The Wheeling Daily Intelligencer.

ESTABLISHED AUGUST 24, 1852. WHEELING, WEST VA., WEDNESDAY MORNING, FEBRUARY 9, 1887. VOLUME XXXV.---NUMBER 145.

The Intelligencer.

Office: Nos. 25 and 27 Fourteenth Street.

It is the deadly railroad stove that kills.

The penitentiary investigation does not begin with a whirl, as it were. Perhaps the worst is to come.

"Slugger" Sullivan came near being a professional base ballist. Sundry persons are sorry he changed his mighty mind.

It is some consolation to know that after the first thrust a British bayonet looks like a corkscrew. But who wants to have his blood drawn with such an implement?

American powder is about to be shipped in large quantities across the Atlantic. How odd it would be if this powder were to come back to us on board of British men-of-war.

Francis Murphy, after doing a great work in Cincinnati, has gone to Chicago, where he and Mr. Mood will join hands. Theirs will be a strong team, but not stronger than Chicago needs.

That South Carolina story of the negro who has just heard of emancipation has an apocryphal twang. There was no sane negro in America who did not know he was a free man by the time the war was over. That news traveled in seven-league boats among the blacks.

If the Morrison-Carlisle wing of the Democracy can't appreciate the genius of a man who has more than once crippled it, what are we coming to? Yet it seems that the statesmen on that side don't intend to give Mr. Randall's tariff bill much of a show. This is painful.

The widow of Colonel Thomas A. Scott, the Pennsylvania Railroad man, has built for herself in Philadelphia a residence of fifty-two rooms. She can move once every week in the year without occupying the same room for more than a week. How her less famed sisters will envy Mrs. Scott.

Congressman Phil Snyder, of the Third district, is quoted in the Louisville *Courier-Journal* as saying: "The revenue collected will afford all the protection necessary." That is, a tariff for revenue only. Mr. Snyder could not be elected in his district on that issue squarely made. It is getting so anyhow in West Virginia that a Democrat can't run for Congress in any one of the four districts without dodging his neck out of joint on the tariff question.

In Chicago they have some high-priced surgical skill. Two physicians sent in bills aggregating nearly $10,000 for attending policemen wounded in the Anarchist riot. One of these physicians charged $1,500 for attending to a policeman whose leg was amputated. A committee of the city officials has cut the bills down to $2,000 for one physician and $2,500 for the other, but the money has not yet been paid. Other physicians say that these brethren behaved like "hogs." They rushed in without being sent for, taking the places of city physicians in some cases and of family physicians in others—in all cases bent upon a speculation. It is needless to say that these harpies do not stand at the head of the medical profession in Chicago.

The Charleston *Tribune* says of a bill introduced by Senator Price of Mineral in the interest of ex-Senator Henry G. Davis' railroad:

If the bill becomes a law, the company in whose interest the bill is sought to be passed, will have one of the worst monopolies ever organized in the State of West Virginia. It practically shuts out every projected railroad enterprise in the counties of Mineral, Grant, Tucker, Randolph, Pocahontas, Greenbrier, Webster, Nicholas, Braxton, Clay, Fayette and Kanawha. It gives into the hands of the said company, the exclusive right to operate a railroad through these counties and bestows upon them to the prejudice of other railroad enterprises, a franchise that is worth millions of dollars.

If this is what the bill means it is not the kind of legislation we want in West Virginia. We are not ready to lock up any county and give the key to a railroad company.

Just Heard of his Emancipation.

New York, Feb. 8.—A special from Charleston, S. C., says: Information of a reliable source has just been received of a negro man in one of the narrow valleys near Hogback mountain, not far from Greenville, who has just learned of his emancipation. He is a great broad negro of heavy physique and somewhat striped in appearance. His story is that since the war he has been working for Mr. Holly and that he was not allowed to come back to his kinfolks; that he was flogged by his master who gave him no money and few clothes. The man's name is Calvin Garmany. He ran off to the mountains just after the war and was only recently heard of by his brother, who lives near Greenville, and who rescued him from servitude last week.

Barbed Wire Decision.

St. Louis, Feb. 8.—United States District Judge Treat has rendered a decision in one of the most celebrated manufacturing cases which has of late years been in the courts—that of the Iowa Steel Barb Wire Company, of Marshalltown, Iowa, against the Southern Barb Wire Company, of St. Louis. The decision was against the local company, declaring that the Ross patent for barbed wire manufacturing, under which the St. Louis company was operating, was an infringment upon the Burnell patent, held by the Marshalltown company. This suit has been pending for three years, and the decision of Judge Treat is regarded by lawyers as the most important in barbed wire litigation since the decision of Judge Drummond at Chicago in the Glidden case of 1881.

Where Coal is High.

Fort Shaw, Mont., Feb. 8.—There was a heavy snow storm Sunday night, extending through Northern Montana from north of Fort Assinaboine to Fort Shaw. From four to eight inches fell, making fourteen to twenty-four inches now on the level. The cattle are suffering terribly. The fuel famine still continues at Fort Benton. Coal is $60 a ton and is extremely difficult to obtain even at that figure. Wood is scarce and selling at a high figure. The Indian Commissioners have been snowbound at Choteau since January 23.

