The Wheeling Daily Intelligencer.

VOL. XXIII. WHEELING, WEST VA., MONDAY MORNING. APRIL 19, 1875. NO. 203.

The Intelligencer.

One Hundred Years Ago.

This morning one hundred years ago occurred the battles (if such they can be called) at Lexington and Concord, Massachusetts, in which the first blood of the Revolutionary struggle for American independence was shed. It seems like "the day of small things" to turn now to the pages of history and read the incidents of the 19th of April 1775. The great war of the Rebellion, through which the country has so lately passed, has unfitted us for properly appreciating the engagements at Concord and Lexington between a few score of militiamen and four or five companies of British regulars, in which the total number of killed and wounded did not rise to the proportions of an every day skirmish, for months together when the great armies of the Union and the Confederacy confronted each other in front of Richmond. And yet these battles will be ever memorable as the actual outbreak of hostilities, so long threatened between the Colonies and Great Britain—an outbreak that was followed by seven long years of war and that finally resulted not only in the independence of the Colonies but in the establishment of that "more perfect Union" between them, known then and ever since as the United States of America.

It would be useless in our short space to speak of the anticedents that led to the collision at Concord and Lexington this day one hundred years ago, between England and the Colonies. Every school boy who has read the Declaration of Independence is familiar with the schedule of grievances there laid down. Among the mass of American's that schedule passes current (and ever will) as a true and indisputable arraignment of the Mother country for cruelties practiced upon her children in the wilds of the Western World. Notwithstanding the many able exposes that have since appeared in this country, and in England calculated to materially modify the sounding sentences of the Declaration, it will always remain, like Sir Walter's novels in Scotland, an essential part of our history, and from sire to son will go down as a "legacy of hate" against the British name.

It is impossible to realize that only one hundred years have passed since this great country was a narrow border of inhabited territory, whose people owed and owned allegiance to a foreign power. Within twelve miles of Wheeling there still lives a man who was eight years old before the "embattled farmers" stood at Concord Bridge and fired those "shots that were heard round the world." He was a youth ere yet we had even a colonial form of government, and had almost reached man's estate when the Constitution of our present form of government was adopted. It is not too much to say that there has been no such span of life since the world began as the hundred and eight years that have passed over the head of our venerable friend at Moundsville. He has seen the most radical transitions of which history gives any account. We speak not alone, nor indeed chiefly, of the political occurrences of that period, remarkable and unprecedented as they have been, but of the wonderful and incredible changes that have been wrought by the arts and sciences. He has seen the rise and progress of steam as a motive power, with all the marvellous changes on land and water that have been wrought by that agency. These changes no man can estimate who does not stop and recount the revolutions in labor, in travel, in money making, in everything, that have followed the introduction of steam. In the days of the Revolution the little armies of the invader and invaded hugged the sea coast as much as possible as the country was sparcely settled in the interior and there were no means of transportation save by the rudest wagons over roads that were made as the armies moved. Instead of moving army corps of twenty and thirty thousand men, as Hooker's corps and Longstreet's corps were moved in the late war, hundreds of miles in a few days time, and so secretly as to be almost unknown, the armies of Washington on one side, and Clinton, Howe, Cornwallis and other British generals, on the other, side, were dragged along in wretched condition across such States as New Jersey, Delaware, Virginia and the Carolinas, almost without food or clothing. Had our government been compelled to fight the rebellion as the British were compelled to fight this country it never could have put it down. It was the agency of steam and railroads that enabled it to concentrate such immense masses of men at any one point with such rapidity, and to supply them so effectively with every necessity of a destructive war. It was also the use of the telegraph, an other wonderful achievement of science, that was unknown even when our venerable friend had attained middle age, that contributed so signally to shorten and determine the conflict. Nothing of these and a multitude of other modern facilities for carrying on war were known in the days of the Revolution. For the lack of them we were able to wear England out in that long struggle. Her relations with Europe, and especially with France, prevented her from sending a large body of troops at any one time to conquer us, and hence our tactics of dividing and conquering were successful. The "patriot militiamen" were split up into small armies and could not be pursued with success. And thus with the help of France we were able to achieve an independence.

The anniversary of this memorable day is but the forerunner of several that are soon to follow. On the 17th of June next will occur the Centennial of the battle of Bunker's Hill. Next year will come the great Centennial of our Fourth of July, preparations for which are now in progress on such a magnificent scale. For the next seven years we shall be celebrating local centennial events. Even Wheeling might in that time celebrate the centennial attack on Fort Henry that occurred in 1782, the memorable occasion when the heroism of a woman saved perhaps this little frontier outpost from destruction.

Visit of the Toledo Committee.

