# The Wheeling Intelligencer.

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## The Intelligencer.

### The Movement Against National Banks.

There is, in some parts of the country, a decided feeling in favor of doing away with National bank circulation, and substituting in its stead a purely government circulation. The popular idea is that National banks are parasites, and that they make a great deal of money at the expense of the public that could and should be saved by using Treasury notes or greenbacks. And yet National banks have been voluntarily retiring in large numbers from the system for years past, being quite willing to realize the premium on their bonds and go into the State system. Three banks in Wheeling have abandoned the National system, and the only remaining National bank has surrendered a very large portion of its circulation, and may, possibly, surrender it all before a great while. This does not indicate that the system is popular of late years with capitalists, and it is therefore reasonable to suppose that it is not as profitable as other methods of banking. The testimony of the Comptroller of the Currency, the other day, before the Congressional Committee on Banking and Currency, was to the effect that the average profit of National banks on their circulation is about 2.65 per cent, and that if at any time 4 per cent bonds should be substituted for 6 per cents, as security for their notes, this profit would be reduced to 1.9 per cent.

The popular prejudice against National banks has lately taken shape in Congress in the form of a bill which provides for issuing Treasury notes to the extent of $325,000,000, wherewith to replace that amount of bank notes, the banks being compelled to redeem their notes with greenbacks. By this arrangement we are to have a mixed circulation of government paper, part of it a legal tender, and part (the Treasury notes) only a legal tender to the same extent to which bank notes are now a tender—that is, for all amounts due by the government to its debtors, except interest to the public creditors. The volume of paper money would be just the same as now, only it would be all issued by the government. All banks would be State banks, and none of them would issue any circulation. They would simply receive government paper on deposit, and they would bank exclusively on their deposits. They would not be under the necessity of keeping any reserve, save such as prudence might dictate, and no government inspectors would come round as now and turn them inside out as a matter of security to depositors. Every banker would be a law to himself, save as State laws might be enacted to regulate him.

Of course there would be some advantages in this change. The bill referred to provides that as fast as greenbacks are received in redemption of the bonds held by the Treasury as security for the circulation of the National banks, they shall be used to purchase and retire outstanding 6 and 5 per cent bonds. This process would save the interest on these bonds, but the amount now received by the government in the shape of tax on the circulation of the National banks. This tax amounts to about three millions per year, and the interest on the bonds amounts to about twenty millions, thus saving say seventeen millions per annum. This is, of course, a handsome saving, and one that it is desirable to make in case all other considerations favor the change. But do all other considerations favor the change proposed? This is the question.

Comptroller Knox states as showing the security afforded by the National banking system, that during its existence, say 15 years, the sum total of losses to creditors is not over six millions, an amount that is probably not as large as the losses entailed upon the creditors of savings banks within the last year. Contrast this record with that of many of the old State banks before the war, with their lack of supervision, guarantee or security, their excessive issues, bearing a different quotation for every section of the Union, and their recklessness of management, and when this contrast is made the benefits which the country has reaped from the national banking system are at once apparent.

There is still another and a very important consideration involved in the subject. It is as to the desirability of converting the government into a bank of issue—in other words, into a paper money bank. Gold and silver coin is the only money known to the constitution of the United States. Paper money was issued under the war power, and was a forced loan upon the people. They were compelled to take it as a legal tender. Nobody supposed it was to become permanent, as if real money, after the war. Greenbacks were simply promises to pay coin some day, and nobody supposed that promises were to be their own payment. Times change, however, and popular notions change with them. The tendency now is to regard greenbacks as permanent money. "We first pity, then endure, then embrace," says the poet, referring to the tendency of human nature to weaken in its convictions and conscientious scruples as to what is wise and right.

To convert the United States Government into a paper money machine—to accustom the people into seeing something that has no intrinsic value converted into money—to make the volume of this paper dependent on the number of Ewings and Ben Butlers who may be in Congress—to foster the notion that the artificial wants of trade can be indefinitely supplied with money, forgetting that every excess in money begets a demand for a fresh excess, and that the demand is as insatiable as the "daughters of the horse leech," is to do something for which there is no precedent in any existing experiment in finance, and which, as far as we can see, is fraught with the gravest dangers. The strength of the Bank of England and the Bank of France, is in their immense metallic reserves. As late as November 15th last, the circulation of the latter bank was $491,110,950, and its coin reserve on the 15th of July previous was $427,000,000. This is in a country where experiments with paper money have been tried to the full, and where the people have traditions that fill them with horror at the very idea of an immense volume of irredeemable paper money.

If to-day the United States government had in circulation a thousand millions of greenbacks (the National bank notes being wiped out) the rallying cry of Ewing and Ben Butler in the fall campaign would be for an increase sufficient to meet the wants of trade. Once the swell of inflation is commenced there is no limit to the wants of trade. No volume, however vast, will meet its ultimate wants. There are thousands of voters in this country reckless enough to go any length in demanding fresh issues of paper money, and there are Ewings and Butlers enough to cater to them on the stump and in Congress and add fuel to the flame. The delirium of irredeemable paper is the delirium of the opium eater—the more he eats the more he craves.

### The Tuscarawas Road.

As published in our dispatches yesterday, the earnings of this road for 1877 were $491,468 44, and the operating expenses $309,934 54, leaving net $181,523 90.