The Sisters of Notre Dame, Maryland, use Red Star Cough Cure. Price, 25 cents.

HAMMERING AWAY

WITH MONOTONOUS BALLOTS.

On the Senatorial Question—Precious Time Being Wasted—Senator McCreery Votes on Prohibition, and Announcement of the Vote Postponed to Saturday.

Special Dispatch to the Intelligencer.

Charleston, Feb. 8.—The joint assembly to-day was very like the eleven preceding ones. Mr. Dawson made the point of order that it was not necessary to call the rolls of the two Houses. The President held that while it was not necessary it did no harm and was not in violation of any rules, and after some discussion he adhered to the former practice and the roll was ordered to be called. Mr. Hagans appealed from the decision and the appeal was debated at some length. The decision was sustained 49 to 18. Thirty-five minutes were spent in the skirmish. The Senators absent were Scott, Brown, Morrison, Snyder, and Gwinn. Of the House, Whitaker, Chew, Kinsey, Hiner, Jones, McKinney, Ropp and Spencer were not on hand, so that the whole number of members present was 78.

Dr. McClung, with a complimentary speech, placed in nomination before the joint assembly John W. Harris, of Greenbrier county. The vote stood: Duval, 27; Camden, 33; Harris, 11; John T. Janney, of Berkeley, 6; Okey Johnson, 1. General Duval voted for the Greenback nominee, Janney.

There is absolutely nothing new in the Senatorial situation. The caucus Democrats criticise the twelve kickers severely for printing their so-called ultimatum before it was presented to those to whom it was addressed. Mr. Lucas told me last night it would not be given out for publication till to-day. Later President Price gave it to the *Register* reporter, although it had not been signed. W. S. T.

LEGISLATIVE PROCEEDINGS.

Prohibition Virtually Killed—Bills Passed Yesterday.

Special Dispatch to the Intelligencer.

Charleston, W. Va., Feb. 8.—Prohibition came up again in the Senate to-day. Mr. McCreery voted aye, and then on his motion the announcement of the result was again postponed until Saturday.

President Price, who was referred to in Monday's papers as about to change his vote, has concluded not to do so, and the defeat of the measure seems irreveocable.

The anti-free-pass bill, with the anti-newspaper amendment, passed the House to-day, but its friends refused to order it to take effect from its passage. A motion to reconsider will be made to-morrow, and I think it will pass.

Mr. Thayer got three bills through the House in one batch to-day. One amends the charter of Grafton, one creates a school district of West Grafton and a third amends the law creating a school district of Pruntytown. The only other bill passed creates an independent school district of Point Pleasant. The House is holding night sessions.

MONDAY'S PROCEEDINGS

Of the Legislature—Important Measures Acted On.

Special Correspondence of the Intelligencer.

Charleston, W. Va., Feb. 7.—In the Senate Monday Mr. Morris introduced Senate Bill No. 140. This bill repeals the existing law which provides text books for the public schools, and provides that the State Board of the School Fund shall select five different text books in each branch taught, from which five any local school board can select that one in each branch which it prefers. The act does not invalidate the existing contract with Van Antwerp, Bragg & Co., but restricts the operation of that contract to those school districts in which the local boards see fit to adopt the books published by that firm.

Senate bill No. 28 was passed, also 73. Twenty-eight provides that in proceedings for the condemnation of land for railroad purposes, that when the report of the commissioners is filed either party may file exceptions thereto, and demand that the question of the compensation to be paid to be ascertained by a jury, in which case a jury of twelve freeholders shall be selected and impanneled for the purpose in such manner as the court directs. But no person shall sit on said jury who may be the owner of or interested in any land over or through which said railroad will pass, nor who acted as a commissioner in the case. Each juror shall take an oath before the clerk of the court that he will honestly and impartially perform his duties as such juror to the best of his skill and judgment. The cause shall be tried as other causes in said court, and the jury, in ascertaining the damage or compensation to which the owner of the land proposed to be taken is entitled, shall be governed by section 14, of this chapter.

The bill concerning the service of process upon railroad companies came up in the afternoon and after being slightly amended by general consent was passed.

HOUSE.

In the House the bill to prohibit the sale of intoxicating liquors in the State (H. B. 82) was read the first time and ordered to a second reading.

The bill to amend the State Board of Health act so as to empower the Board to revoke the license of a physician upon becoming satisfied that he is not a temperate man or of good character, was taken up on its second reading, and provoked a discussion of some length, but was finally ordered on.

On motion of Mr. Woods, the House members of the joint committee to investigate the penitentiary management were granted leave of absence so long as necessary to discharge the duties for which they were appointed.

In the afternoon Mr. Chew presented House Bill 306, transferring to the school fund the State's interest in certain banks.