The visitors from Toledo, alluded to a few days ago, are expected here to-day. As we have stated, they come to Wheeling for the purpose of gaining information in regard to the city and its surroundings, including our manufacturing resources, and also to make an overland journey over the route of the Wheeling & Lake Erie railroad. The city of Toledo has as yet done nothing for this road, and this visit has been undertaken at the instance of the friends of the road in order to disseminate information and awaken a local interest at that point. As is generally known, the road has never yet been located as far West as Toledo, but has nevertheless kept its eye on that city as an objective point in competition with Sandusky. The Toledo people have had so many irons in the fire in the shape of railroads and local improvements, and have been so heavily taxed to pay for them, that up to this time they have not shown anything more than a friendly interest in the Wheeling & Lake Erie road. What they will do when the present visiting committee returns and reports remains to be seen. Should the Committee carry back a decidedly favorable report, as to the terminal resources of the road at this point, and of the country through which it passes between here and the Lake, we may expect to see a movement at Toledo on its behalf.

For our part we are very glad to announce the visit of such a Committee. From what we hear they are practical men. Practical information from practical men is what the public at both ends of the proposed road really need at this time. There have been so many confused statements touching the progress of the work, the extent of the subscriptions, the feeling of the people, the resources of the country, the readiness and ability of the chief contractor, that the public hardly know what estimate to place upon the prospects of the enterprise. The Toledo committee can therefore perform an important service for our city as well as their own, and likewise no doubt for the best interests of the road itself, if after a thorough examination of the route they will publish a minute and satisfactory statement as to its inducements and prospects. This we presume they intend to do, from the fact that a press reporter accompanies them.

The people on this side of the river feel a deep interest in the building of the Wheeling & Lake Erie road. True, they have not as yet put any money in it, nor even any promises to that effect, but we dare say that if Toledo should give evidence of putting her shoulder to the wheel in a large way, and if the people along the road should come up with satisfactory subscriptions, the two facts would have a tendency to arouse a very practical feeling of sympathy and co-operation in our midst. It seems to us that some such influential and disinterested report as the Toledo committee can make is now necessary to properly vivify public interest here and elsewhere in the success of the enterprise. In the meantime, and as one of the preliminary steps on our own part to such a report, we trust that our leading citizens will do all in their power to make the visit of the Toledo Committee an agreeable episode in the history of the movement.

The Baltimore and Ohio Road.

The Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company announces a dividend of 5 per cent for the half year which ended March 31st, on the stock of the main stem, payable May 1st. Also a dividend of 5 per cent for the half year ending the 31st ultimo on the stock of the Washington Branch, payable to-morrow. This dividend was announced at the monthly meeting of the Board of Directors on Wednesday, at which President Garrett, who has returned from his trip South, presided. In making the announcement, the Baltimore *Sun* says Mr. Garrett made a lengthy congratulatory speech on the results of the pending railroad war so far. The month of March, he said, showed an increase in the gross earnings of his company over the same month in 1874 of $103,774, and that, notwithstanding the diminished rates for passengers, the revenue on the main stem from this source shows an increase of 45 per cent. The earnings of the Chicago division were $100,625, an increase of more than 50 per cent on the preceding month. Mr. G. also sketched pretty freely the origin and history of the pending railroad controversy with the Pennsylvania Railroad, recapitulating, as he said, the arguments used on the occasion of his refusal to enter into the Saratoga combination. He also urged the viciousness of the fast freight lines, expressing the conviction that they were vampires upon the railway system. He alluded to his correspondence in December last with Vice-president Cassett, of the Pennsylvania Railroad, in reference to the petroleum trade, and the "enormous advance" in the tariff for transportation of that article from Pittsburgh by the combined roads, and which he was censured for not following, but that he thereby favored his policy of building up the trade of Baltimore. He claims that statistics show that the exports of the refined oil from Baltimore from January 1, to March 29th, 1875, were 5,025,405 gallons, and that the exports of refined oil from Baltimore from January 1, to March 29th, 1874, were but 340,722 gallons, a gain of 4,674,684 gallons. A large portion of the speech following, to the end, aims to be severe on the president of the Pennsylvania Railroad, as well as on the road itself, its debt and business. He charges the Pennsylvania Company as responsible for the very great reduction in freights and fares, and, with a voice for war, says, "let the battle go on."

Some Influential Newspaper Remarks on the Present Aspects of the Beecher Case.

[Cincinnati Commercial.]

We must remember that Beecher has just about as much common sense in his intercourse with men as Horace Greeley had, and that the women have always been trying to pet him, and have made a great spoiled baby of him. He is a sentimentalist; an enthusiast, a man of exhilerations and depressions—a Switzerland of a fellow—with a wonderful capacity for describing all his moods, a man of exaggerated emotions and picturesque phrases.

[Cincinnati Gazette.]

The reader of Beecher's testimony is continually impressed with the gushing and slopping nature of the parties to the mysterious affair, of whom Beecher himself seems to be the sloppiest of all. Tilton and Beecher are continually slobbering over each other. Mrs. Tilton is like a form of jelly in warm weather, tremulous and melting. Beecher writes to the managing and plotting Moulton, as a lover to his mistress. Mrs. Moulton coddles, kisses, weeps over, and takes a most tender interest in Beecher, because, according to her account, he has been found out with Tilton's wife. Even the calculating "man of the world," Moulton, conceives a most romantic, heroic friendship for Beecher as soon as he finds he has seduced his bosom friend's wife, and thereupon he becomes so tender, susceptible, and sympathizing a friend that Beecher unbosoms himself to him in all things.

