THE NATIONAL CAPITAL.

SUMMARY OF FACT AND GOSSIP.

The Wise-Massey Case—Postal Telegraph—Blaine and Sherman—The Sleepy Session—Personal.

[From Our Regular Correspondent.]

WASHINGTON, April 25.—Hon. John S. Wise spoke to-day in his own behalf until the adjournment of the House Elections Committee at 12 M. He has an hour left, and will conclude on Tuesday week, the time to which the committee adjourned. General Hunton will follow him in advocacy of Mr. Massey's claim. Mr. Wise dwelt at length on the legality of collectors, and quoted Judge George H. Christian, Mr. Massey, and others in support of his position on this point. He was very personal, indeed, in his references to his opponent, whom he said wanted to rob him of his seat. Mr. Massey sat all the while on a sofa, and seemed as cool as if nothing had been said against him. There was a twinkle about his eye sometimes, as if he wanted to say, "My time hereafter."

THE SOUTHERN AMERICAN TRADE.

The House Foreign Affairs Committee to-day determined to report in favor of a bill to authorize the appointment of three special commissioners to visit the principal countries of Central and South America for the purpose of collecting information looking to the extension of American trade and commerce, and the strengthening of friendly and mutually advantageous relations between the United States and all other American nationalities. This is one of Mr. Blaine's strong ideas. The Senate committee is understood to be in accord with that of the House. At present we have very little of the commerce of these countries, as it is almost monopolized by Germany, England, and Italy.

THE POSTAL TELEGRAPH.

Several days ago I indicated that the House Postal Committee would agree upon a bill to establish a contract system of postal telegraph. To-day it did so, and appointed a sub-committee to prepare a bill to be reported to the House.

BLAINE AND SHERMAN.

I asked an Ohio Federal general, who is a leading politician of his State, to give me the true inwardness of the result in his State. Said he: "If Sherman is not in the field, then Ohio will vote for Blaine." I asked if Sherman had any idea of lightning striking him in the squabble at Chicago. He replied: "You see it is evident that Arthur cannot carry New York, and should that State put forward Sherman, then he would have a show." He might have added, besides, that he is an Ohio man.

THE RIVER AND HARBOR BILL.

The River and Harbor Committee is hard at work, with closed doors. My information is that the bill will be completed next week. The appropriation for James river will be revised Monday, and I hope it will be done in a liberal spirit. The indications are that this will be the case. West Virginians believe the Great Kanawha will get about $200,000.

THE TARIFF SESSION LAST NIGHT.

The House session to debate the tariff last night was about as usual. It opened with thirteen members. The number ran up to twenty-five, and at adjournment there were six members present. The speeches were delivered to this audience. One member of Ways and Means has to be present at each meeting in order to move to go into Committee of the Whole on the tariff bill. This is the amusing feature of the sessions, as nothing can go on until his arrival.

THE VIRGINIA AND MARYLAND ADVANCES.

The Judiciary Committee of the House has agreed to report in favor of repaying Virginia and Maryland the sum of $192,000 advanced by them to the United States to aid in the construction of the Capitol at Washington. Of this sum Virginia loaned $120,000 and Maryland $72,000. The report gives Virginia, on its advance, interest from 1850, when the claim was first presented, and Maryland from 1842. The rate of interest is to be four per cent. These claims have been frequently favorably reported upon both to the Senate and the House.

CHARGES AGAINST GENERAL PATRICK.

The House Military Committee to-day decided to investigate the charges against General Patrick, superintendent of the Dayton Branch of the Soldiers' Home. There are always some charge or another by inmates against the officers of such institutions.

THE NEW ORLEANS EXPOSITION.

The House Appropriations Committee to-day agreed to report favorably the bill advancing to the New Orleans World's Exposition one million of dollars, as was done in the case of the Philadelphia Centennial. Mr. Holman, of course, voted against it, and so did Mr. Townshend, of Illinois.

A CONGRESSIONAL CONUNDRUM.

A Pennsylvanian to-day said if it was an outrage for Mr. Randall and other Democrats to vote with Republicans to beat the bonded whiskey bill, how is it a commendable proceeding for Mr. Blackburne and others to unite with the Republicans and pass an amendment of the Senate to the naval bill against the report of the House Appropriations Committee? Gave it up.

PERSONAL NEWS ITEMS.

The condition of Representative Reagan, who was Postmaster-General of the Confederate States, was such to-day as to excite the most serious alarm among his friends. Dr. Lincoln operated on him yesterday.

May 15th a quarantine station will be established by the United States marine-hospital service at Cape Charles, Va.

Major Harrod, of the Mississippi-River Commission, was before the House Committee on the improvement of that river to-day.

Senator Blair to-day reported a bill from his committee to establish a bureau of labor statistics.

Mrs. Myra Gaines's claim was before the House to-day. Not the old one, but another.