The major portion of the session was devoted to discussions of proposed amendments to the fish bill. Mr. Garrell's prohibition statute was ordered to lie on the table until printed.

The night session was devoted to the most mechanical business that ever comes before a legislative body—the first reading of bills favorably reported by the committee, to which no objection is offered.

Capt. Burnett Sits Down on Bettis.

Special Dispatch to the Intelligencer.

Charleston, W. Va., Feb. 8.—Last night in an address at the rink the alleged "Rev." Bettis assailed Capt. Alf. W. Burnett by name because Burnett had occasion recently to look up his unsavory record. To-day Burnett met him in the postoffice, and after calling him a few pet names, knocked him down and sat on him. He was pulled off and taken before Mayor Huling, who fined him $30 and sentenced him to thirty days' imprisonment, but remitted the imprisonment in consideration of the prompt payment of the fine.

Important, if True.

New York, Feb. 8.—It is reported that negotiations are pending between the Adams Express Company and the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad by which the Adams Express Company may acquire control of the Baltimore and Ohio express business. No details can as yet be obtained.

AWFUL TRAGEDY

On a Farm in Texas—Four Men Killed in the Fight.

De Kalb, Tex., Feb. 8.—This place was thrown into a fever of excitement last evening when a man on horseback came dashing into town with the information that a deadly battle had been fought about four miles northwest of here. Four male members of a family named White were pitted against Col. John E. Rosser, his son Willie, aged 15, and a hired man named Mullens, resulting in the killing of three of the Whites and Colonel Rosser, and the wounding of the boy. A few minutes sufficed to impanel a jury, who, in company with the officers and Justice Proctor, left hurriedly for the scene of bloodshed. A ride of an hour over a rough road brought the party to the battle ground. The home of the White family, a log house, consisted of one room about twenty feet square, in the centre of about fifteen acres of cleared land.

The party reached the house and were struck with horror at the scene. On the ground, in front of the entrance, was found the body of J. C. White, a bullet hole through his breast and one through his side. In the center of the room, in a great pool of blood, lay Walter White, dead, shot twice through the neck and breast. Upon a bed, in a half sitting posture, was Lawson White, dead, with a gun cocked and clutched in his hand. A bullet hole through his head told how he met his death. In one corner of the room was found Rosser's son, a boy of fifteen years, shot through the side, with a Winchester lying beside him.

Blood was everywhere and over everything, and the weapons that had wrought so much destruction were scattered promiscuously about. But the scene of death did not end here. A half mile further on and the home of Rosser was reached. In the center of the room was the body of Rosser, surrounded by his weeping wife and children. He had received a death wound through the neck at the hands of old man White, but, being a man of great vitality, after having, as he supposed, killed all the Whites, he mounted his horse and rode to this scene, dying as he entered his own door.

The trouble seems to have had its origin in a law suit. A year ago the Whites bought a piece of land of the Rossers, and, failing to pay for it, the latter brought suit to gain possession of the property. A writ of dispossession had been issued last week against White, but had been recalled for some reason and was not served. This angered Rosser, and yesterday, in company with his son and hired man, all armed, he went to the house of the Whites to forcibly eject them. The elder White invited the party into the house. Rosser and his son entered and made known the object of their visit. A few words were passed and the firing began. Old man White staggered from the house and fell dead in the yard, the elder Rosser emptying his revolver at him. The boy was inside, and his version of it is this: The elder White shot him and his father, and he shot old man White once, and then turned the Winchester upon the White boys to keep them from shooting his father. About fifteen shots were fired and with deadly effect, killing four of the participants and wounding the boy.

The hired man, Mullens, has not yet been found, and it is not known what part he took in the awful tragedy.

RAILROAD DISASTER

At White River Junction—The Investigation Resumed.

White River Junction, Vt., Feb. 8.—The investigation of the railroad disaster of Saturday was continued to-day. Baggage master Cole, employed on the train which went down, said that the first intimation of the trouble was, he should judge, at the end of the bridge, where there was a sharp shock. "My theory is that the first passenger car was off the track before reaching the bridge, but because of the frozen ground, ran smoothly until the bridge was reached, when, from the dropping of the passenger car on to the bridge, it depressed the couplers of that, letting them apart, then all the following cars ran on to the bridge off the track."

George Parker, the brakeman who jumped from the train just before it reached the bridge, was the next witness. He testified that the train was going at the rate of seven or eight miles an hour at the time, and gave in evidence the substance of his previous statements regarding his ride to the junction, and arousing the people on the way. He did not return to the wreck until yesterday. He suffered from the cold on the way, and was severely bruised by the accident. He remembered seeing the fire fly from the wheels, rails and spikes as the cars passed him. He could not say whether all the trucks of his car were off the track or not, when he jumped. He was sure the rear ones were, for he was on the end over them. He noticed when the engineer applied the air brakes and thought they were down so far as the crossing this side of the bridge; did not know of the conductor applying the airbrakes; did not signal the engineer and don't know of the conductor's doing so. The witness's duty would have been to pull the bell cord or apply the car brakes. The reason he did not was that he was so excited. The car was shaking badly—going up and down. He should think there were twenty-five or thirty passengers in the forward car. He did not go through the other cars after leaving the Junction except the second coach.