[St. Louis Republican.]

The man we want to hear from is Henry C. Bowen, proprietor of the New York *Independent*, founder of Plymouth Church, prominent member and liberal paying pew-holder in the same institution, and the sworn enemy of both Beecher and Tilton. If Henry C. Bowen goes to his grave unchallenged and silent the world will never know the central pivot upon and around which the mighty wheel of monstrous mischief has revolved. He holds the master key to that secret chamber in the Brooklyn tabernacle, where lodges the demon which all fear to evoke; a demon that was potent and dreaded long before a whisper of the Tiltonian story floated in the air. Will the key ever be used? Will that chamber ever be opened? Will we ever know the truth, and the whole truth?

[New Haven Palladium.]

We are inclined to think that Mr. Beecher's testimony has had very little effect on public opinion. Mr. Beecher's friends needed no explanation, those who had made up their minds against him would not accept any, and that portion of the public which had determined to remain impartial is still waiting for evidence, and places very little value upon sentiment or gush.

[St. Louis Democrat.]

And yet, with all these strong points in Beecher's favor, and with all the weight of his own testimony, it still seems almost impossible to believe that three people have deliberately manufactured such a scandal as this, one of them against his own wife, with no stronger motive than has yet appeared. Even more difficult is it to believe that Mr. Beecher and Mrs. Tilton should both aid the conspiracy by writing and acting as they have done. It will be a wonderful triumph if the testimony and character of Mr. Beecher succeed in overpowering, in public estimation, such evidence as has been arrayed against him.

[From the Springfield (Mass.) Republican.]

The difficulty of Mr. Beecher's defense is that it requires people to believe that after having discovered, on the night of December 30th, 1870, that Tilton had been guilty of the most infamous offense against him—an offense for which it has not been claimed that he ever expressed the slightest regret—he wrote of him, two days later, that "he would have been a better man in my circumstances than I have been;" that the next month, he characterized him as "capable of the noblest things;" that, while his base conduct was fresh in mind, he kissed him, and sat on his knee; and, finally, that for years he devoted his utmost efforts—"more thought and judgment and earnest desire than ever I did for myself a hundred fold"—to reinstate an infamous wretch in a position that it would have been a crying shame for him to occupy.

Swift Retribution.

[Special Dispatch to the Chicago Tribune.]

DES MOINES, Ia., April 16.—I have just received by a private letter the details of an outrage committed in Carroll county, Missouri, on the 2d inst. Esquire Ruckle, a prominent and well known citizen, is a farmer near DeWitt. He and his wife were absent from home, leaving a daughter about 15 years of age and a younger son. The daughter was very feeble, having but just recovered from a severe fit of sickness. At an early hour on the morning of that day she was preparing breakfast. A huge negro named James Calloway came into the house, seized the girl by the throat, gagged her, and threw her on the floor. She fought him like an enraged tigress, and had well nigh become exhausted, when she managed to kick over the table, the noise awakening her little brother, who ran to her rescue, when the villain fled, going to Grand River Bottoms. The alarm was given, and citizens turned out to hunt him down. They soon captured him and lodged him in jail. The same night, about 9 o'clock, 100 horsemen, in disguise, marched to the jail, took possession of the negro, and marched away northward. Not a word was spoken by a single man during the whole movement, but every man went to his special duty, showing a perfect and thorough discipline, precisely similar to that shown in the hanging of Howard to the lamp-post in this city. The citizens kept within doors. The next morning the dead body of the negro was found a short distance from the town, dangling from the limb of a tree, his body riddled with bullet-holes. The girl, though she foiled the negro in his hellish purpose, is in a critical condition, from the effect of the fright upon her weakened constitution.

These vigilance committees are striking terror to the rascals that infest the West. Much as every good citizen deplores the method of their punishment and their usurpation of law, yet he will say amen to the justice of their acts every time. Such are the laws delays, and the uncertainty of sure conviction of criminals, by reason of the liberality of the statutes and the trickery of lawyers, that the people have decided to become a law unto themselves. This association extends throughout Missouri and Iowa, and they are all united for a common purpose, known to each other by secret means, and constant intercommunication exists between them. They are of the best citizens in the State. They make sure of the guilt of a rascal, and then make sure of his retribution, and the penalty is usually about the same. At least their victims are not seen after they get possession of them.

Suicide of a Business Man.

BALTIMORE, April 17.—George A. Ahrens, junior partner of the firm of Sterling, Ahrens & Co., committed suicide this morning.

By Telegraph

ASSOCIATED PRESS REPORT.

TO THE DAILY INTELLIGENCER

Night Dispatches.

THE FREEZING WEATHER.

Disastrous Effects on Early Fruits in Many Parts of the Country.

