several thousand dollars, but the contents were almost absolutely destroyed, there being nothing left but a few charred bits of paper. There was also some jewelry and watches in the safe and they were ruined.

Harry Dixon, the young Mississippian recently appointed to a West Point cadetship by the president, upon the statement of the boy's grandmother that her husband and son (the cadet's father) had both been assassinated because of politics, failed to pass the physical examination required of cadets.

The statement of business transacted in the pension bureau during the week ending June 29 shows that 10,308 applications of all kinds were received, 2652 certificates issued and 246 claims rejected, leaving 386,662 claims pending. During the week 727 cases were referred to special examiners, making the total number awaiting special examination 15,813. There were 1486 officers and employes on the roll.

Secretary Windom has abandoned the practice of holding public receptions and will hereafter receive visitors by card only. He says that he cannot give proper attention to the business of the department if he is compelled to listen constantly to the appeals of office-seekers. He will, however, continue to see all persons who call on business, merely reserving to himself the right to determine whether the character of business is such as to require a personal interview.

The secretary of the interior has accepted the resignation of the Hon. Joseph E. Johnston, commissioner of railways, and he has been granted 10 days' leave of absence. Commissioner Johnston tendered his resignation early in March, but action upon it has been deferred up to the present time.

The secretary of the treasury has appointed James T. Caulk a special inspector of customs at the port of Baltimore, and Samuel G. Davis an immigrant inspector at the port of Philadelphia.

CRASH OF TRAINS.

Two Men Killed and Three Injured Near Kennedy, N. Y.

A passenger train, east bound, on the New York, Pennsylvania & Ohio railroad, and a freight train came into collision near Kennedy, N. Y. Both engines were completely demolished, freight cars piled up, and the smoker of the passenger train was forced through the baggage car. Charles Eiseman, engineer of the freight, and Louis Wentz, baggage master, were killed. Both firemen were injured. The only passenger hurt was Fred Sibley, who had time to jump before the crash came, and sprained his ankle. It was very foggy when the collision occurred. The blame is said to rest with the engineer of the freight, who should have waited at Kennedy for the passenger train.

DISASTROUS ENCOUNTERS.

**Nine Hundred Dervishes Killed and 700 Taken