The details of these earnings are as follows: Freight, $412,313 67; passengers, $70,427 24; mail and express, $8,207 41; miscellaneous, $510 09. The total tonnage moved was 539,404, and the per cent of operating expenses 63.06.

By this time next year the cars of the Tuscarawas road will be running through to Wheeling. Indeed, we have been told that they will run through this fall. When they do run through, be it sooner or later, we shall see largely increased earnings. At present the road has no outlet. It ends almost in the woods at Urichsville, and cannot make use of its splendid facilities at Black River harbor for delivering ore and lumber to the markets on the Ohio river.

When the Tuscarawas road is completed to Wheeling, it will be part of the Lake Shore and New York Central system of roads, and will afford increased facilities to freight and travel both East and West. In addition to this, it will have a fine local patronage through the rich country between Wheeling and Urichsville. This will be the creamy end of the line. Cleveland travel from this point will, by a large majority, go over the Tuscarawas road, and so also will a good portion of the Chicago travel.

What the Tuscarawas people want to do, to put themselves on a par with the Pittsburgh, Cincinnati & St. Louis line, now brought to our very doors on Water street, is to not stop short of deep water on this side of Wheeling Island. There is no better or more logical terminus for the road than the west end of the Suspension Bridge. The best water along the entire shore is right there, and there is a central radiating point for the delivery of freight by lighters, and by drays across the bridge, to all the mills and furnaces above and below, as well as to all the merchants of the town. It is also the natural point for the delivery of freight to the B. & O. and the P. W. & Ky. roads, more or less of which will arrive every day. Three important roads will thus be brought together at the river's edge, which is a very important consideration for the Tuscarawas road as well as for the general interests of this community.

Of course, our Bridgeport friends understand the necessity of some such arrangement as this, and as intelligent well-wishers of the Tuscarawas enterprise they have always looked forward to the probability of an Island terminus for the line. They will have a depot in their own midst, and perhaps also the shops of the company, and therefore will participate with us in all the conveniences and advantages of the terminus. They recognize that the road must have a deep water terminus as near as possible to the city, in order to reap the legitimate fruits of its completion to the Ohio river.

### The Need of Patience Among the Iron Men.

At the outbreak of the American Revolution, Dr. Franklin made use of the memorable expression, "We must all hang together, or hang separately." We cannot but recall this expression when we think of the necessity that is laid upon the Iron men—especially the Nail men—of standing by their experiment, initiated weeks ago, of limiting production and maintaining their card price. Either this or a desperate plunge to the very bottom of the "Slough of Despond," from which they only emerged a few months ago, after months of weary efforts to market their product at even the smallest profit.

We make these remarks because we have heard that the feeling developed at the Pittsburgh meeting on Wednesday was not altogether satisfactory, although there was no disposition manifested to relax the hold of the association upon the present card. Every one acknowledged that to do so, after so many weeks of stopping, would indeed be most discouraging, if not altogether suicidal. Hence, while the meeting adjourned without a buoyant tone, it adjourned, as they say in war, in good order—under good discipline, and with its morale preserved.

All accounts from the West agree that just as soon as the roads become passable trade will certainly improve. It cannot be worse than it has been, and there is every reason to expect that it will be considerably for the better. A Wheeling nail man traveling in the West, sends word that the prospects are encouraging for a good trade this spring. Therefore, let everybody be wise and patient, and not jeopardize the rewards of patience and conservatism up to this time by any hasty acts at this late hour in the season.

We are indebted to Thos. Hornbrook, Esq., for late and interesting papers from Hot Springs. One of these is an illustrated paper containing a photograph of General Kelly, the Government Superintendent of the Hot Springs reservation.

## BY TELEGRAPH.

ASSOCIATED PRESS REPORT.

*TO THE DAILY INTELLIGENCER.*

## CONGRESSIONAL.

**Senator Matthews on the Railroad Bill.**

**He Discusses the Legal Rights as well as the Public Policy of the Bill.**

**The Whisky Tax Bill Passed by the House.**

**An Enormous Loan to the Whisky Manufacturers.**

**A Genuine Specimen of Class Legislation.**

**A Gigantic Fraud on the Revenue.**

### SENATE.

WASHINGTON, March 14.

A number of pension bills were passed during the morning hour, among them was one granting $50 a month to the widow of Rear Admiral Charles Wilkes.

GREENBACKS FOR CUSTOMS.

Mr. Voorhees introduced a bill providing for the payment of all Customs' duties and all other debts due the United States in legal tender notes at par, except in cases where it is otherwise expressly stipulated on the face of the obligation or contract. Referred.

Mr. Teller introduced a bill to regulate the passenger fare and freight traffic on the Denver Pacific Railroad and Kansas Pacific Railroad. Referred.

Consideration was then resumed of the unfinished business; being the bill in regard to the Union Pacific Railroad sinking fund, and Mr. Matthews spoke in favor of the bill reported by the Committee on Railroads, and gave notice that he would hereafter submit it as a substitute for that reported by the Judiciary Committee.

THE RAILROAD BILL.