ST. PAUL, April 17.—For the last three days a strong wind from the northwest has been blowing, which has now subsided. Early this morning the thermometer marked eight degrees below zero. To-night the temperature is higher and the sky clear. The cold has aided materially in improving the roads and drying land for farmers. The water in the Mississippi is very high.

LOUISVILLE, April 17.—Quite a heavy snow fell here yesterday and to-day, and to-night the thermometer is several degrees below freezing. Telegrams to the *Courier-Journal* state that the same snow-storm and cold have prevailed throughout Kentucky and Tennessee, and that great damage has been done to fruits and the tobacco plant.

DETROIT, April 17.-Unprecedented cold weather has prevailed in this State for two days, accompanied with frequent snow-storms, and from all points come reports of serious injury to fruit buds.

CINCINNATI, April 17.—Reports from Kentucky, Indiana and Ohio show that the weather during the last two days has been coldest for the season known in years The thermometer ranging from 12 to 25 degrees above zero. Early fruits are thought to be killed and the tobacco seriously injured.

Contracts for the Improvement of the Mouth of the Mississippi.

ST. LOUIS, April 17.—Capt. James B. Eads closed a contract to-day with Col. James Andrews, of Allegheny City, Pennsylvania, for the construction of 350,000 cubic yards of fascine work and 100,000 cubic yards of stone work, at the South Pass, together with a large amount of timber work, piles, &c., constituting the necessary jetties and dikes for improving the mouth of the Mississippi river. Col. Andrews is to furnish his own outfit for this work, and put in place sixty thousand cubic yards of fascines, piles, &c., before requiring any pay.

His contract will embrace the construction of work sufficient to insure twenty-six feet depth of water, and will amount to $2,500,000. When this is completed other provision will be made to secure the thirty feet required by Capt. Eads' contract with the government. Col. Andrews built the masonry work of the bridge at this city, and constructed the tunnel extending therefrom to the Union Depot grounds. He visited Europe with Capt. Eads last summer, and carefully examined the jetty works there, and is in every sense qualified to successfully carry out the enterprise he has entered into. He will commence providing his equipment as $300,000 is subscribed by the South Pass Jetty Company, which has been organized here, and large portions of stock subscribed by prominent citizens of St. Louis.

Louisiana Jocky Club—Sixth and Last Day.

NEW ORLEANS, April 17.—Track and racing good; weather clear and pleasant; attendance very large—estimated at from five to eight thousand.

First Race—Fortina stakes for three-year-olds; $25 entrance, p. p., with $1,000 added; second horse $200, third horse $100; fourteen nominations; six started. Ascension won easily by a length; Pauline Sprague second, Warfare third, beating Mignon and Mainsail. Distance, a mile and a half. Time 2:43. In the pool, last night, Ascension and Leap Year $25, Mignon and Pauline Sprague $50, Mainsail $100, Warfare $25. On track, Cotrill's entries even against the field.

Second Race—Consolation race, one mile, for horses that have run and not won during the meeting. Club purse $400; first horse $300, second $75, third $25. Sweet Bay won by a length; Puss Broadnax second, Pauline Sprague third. Time 1:45¼.

The third race, four mile heats, for all ages, club purse of $1,200; first horse, $1,000; second $200.

SUMMARY.

Falmouth	3	1	1
Galway	1	2	2
Colonel Milligan	3	3	r.o.

Time—7:45½, 7:48, 8:00½.

In pool last night Galway sold for $214; Falmouth, $200; Colonel Milligan, $160; rating same to-day.

CINCINNATI.

TEXAS EMIGRATION COMMITTEE.

CINCINNATI, O., April 17.—A delegation of gentlemen from Texas were received on 'Change to-day. Speeches were made by Colonel Holloway, President of the Chamber of Commerce, General Robinson and Mr. Small, of the delegation. They come to promote the interests of Texas by encouraging emigration. They will leave the city on Monday.

A GUNPOWDER PLOT.

Five cans of gunpowder were placed in a basket in the vestibule of St. Xavier's Catholic Church, and the material outside of the basket fired. It was discovered by the sexton, however, and thrown into the street, where four of the cans exploded. The only explanation is that it was put there to destroy the machinery of a contractor who is completing the tower.

FRUIT DAMAGED.

The cold weather of the past two nights has materially damaged the fruit. Experienced fruit growers say the peaches, pears and cherries are killed.

Attempted Murder and Robbery.

MEMPHIS, April 17.—A young man named Jule De Laverda arrived here today on the steamer Grand Tower from Hale's Point, who relates that some three weeks since he landed there, and started for Dyersburg afoot. In the woods he met a negro who begged him for money to obtain food, and, in giving him some, he thoughtlessly displayed his pocket-book, seeing which the negro drew a pistol and fired at him, the ball striking him on the top of the head, partially stunning him. The negro then stabbed him several times with a pocket-knife, and, after robbing him, fled. A farmer living near having heard the shot and screams of Laverda, hastened to the spot, and had him conveyed to his house, where he lay for several days unconscious, but yesterday was enabled to leave for this city, to which point his passage was paid by his host. Laverda states that his father is a farmer near Newark, New Jersey, and that he has a brother who is a wholesale merchant in New York. He will be cared for by Chief of Police Athey until his friends can be heard from.