Senator Riddleberger, in his argument in the Senate this afternoon in behalf of the Potomac free bridge, said the people of Virginia are the only people in the United States who have to pay toll to reach the national capital.

Government receipts to-day: Internal revenue, $462,919; customs, $621,058.

Mr. Arthur's friends here, because he was able in New York by a combination with Edmunds to control the Convention, are trying to get up a boom for him, and talk of Arthur and Lincoln. The Edmunds men do not see it that way.

Medical Inspector Henry C. Nelson, of the navy, has been placed on the retired list.

A meeting has been called by disappointed Republicans for to-morrow night to consider the charges of bribery, corruption, &c., used to elect Perry Carson and Postmaster Conger to Chicago. It will be a lively gathering.

The casting of the Dupont statue will be commenced in a few days.

An Irish military company, called the Emmet Guards, is being organized here.

The Tariff-Bill Discussion.

[By telegraph to the Dispatch.]

WASHINGTON, April 25.—The leaders in the tariff discussion contemplate closing the general debate of the tariff question Tuesday, May 6th. They are of the opinion that Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday of next week, and Tuesday of the week following, will be devoted to the consideration of the measure. Representative Kasson will make the closing speech on the Republican side. He expects to make a motion to strike out the enacting clause of the bill.

Establishing Quarantines.

[By telegraph to the Dispatch.]

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 25.—United States quarantines will be established by the Marine-Hospital Service at Cape Charles, Va., and at Sapelo Sound, on the Georgia coast—the latter on the 1st of May, and the former on the 15th of May. The Gulf quarantine at Ship Island is already open. The officers in charge of these stations are as follows: At Ship Island, Surgeon R. D. Murray; at Cape Charles, Passed-Assistant-Surgeon Fairfax Irwin; at Sapelo Sound, Acting-Assistant-Surgeon George H. Stone.

FORTY-EIGHTH CONGRESS.

Senate Proceedings Yesterday.

WASHINGTON, April 25, 1884.

The Chair laid before the Senate a message from the House non-concurring in the Senate amendments to the naval appropriation bill, with the exception of the amendment providing for the armament of the steel-cruisers already in course of construction.

Mr. Hale, in moving that the Senate insist on its amendments and appoint a committee of conference, said that the House had rejected the amendments providing for additional cruisers, for the completion of iron-clad monitors, for fitting up navy-yards, in order that they may be enabled to compete with naval builders, the amendment reviving the Gun-Foundry Board and that providing for additional guns and armament for the navy generally. Mr. Hale's motion was agreed to.

Proceeding to the calendar, the Senate took up the bill reported by Mr. Plumb, from the Committee on Agriculture and Forestry, to enlarge the powers and duties of the Department of Agriculture. The bill enlarges that department to an executive department of the Government, under the supervision of the Secretary of Agriculture, to receive the same salary as secretaries of other executive departments.

Mr. Kenna offered as a substitute the bill heretofore submitted by him. The substitude provides for the creation of an executive department, to be known as the department of industries, to be in charge of the Secretary of Industries. The department is to comprise separate divisions of agriculture, commerce, manufactures, etc., and to be under the supervision of experts in the several subjects of the division.

Mr. Bayard thought the subject covered by the bill and substitute (as contemplating an addition to the Cabinet officers of the Government) too important to be disposed of or properly debated without a careful examination of the measures presented. The matter went over for the present.

At 2 o'clock Mr. Wilson, according to previous notice, addressed the Senate on his joint resolution recently submitted and several bills already introduced relating to the inter-State commerce resolution. On motion of Mr. Wilson, it was referred to the Committee on Railroads.

The pleuro-pneumonia bill was taken up. Mr. Jones, of Florida, spoke against it and Mr. Williams in favor of it.

Mr. Plumb said he would on Monday ask the Senate to come to a vote on the bill.

A message was received from the House announcing non-concurrence in Senate amendments to the post-office appropriation bill.

On motion of Mr. Plumb, the Senate insisted on its amendments, and the Chair appointed Messrs. Plumb, Allison, and Beck a committee on the part of the Senate to confer with a like committee on the part of the House on the disagreeing votes of the two houses.

Another message announced that the House had agreed to the report of the conference committee on differences in relation to the special deficiency appropriation bill.

On motion of Mr. Allison the Senate agreed.

The Chair announced as the committee of conference on the part of the Senate regarding the disagreeing votes of the two houses on the naval appropriation bill Messrs. Hale, Logan, and Beck.

The Senate, at 5:05 P. M., adjourned till Monday.

House of Representatives.

In his prayer this morning the chaplain of the House invoked Divine protection on the Greely expedition and Divine aid for the successful termination of its mission.

On motion of Mr. Hewitt, of Alabama, the Senate amendments to the bill creating an additional judicial district in Alabama were concurred in.

The House then, at 12:05, on motion of Mr. McMillan, of Tennessee, went into Committee of the Whole (Mr. Cox, of New York, in the chair) on the private calendar.