Mr. Matthews explained the bill reported by the Committee on Railroads, and said that the bill of the Railroad Committee did not embody the propositions which had been urged by the railroad companies. It was based, as all legislation on this subject ought to be based, on the consent of the parties. Without such consent it was his deliberate conviction that Congress had no authority of law, that the government had no authority, to insist on matters the performance of which will violate an existing contract between the parties. He argued that the government, by the exercise of its sovereign power, could so bind itself that it could not unloose itself. Referring to the difference between the bill of the Committee on Railroads and that of the Judiciary Committee; he said one proposed to alter a contract by a contract and the other was an act of power and nothing else. One was a settlement which was complete and final, and put an end to controversy and litigation. It contemplated nothing further in the way of legislation, as it contemplated no further necessity for legislation, whereas the bill reported by his distinguished colleague (Thurman) from the Judiciary Committee did not even pretend to be a full and final settlement. He (Matthews) believed if the bill of the Judiciary Committee should become a law it would the most deliberate attack on the rights of property and contract that he knew of in the annals of legislation. The bill of the Railroad Committee allowed interest on the accumulation of the sinking fund at the rate of six per cent per annum, while that of the Judiciary Committee allowed five per cent. If the companies should be allowed to make investments under their own control towards the payment of the debt they would certainly make their money earn six per cent interest. He argued that the bill of the Judiciary Committee, instead of collecting a sinking fund for the sole and exclusive use of the government of the United States in order to extinguish the claim of the United States against these companies, it carefully collected a sinking fund, in respect to which the United States would have no lien whatever except subject to a prior lien of the first mortgage bondholders of the road. The amount of money required for the sinking fund must be paid by the passengers and those doing business over the roads. It was a tax levied by Congress upon the commerce of the country transported over these roads. Suppose the tax be made burdensome, the companies must increase their charges. Would that be good policy? Would it be for the good of the public or the benefit of the government? He then spoke of the legal questions involved, arguing that the bill of the Judiciary Committee was an invasion of the rights of property and contract. He quoted from many legal authorities in support of his views. The bill of the Judiciary Committee declared what the net earnings of railroads should be; Congress had no more right to declare what should be the net earnings than it had to confiscate them all.

Pending the discussion Mr. Gordon, by request, introduced a bill to authorize the construction of a Narrow-Gauge Railroad from Bismarck to the Black Hills. Referred.

The Consular and Diplomatic Appropriation bill was then received from the House of Representatives, and referred to the Committee on Appropriations.

The Vice President announced his signature to the House bill for the relief of Wm. H. Hammond, late Surgeon General of the Army, and it now goes to the President for his signature.

Mr. Christiancy took the floor to speak on Monday on the sinking fund bill, and the Senate then adjourned until that day.

### HOUSE.

Mr. Hardenbergh introduced a bill regulating the reserve fund of national banks. The bill authorizes such banks to dispose of their reserve fund and invest the same in United States bonds, which bonds shall constitute the reserve fund of such associations. Referred.

Mr. Durham, from the Committee on Expenditures in the Department of Justice, reported a bill limiting to $3,500 compensation of Clerks of District and Circuit Courts when one person holds both offices. Passed.

During the morning hour was discussed a bill reported from the Committee on Expenditures in the Department of Justice limiting the number of special attorneys appointed to assist District Attorneys to one, and limiting the fee to $2,000.

The bill finally passed and the House went into Committee of the Whole on the bill extending to three years the time for withdrawing distilled liquors from bond.

THE WHISKY TAX BILL.

Mr. Sayler stated the purpose of the resolution, saying that its principal object was to extend the bond period of whisky to three years instead of one year, as now provided by law; in other words, it was to give to alcoholic spirits manufactured in this country the same privileges that are given to liquors imported from Europe and put in bonded warehouses.

Mr. Conger said this resolution was an old acquaintance; its face was familiar to him and the House; it had been there before; its principal claim at that time was that the expectation of a change in the tax on distilled spirits wholly deranged business and threatened with loss and bankruptcy those engaged in the business. That claim had been promptly met by the adoption of a resolution that it was the solemn judgment of the House that it was inexpedient to change the tax on whisky. Now, under the stimulating power of four years, the House was asked to extend the time for paying the tax. We were informed on the other side of the House that the Treasury needed all the revenue it could get, and that the expenditure must be cut down in all departments of the government. If that were so, how could the government afford to postpone for three years the collection of its tax on distilled spirits? He would leave it to the gentlemen whose districts were threatened with bankruptcy by the tariff bill being concocted in secret, in a corner of the capitol, by a committee which forbade approach and kept out all information. The manufacturers of whisky seemed to think that there was a marvellous tendency to favor whisky in the House. [Laughter.] There seemed to be an opinion that it was safe to appeal to Congress in favor of whisky interests and to destroy all other interests.

Mr. Butler said he understood the bill thoroughly, and was quite ready to agree to its general object, as a matter of relief, that was to lend at 5 per cent for two years an amount of money equal to the tax on whisky. The government could borrow money at 4 per cent, and this would be a gain of 1 per cent. That was all there was in it, but he was opposed to anything that looked like favoring speculation. If the promoters of the measure did not mean that, they would agree to an amendment which he proposed to offer to the 3d section, that amendment was providing the tax or duty to be paid on all distilled spirits when the same are withdrawn, shall be the amount of tax which would have been paid if paid when such distilled spirits were put in bond.

