

MONROE DOCTRINE INVOLVED

In the Probable European Encroachment on Venezuela and Nicaragua,

SPECIAL CABINET CONFERENCE HELD.

A Belief That Great Britain, France and Germany Will Continue Against the United States—No Definite Action Agreed Upon.

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 20.—The prospect of serious complications which threatens the United States through probable European encroachment on Venezuela and Nicaragua, has assumed a phase of such danger to the principle laid down in the Monroe doctrine, that a special cabinet conference was held at the White House this afternoon to consider the subject. There is no doubt whatever that these subjects are considered by the President and Secretary Gresham as of much greater import to this country than the Alliance incident or the recall of Minister Thurston, and must be handled with unusual delicacy and with the knowledge that a misstep may plunge the Government into embarrassing complications with not one, but several of the principal European nations.

AMBASSADOR BAYARD FAILS. The conference was attended by the President, Secretary Gresham, Secretary Carlisle, Attorney-General Olney and Secretary Lamont. It lasted several hours, but Mr. Lamont withdrew after a brief attendance. Mr. Gresham took with him to the White House the official copies of much of the recent correspondence on both the Venezuela and the Nicaragua situations, and he remained with Mr. Cleveland some time after his colleagues had left. It cannot be learned whether any additional information in the matter reached the State Department to-day; but it is said that Mr. Bayard has failed to arrange the Mosquito troubles with the British Government in a manner satisfactory to the United States.

THAT ULTIMATUM. Great Britain's ultimatum to Nicaragua, demanding an indemnity for the expulsion of Mr. Hatch, the British consular agent, from Bluefields, and the report that a British war ship is on her way to enforce the demand, has created serious apprehensions of the difficulties growing out of the Bluefields affair, and as action by this Government may involve a new construction of the Monroe doctrine, it can be seen how slowly and carefully the President and his advisers are obliged to feel their way to prevent any possibility of blunder, or neglect any advantage that might weaken the practical sponsorship which the United States Government holds over the South American and Central American republics.

THESE STRONG ADVERSARIES. In the Venezuelan affair the United States Government finds itself opposed to such strong adversaries as Great Britain, France and Germany, with Belgium as an ally, and the United States Government has the claim of Great Britain to certain Venezuelan territory is the main cause for alarm, and to this is added the prospect that Germany is about to make a naval vessel to take the place of the American.

TO COME AGAINST US. The Monroe doctrine and its ramifications confer ample authority, it is said, for the United States to display an active interest in the threatening attitude of Great Britain and Germany, and while the probable action of the latter is not clear, it does not seem to come within the scope of the doctrine, it is understood to be the belief of this Government that all four of the powers involved will join issue in opposition to the United States to secure their several ends, and such amalgamation is likely to beget a desire on the part of all to extend their dominions.

THE CONFERENCE at the White House to-day was more strictly official than the conference of the 17th inst., but it is learned to-night on good authority that no definite action was agreed on.

STOLE 8,000 GALLONS OF WHISKY.

Robbers Make Off With Liquor Stored in Bond by Using a Siphon. COLUMBIA, S. C., March 20.—In 1892 a man named Belman, of Walhalla, S. C., sold distillery No. 37, three miles from that town, to W. C. Tatum. In the warehouse connected with the distillery were between eight thousand and ten thousand gallons of whisky. The warehouse was closed under the seal of a revenue officer, and Tatum intending to hold the whisky for the three years allowed by law before stamping it. The warehouse was built on the slope of a hill. Robbers drew the staple off the door, inserted the end of a siphon of hose into a whisky barrel, passed the hose through a crack in the wall, and siphoned the whisky into an empty barrel at the foot of the hill, several yards away. From that place they could haul it away without incurring any serious risk of detection.

This process was repeated nightly until every gallon of the whisky had been removed. Then the band assembled one night, and after filling a bottle with whisky, they returned to the warehouse, and replaced the staple and seal. As the end of three years approached, Collector Townes wrote to Tatum urging him to prepare to take the liquor from bond, and it was while this correspondence was in progress, on the night of September 5, 1894, the suspicion of the Revenue Department had been excited, and Deputy Collector Vanderford held an investigation. It has resulted in the arrest of John Farmer, Asbury Hyde, William Whitman, Tony Watkins, and John Rowland. They had a hearing before United States Commissioner Hawthorne, at Greenville, and have been held for trial. Some of them have made confessions.

THE BAN TEMPORARILY RAISED.