Murder in the First Degree.

PITTSBURGH, April 17.—Phillip Murray, who has been on trial for the murder of James White, was to-day convicted for murder in the first degree. The jury were out from Wednesday until 3 o'clock this afternoon.

WASHINGTON.

A NATIONAL BANK ASSESSMENT.

WASHINGTON, April 18.—In view of the retirement of General Spinner from the office of Treasurer on the 1st of July, it has been determined to assess upon the several National Banks the expense of redeeming and assorting their notes at the National Bank Redemption Agency on the first of May instead of the first of July, as originally intended. It will probably be some time after the 1st proximo before the apportionment of expenses will be completed. The average charge will not exceed a quarter of one per cent upon the amount redeemed and assorted, but the assessment upon each bank will vary from the average according to the denominations of its notes. If the average denominations are greater than the general average the expense will be less than the average, and vice versa.

DISCHARGE OF JAMES G. BLUNT.

In the year 1872 General James G. Blunt was arrested on a charge of conspiracy to defraud the Government, and at the trial which took place last fall before the District Court of the United States for the district of North Carolina, an adverse verdict was rendered. Motions were then made by defendant, first, for a new trial, on the ground of error in admitting and excluding testimony, and also a misdirection to the jury in the charge of the District Judge; and secondly, in the arrest of judgment for the reason that the indictment did not, in fact or in law, set forth any criminal offense. These motions were argued before Judges Bond, Dick and Greenboro last Thursday, when the Court sustained the motions and ordered the discharge of the defendant, who is now in Washington. Hon. Matt. Carpenter, Hon. James Leach, Hon. J. H. Gilpatrick and John N. Staples appeared for Blunt, and United States District Attorney Lusk and United States Assistant Attorneys Erwin, Woodfin, Ball and McCorkle for the Government.

Snow Blockade on Northern Pacific Ended.

ST. PAUL, MINN., April 17.—The Northern Pacific railroad has been at last shoveled out, and the track is clear to Bismarck. Regular passenger and freight trains will commence running on Monday.

OMAHA, April 17.—The Missouri river here has fallen ten inches during the last twenty-four hours. It is still impossible to tell to what extent the road bed on the Union Pacific is damaged. The district is about 175 miles in length, but it is only at occasional places where any damage is done. The water has receded some to-day. West bound passengers lying at Rock Springs, have been transferred to Green River by wagons, and East bound passengers *vice versa*. The railroad company are caring for them as kindly as circumstances will admit. There are about eight hundred emigrants and three hundred passengers lying here waiting for the removal of the blockade. The company are also caring for emigrants here at their own expense. As soon as the water recedes, so it can be done, they will put on a line of stages and transfer passengers and mails over the break.

SALT LAKE, April 17.—The flood in the valley of Bitter Creek, wyoming, is still reported on the increase. The Union Pacific bridges are now reported gone, as also the road-bed in many places, and that nothing can be done toward repairs till the water falls. This trouble extends for a distance of about ten miles. Four teams came through from Rock Springs, to Green River Station to-day, having been chartered by some passengers to bring them over the Hills. A freight train was expected to leave Ogden to-day, but was discontinued on account of another wash-out reported this side of Green River.

All mountain steams are rising on account of the rapidly melting snow, and there will probably be difficulties from this cause at other points soon. There can be no time fixed for trains to commence running again, as that will depend on the weather, which is now quite warm, and there being an unusual amount of snow, damage to the track will probably increase, rather than diminish, for the next week or ten days.

An Immense Steam Barge.

SANDUSKY, April 18.—On Saturday the large steam barge owned by Ryan, Johnson & Co., and Capt. J. C. Estes, of this city, was lowered at Huron. She is a double decker with four masts and has a carrying capacity of 55,000 bushels of grain. Her entire cost is estimated at $90,000. The following are her dimensions: Length of keel, 104 feet; breadth of beam, 35 feet; depth of hold, 18½ feet; tonnage deck, 215 feet; measurement, 1,800 tons. She will be put on the Saginaw and Sandusky line, but it is thought that she will run the greater portion of the time between Saginaw and Chicago. Capt. Alvah Neal will have the command. It is proposed to place her on the line between the first and tenth of next month. She will be towed to Cleveland at once to receive her outfit from the establishment of Upson & Walton.

Weather Report.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER,
WASHINGTON, D. C., April 18.—8:30 P. M.

PROBABILITIES.

For the Middle States and the Lower Lake region cold and partly cloudy weather, with areas of light snow, northerly to westerly winds, and stationary or rising barometer.

For the Gulf States, Tennessee and the Ohio Valley generally clear weather and rising, followed by falling, barometer.