Up to 3:30 P. M. the time of the committee was consumed in the consideration of the bill for the relief of Myra Clark Gaines. At that hour the committee arose to enable Mr. Randall to submit the conference report on the little deficiency bill. He explained that the main point of difference between the two houses was as to the Senate amendment striking out the clause prohibiting volunteer service in any of the departments in advance of appropriations. The conference committee had agreed upon a compromise retaining the prohibition, but excepting from its provisions cases of emergency involving life and property. The report was agreed to, and the Committee of the Whole resumed its session. After further discussion the Gaines bill was laid aside with a favorable recommendation. It authorizes the issue of patents for so much of 38,457 acres claimed by Mrs. Gaines as have not been disposed of by the United States, and provides that she shall be paid at the rate of $1.25 per acre for such as have been disposed of.

After acting favorably on several other bills the committee rose.

The unfinished business coming over from last Friday was the bill relieving certain soldiers of the late war from the charge of desertion.

Mr. Steele, of Indiana, moved to refer the bill to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Pending a vote the hour of 5 o'clock arrived, and the House took a recess until 7:30 P. M., the evening session to be for the consideration of pension bills.

At the evening session the House passed fifteen pension bills, and at 9:50 o'clock adjourned until to-morrow.

Congressman Rogan Seriously Ill.

[By telegraph to the Dispatch.]

WASHINGTON, April 25.—Representative Regan, of Texas, chairman of the House Committee on Commerce, is seriously ill from bladder complaint. Two operations have been performed. Apprehensions that he will not recover are entertained by his friends.

Massachusetts Greenbackers.

[By telegraph to the Dispatch.]

BOSTON, April 25.—The Greenback State Convention at Lynn to-day was called to order at 11:20 o'clock, with scarcely one third of the full number of delegates present. I. W. Andrews was made permanent chairman. A committee of twelve was appointed to prepare a list of delegates at large to the National Greenback Convention. The committee subsequently reported the names of George Foster, of Lynn; G. B. Hutchinson, of Boston; O. A. Wheeler, of Burnham; and Nat. S. Cushing, of Marlboro', for delegates at large to the National Convention, and they were elected. The Committee on Resolutions reported a platform, which was adopted. Resolutions eulogistic of Wendell Phillips were enthusiastically adopted, as were others declaring the belief that greenback currency must soon reappear as the basis of the national currency.

A Greenback Farce.

[By telegraph to the Dispatch.]

NASHVILLE, TENN., April 25.—Only twelve or fifteen delegates attended the State Greenback Convention and half of these were from Nashville. A platform was adopted and W. J. Buchanan, of Lawrenceburgh, was nominated for Governor.

A Boom for Arthur.

[By telegraph to the Dispatch.]

NEW YORK, April 25.—James Gordon Bennett's evening paper, the *Telegram*, comes out to-day with Arthur and Lincoln at the head of its colums for President and Vice-President. The *Herald* is likely to follow suit.

LATEST FOREIGN NEWS.

A STATESMAN'S BOUQUETS.

A Judgment Against Sir William Vernon Harcourt for Boutonniers Pinned on the Lapels of Electors.

A London cable dispatch says: Lady Harcourt, daughter of John Lothrop Motley, the American historian, was to-day placed in a quite an embarrassing position before the public through a political scandal pushed to judgment in a court of law against her husband. The case was one of the many such growing out of the bitter canvass in the Oxford city election of May, 1880. Up to that time the city was represented in Parliament by Sir William Vernon Harcourt, but in April, 1880, he was appointed Secretary of State for Home Affairs, and the Conservatives among his constituents demanded his resignation as a member. Being confident of a reelection, he cheerfully resigned and immediately announced himself as the Liberal candidate for reelection. The Conservatives, however, put up a very popular man as his opponent, Mr. Alexander W. Hall, and after a heated and exciting canvass the latter was elected by a vote of 2,735 to 2,681. Sir William Harcourt then stood for Derby, and after obtaining his seat immediately took steps to oust his Oxford rival. A monster petition was sent up to Parliament praying for Mr. Hall's removal on the charge of bribery. A royal commission appointed to investigate the matter reported that there had been extensive bribery on the Conservative side, and Mr. Hall was accordingly unseated.

FLOWERS FOR VOTES.

At the time of this investigation Mr. Hall contended that Sir William Harcourt and his American wife, who had been married to the Liberal statesman some four years, and who was exceedingly popular and influential in Oxford society, had exercised social influences and gone to social expenses of the nature of bribery for political effect, and were as culpable as he, except in so far as he paid his bills for what he used in his campaign, and they paid out no money so far as he could ascertain. During the last day of the canvass Sir William Harcourt purchased an enormous quantity of flowers from a local florist, and, with the assistance of his ambitious wife, distributed them lavishly where they would do the most good among the æsthetic constituents, Sir William presenting beautiful bouquets to the wives, daughters and sweethearts of the Oxford electors, while Mrs. Harcourt pinned boutonniers on the lapels of the gentlemen. Expenditures for flowers used to influence votes during a campaign in England could be forced within the description of bribery as forbidden by the law, but Mr. Hall was unable to secure any admission from any of the favored electors that they had been unduly influenced and failed to discover any evidence that Sir William had laid out any cash for his beautiful bribes.