Delegate Sattoli Suspends the Edict Against the K. of P. FALL RIVER, MASS., March 20.—H. A. Dubogue, Dr. L. P. De Grandpre and Dr. P. E. Collet, of Lafayette Lodge, Knights of Pythias, of this city, and Judge Choate, who went to Washington last week, bearing a petition to Sattoli, that the edict forbidding all Catholics to be members of secret societies be suspended in the case of the Knights of Pythias, have returned to Washington, and announced that the Pope's Delegate has temporarily granted their request until the Pope can consider the petition. The delegates secured an audience with Mr. Sattoli last Saturday, and presented the petition, with the names of the 250 French-Canadian Catholics who are members of Lafayette Lodge, A.

ICY WINTER RETURNS.

CYCLONIC WINDS AND HEAVY RAIN VISIT THE SOUTH.

A Genuine Blizzard in the West—Heavy Snow Fall in Cincinnati and Cold Sleet in Missouri and Other States.

AUGUSTA, GA., March 20.—At 9 o'clock this morning Augusta was visited by the most destructive wind storm or cyclone since 1878. The cyclone came from the southwest, with but little warning, and in less than a minute had passed over the city into South Carolina. In its track there lay destruction, and houses were utterly wiped from their foundations, and sent in all directions, over housetops that were not touched by the bounding, circular wind. Strange to say, there were no fatalities, though in many instances roofs were carried away, while the occupants were left unhurt.

THE HOUSES DESTROYED. The path of the cyclone was about a mile in length from the first place it struck to where it finally rose and passed over. The path was in the shape of an S, and the cyclone struck houses and buildings in all directions. The first two small houses blown down were on small ones on the outskirts of the city.

FIRE UPON THE SCHOONER IRIS.

Late News Confirms the Report of a Second Spanish Attack. TAMPA, FLA., March 20.—The steamer Mascotte arrived yesterday evening direct from Havana, and brought late reports from the seat of revolution. Copies of "La Lucha" confirm the report of the sinking of the schooner by the Spanish gunboat off Puerta Padre, near Gibara.

For two days uncertain and untraceable reports have reached here regarding an American schooner being fired upon by a Spanish gunboat on the southern coast of Florida. Yesterday's steamer brought news from Key West, which is the first authentic information that the schooner Irene, of Key West, had been fired upon and dismantled by the Infanta Isabella near Charlotte Harbor, after which the schooner drifted ashore, where she was again fired upon by the above harbor. It is generally understood that the authorities at Washington have been notified of it. The Irene is a coasting schooner of sixty tons, commanded by Scott Carballo, and her cargo consisted of a crew of thirty men, and she was carrying a cargo of sugar on Saturday, and has created much comment here.

In the same issue of "La Lucha" there are reports of the departure of General D. Jorge Garrich and Colonel Santo Cildoso, with their commands, from Jiguani, and their attack on insurgents at Los Negros, at which previous reports. A letter received from Santiago stated that thirty leading young men of that place had gone into the field under the command of a prominent lawyer, named "Coronel," their passage cancelled. Other letters assert that in Los Villas the insurgents are rapidly gaining strength and confidence. Organized bands are beginning to arise in different sections of this district, and especially near Santo Spirito. This part of the uprising will cause Spain much chagrin, for it is her desire to keep the outside world ignorant of the progress of the revolution. Los Villas is in the central portion of the island, and the chances are that news will be more definite now than that the trouble is so much nearer Havana.

HAD \$50,000 FOR THE REBELS.

When Three Cubans Boarded a Steamer at Tampa They Were Detected.

TAMPA, FLA., March 20.—On Saturday three Cubans, Ricardo Fernandez, Abelardo Leona and another, bought tickets for an excursion to Jamaica. When they presented their tickets at the South Florida ticket office, this morning, they were told by the agent that he had orders to take them up to a battle with the rebels. He first got hold of the tickets before telling them this. They went to the port and boarded the Mascotte, tendering the money for passage. But money was refused, and they were forcibly thrown down. It is reported that these three men had \$50,000 for the revolutionists, and important papers for the patriots. By some means the Spanish Vice-Consul found it out and ordered the three men to be arrested. It is known that one of these is a brother-in-law of General Marti, the leader of the movement.

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This is the Latest Catch in Connection With the Alliance Affair.

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SHOT DEAD THE INTRUDER.

Mr. McGhee Kills a Negro Who Was Trying to Enter His Daughter's Room.