For the Upper Lake region, the Upper Mississippi and Lower Missouri Valleys increasing cloudiness, with warmer weather, light, variable winds, mostly from the east and south, and slight changes in the barometer.

The Ohio and Lower Mississippi rivers will fall slowly.

Reported Conspiracy.

NEW YORK, April 18.—A Montevideo letter of March 2d reports the discovery of a conspiracy for the assassination of the President and his Ministers, and the arrest of many of the most influential members of the Conservative party, fifteen of whom, including several leading journalists, have been embarked on the national barque Preig for banishment to Havana, but who generally, it is thought, would go to the United States for an asylum.

Killed by a Locomotive.

PITTSBURGH, April 17.—C. E. Ogden, aged about seventeen, was struck by the 10:30 east bound freight train at Blairsville intersection last night. The train passed over him, cutting off both his legs and otherwise injuring him, from the effects of which he died at 7 o'clock this morning.

The Labor Question in New England.

LOWELL, MASS., April 17.—The warp is gradually giving out in all the mills, and one after another is compelled to discharge its help. Agents say that in less than a week three thousand operatives will be out of employment.

Death of the Wife of Bishop Polk.

NEW ORLEANS, April 17.—Mrs. Polk, widow of Bishop Polk, died here to-night.

Report of Brownsville Committee.

BROWNSVILLE, April 18.—The following is the report of a committee appointed by a special mass meeting of the citizens of Brownsville. The members of the committee were all Americans, and three are general officers. Col. Haynes, collector of port, Col. G. G. Davis, deputy collector, and Edward Downey, postmaster. The report was unanimously adopted:

Hon. J. S. Haynes, Chairman, and W. Kelly, Secretary of Mass Meeting:

Your committee, to whom was referred the subject of the alleged statements of Senor Mariscah, Mexican Minister, at Washington, in regard to the border troubles on the Rio Grande, are as much the work of the Americans as of the Mexicans, and that the American citizens disguised as Indians and Mexicans frequently raid upon the settlers, and that the majority of the parties engaged in these frequent raids are ex-Confederate soldiers who, ruined by the war and deprived of the support of slave labor, prefer the life they are leading to the earning of an honest livelihood.

The committee say they are satisfied that Senor Marriscal has been misinformed as to the true condition of affairs on this frontier, and that he has unintentionally, probably, done the American citizens of this frontier a great wrong and injustice, as can be easily proved by most undoubted testimony. The time given your committee is too short to prepare a full reputation of the unjust aspersions contained in the correspondence of Senor Marriscal, and your committee would recommend the appointment of a committee to collect facts and submit them to the consideration of the Secretary of State, to refute the charges of the Mexican Minister. In the meantime your committee submit a brief resume of the facts which are susceptible of the clearest proof:

First, That for at least ten years, since the close of our civil war, there has not been a single act of hostility, invasion, or plundering, or fillibustering, against the Republic of Mexico from the people of Texas, nor the act of a single person ever passing from this to the other side of the Rio Grande with any such intent, and we challenge any scintillation of proof to the contrary.

Second, That for the last ten years since the close of our civil war raids of volunteer parties from Mexico to this side of the Rio Grande have been continuous and persistent, and these plundering parties have drawn from our stock ranches hundreds of thousands of stock. They have committed murder, robbery, arson; and against repeated complaints made to the Mexican authorities for their rendition to the hands of justice a deaf ear has been turned. We cite the following recent and notorious cases: The robbery of a store at Penescal and the murder of the Morton brothers; the murder of Mr. Fulton, postmaster at Elshouse, and his clerk, in Hidalgo county; the murder of Vidal La Hille by Ricardo Flores, near Elpastillo; the attempted assassination of Captain King and a party of friends, near San Fernando, and the murder of one of his friends; murder of Alex. Morell in Stapel county, and many others which will be detailed hereafter, and, lastly, the recent raid of forty or fifty men in a body near Corpus Christi, which band captured and held prisoners many persons, including three ladies, and which finally surrounded the town of Roma on their return to Mexico for the purpose of robbery, from which they were driven by the presence of United States soldiers. The proofs of the extent of the robberies committed by these plundering raids except in the report of the Frontier Commission to which additional evidence can be added.

Third, that the charge that these crimes have been committed by confederate soldiers disguised as Mexicans and Indians, and rendered desperate by the loss of their slave property is an an absurdity on its face, into which the Mexican Minister could only have been led by his ignorance of this part of Texas.

In the first place, there were never any slaves west of the Neuces river worth mentioning. The census of 1860 shows the total number in this vast region—equal to the State of Pennsylvania in extent—to have only numbered 259, while west of the San Antonio river the number did not exceed 3,000. There are only eight Americans who were ex-Confederate soldiers in the county of Cameron, and west of the Neuces there are probably not fifty ex-Confederates, and those would hardly disguise themselves to prey on their own stock. This charge is absolutely false, for no American has ever been caught among the many captured, nor is there known to be a single one in all the frontier States of Mexico, and we challenge any proof, or the name of an individual subject to the charges.