AFTER FOUR YEARS.

All this happened nearly four years ago, but the Oxford Tories have only now succeeded in making a scandal of the affair. The florist who furnished Sir William and his wife the bouquets and boutonniers claims that he has never yet seen the color of the Secretary's money, and to-day he brought suit against the head of the Home Department in the County Court at Oxford for the amount of the long-standing bill. Sir William did not find it convenient to attend, and, by direction of the court, a judgment was entered against him by default for the full amount of the claim, with interest from May, 1880.

Your correspondent saw the Home Secretary for a moment this evening in the lobby of St. Stephens's and asked him if the flower story were true. He admitted that it was probably true; that he had distributed a few flowers among his friends, not at all as a bribe, but as a seasonable and graceful compliment to constituents who had long honored him with their confidence and who would have again proved their attachment but for flagrant bribery on the other side. "But, he added, "you know that all such details as bills for flowers, carriages, printing, or similar expenses are always left in charge of the election agent. In this case my agent appears to have been negligent, which I regret, both for the sake of the florist and of myself, but I don't see how I can be held to blame."

"Has not the bill for the flowers been presented to you since 1880?"

"It may have been sent to me a dozen times, but would only by the rarest chance ever reach my hands. The letter would be opened by some one of my secretaries, who, seeing that it referred to election expenses, would at once forward it to my political agent, and if the bill is a just one he should have paid it long ago."

Bismarck and the Constitution of the Empire.

[By cable to the Dispatch.]

BERLIN, April 25.—Prince Bismarck is preparing a radical revision of the Constitution of the Empire. He proposes to amend the election laws making a new classification, and to treat the permanent military budget. Besides, he will impose upon the deputies of the Reichstag an oath of fidelity to the Constitution, the object being to exclude Socialists from membership. If the Reichstag rejects these charges, the German Princes will be convoked, in accordance with the terms of the present Constitution, to frame a new Constitution embodying Prince Bismarck's ideas.

Demonetization of Silver in Denmark.

[By cable to the Dispatch.]

THE HAGUE, April 25.—The Upper House of the States General to-day, by a vote of 26 to 10, passed a bill authorizing the Government to demonetize silver to the amount of 25,000,000 florins should the monetary situation of the country render this step necessary. This bill was passed early in March by the Lower House. If its provisions are carried out it will withdraw from circulation something over a sixth of the entire silver coinage, which amounts to something less than 142,000,000 florins.

The American Bishops on Daniel O'Connell.

[By cable to the Dispatch.]

LONDON, April 25.—Canon Brosnan writes to the *Tablet* on the result of his interviews at Rome with the American bishops regarding the proposed erection of an Irish memorial church to Daniel O'Connell. The Archbishop of Baltimore, the Canon writes, called it "a great Catholic and patriotic work." The Archbishop of Chicago said: "I will send word to Chicago to my faithful and thoroughly Irish flock to give your great national project a generous reception." Bishop Fitzgerald and Archbishop Ryan also warmly approved of the movement.

Honors to Royalty.

[By cable to the Dispatch.]

BUCHAREST, April 25.—Rudolph, Crown Prince of Austria, and his wife, the Princess Stephanie, have reached this city. They were met at the depôt by a large crowd of people, and their progress through the city was a continuous ovation. The streets were tastefully adorned with banners and flags. At night they were illuminated with myriads of lights. There were also a torchlight procession, banquet, ball, and other festivities.

Another Cardinal for the United States.

[By cable to the Dispatch.]

LONDON, April 25.—The Pope has decided to create another cardinal in the United States. It is intended to always have two in the States, and one in South America.

Foreign Notes.

[By cable to the Dispatch.]

MADRID, April 25.—While General Aguero's expedition was in course of preparation certain Spanish Republicans of extreme views sent an agent to America for the purpose of fomenting the movement. Their hope was that the movement could be made to assume such proportions that its reaction would be felt in Madrid. The Republicans promised Cuba self-government, and declared that the relations between Spain and Cuba would be made similar to those between England and Canada.

BERLIN, April 25.—The committee of the Reichstag to which the bill prolonging the anti-social law was referred have concluded their general discussion of the measure. Herren, Bamberger, Haenel, and Richter urged its rejection. Herr von Puttkamer, Minister of the Interior, will shortly submit to the Reichstag, on behalf of the Government, a bill for the repression of Anarchists.

LONDON, April 25.—The Hon. George Denman, justice of the Court of Common Pleas, has received a menacing letter. A detective has been placed on duty at the Chancery Court, in which Judge Denman is sitting.