Nearly a Disaster.

New York, Feb. 8.—The cracking of a defective steam radiator in Hyde & Behman's Brooklyn Theater last night caused alarm and some one cried "Fire." A panic ensued, 2,000 persons making a rush for the exits. Two soldiers from Fort Hamilton, who were near the main door, did excellent service in checking the panic and stopping the rush. They were reinforced by the police, and Mr. Behman made an explanation from the stage which helped in bringing people to their senses. Several women fainted, but no one was seriously hurt. The theater stands on the former site of a building which was used as a morgue for the 285 victims of the Brooklyn theater fire several years ago.

Bridges Destroyed.

Joliet, Ill., Feb. 8.—Forty-eight hours of continuous rain in this section is causing serious damage to property. Yesterday the rain poured down in torrents for several hours accompanied by the most violent thunderclaps and frequent lightning. The railroad bridges across Spring and Hickory creeks are swept away, and along the valleys of those streams, which are spreading far over their banks, the people are moving out to safe quarters. The rain is still pouring down and a serious flood is threatened. Traffic on the Santa Fe road along the Desplaines river is suspended and extensive general damage will result unless the rain and thaw ceases very soon.

A Narrow Escape.

Cincinnati, O., Feb. 8.—As the Cincinnati, Hamilton and Indianapolis train was about crossing the State line from Indiana into Ohio yesterday a bullet fired by some unknown person came crashing through a window of the passenger car, passing closely in front of the head of A. P. Mitchell, of the firm of Vallete & Mitchell, New York City, burying itself in the wood work on the other side of the car. No clew to the miscreant who fired the shot has been found.

EX-SENATOR DAVIS

ON WEST VIRGINIA MATTERS.

What Is Needed to Develop Our State—Capital Should Not be Frightened By Unjust Laws—The Right of Petition—The Labor Question.

Special Correspondence of the Intelligencer.

Washington, D. C., Feb. 7.—Ex-Senator Henry G. Davis expresses himself with perfect freedom upon matters that are of particular importance to the people of West Virginia at this time. In speaking of the submission resolution yesterday, he stated that he was heartily in favor of it. "I believe," said he, in "the right of petition, and when a respectable portion of the people ask that any question be submitted to them their prayer should be heeded." As to the question of absolute prohibition, Mr. Davis can hardly be called a radical advocate of the doctrine. He rather inclines to the high license plan, and the regulation of the liquor traffic by certain stringent laws regarding the sale of intoxicants to minors, habitual drunkards, &c. He cites instances where this law has been practically operated, and has resulted in a reduction of the number of saloons, at the same time increasing the revenues of the State. "Take, for instance, Missouri," he said. "When the present law went into effect there were 3,600 saloons, yielding an annual revenue to the State of $550,000. Now there are only 2,880 saloons, returning a revenue of $,812,200. Besides the business is in the hands of more responsible parties, and the low grog-shops have almost entirely disappeared."

RAILROAD REGULATION.

In speaking of the Inter-State Commerce bill, which has just become a law, the ex-Senator stated that he regards its provisions as designed to be for the best interests of the State, as it will enable our agricultural products to compete with those of the West and our timber and minerals with those of the Northwest in the Eastern markets. He thinks the West Virginia Legislature should adopt the bill as passed by Congress, changing its provisions to suit our State, and reducing the number of commissioners to two. "By conforming our law to that of the United States we would simplify matters and prevent conflicts." Mr. Davis is also in favor of regulating telegraph companies by law. The present railroad law in West Virginia, he thinks, is not suitable to the existing condition of things and is not properly enforced. He is in favor of the Legislature of our State, as well as Congress, requiring that rates shall be uniform, reasonable and public, and that no preference shall be given any shipper in the matter of discounts, rebates or drawbacks. This, he says, if enforced, will result in great good to the State.

STATE DEVELOPMENT.

In speaking of railroad building in West Virginia, Mr. Davis declared that there is not as much of it being done as there should be. With our varied resources, valueless unless developed, and undeveloped for lack of railroads, West Virginia ought to be one of the greatest States in the Union. He regards the question of building and regulating railroads as the most important of all questions pertaining to the welfare of the State. With an area of 24,645 square miles, and resources unexcelled, we had on the first of January of this year but 1,143 miles of railroad, or less than any other State in the Union, except six.

The ex-Senator proposes a remedy for this condition of things. I quote him literally:

"Having but little home capital to invest in railroads, we, of course, have to seek our capital from the older and more prosperous States. Now, capital is timid, and will not go where it is not invited or fairly treated. To induce it to come to West Virginia we should welcome and treat railroads as we would any other enterprise seeking a home among us. While we want the people to be liberal and fair toward the railroads, they (the railroads) should be liberal and fair and just toward the people. Railroads can do more than anything else to get us out of the wilderness. They are taxed and increase the revenues of the state. Besides, they increase the value of all property near the line of the road."