[Signed.] EDWARD DOWNEY,
Chairman of Committee.

To Col. J. H. Haynes, chairman of mass meeting of citizens of Brownsville.

Receivers for Arkansas Railroads Appointed.

LITTLE ROCK, April 17.—The Arlington Hotel, the largest and most complete in all its departments, was opened at Hot Springs yesterday. Travel to the Springs is more active than ever known before.

In the United States Court to-day Judge Dillon placed the Mississippi, Ouachita & Red River and Pine Bluff & Chicot Railroads in the hands of receivers, who were selected by the Boston bondholders. The same parties own the Fort Smith Railroad, and have recently completed an extension of twenty miles, leaving less than fifty to be built.

Loisiana Legislature—Compromise Completed.

NEW ORLEANS, April 17.—The House completed organization, by electing Trezevant, Clerk, and other Conservative officers.

The terms of the award were carried out in the Senate, by unseating Elam, Democrat, and by seating F. S. Goode, Democrat, in the place of Crozer, colored Republican. The joint resolution recognized the Kellogg Government, and was adopted with but two dissenting votes. During the day a large number of reform bills were introduced.

Decoration Day.

MEMPHIS, April 18.—At the meeting of the ex-Confederate soldiers last night, to arrange for decorating the graves of the confederates, on the 22d of May, a resolution was unanimously passed asking the ex-Federal soldiers to participate in the ceremonies. Among those present at the meeting were ex-President Jefferson Davis, ex-Governor Isham G. Harris, General Carlton Greene and General Gordon

Arrival of the President at Concord.

CONCORD, April 17.—President Grant arrived here this evening, and drove to the residence of Judge Hoar, whose guest he will be while in the town.

A Pullman train of four cars arrived from St. Albans with General Peck and other State officials, and the Ransom Guards, with the St. Albans Brigade Band and a delegation of citizens. The town is thronged with visitors.

Twenty-Two Lives Lost.

OTTAWA, April 17.—Twenty-two lives have been lost in the Canada Pacific Railway survey, and steps have been taken to raise a memorial.

Disastrous Flood in Massachusetts.

BOSTON, April 18.—A tremendous flood with disastrous results occurred last evening in the towns of Wentham and Norfolk, about twenty-five miles distant, by the breaking away of a dam which retains the water of Whiton's pond, the source of the Mill river. This is a small river not over twenty-five feet broad at low water, but running with a strong current mostly through meadow land and emptying into the Charles river at Wedway. At this town an immense body of water was confined in the pond by the dam about one hundred feet in length. On the Wentham and Franklin county road the sudden bursting of the pond through this dam hurled a tremendous flood upon the lands below, sweeping away mills, bridges, country roads and dams in their course, and causing damage to the extent of between $100,000 and $200,000. Half a mile below this dam was the saw and grist mill of the Eliot Felting Company, known as Fisher's Mills. Such was the force of the water on reaching here that it burst the thirty-foot dam and carried away the saw mill portion of the establishment as though it was a toy ship. On rushed the waters three-quarters of a mile through the lowlands to where there were located the woolen and shoddy mills belonging to the felting company. Both ends of the dam were washed away, and below the mill a large heap of coal deposited for use at the mills was carried off. Seventy yards further on the great dam at the Elliott Felting Mills was met. This, with the road from the mills to Franklin Centre, beneath which the river runs, offered a substantial resistance to the rushing current. The road, however, soon yielded, allowing the full force of the water to strike against the long dam. Meanwhile, the inhabitants of Franklin and Wrentham rendered valuable assistance to the watchman at the mills in opening a place in the dam, hoping to save a portion of it. Their labors were successful, and although fifty feet of the dam was carried away, the mills were saved. Down the stream half a mile further was the track of the New England & New York Railroad, some forty or fifty feet above the river bed. Beneath this the water usually passed by an arched culvert about ten or fifteen feet in width. Here the waters, with seemingly greatly increased force, forced out the stone culvert as if it were constructed of pebbles. So firm was the embankment of sand above the culvert that it stood apparently intact for the space of an hour and then undermined it caved in for a distance of 150 to 200 feet, forming an impassable barrier to the waters above. A freight train was within 100 feet of the place, though not in motion, but the great volume of water had already passed the railroad and hurried on to the achievement of its greatest feat, forty rods below at the city cotton mills. The mill was originally a three-story wooden building, but latterly was enlarged by the addition of a wing on each end. The bridge over the county road succumbed and then the water obtaining a firm hold of the main building, lifted it and sent it crashing to the meadows below. So thorough was the work of destruction that the cupola alone remained standing upon the plain. The machinery and water wheel shared the fate of the structure. The wings were left standing, but so badly wrenched that they are probably ruined and will have to come down. Down the stream again about half a mile was another county road bridge near the Kingsbury pond, this was snapped from its foundation almost at the approach of the water and was carried away on the level space on the road and river. The waters spread out and ceased their work of destruction. The last bridge was swept away about seven o'clock this evening. One body was swept down on the flood, but it was supposed to be that of a man for some months missing. As far as is known no lives are lost, but the damage to property is very large. No houses were swept away as their location on the bank was such that the water did not reach them.