ST. PETERSBURG, April 25.—The police have expelled from Russia a newspaper correspondent, a subject of Denmark.

PARIS, April 25.—Mr. Morton, the United States Minister, gave a grand reception last evening; 2,000 invitations were issued. Among the guests were Premier Ferry, the diplomatic body, and the *élite* of Parisian and American society.

LONDON, April 25.—It is stated that large numbers of emigrants are going to Canada this year from the continent of Europe.

Mr. John O'Connor Power, member of the House of Commons for County Mayo, has abandoned the Parnellites and joined the Independent Liberals. He will contest an English constituency at the next general election.

BERLIN, April 25.—Count Von Moltke is ill with catarrh of the lungs. He has obtained a long leave of absence and will retire to his estates in Silesia. He retains nominal command of the staff.

A Plucky Jailer and His Two Sons.

[By telegraph to the Dispatch.]

MOUNT STERLING, KY., April 25.—At an early hour yesterday morning between forty and fifty men went to the residence of the jailer and demanded admittance, the leader stating he was the sheriff of Breathitt county with a prisoner. The jailer was on the point of admitting them, when he discovered the party to be a mob intent upon the hanging of a prisoner named William Osborne, sentenced for five years for killing Henry Thomas. The leader of the mob told the jailer that unless he surrendered the keys the mob would batter down the doors. This was done; but the jailer and his two sons, who were in the second story, well armed, defied the mob to ascend the stairs. After searching the lower part of the house for the keys of the jail the mob left the premises.

Frank James Acquitted and Rearrested.

[By telegraph to the Dispatch.]

CHATTANOOGA, April 25.—The trial of Frank James at Huntsville, Ala., for participation in the Muscle Shoals robbery in 1881, resulted to-day in a verdict of not guilty. The verdict was received with a round of cheers. James was immediately arrested by the sheriff of Cooper county, Mo.

VERSAILLES, MO., April 25.—It is reported that Sheriff Rogers, of Cooper county, is now in Huntsville, Ala., armed with a requisition from Governor Crittenden for the arrest of Frank James on the charge of participation in the Otterkelle train-robbery.

Damage Suit Decided.

[By telegraph to the Dispatch.]

NEW YORK, April 25.—In Brooklyn today the suit which has been pending for three days against Wm. Latimer, of North Carolina, in behalf of L. H. Friederberg to recover $9,000 damages, was concluded with a verdict for the defendant. Action was for an alleged breach of contract in the construction of a cotton-seed oil mill with a capacity of working 15,000 tons of cotton-seed every twenty-four hours. The mill and machinery were to be constructed in a certain time for $12,000. Plaintiff failed to complete it, and defendant alleged it cost him $6,000 to complete it.

The Louisiana Election.

[By telegraph to the Dispatch.]

NEW ORLEANS, April 25.—Returns so far as made from the various sections of the State indicate a majority of 50,000 for the Democratic State ticket and the adoption of all the constitutional amendments. Returns for this city are not yet completed, but the majority for the regular Democratic ticket now approximates 15,000.

The official returns of the parish of Orleans' vote for Governor gives McEnery (Democrat) 20,380 and Stevenson (Republican) 3,838, and two precincts to hear from.

Failures for the Past Week.

[By telegraph to the Dispatch.]

NEW YORK, April 25.—The failures throughout the country for the last seven days number for the United States 168, and for Canada 21, or a total of 189. As compared with the total of 176 last week, shows an increase of 13 failures—8 in the United States and 5 in Canada. As compared with last week, the failures in Canada, though not very numerous, include some large houses both in Quebec and in Ontario.

Suspensions.

[By telegraph to the Dispatch.]

NEW YORK, April 25.—F. W. Maulin and Brittman, Tompkins & Co., the former a small grain dealer, and the latter operators in flour and grain, are reported suspended. It is said the former has disappeared.

J. M. Fuller, operator in wheat and corn, who recently failed, could not respond to his contracts to-day, and is reported to have suspended again.

William Druyff, formerly with Henry Clews & Co., has suddenly disappeared from the Produce Exchange, having sold wheat short and failed to respond when called on.

Dry-Goods House Assignment.

[By telegraph to the Dispatch.]

NEWARK, N. J., April 25.—McKergan Brothers & Luke, dry goods, have made an assignment to Judge Fort. Assets, $67,000; liabilities, $58,000. The assignment was caused by the death of Alderman McKergan, the senior member and capitalist of the firm, and the general dullness of trade.

Rugg Convicted.

[By telegraph to the Dispatch.]

HUNTER'S POINT, L. I., April 25.—The jury in the case of Rugg, charged with the murder of the Maybee family, after being out one hour and twenty minutes, returned a verdict of guilty. Counsel for Rugg moved for a new trial, but the motion was denied. At the request of counsel Judge Brown deferred sentence till Monday.