Fair treatment, then, is all that capital demands at the hands of West Virginia, before she may hope to be taken out of the wilderness.

THE LABOR QUESTION,

Senator Davis would deal with in a practical way. He thinks that while there have been some evidences of dissatisfaction among the wage workers in West Virginia they seem, as a whole, to be better contented than the laboring classes who live in large cities. As a rule they have steadier work and own their homes. The question of capital and labor is an important one. Capital and labor ought to be good friends, as one is dependent upon and essential to the other. One is necessary to the usefulness of the other. Both should, therefore, be treated with equal fairness. Both should be protected by law, and each held responsible to the other for interruption, intimidation or damage to business. Labor should be legally organized, and its officers held responsible for their acts. Disputed questions about wages, hours of labor, &c., should be the subjects of legal arbitration, and the decision of the arbitrators should be, by law, made binding on both parties.

In speaking further about West Virginia's present needs, that ought to be considered by the Legislature, Senator Davis remarked that while the State is to be congratulated on its escape from the "epidemic of defalcations" by bank officials, he believed it would be a good thing to have a State Bank Examiner for State and savings banks, the bank to pay for the examinations, so that there would be no expense to the State. Examinations should be made not less than twice a year and at the end of each year, and the condition of the bank published each time. This method might save some people from loss and would be the means of protecting the good name of our State. It would also give the people more confidence in banking institutions. At present our bank officials all seem to be tried and true men, but the system suggested might protect us from future possibilities.

Mr. Davis was somewhat reticent on the Senatorial contest now in progress, but not progressing, though he stated that he was not himself a candidate; that he desired to be known as a friend of Camden's, and that he hoped for that gentleman's election. G. A. D.

Natural Gas Explosion.

Pittsburgh, Feb. 8.—An explosion of natural gas in the Allegheny river tonight, damaged the steamer John P. Thorn to the extent of $500 and quite seriously burned Captain Henry Now and his brother Tilman, the engineer. The boat was tied up at the wharf at the foot of Third street, and it is supposed that the gas escaping from a leak in the main under the bed of the river, ignited from the fires in the furnaces. When the explosion occurred the boat was instantly enveloped in flames, but before the fire gained any headway it was extinguished. The Captain and engineer were standing on the deck at the time, and both were painfully burned. Their injuries, however, are not fatal.

TRACK LAYING

On the Piedmont & Cumberland Railroad Under Difficulties.

Special Dispatch to the Intelligencer.

Cumberland, Md., Feb. 8.—Track laying on the Piedmont & Cumberland railroad is almost completed. The land contained in the Cookerly farm, near Rawlings, was condemned, but an injunction was served by the court prohibiting said company from laying their tracks through the premises and for the past few days the Sheriff has had a posse guarding this point. Yesterday the railroad company obtained an injunction restraining the posse from interfering with the laying of the track, and in the evening W. J. Read, attorney for the road, went up to serve it. When the injunction was read the posse withdrew and track laying was begun by 200 employes and 200 Elk Garden miners who came down on a special train, and was finished at noon.

HULLIGAN DIES

From the Effects of his Fight with Toughs on a Train.

Cleveland, O., Feb. 8.—Detective Hulligan, one of the police officers assaulted by desperadoes at Ravenna, died at 9:30 o'clock this morning. His condition took a change so rapidly for the worse since yesterday that all hopes entertained for his recovery were abandoned this morning. The attending physician, Dr. B. D. Smith, spent the greater part of the night at the house, and saw that the inflammation of the lining membranes of the brain was extending very rapidly, although the wounded man seemed to sleep and rest well. At 7 o'clock the doctor called at the house and found his patient so low that he considered his condition very alarming, although not hopeless. Dr. Smith went home to breakfast and returned to the detective's house an hour later. In the short space of time he had been absent Hulligan had grown so much worse that he gave up all hope, and in an hour he was dead. He leaves a wife and four children.

Detective Hulligan was 40 years old, and was the oldest detective in Cleveland in point of service. He was a handsome man, and no one ever questioned his bravery. The people of Cleveland are plunged into grief over his death, and every daily paper in the city is receiving money for the relief of his family.

The post mortem examination revealed ten terrible wounds in his head. The skull in one place was fractured from the left temple to the base of the brain. The coupling pin that the cut-throats used upon him weighs 7 pounds, and is covered with a newspaper tightly wound with twine.

Captain Hoehn, the other wounded officer, is improving rapidly, although shot twice and struck with the coupling pin several times.

Arrest Made at Columbus.

Columbus, O., Feb. 8.—Pitt Smith, a notorious character, suspected of implication in the rescue of McMunn, the fur robber, at Ravenna, was arrested in a restaurant near the Union depot, this city, last night, on a telegram from Chief of Police Smith, of Cleveland, giving an accurate description of the man. Smith boarded a Cincinnati, Akron & Columbus train at Orrville for Columbus, and telegraphed his wife, who is employed at a hotel here, to meet him. He left the train outside the depot and was arrested two hours later. His left eye was blackened and his left arm broken. When searched he had several dollars and a ticket for St Louis. Smith refused to talk and was locked up.