WAYCROSS, GA., March 20.—Henry Dawson (colored), stood on a barrel at the window of Miss Minnie McGhee's bedroom a night or two ago at Patterson, and tried to enter her room. The young lady screamed and screamed for help. The negro threatened to murder her if she did not hush. His threat was answered by the young lady, who was on her way to her daughter's room with a Winchester rifle. The negro did not stop at the approaching figure behind him. He pulled at the window, but his efforts were powerless. Mr. McGhee, the young lady's father, saw the intruder, and shot the negro of the barrel. He staggered a few yards and fell dead. A coroner's inquest was held and the verdict was justifiable homicide.

A Nebraska Bank Fails.

GENOA, NEB., March 20.—The Genoa State Bank closed its doors this morning, and is now in the hands of the State Banking Board. Less than two weeks ago the bank was reorganized and a new set of officers was chosen, with a woman as president. It was announced at the time that the reorganization made it one of the strongest financial institutions of the size in the State. It had a capital stock of \$20,000. The condition of the bank, as stated by the receiver, is as follows: Assets and liabilities, \$85,000; deposits, \$28,000. It is the opinion of the board that the bank will pay out without loss to the depositors, but that it will require time. When the bank was reorganized, March 9th, Mrs. H. E. Hobbs was chosen president, Arthur E. Anderson, cashier, and G. Wilson, vice-president.

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with blinding snow and minute particles of ice, is blowing at the rate of 42 miles an hour. Snow has drifted three and four feet in places, and business is practically suspended to-day.

SHORTAGE IN THE CARBON MINT.

Irregularities to the Extent of \$60,000 Reported to the Director. WASHINGTON, March 20.—Mr. Preston, Director of the Mint, confirms the reports of the shortage in the Carson (Nevada) mint. Mr. Preston's information places the shortage at \$60,000. The fact that a shortage existed was made known to the Treasury Department early in February. Mr. Preston at once ordered Andrew Mason of New York, to investigate the matter. He reported that 3,000 ounces of silver and 3,000 ounces of gold were missing.

Hirsch Harris, the melter and refiner at the mint, responsible for the loss. He was appointed by President Cleveland last June, Harris is under a bond of \$20,000. Ex-Governor Adams, of Nevada, is Superintendent of the Mint. He first reported the shortage to Mr. Preston, who is waiting a telegram from Mason before he takes official action in the matter. Harris will be suspended pending further investigation. Mint Director Preston will probably go to Carson to investigate the matter personally, as considerable dissatisfaction has existed for some time as to the manner in which affairs are conducted in the Carson mint.

ACCIDENT ON THE SOUTHERN.

No One Killed and all the Passengers Escape Without Serious Injury. MACON, GA., March 20.—The south-bound vestibule train on the Southern railway jumped the track this morning at 2 o'clock near Jackson, Ga., and was almost completely wrecked. No one was killed, and all passengers escaped without serious injury. The engineer was badly bruised, and the fireman, Ed. Roberts, was very seriously scalded. Neither had time to jump. The engineer put on the brakes, and this saved the forward coaches from being crushed by the sleepers. All the coaches left the track except the last sleeper, and all turned over. Dr. Rankin, surgeon of the Illinois Central railroad, at Chicago, was on the train, and gave the wounded prompt attention. Dr. Rankin's name was bruised, and no other passenger suffered more severely than he. The accident is said to have been caused by the taking out of a rail from the track.

THURSTON TALKED TOO MUCH.

Too Free in Publicly Criticizing Mr. Cleveland's Administration. NEW YORK Sun of yesterday says: The letter to the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Hawaiian republic announcing that Mr. Thurston is persona non grata to the Cleveland administration was written on the 21st, but its existence leaked out at the State Department only to-day, and then inadvertently.

The charge against the Minister is that he has been altogether too free in publicly criticizing the policy of the Cleveland administration toward Hawaii and of furnishing prematurely for publication information treating Hawaiian affairs as the failure of the attempt to restore Liliuokalani during the trial of the ex-Queen and her accomplices in the conspiracy to inaugurate a revolution. Secretary Gresham's letter demanding Minister Thurston's recall was a lengthy one, and the Secretary of State's charges against him, including newspaper publications said to have been inspired by him, and copies from official documents of the State Department, showing that the Minister had freely talked about matters which the Secretary thought were still to be regarded as State Department secrets.

FIFTEEN INDICTMENTS.

Result of the Grand Jury's Investigation Into the Lavee Riots. NEW ORLEANS, March 20.—At 12:30 the members of the grand jury filed into the court-room, and as soon as the court opened, the grand jury returned a grand jury called, and the foreman presented fifteen indictments, charging twenty men with murder, committed on last Tuesday morning, in the levee troubles. All but five are guilty, but were released from the grand jury's court of indictment.