Southern Railroad Extension.

[By telegraph to the Dispatch.]

NEW YORK, April 25.—The Richmond and Danville Extension Company directors have authorized the construction of the Columbus-Gap line on the Georgia Pacific railroad. The new line will extend to Birmingham, and will be laid with steel rails. The new work will cost $900,000.

Texas Cotton-Mills Closed.

[By telegraph to the Dispatch.]

GALVESTON, April 25.—A special to the *News* from Waco, Tex., says: "The Waco Cotton-Mills have closed their doors for the season. The low price of the material manufactured and the scarcity and high price of cotton are the causes."

A Veteran Journalist Dead.

[By telegraph to the Dispatch.]

NEW ORLEANS, April 25.—John C. Dinnies, many years one of the editors and proprietors of the *Price-Current*, and well known in commercial circles, is dead; aged seventy-eight.

Obituary.

[By telegraph to the Dispatch.]

NEWARK, N. J., April 25.—Ex-Governor Marcus L. Ward died at his residence this afternoon from malarial fever, contracted in Florida recently. He was seventy-two years old.

Congressional Nomination.

[By telegraph to the Dispatch.]

OSWEGO, KANSAS, April 25.—Judge Perkins, of this place, was nominated for Congress to-day by the Republicans.

Fire in New Orleans.

[By telegraph to the Dispatch.]

NEW ORLEANS, April 25.—A fire last night destroyed the upper stories of Baker, Sloo & Co.'s wholesale saddlery and harness establishment, No. 6 Magazine and 54 Canal streets. The loss is estimated at $50,000; fully insured. The adjoining buildings were slightly damaged.

New York Grain Dealers in Trouble.

[By telegraph to the Dispatch.]

NEW YORK, April 25.—It is reported that one of the oldest operators in flour and grain is in trouble on short sales of grain. One or two others are also reported in trouble—all short of grain, with no particulars yet made public.

TO THE ARCTIC.

Departure of the Steamer Bear on Her Voyage of Mercy.

[New York Herald.]

The craft had been pushed out several yards from the bulkhead, and across the narrow gang-plank running from the rail to the stringpeace was a continuous procession of friends who came to bid good-bye to the officers and men, or who came with more substantial offerings of good-will in the shape of packages of gifts and things calculated to make the weary monotony of an Arctic trip more bearable. Flowers came early in the morning; then a great plaque, as of a bear's head on a platter, all made of pink and white carnations, with garnishings of calla lilies and rich Jacquemin et roses. Then came the regulation floral ship and a sled, also in blossoms, while other cut-flowers soon turned the spacious top of the saloon skylight into a bed of flowers, and about the poop deck was a delicious odor completely hiding the usual tarry smell.

THE LAST RUSH OF PREPARATION.

With the noon hour came the crowd of civilian spectators and many prominent officials in the naval service. Commodore Fillebrown came to the scene with the members of his staff. Captain Kirkland, the yard commandant, was there. Chief Constructor Wilson, Pay Inspector Stevenson, and Chief Engineer Melville were also present. Captain D. L. Braine, of the Juniata, of the Polaris expedition, came and added his good wishes to the general congratulations; also Pay Inspector A. D. Bache, and the greetings between himself and Captain Emory were very warm, as they had not met since they served together on the Iroquis on the China coast many years ago.

The Juniata, from the Newport torpedo station, arrived with the magazine stores for the Bear, and they were carefully passed aboard and stored away under the wardroom floor in a very snug compartment, where they could be readily submerged in case of danger. The list of explosives included sixteen tanks of powder, fourteen cases of gun-cotton, eight packages of loaded torpedoes, and two hundred unloaded torpedoes. The majority of this heavy power of explosives will be employed in ice-blasting. A number of heavy boxes also taken in contained the supply of fixed ammunition for the rifles and shot-guns stored in the racks.

TRYING THE ENGINES.

All this time there rolled out from the capacious funnel mouth of the Bear a heavy column of smoke, and below the firemen were shovelling in coal with a liberal hand. The screw was started in order to try the engines, and the order came for all hands to pass ashore except those who were booked for the trip. The men of the crew, who had marched over from the Colorado but a short time before with their bags of dunnage, were drawn up on the main deck, and from the poop deck Commander Schley addressed them on the purpose of the trip. He read the brief instructions of Secretary Chandler, already published in the *Herald*, and then a telegram just received from the Secretary, in which he said:

"To Captain Emory,—I wish you and all your comrades good health, good courage, and good luck. Good-bye."