Car Thieves Captured.

Corry, Pa., Feb. 8.—Detective Jack Nelson, of Meadville, Pa., who is in the employ of the New York, Pennsylvania & Ohio Railroad, arrested last night at Bear Lake, Warren county, Michael Crow, a trackman, and a telegraph operator named Crosby, charged with car breaking and robbing the mails. This business has been going on for some time and it is thought that two thousand dollars' worth of merchandise, money, bank checks, etc., has been stolen. Both men plead guilty to the charges, and were taken to the county jail at Warren this morning.

Shot on the Highway.

Cincinnati, Feb. 8.—The *Times-Star* Wilmington, Ohio, special says: Azel Babb, nephew of the Town Marshal, last night shot and killed Andrew Moore, colored, on the highway, three miles from town. Babb, who gave himself up, says he acted in self defense. The men had quarreled some time ago.

Italy in the Soudan.

Rome, Feb. 8.—It is reported that the Abyssinians lost 5,000 in the battle in which the Italian forces were defeated near Massowah, in the Soudan, on January 27. Prime Minister Depritis announced to the Chamber of Deputies this afternoon that the entire cabinet had resigned.

NEWS IN BRIEF.

Joe Acton, the wrestler, defeated Evan Lewis, at Madison, Wis.

There is no money in the Indiana Treasury to pay her legislators.

Goldsmith Bros., clothiers, of Philadelphia, have failed, with $100,000 liabilities.

The Dennison Paper Company, Portland, Me., has suspended. Liabilities about $450,000.

James Waughtel was shot by an assassin, near Hedge, Ind., last Saturday night. A man named Miller has been arrested for the crime.

The resolutions of the Indiana Legislature, asking the U. S. Senate to investigate Turpie's election, have been sent to Senator Sherman.

The Illinois Midland Railroad has returned to its owners after ten years of receivership. It is now the Terre Haute & Peoria Railroad.

It is announced that Donn Piatt is about to publish an iconoclastic sort of book, entitled "Memories of the Men Who Saved the Union."

Near Gallatin, Tenn., John Lowery, a mute, while traveling with a man named Gaines, cut the latter's throat. He is still alive but in a critical condition.

Martin McLean, Treasurer of the Telegraphers' Aid and Literary Association of Boston, has left for parts unknown, carrying nearly $1,000 of the Association's money with him.

Testimony before the coroner in the Blizzard murder mystery at Greenville, O., developed the fact that the victim was last seen in a buggy with a Mrs. Rhodes. Neither the woman nor the horse and buggy have been seen since.

The first annual convention of the Iron Roof Manufacturers of the United States met at Canton, Ohio, yesterday, delegates being present from twelve cities. The meeting will last two days, the object being to prevent ruinous cutting in prices.

John W. Vint, the aged postmaster at Lakeside, Ind., married Dora White an eighteen-year-old servant, and appeased the wrath of his daughter and his divorced wife by giving the former 120 acres of land and a store, and the latter 320 acres.

The wholesale drug house of H. S. Sprague & Co., at Mobile, Ala., burned, and while a number of men were removing the stock of liquor belonging to James McDonnell, in a building adjoining, the walls of the burned building fell, killing McDonnell.

Sore joints and muscles are cured by St. Jacobs Oil, the greatest conqueror of pain.

A VERY OPEN LETTER

ON REVENUE REFORM MATTERS.

The Randall Faction Send an Address to Speaker Carlisle That Is Full of Pungent Points—A Paper That Is Worth Reading By All Classes of Democrats.

Washington, D. C., Feb. 8.—The following letter was to-day sent to Speaker Carlisle:

Washington, D. C., Feb. 8, 1887.

Hon. J. G. Carlisle, Speaker of the House of Representatives:

Dear Sir:—We regret exceedingly that you could not see your way clear to give recognition on yesterday to some Democrat to enable him "to move to suspend the rules for the purpose of giving the House an opportunity of considering the question of the total repeal of the Internal Revenue tax on tobacco." Your refusal to give this recognition, together with your letter of the 7th inst., deserves more than passing notice.

If two-thirds or more of the House are in favor of such repeal, it was a grave responsibility for you to oppose such a large majority of the representatives of the people. Assuming, however, for the sake of the argument, that the friends of the proposition constitute a less number than two-thirds, their strength is certainly such that they ought to have been permitted to test the sense of the House on the question, especially since the country is watching with intense interest the action of the House in respect thereto, and the constituents of a large number of the members of the House have been urging them to obtain if possible, a consideration of the subject.

ONLY WANTED A CHANCE.