Mr. Sayler said that that was provided for in the resolution. He had no objection to it except that it was mere surplusage.

Mr. Butler—Well, if you admit that amendment, I withdraw all objections to the resolution.

Mr. Lapham regarded the measure as a proposition to lend to the distillers for two years at 5 per cent the vast revenues which they pay to the Treasury, and that, too, at a period when the revenues were diminishing, when the House was told that it will be difficult to balance the books at the end of the year, and when the gentlemen on the other side were crying, "Economy! Economy! Reform! Reform!" Such a proposition could not have his approval.

Mr. Fort feared the object of the bill was to give time for the whisky men to obtain a reduction in the tax.

Mr. Harrison opposed the bill, not only as being class legislation, but as being in favor of a certain class of the whisky interest, not the whole interest. It was for the benefit of that whisky which improved by age. The kind of whisky which brought an immense revenue into the treasury would not receive the slightest benefit from it.

Mr. Burchard supported the bill. It did not endanger the revenue of the country. It was not so much in the interest of the distiller as of the revenue.

Mr. Fort supported the bill, he denied that it would reduce the revenue because the revenue came not from the amounts put into bond, but from the consumption. It might cause a temporary reduction, but in the end all tax would be received.

The general debate closed, the bill was then read by sections for the amendments.

Mr. Conger moved to make the interest 7 per cent instead of 5. Rejected.

The Committee then rose and reported the bill and amendments.

The amendments were agreed to and then the bill was passed. Yeas 118, nays 116.

Mr. Sayler then moved to reconsider the vote by which the bill was passed and moved to lay that motion on the table, in which Mr. Conger, owing to the closeness of the vote, made the point of no quorum. The yeas and nays were ordered and resulted, Yeas 122, nays 105. So the motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Mr. Springer called up the report of the committee on elections on the Massachusetts contested election case the report of the majority being that Dean, contestant, is entitled to the seat and that of the minority being in favor of Field as the sitting member. After the opening speech by Mr. Springer, the House adjourned.

### Virginia's New Funding Scheme.

RICHMOND, VA., March 13.—The new funding bill was passed in the Senate this morning—ayes 29, nays 5. The preamble recognizes the necessity of the public school system, expresses willingness and anxiety to restore the former equality of public creditors by distributing rateably the entire excess of the public revenues derived from the present rate of taxation after the most economical administration of the government. The bill provides that the bonds issued under the funding acts of March 30th, 1871, and March 7th, 1872, shall be exchanged for registered bonds bearing interest at the rate of 3 per cent for 18 years and 4 per cent for 32 years, the principal and interest to be exempt from taxation by State, county or city, no exchange to be made until the holders of not less than $15,000,000 of tax receivable bonds of the State shall have expressed their readiness to make such exchange. The bill also provides that the owners of other interest bearing bonds which were not funded under the acts mentioned, may fund two-thirds of the amount thereof, to get therewith two-thirds of the accrued interest thereon to July 1st, 1871, in bonds as above described.

### African Colonists.

NEW YORK, March 14.—The Penna Colonization Society has authorized the African Colonizationists to send at its expense fifty emigrants to Liberia. They will leave on the first of May and will locate at Floriburg Settlement of Brewerville, ten miles from Monrovia. It was named in honor of of the late Charles Bremer, of Pittsburgh, by whose generosity many emigrants have been enabled to reach Liberia.

### Quick Work.

NEW BRUNSWICK, N. J., March 14.—The new wooden bridge across Raritan river was completed, by the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, last evening, and the first through train, since Saturday's fire, crossed the river this morning. The new structure is 100 feet long, cost $20,000 and was put up by 500 men in four days.

### An Oft Repeated Warning to Licentious Brutes.

PENSACOLA, March 14.—A negro who grossly assaulted a child aged five years, causing its death, was last evening lynched by a mob. The Sheriff's posse resisted the lynchers, killing one and wounding five dangerously.

## WASHINGTON.

### Theft of Government Timber.

WASHINGTON, March 14.—A report received from Pensacola states that within a radius of seventy-five miles of that place the public lands have been denuded of more timber than in the same radius in any other locality in the United States. It is estimated that about seven-tenths of the timber shipped from Pensacola is taken from the public domain, and that $200,000 could be recovered for the government if the cases are properly prosecuted.

The navy appropriation bill recently introduced in the House by Representative Whitthorne appropriates the total sum of $14,048,684; throughout the bill the specific objects of the appropriation are stated. Only $1,500,000 are appropriated for steam machinery, tools, &c., stocks and in the ordinary purchase of materials and stores, of all kinds of labor in the navy yards and on foreign stations, preservation of materials, in the purchase of tools, wear, tear and repair of vessels, for the general care and protection of the navy on the line of construction and repair, incidental expenses, namely, advertising and foreign postage.

The Senate Committee on Postoffices and Post Roads to-day resumed consideration of Alex Reed's nomination as Postmaster for Toledo, but reached no conclusion.

The Senate Committee on Commerce unanimously agreed to report favorably the nomination of Alonzo N. Beard, Collector of Customs at Boston.