The cheering reply sent by Captain Emory was read, and Commander Schley added a few words, saying: "I think that you will be able to accomplish what the Secretary and the country are looking to you for. I know that you will do all in your power, and that you will in that way be successful. I hope that there will be no man whom it will be necessary to punish in any way for any neglect of duty. I want you to understand that the idea is to rescue Lieutenant Greely and his comrades, and with all that has been done by our friends at home the task now rests with you and the excellent officers associated in the work." "Now, men, to work!" was the sharp command of Lieutenant Ushler, and the men went forward and began lowering away the heavy chain cables which held the Bear to the bulkhead. The tug Catalpa came up beside her, and soon the little steamer was under single lines, and with screw revolving was swinging about so that she could back out of the narrow bay in which she was situated. Captain Emory was on the bridge, and beside him were Pilot Barrymore and Officer-of-the-Deck Colwell.

Brief News Items.

The Charleston *News and Courier* reiterates its statement that there is no distress in that State that demands an organized movement for its relief.

The arrest of T. G. Abbott, the defaulting treasurer of the Union Market National Bank of Watertown, was accomplished by a blacksmith in Pierce City, Mo., who read of Abbott's crime in a circular. On being arrested Abbott confessed his identity, and will return to Boston without requisition papers. The blacksmith will receive $1,000 reward and a percentage of what amount of money may be recovered.

Professor Wiggins says that the recent heavy storms on the Atlantic and the earthquake last Tuesday in England are verifications of his March predictions. The professor adds: "The forces which caused the disastrous storm last month will, he believes, again unite on Saturday evening next, and earthquakes will probably occur on Friday and Monday, while there is a serious probability that the earthquake in England will return with increased violence about the 20th of May."

Mrs. Mary Sullivan, 108 west Fortieth street, New York city, says that she had been so affected with rheumatism for months that she was helpless, in bed. She had given up hope after trying numberless remedies, but was advised to use St. Jacobs Oil, the great pain-cure, which completely cured her.

FERTILIZERS.

LAND PLASTER.—MY "STANDARD BRAND" OF LAND PLASTER is ground from the best-selected Nova Scotia Blue Lump. A trial insures its permanent use. Satisfaction guaranteed. GEORGE T. KING.
Lump and Ground Plaster, Meal, Feed, &c.
3400 to 3500 Williamsburg avenue.
mh 16-3m Richmond, Va.

MOULDINGS, BRACKETS, &c.

WHITE & POINDEXTER,
PLANING-MILL AND BOX FACTORY.
Manufacturers of MOULDINGS, CORNICE BRACKETS, HOUSE-TRIMMINGS OF ALL DESCRIPTIONS, ROUND AND SQUARE WOODEN PACKAGES. Estimates furnished.
FACTORY, Twenty-fourth and Main streets.
[fe 28-3m]

SHIRTS, DRAWERS, &c.

SOUTHERN STEAM SHIRT MANUFACTORY—The best-equipped SHIRT AND DRAWER MANUFACTORY south of New York. We call special attention to our CUSTOMS DEPARTMENT, also our line of FURNISHING GOODS. R. H. ANDERSON,
mh 7-3m 815 Broad street

LIME, CEMENT, &c.

3,270 BARRELS FRESH ROCKLAND LIME, from the celebrated "Cobb Lime-Kilns," daily expected per schooner Brigadier. For sale low from dock by
ROBERT WENDENBURG,
Nos. 808 Main and 17 Fifteenth streets.
ap 26-6t

SCHOONER ALFRED KEEN JUST arrived with cargo FRESH ROCKLAND LIME; for sale low from vessel. FRESH ROSENDALE, JAMES RIVER, AND PORTLAND CEMENT; CALCINED and LAND PLASTER; FIRE-BRICKS, MARBLE DUST, LATHS, HAIR, &c. Prices on application.
WARNER MOORE,
foot Seventeenth street, south side of Dock.
ap 20

FINANCIAL.

RICHMOND STOCK EXCHANGE.

FRIDAY, April 25, 1884.

SALES.—FIRST BOARD.—1,000 Virginia consol coupons, new, at 43¾. 1,000 do. at 43, 1,000 do. at 43¾; 1,000 Virginia consol coupons, old, at 61¼; 1,000 Virgin a new 3's at 56⅝, 1,000 do. at 56, 1,000 do at 56, 1,000 do. at 56, 2,000 do. at 56, 5,000 do. at 56, 3,000 do. at 56, 1,000 do. at 56, 1,000 do. at 56, 1,000 do. at 56, 1,000 do. (with all coupons) at 60¾. 1,000 do. (with all coupons) at 60¾; 1,000 Virginia Midland incomes at 70; 3,500 Virginia consols at 42¾.

SECOND BOARD.—6,000 Virginia new 3's at 56⅝, 1,000 do. at 56, 10,000 do. at 56, 6,000 do. at 56, 500 do. at 55¾, 200 do. at 55¾, 1,000 do. (with all coupons) at 60¾; 300 Richmond city 6's at 114; 200 Richmond city 8's at 134½.