We do not wish to be misunderstood. We earnestly desire from a party standpoint that recognition should have been given to a Democrat to make the motion, but we would vote cheerfully for the proposition whether made by a Democrat or by a Republican. You assume in you letter to us that we ignored your communication of the 3d inst., and had deliberately failed to make a response thereto. Our friends did not have an opportunity of considering that communication until Friday evening the 4th inst. It was of such a character as to require more than a formal reply. We called at your hotel the next day, Saturday, but through no fault of yours or ours we did not succeed in obtaining an interview until the day after. We believed that the friends of the repeal of the tobacco tax were so strong in the House that we would save to the oppressed taxpayers of this country an annual reduction of taxation to the extent of $28,000,000 if the motion for repeal could be made in the House on Monday of this week, the latest day when such a motion to be effective under the rules, would be in order during the Forty-ninth Congress. The motion, if made during the last six days of the session would almost certainly be too late to secure favorable consideration for the question in the Senate.

DID NOT ANTICIPATE REFUSAL.

We did not anticipate refusal of recognition for the purpose intended. We understood you to say to us verbally that if you gave to any one of our friends the desired recognition, fair play all around would require you to give other Democrats an opportunity to make a like motion to pass some distinct proposition relating to a reduction of the tariff duties. To this we assented. You instanced as one such proposition the putting of salt on the free list.

We think that a revision of the tariff and of the Internal Revenue laws can be attained from time to time by reforming the obvious and greater grievances of the two systems, and that we should not refuse to make such reforms because sweeping changes have not been practicable. The country is expecting from this Congress relief from the grievous burdens of taxation. If some of us cannot get all we want, we should take what we can get. Our single proposition for the repeal of the tax on tobacco, was not intended and cannot be fairly construed as intending to exclude from the consideration of the House all other measures for the reduction of taxation. We wish to obtain consideration for that proposition, but we were not pressed for the reduction of the Internal Revenue taxes to the exclusion of other measures for the revision and reduction of the tariff.

CANNOT DEAL WITH WHOLE SUBJECT.

A Democratic caucus cannot successfully deal with "the whole subject of revenue reduction" at this late stage of the session. That suggestion comes too late. If the caucus could have controlled the legislation of the Forty-ninth Congress from the beginning, the country might be better off. If the House was considered competent to deal with the silver question, with the pension question and with the oleomargarine question free from the dictation of a Democratic caucus we think it ought to be competent to deal with the question of a reduction of taxation. The caucus ought not now to be invited to justify a policy of delay and non-action on this subject. We sincerely hope, with you, that some plan may yet be devised which will enable the House to consider the whole subject of revenue reduction and reform. In a spirit of fairness to all interests and in accordance with the letter and spirit of the platform of the National Democratic party adopted at the convention held at Chicago in the year 1884, and we assure you that we are ready to meet any of our Democratic associates who are prepared to treat with us on such basis.

(Signed) John S. Henderson,
Geo. D. Wise,
Samuel J. Randall.

MATTHEWS REJECTED

By the Senate and a Tart Answer Sent to the President.

Washington, D. C., Feb. 8.—The Senate in connection with the rejection of Matthews who was nominated a second time for Recorder of Deeds of the District of Columbia replies as follows to the communication of the President accompanying the nomination: The President attempts to justify the renomination of Matthews by stating: 1. That the fitness of the nominee had been demonstrated. 2. That the previous opposition to his appointment among the citizens of the District has largely subsided. 3. That he desires in this way to tender just recognition and good faith toward our colored fellow citizens.

"It is sufficient answer to the first two reasons alleged, to say that neither could have been applicable when Matthews was appointed in August, immediately after the adjournment of the Senate, for at that time his fitness had not been demonstrated, nor had there been any interval for local opposition to subside.

"Until suggested by the President, the Senate was not aware that the question of 'just recognition or good faith to our colored fellow-citizens' was involved in the question; and it has never before been urged that a person's nomination for an office should be confirmed or rejected because he was black or because he was white.

"This classification has been abolished by the suppression of the rebellion and by the amendments of the Constitution and no longer properly to be recognized in calling with public affairs. The Senate, however, in view of the message of the President, cannot forbear to apprise him, since he has raised the race issue, that Frederick Douglass was, it is understood, requested to resign the office of Recorder of Deeds in the District of Columbia in order that James C. Matthews might be appointed to the place. Without doubt Frederick Douglass is the most distinguished representative of the colored race, not in this country only but in the world. 'Just recognition' would have been tendered to our colored fellow-citizens by the retention of Frederick Douglass rather than by his enforced retirement in order to reward an unknown and obscure partisan who had never been a slave and, therefore represented the enfranchised race only by the accident of color. The devotion of the President to the political and civil advancement of the colored race might have been equally attested and 'good faith' might have been strongly evinced by the retention of Douglass in the office, whose duties he was discharging to the satisfaction of the people, unless it is to be understood that 'just recognition' is to be tendered only to those members of that race who are supposed to entertain particular political opinions. In such a case the issue of race disappears and the test is politics.