The sub committee in charge of the various bills concerning the trans-Continental Railroad communication, at or near the 32 parallel, reported favorably on the Texas Pacific project and submitted to a full committee a copy of the bill agreed upon by the House Pacific Railroad Committee. The full committee began discussion of the measure and adjourned until Tuesday next, when the final action is expected. The sub committee is composed of Senators Mathews, Sanders, Dorsey and Barnum.

MOON SHINERS IN SOUTH CAROLINA.

Collector Brayton, at Greenville, S. C., telegraphs to the Commissioner of Internal Revenue that he has organized a force of thirty men, who are now on the way to Pickens county. Redmond, with thirty men, followed Captain Hoffman's force of eight men all day Tuesday; they being powerless to contend with Redmonds' gang, retreated to Easley, waiting for reinforcements. Redmond has ordered citizens at their peril to furnish food or shelter to the revenue officers. Warrants will be procured for jail freaks and other revenue culprits. They will either be captured or become fugitives.

CHANGES IN THE TARIFF.

The Committee on Ways and Means made a number of changes in the tariff bill to-day, among them salt in bags, sacks, barrels or other packages, 12 cents per 100 pounds; in bulk, 8 cents per 100 pounds; raw type and type metal, 20 per cent ad valorum.

NEW DOLLARS.

Ten thousand new silver dollars were received at the Treasury to-day, and about $3,000 have been paid out in exchange for gold.

UNION PACIFIC DIRECTORS.

The terms of office of the Government Directors of the Union Pacific Railroad expired last Sunday. The President and Secretary Schurz had a conference to-day on the subject of the new appointments to fill the Board. Their names will be submitted to the Cabinet to-morrow. It is probable that Chadwick will be the only one reappointed. J. F. Wilson is not a candidate for reappointment. G. B. Smythe, of Iowa, will be his successor.

### An Important Guarantee to Shippers.

HALIFAX, March 14.—The scheme of making Halifax the winter outlet for Western produce is again reported on by Mr. Black, who has returned from an interview with the shippers of Chicago and intermediate points. He says that owing to one of the Allans steamers being disabled the practicability of the scheme can't be tested this season. At Chicago the different railroads sign bills of lading by particular ships and guarantee the produce to reach the ships at New York, Baltimore or Philadelphia in time for their sailing time, usually five days. This dispatch cannot possibly be approximated by the Canadian routes, nor can freight from Chicago via the Grand Trunk be certain to meet any desired steamer at Portland. Despatch is of vital importance to Western shippers, and until this is established and commodious elevators built at Halifax, it cannot expect to divert traffic from the present routes.

### Tremendous Emigration.

TOPEKA, Ks., March 14.—The Immigration to Kansas still continues unabated, and the various land offices are overflowing with homestead and preemption entries. Twelve thousand acres were taken at the Larned land office in one day last week, and yesterday the sales of the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe Railroad Company reached $16,000, all to actual settlers. Four full passenger trains, consisting of thirty coaches and containing 1,500 people, passed over the road to Southwest Kansas yesterday.

### Weather Indications.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER,
WASHINGTON, D. C., March 15—1 A. M.

PROBABILITIES.

For Tennessee and the Ohio Valley and Lower Lakes, rising barometer, colder north to west winds and partly cloudy weather, except preceded by rain areas or snow in the East District, gradually followed from the Westward by falling barometer and winds shifting to warmer southeast or southwest.

### Ohio Legislature.

COLUMBUS, March 14.—In the Senate, Senate bill to extend the mechanics' lien law from one to two years. Passed.

Senate joint resolution asking Congress to make no change in the tariff laws which protect American industries, was reported back by the Committee on Federal Relations who recommended a substitute declaring for free trade, which was agreed to.

The resolution as amended was defeated. Yeas, 12; nays 15.

### The Boy Murder.

PHILADELPHIA, March 14.—In the case of Charles Welch, a boy twelve years of age, charged with shooting and killing Robert McAdam, a playmate of the same age, the Coroner's jury returned a verdict that the shooting was accidental, the foreman explaining that the jury thought the boy was not aware of the dangerous character of the weapon, and there was no evidence that he intended to do murder. The boy was set at liberty.

### Marine Intelligence.

NEW YORK, March 14.—The steamers France, from Havre, and Partheon, from Liverpool, have arrived.

LONDON, March 14.—The steamers Wyoming and Schiedam, from New York, have arrived.

### Clear of Ice.

DETROIT, March 14.—A special from St. Sault Marie this evening reports the river free from ice, excepting Mud Lake where it is four of five inches thick, but very porous.