The following are the losses as far as can be ascertained: Whitney's dam $2,000, Eliot mills $10,000, the town of Norfolk $5,000, New Castle & New England R. R. $15,000, City mills $50,000 to $75,000. A large number of persons are thrown out employment by the fall of the City mills.

The Centennial at Lexington.

LEXINGTON, MASS., April 17.—The inaugural exercises of the great centennial celebration properly began this evening in the Town Hall, including public services and a discourse by Rev. William Adams, of New York. The music was rendered by a large chorus and the military band. The hall was densely packed and hundreds were unable to gain admission. The exercises were of a religious order and were exceedingly impressive and the address of Mr. Williams was listened to with wrapt attention. After the opening performance by the Brocton band they withdrew to a mammoth tent a quarter of a mile up Main street, where they gave selections of sacred pieces. The performance tent was well filled, hundreds having come in on the trains and by private conveyances. The finishing touches have been put upon the decorations and the whole town is one fluttering mass of flags, banners and streamers. Every ancient landmark is denoted and its connection with the historic events of the great day, to-morrow, is to be celebrated is plainly marked by mottoes and inscriptions. The grand tent stands at the right of the little knoll on which the seventy embattled farmers stood, and directly opposite are the press head quarters, located in a house which dates its erection previous to the 19th of April, 1775. It is gaily decorated and inscribed with the words: "One of the original witnesses of the battle of the 19th." The day has been fine, ground dry and walking good, air chilling, but otherwise everything betokens a fine day for the culminating celebration.

Billiard Tournament.

CHICAGO, April 17.—In the Billiard Tournament last night Shaw beat Hines 200 to 144, average, 5; Carter beat Burleigh 200 to 185, average, 4.64; Rhidnes beat Gallagher 200 to 181; average, 4.44.

In the Billiard Tournament this afternoon Shaw beat Hines, Parker beat Liverman, and Maggioli beat Gallagher.

Triple Tragedy in Connecticut.

HARTFORD, April 17.—Anton Linberg, while drunk, fatally stabbed Andrew Johnson in his sick room, at Collinsville, last night. John Felton, who entered the room on hearing the disturbance, was stabbed four times, and died instantly. Felton's wife was dangerously stabbed. Linberg then killed himself.

English Short-Horned Cattle for Kentucky.

HALIFAX, April 17.—The steamer Nova Scotian, for Baltimore, has a large importation of English short-horned cattle and other valuable breeds, consigned to Ben. B. Groom, of Winchester, Kentucky.

Black Hills Miners Brought In.

OMAHA, April 18.—A company of cavalry under command of Captain Mix, arrived at Fort Laramie to-day, with the Harney Peak miners. They had a hard trip. They report much snow and high waters.

FOREIGN NEWS.

GERMANY.

LETTER OF THE EMPEROR WILLIAM TO THE EMPEROR FRANCIS JOSEPH.

BERLIN, April 17.—The *Press* says the Emperor William, of Germany, has written a letter to King Victor Emmanuel, expressing his gratification at the recent interview between the latter and the Emperor of Austria at Venice. The German Emperor, also says the *Press*, speaks in affectionate terms of the Emperor Francis Joseph, and expresses the hope that the interview will serve to strengthen the friendship between Austria and Italy.

THE BILL WITHDRAWING STATE GRANTS TO CATHOLIC BISHOPS.

The Government bill withdrawing State grants from Catholic Bishops passed its second reading in the Prussian Chamber of Peers to-day.

LONDON, April 19—5:30 A. M.—A dispatch from Rome to the *Daily News* reports that Garibaldi is ill and confined to his bed.

A special dispatch to the *Daily Telegraph* announces that Emperor William has signed the bill withdrawing the State grants from the Catholic church. The same dispatch reports that the editor of the *Germania*, a journal conspicuous in its opposition to Prince Bismarck, has been arrested and his office searched by the police.

Attempted Murder, Followed by Suicide.

MOLINE, ILL., April 18.—About one o'clock Saturday morning, as A. W. Hastie, a young law student of this city, was escorting Miss Ellen Davis home from a party, Charles E. Wood approached the couple from behind, and without warning fired at Miss Davis, the shot taking effect in the back part of her head. He then fled, after exchanging shots with Hastie. Fifteen minutes later Wood was found in an alley in the act of shooting himself in the head. He died in half an hour. Wood was only twenty-three years old. He had been a suitor for the hand of Miss Davis for some time, and had threatened to take her life on several occasions in case she refused his suit. The lady, it is believed, will recover.

Newspaper Prosecution for Libel.

CHARLESTON, S. C., April 18.—The first criminal prosecution of a newspaper for libel ever known in South Carolina begins to-morrow at the instance of ex-Congressman Bowen. Messers Riardon and Dawson, of the *News and Courier*, are