"The Senate has no official information, other than that contained in the message of the President, whether Matthews is white or black. He is admitted to be a citizen of New York. The office to which he is nominated is strictly local. The compensation for the performance of its duties is not paid by the government, but mainly by citizens of the District having papers to be recorded therein. His confirmation is opposed with substantial unanimity by the citizens of the District without regard to color, politics or occupation. The just principles of self-government, as well as the declarations of both political parties, justify their desire that the duties of the office of Recorder of Deeds should be performed by some resident of the District acceptable to those whose property is to be affected by his acts and who pay the entire expense of its administration."

PETERING OUT.

The Strike of the Freight Handlers About on its Last Legs.

New York, Feb. 8.—There was considerable activity on the piers of the river front this morning, the freight was being moved with much more dispatch than on any day since the strike. The time that has elapsed since the 'longshoremen and freight handlers quit work has enabled the railroad and steamship companies to select, and in some cases train, sufficient men to keep the freight moving steadily along. Besides, many of the old freight handlers and 'longshoremen are coming back to work, not at the places where they are known, but where they are least likely to be known. The Maine Steamship Company has got most of its old hands back. On the Clyde Line dock, Pier 29, East river, there were 200 men waiting for the steamer City of Atlanta to reach the dock. Superintendent Healy said he had all the men he required. The Mallory Line dock has resumed its former appearance. Chas. Mallory said that they were not expecting any dufficulty. The manager at Pier No. 40 said that he considered the strike ended so far as it affected their pier. They could get more help than was wanted.

The Union boatmen who struck because they would not handle "scab" coal, although they were satisfied with the price paid them (25 cents per ton), are also weakening. They hesitate to openly abandon the cause of the strikers, but the 75 cents a ton now offered is so tempting that those who own boats compromise by making out bills of sale of the boats to a friend. That friend goes to the companies and offers to transport the coal at the ruling rates. Their offers have mostly been refused, the companies preferring as long as they have got to pay exhorbitant rates, to pay them to outsiders. 'Longshoremen's Union No. 1 met in Brooklyn last night. About 300 men were present. They were decidedly in favor of continuing the fight. The older men, however, expressed their conviction that the men would have to go back before Thursday.

It is generally believed that the great strike is about to come to an end. The *Times* to-day says: "The fact is the freight handlers' strike is confessed to be a failure, even by themselves. They were refused work when they offered to return. The Pennsylvania and Jersey Central probably had the most offers of this kind. Both companies have an unusually good class of green hands."

Inter-State Convention.

Columbus, O., Feb. 8.—The inter-State convention of miners and operators did not get to work until late in the afternoon, and outside of organizing, with Oscar Townsend, of Cleveland as President and, Chris Evans, of New Straitsville, Secretary, and the appointment of Committees on Credentials and Rules, there was no business accomplished. The convention will resume business at 9 o'clock to-morrow.

Miners' Riot.

London, Feb. 8.—Striking miners at Blantyre, Scotland, to-day, engaged in riotous demonstrations and looted a number of shops. The local police were powerless. Troops had to be called out to quiet the disturbance. A number of arrests were made. The miners' strike is spreading in Scotland.

WHAT TO LOOK FOR

In the Way of Amusements at the Opera House in the Near Future.

The attractions booked for the near future at the Opera House are, Frank Davis in "Si Perkins; or the Girl I Left Behind Me," next Saturday evening; the play is one full of local points, the scenes being located in Hancock county, Wellsburg and here. The Monday following, Arthur Rehan's company in the charming comedy, "Nancy & Co.," will appear. On the 15 and 16, Leon & Cushman's company in the comedy "On the Sly." The entertainment for the benefit of the Women's Union Benevolent Society by the Opera House orchestra and Miss Dillon will take place on the 18.

May Fortescue, the celebrated English actress, will be here Saturday, February 19. She is the one whose breach of promise suit against Lord Garmoil, now Earl of Cairns, attracted so much attention at the time and which she won to the tune of several thousand pounds. She will appear in some society play.

Mr. Newton Beers, with his spectacular melo-drama, "Lost in London," will hold the boards on the 23. Mr. Beers has been here before, but never with this play; he has many admirers here who know him to be a genial gentleman and a splendid actor gifted with marked ability. His play is a fine one with many unusual brilliant accessories and effects.

Miss Kate Forsythe, a handsome woman, for a long time McCullough's leading lady, will be here on the 25 and 26.

Among the possibilities are Minnie Maddern, "A Night Off," and the celebrated Duff Opera Company, the leading one on the road outside of the Nationals, in "A Trip Through Africa." This company is looked for on February 28 and March 1. Janish, the tragedienne, comes March 4 and 5. The first thing after Lent will be "Evangeline."

Cheap Excursion Tickets to California.

Cheap excursion tickets to California points are now on sale by the Pan Handle route. For tickets and further particulars call on or address J. G. Tomlinson, passenger agent, Pan Handle Route, Wheeling, W. Va.

FLOODS IN THE WEST.

GRAND RAPIDS IN DANGER

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