### Secretary Schurz on the Destruction of Timber on the Public Lands.

WASHINGTON, March 14.—Secretary Schurz being asked what he thought of yesterday's debate in the Senate on the prosecution of the timber depredators in Montana, said some Senators attack the Interior Department for doing a thing it has not done, and scarcely mentioned the things it really has done. We were arraigned for having persecuted settlers and miners who wanted a little wood for their stoves and mines, while we really had only prosecuted speculators who had depopulated the public lands on a large scale for the sake of personal profit. Under the instructions of this Department not a settler or miner has been touched, except where persons had cut timber under cover of fraudulent pre-emption or homestead claims. When these speculators obtained from five to eight dollars per cord for wood and from $20 to $60 per thousand feet for manufactured lumber, which they have taken from the public lands, they could afford to pay the government at least a small part of their profit as the people in other parts of the country have to do. As to depopulating the territories there are no signs of that, either in Montana or any other territory, in consequence of the action of the Interior Department, but it is a notorious fact that the consumption of timber which the people take for nothing will be infinitely more wasteful than if they have to pay for it. In this way the mountain sides in these territories will soon be stripped of their forests, and the forests once destroyed the mountain sides will remain bare forever. If that goes on in the present wasteful manner only a short period longer, then these territories will, in part, become uninhabitable and depopulated, especially the valleys which depend on a regular supply of water. If the consumption of timber can be reduced to the actual necessities of the people by action of the government, and the waste now going on be prevented, the territories, instead of being depopulated, will be protected against the most disastrous consequences which otherwise must ensue. I notice that our method of doing this has been called un-American. I never thought it was un-American, to prevent stealing, to enforce the laws. We are bound to execute the laws as they are as well as we can. If these laws are not as they should be, it is the business of Congress to make them so. The operations of the Department for the prevention of timber devastation apply only in a limited extent to territories. The principal field of operations is in the timber growing States, such as Minnesota, Michigan, Wisconsin, Florida, Louisiana, Mississippi, and others.

Mr. Schurz, on being asked whether he had made a speech while in the Senate on the moiety system denouncing spies in the revenue service, said, so far as he could remember, that he had not uttered a word in that debate, nor in any other about spies. Those who were spies in the employ of the Interior Department were simply agents, who were sent out to discover what depredations had been done and who had done them, and if the Department wanted to know anything about the matter these agents had to be called on for information, as depredators are not in the habit of reporting themselves.

The Secretary of the Interior has decided that the pre-emption filing is not absolutely required in making a homestead entry, and it may be entirely dispensed with in making the final proof thereon.

### A Row Among the Collegiates at Princeton—Young Theologians on Their Muscle.

NEW YORK, March 13.—A special to the *Evening Post*, from Princeton, New Jersey, says it has always of late years been the custom of the junior class to celebrate their passing of a final examination in logic with a bonfire and fireworks. The examination took place yesterday, but the class postponed their celebration for fear of creating a disturbance. Last evening five of the juniors exploded firecrackers on the grounds and building of the Theological Seminary. They were followed by two of the Seminary students, and being overtaken, one of them was seized. Before he could be identified, a Seminary student was assaulted, and his comrade coming to the rescue was knocked down several times. This was between 9 and 10 o'clock. The students of the College went to the lower part of the town and procuring reinforcements to the number of 18, pushed toward the Seminary building. Here they were met by four Seminary students, to one of whom they gave a severe beating, ending by breaking his nose. Warrants were immediately sworn out for the arrest of six of the assailants, and they were served at 11 o'clock last night, when bail was given for their appearance this morning to answer to three charges, two of assault and one of setting fire to the Seminary. One of the offenders has already been dismissed, but it is probably that four will be bound over to await the decision of the grand jury in May.

### The Great Storm.

CINCINNATI, O., March 14.—Advices from the interior of this State indicate that the storm of the past two days has been one of great severity. A great amount of damage was done to property generally, especially railroad property. A large portion of the lower part of Mansfield, Ohio, was covered by water to the depth of three feet, covering the first floors of many dwellings, and a number of barns were swept away. A number of bridges upon the Fort Wayne Railroad have been injured, one carried completely away. At Zanesville the street car stables and a two-story frame dwelling were demolished, and the roof of the Presbyterian Church and those of a number of dwellings carried away. A freight train ran into a culvert, wrecking the train and killing the engineer.

### Getting Ready For Another Chicago Fire.

NEW YORK, March 14.—The order of the Mayor of Chicago retiring a large portion of the fire brigade of that city has caused some feeling in the fire insurance circles of New York, and the provisional committee of the National Board of Underwriters has instructed its agents in Chicago to forward definite details to the Board as to the effect of the order. The strength of the fire department now and when the order shall be carried out. The districts that would be imperilled by the proposed course and such other matters that would guide the board in its action.

### Opposed to any Changes in the Tariff.

HARRISBURG, March 14.—The Senate by an unanimous vote adopted the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That we hereby respectfully, but most earnestly, urge upon our Senators and Representatives in Congress the importance of united action on their part in opposing any change of the present tariff system, in so far as the same affects the material interests of this State.

### Hanged.

NASHVILLE, March 14.—Rev. Brown Cable, colored, was hanged at Winchester to-day for the murder of Felix Gardner, colored, June 23, 1876. Ten thousand people witnessed the execution. His neck was broken in the fall and he died in seven minutes.

## FOREIGN NEWS.

### The Peace Congress.

VIENNA, March 14.—Russia has intimated her desire that the Congress will meet on the 30th of March, the twenty-second anniversary of the Treaty of Paris. The Austrian government firmly anticipates that the Congress will assemble on that day.

BERLIN, March 14.—The Anglo-Austrian demand that the whole of the Russo-Turkish agreement should be submitted to the Congress arises from the belief that special and secret arrangements have been entered into independent of the principal treaty.

PRINCE OF BULGARIA.

BUCHAREST, March 14.—In Russian military circles it is considered probable that Prince Battenburg will be chosen Prince of Bulgaria.

RUSSIA PROPOSES TO DO THE SQUARE THING.