STATE SECURITIES.	Bid.	Asked.
Virginia 10-40's, J. and J.	34½	...
Virginia consols, J. and J.	42	42¾
Virginia peelers, J. and J.	40	...
Virginia new 3's	55¾	56
Virginia deferred, J. and J.	5	...
Va. con. tax-receivable coup., 1882	61⅝	62⅛
Va. con. tax-receivable coup., 1883	43¾	43¾
Virginia 10-10's, 1883	46	49½
North Carolina 4's, J. and J.	84	85
North Carolina 6's	108½	109½
CITY BONDS.		
Richmond city 4's, J. and J.	134½	135
Richmond city 6's, J. and J.	114	114½
Richmond city 5's, J. and J.	105½	107
RAILROAD BONDS.		
C. and O. 6's, 1918, J. and J.	46	...
Va. and Tenn. 2d mort. 6's, J. and J.	102½	...
Col. and Greenville 1st 6's, J. & J.	100	...
Col. and Green. 2d 6's, A. & O.	70	72
Virginia Midland income 6's	69½	70
Petersburg 1st 5's, Class A, J. & J.	94	95¼
Petersburg 2d 6's, Class B, A. & O.	87½	88
R., Y. R. and C. 8's, J. and J.	108	...
R. and D. consol 6's, 1885	102⅜	...
R. and D. consol 6's, 1890	104	...
R. and D. gold 6's, J. and J.	98⅝	100
R. and A. 1st mort. 7's, J. and J.	69½	71
Atl. and Char. 7's, J. and J.	113	114
Atl. and Char. income 6's	85½	87½
C., C. and A. 1st mort. 7's, J. & J.	108	110
C., C. and A. 2d 7's, A. & O.	100	101
Western N. C. 7's, M. & N.	108½	109½
Georgia Pacific 1st 6's, J. and J.	95¾	96½
RAILROAD STOCKS.	Par.	
Richmond and Petersburg	100	74½
Richmond and Danville	100	94
Atlanta and Charlotte	100	72½
Norfolk and Western pref.	100	37
Norfolk and Western common	100	9
BANK STOCKS.		
National Bank of Virginia	100	92
Merchants and Planters	25	23
State Bank of Virginia	100	108
Citizens	25	24
MISCELLANEOUS.		
Old Dominion Steam-ship Co.	100	...

		77¾
		34
		73½
		40½
		...
		24½
		...
		26
		130

By Telegraph.

NEW YORK.

NEW YORK, April 25, 1884.

At the Exchange to-day there was great excitement and depression in Reading and Jersey Central. Transactions in the former reached the enormous total of 115,000 shares, while the latter figured for 17,000 shares. Reading opened a fraction higher at 45, fell off ⅝, rallied ¾, and broke 3¼. Jersey Central sold down from 82½ to 81, recovered ½, and broke ¾. The heavy selling in stocks was brought about by reports that Reading was financially embarrassed, and would have to sacrifice some of the securities held in its treasury to meet pressing demands, and that the company had begun called upon to take up Jersey Central stock held here and at Philadelphia, and could not respond. In the afternoon the last-mentioned report was denied, and both shares advanced only to decline again. However, they closed slightly stronger. The fluctuations in other active shares were much less important, the market being comparatively steady throughout, and after a slight decline early in the day, closed firm. Lackawanna declined 1¼; rallied 1½. Missouri Pacific fell off ¾, and rose 1; Union Pacific sold down ⅛ and advanced 1; St. Paul fell off ⅛, but returned again; Pacific Mail declined ⅜, and closed at 48; Northern Pacifics and Oregon Transcontinental were higher. Northern Pacific rising 1⅝, pref-red 1, and Oregon Transcontinental 1. The excitement in Canada Pacific stock has abated. Lows-priced Southwestern shares were steady and call for no special mention. Trunk Line was stronger on reports that new percentages had been agreed upon and that the official announcement would be made shortly. It was stated that the roads had decided to abide by the decision of the arbitrators. Compared with last night's closing, prices are ⅜ per cent. lower for Jersey Central, 1⅜ Reading, ⅞ Lackawanna, ⅞ Wabash and Canadian Pacific, ¾ Kansas and Texas, Texas Pacific, and St. Paul; New York Central ⅜ higher; Canada Southern, Central Pacific, Northwest, Denver, and Lake Shore ½ each; Western Union, Union Pacific, Missouri Pacific, Quincy, and Omaha preferred ⅜; Omaha common and Oregon Transcontinental ⅜; Northern Pacific 1⅛, Erie 1¼, and Louisville and Nashville and Northern Pacific preferred ½ higher. Sales, 406,000 shares.

BALTIMORE.

BALTIMORE, April 25.—Virginia 6's, consols, 41½; new 3's, 56. Bid.

COMMERCIAL.

GRAIN AND COTTON EXCHANGE

RICHMOND, April 25, 1884.

OFFERINGS.

WHEAT.—White, 200 bushels. Mixed, 922 bushels. Red, 100 bushels.
CORN.—White, 1,500 bushels. Mixed, 3,250