ST. PETERSBURG, March 14.—The *Agence Russe*, commenting on the Berlin special intimating that secret arrangements have been made between Russia and Turkey, says that Russia is not so confiding as to conclude secret clauses with Turkey when she knows that the slightest transactions are communicated to Minister Layard. In regard to England's claim of the right to examine the treaty at the Congress, and withdraw from the meeting in certain contingencies the *Agence Russe* points out that every Power will enter the Congress with full liberty as to the attitude it may assume relative to the claims brought forward and the decisions arrived at.

VIENNA, March 14.—The *New Free Presse* states that the Crown Prince of Austria will soon visit the United States and Brazil.

### ENGLAND.

### A "Bear" Failure.

LONDON, March 14.—Cecil William Boyle, a stock broker, failed. Liabilities about £40,000. He was a heavy "bear" in British railways.

A RELIC OF THE CONFEDERACY.

The Wivern Turret ship, built for the Southern Confederacy, but detained by the government and ever since moored in the harbor, has been brought to the Devonport dock yard to be prepared for commission.

A HALF MILLION FIRE.

BELFAST, March 14.—The damage by fire in Deenville's distillery last night is half a million dollars.

WHOLESALE DROWNING.

BREST, March 14.—Thirty-six persons attending the fair here were drowned to-day by the capsizing of a barge.

NORTHCOTT MAKES HIS USUAL LITTLE SPEECH.

In the House of Commons this afternoon Sir Stafford Northcott, Chancellor of the Exchequer, stated that if the meeting bill and certain estimates are passed the House will rise on the 16th or 18th of April till the 6th of May for the Easter recess. The Chancellor also said he would introduce the budget on the 4th of April. In reply to a question the Chancellor said the Government had agreed to take a part in the Congress. The Government is now communicating with the various Powers regarding the terms on which we enter the Congress. The Chancellor also said he could not enter into the details, but he might say that in the Congress each Power would maintain its liberty of action. It was not intended that the majority should bind the minority. England will maintain her views in the Congress and will require before entering it that every article of the treaty of peace shall be placed before the Congress in such a manner that the Congress can judge whether the articles are to be accepted or not.

OBJECTS TO LYONS.

LONDON, March 15.—In the House of Commons last evening Sir Robert Peel objected to Lord Lyons representing England in the Congress, because his opinions were opposed to those of Layard and Sir Henry Elliott. Sir Stafford Northcote replied that the Government and not Lord Lyons was responsible for England's course at the Congress.

The *Standard* announces that the Admiralty ordered all outward bound men-of-war to be detained to strengthen the Mediterranean fleet.

A Rome correspondent learns from high authority that the Cardinals have declared that the Pontiff can under certain reservations renounce in the interests of the church the material property of the church. This opinion has been asked so as to free the Pope from being perpetually bound by considerations relative to temporal power.

A special from St. Petersburg announces the arrival there of General Ignatieff and Reouf Pasha.

A special from Vienna says it is certain that the Porte, at the instance of Russia, has decided to oppose the occupation of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The Admiralty has bought the Brazilian ironclad Indepensia.

DEAD.

James Hain Friswell, the author, is dead.

### ITALY.

### Church and State Conflict.

ROME, March 14.—The action of the Government touching the Bishopric of Salerno must lead to a conflict with the Vatican. The Royal Procurator maintains that seven Arch-Bishoprics and seventeen Bishoprics in the former Kingdom of Naples are under Crown patronage by virtue of the concession of Clement the Seventh to Charles the Fifth.

### RUSSIA.

### Yankees in Russia.

ST. PETERSBURG, March 14.—The Emperor has signed the charter authorizing L. B. Shaw, E. G. Burgess, T. B. Lane and other New York capitalists to erect and operate grain elevators throughout the Empire.

### The New Hampshire Election.

CONCORD, March 14.—Returns are in from all the towns in the State except 16. The Governor's vote foots up: Prescott, 38,520; McKean, 36,517; scattering, 535. The 16 towns to hear from voted last year: Prescott, 906; Marcy, 1,080; scattering, 5. Reckoning the vote of the towns the same as last year Prescott's plurality will be 1,675; his majority 1,135. Prescott's vote last year was 40,757, this year 39,418; Republican loss 1,339. Marcy's vote last year was 36,726; McKean's vote this year 37,769; Democratic gain $1,043. The scattering vote last year was 399, this year 536. The Prohibition and Greenback votes are counted as scattering.

### Sixty Cents on the Dollar.

CINCINNATI, March 14.—Howell, Gano & Co., hardware dealers, who recently suspended, have effected an arrangement with their creditors at 60 cents on the dollar, the firm giving their unsecured notes, payable in installments during two years, without interest.

### Death of Commodore Pinkney.

BALTIMORE, March 14.—Commodore Robert F. Pinkney died this morning, aged 67 years. At the outbreak of the civil war the deceased was a Captain in the United States Navy, which he resigned and entered the Confederate service.

### Public Lands for the Education of the People.

WASHINGTON, March 14.—The Committee on Education and Labor to-day instructed Mr. Good, chairman, to report a bill providing that the net proceeds of sales of public lands shall forever be consecrated and set apart for the education of the people. The act is not to have the effect to repeal, impair or suspend any law authorizing the preemption of public lands or the entry of public lands for homesteads, nor as limiting in any way the power of Congress over the public domain, or to interfere with the granting of bounty lands. The Secretary of the Treasury is required on the 31st of July in each year to apportion to the States, Territories and District of Columbia, on the basis of population between the ages of 5 and 21, the net proceeds of the sales of the public lands for the previous year, provided that after five years one-half of said net proceeds and after ten years the whole of said net proceeds shall be set apart as an educational fund, which said fund shall be invested in bonds of the United States bearing a rate of interest not less that four per cent per annum, both principal and interest payable in coin. The interest on such educational fund only to be appropriated as above provided, and that for the first ten years the distribution of the net proceeds and interest on the fund to and among the several States, Territories and the District of Columbia shall be made according to the number of their respective populations of ten years old and upward who cannot read or write, as shown from time to time by the last preceding published census of the United States. The first apportionment to be made on or before the 31st day of July, 1878, when the States and Territories shall be entitled to receive their distributive shares.

Mr. Good will offer an amedment providing that one fourth of the moneys appropriated by this bill shall be given to Agricultural Colleges and Institutions of learning established in accordance with the act of Congress of July 2d 1862, unless in any case the State Legislature shall otherwise direct.

The Secretary of the Treasury says that the report that he has decided to sell a large amount of 4½ per cent bonds at par is erroneous, he has made no such decision.

The total subscriptions to the 4 per cent bonds since date of the Treasury circular of January 16, advertising loans, is 3½ millions; subscriptions for the present month to date aggregates a half million; to-day subscriptions did not go above $16,000.

### Business Embarrassments.

OTTAWA, March 14.—The liabilities of E. McGillery, insolvent lumber merchant are, direct $290,000; indirect nearly 800,000. Assets $100,000.

ST. JOHN, March 14.—J. & J. Hegan & Co., dry good and carpet firm, whose liabilities are $180,000 have compromised at forty cents on the dollar.

NEW YORK, March 14.—Jehial Read & Co. wholesale dealers in hats and straw goods suspended. Liabilities about $200,000. The firm has business connections in St. Louis.

Joseph H. Marks, a southern commission merchant has suspended with liabilities amounting to $110,000.

NEW BRIDGPORT, MASS., March 14.—The New Bridgport cent bank was enjoined to-day, to prevent a sacrifice of the securities to meet the sudden demand of the depositors.

CHICAGO, March 14.—A number of the creditors of the firm of Marsh, Harvester & Co., Sycamore and Chicago streets, have filed a petition asking it to be adjudicated bankrupt. The creditors represent $197,000 indebtedness, and a claim is set up that the debtors made a fraudulent assignment of a large amount of property to Arthur M. Stark. The firm has been greatly embarrassed by the recent failure of J. D. Easten & Co., of Chicago, with which firm it had intimate business relations. A speedy adjustment is expected, and the managers will probably resume business at once.

NEW ORLEANS, March 14.—The failure of R. T. Buckner & Bro., cotton factors, is reported.

### Movement of Trains on the Union Pacific.

CHEYENNE WY., March 14.—The west bound passenger train was thrown from the track six miles west of North Platte at 2:30 this morning by a broken rail, the engine and mail car passing over all right. The baggage car, two coaches and a sleeper were badly wrecked, but fortunately no one was hurt. There were three emigrant cars attached to the rear of the train, which were replaced on the track and taken back to North Platte, with the passengers, who will remain there until the next regular train west to-night.

The Colorado Central train, so long snow bound at Taylor and Lone Tree, arrived here at 10 A. M.

OMAHA, March 14.—The first overland passenger express train from the West since Friday last arrived this afternoon. All the snow bound passengers have reached this city. The Union Pacific is now running all trains on schedule time. Four hundred miles of the road are clear from the effects of the worst storm in the history of the road, in sixty hours.

### Crookedness and Wickedness.

NEW YORK, March 14.—Ship masters in Baltimore think, concerning the attempted theft of the British brig Alice and cargo, the circumstances of which were made public yesterday, that the conspirators have probably murdered Capt. Campbell of the Alice, who sailed with her from Port Cabello, and the authorities have telegraphed the owners of the Alice at New Brunswick for a description of Captain Campbell.

### A Presidential Visit.

PHILADELPHIA, March 14.—The President of the United States having accepted an invitation to visit the Commercial Exchange of Philadelphia, at a meeting of the Board of Managers to-day a Committee of Arrangements and Reception was appointed.

### Sued on His Official Bond.

ST. LOUIS, March 14.—Emil Thomas, late Sheriff of St. Louis, having failed to pay over fees collected, was to-day sued for $13,000 on his official bond. The suit is brought at the instance of the Circuit Court. There are other claims against him.

### The New Silver Dollar.

NEW YORK, March 14.—The new silver dollar appeared on Wall street this morning. Buyers paid a fraction above par in gold for the tokens.

### Murder and Suicide.

YONKERS, N. Y., March 14.—Theran Merriatt this afternoon shot and killed Mrs. Samuel Legget, and then shot and killed himself.

—Nicholas Larce, of San Francisco, Cal., died Tuesday evening.

—Robt. Hamilton, of Newton, N. J., ex member of Congress, died this morning of paralysis.