All of the indictments contain clauses, "and other persons, whose names are as yet unknown to the grand jury aforesaid, being workmen and laborers in the yard, near the levee, who were engaged in placing and stowing compressed cotton on board of vessels at the port of New Orleans." SACRIFICED HIS LIFE FOR HIS FAMILY. NEW YORK, March 20.—In his heroic endeavor to save his wife and children, John Kurtz was killed in the fire at the four-story tenement at 215 West 11th street, this morning. Kurtz, with his wife, two sons and a daughter, occupied the second floor of the building. When the fire broke out, Kurtz, who was in the street, saw the smoke rising from the window, and he dashed up stairs, and meeting his elder son, told him the house was afire, and to look out for his mother. Mrs. Kurtz was quickly aroused. Following her husband, she went to the window, where the greater number of the tenants, aroused by the shouts of Kurtz, had preceded her. Ten occupants of the third floor gained the roof, crossed to the adjacent house and escaped in safety. Two sisters named Schupp found their escape cut off. The firemen sprang tarpaulin under the window, and both the women dropped into it without injury. Tony Ketcham, an insurance agent, who took the women to the roof, was killed from the front window, and landed on the sidewalk, with nearly every bone in his body broken. He died at the hospital at 11 o'clock. The two Kurtz children jumped from the second window and were not seriously injured. The fire had been put out, Kurtz' body was found on the stairway leading to the roof. He had evidently attempted to throw his wife and children to the roof, but was overcome by smoke. His clothing had been burned from his body, and his head was burned to a blackened, charred lump.

Movements of War Ships.

WASHINGTON, March 20.—Movements of vessels were reported at the Navy Department as follows: The Charleston, sailed from the Foo for Port Arthur; the Concord arrived at Shanghai; the Detroit left Nagasaki for Chemulpo; and the Ram Katabah sailed from Boston for Baltimore. The ram has just undergone a gravity test at the Charlestown navy yard. Arrives received at the Navy Department concerning the gravity test of the ram Katabah indicate that the vessel was unimpaired by the test. The Department as to her centre of gravity, stability, etc. The vessel is of an odd design, nothing like her being afloat. For this reason, a comparison with the new ironclad was made, and her designers and builders were somewhat anxious about the outcome. It will be some time before the official calculations are received, but enough is known to indicate clearly that the vessel will meet requirements. Cablegrams received at the Navy Department to-day announce the departure of the San Francisco from Athens for Corfu; the arrival of the Commodore from Cruz, and the sailing of the Chicago from Bermuda for New York.

FRUITLESS EFFORT TO BREAK THE DEADLOCK.

DOVER, DEL., March 20.—The long-expired break in the contest for United States senator came to-day, but did not result in a decision. Five ballots were taken. The Alicks men and the Massey men remained firm, and voted solidly for their respective candidates. All of the Higgins men, except Wilson, went to Edward G. Bradford, of Wilmington, on the first and second ballot, and on the third and fourth ballots went to Dr. Hiram Burton, of Lewis. The Higgins men had decided that it was useless to longer continue for one candidate, and so tried the experiment of going to others. The first and second ballots resulted: Higgins (Rep.), 1; Alicks (Rep.), 6; Massey (Rep.), 4; Bradford (Rep.), 6; Wolcott (Dem.), 3; Bayard (Dem.), 3; absent, 4. The third and fourth ballots resulted: Higgins (Rep.), 1; Bradford (Rep.), 4; Burton (Rep.), 5; Wolcott (Rep.), 3; absent, 4. On the fifth ballot all of the Higgins men went back to Higgins, and he recorded seven votes.

MR. THURSTON IS SILENT NOW.

But if He Had Struck the Attitude Sooner He Might Not Have to Go.

RECALLED FOR TALKING TOO MUCH. His Criticisms of the Administration is Resented by the President—Minister Muruaga Will Not be Asked to Leave.

WASHINGTON, March 20.—The Hawaiian Minister, Mr. Thurston, still declines to discuss the report that Secretary Gresham has asked his Government to recall him. He maintains what is officially known as "diplomatic silence" with respect to the matter, and politely but firmly refuses either to deny or affirm the correctness of the story. No person in official life will discuss the subject, but everybody else who may be assumed to have knowledge of it treats the recall as an assured fact, and some trace the cause of it back to Thurston's comments upon Blount. Euruga Not Persona Non Grata. WASHINGTON, D. C., March 20.—It is authoritatively stated that there is no foundation for the report that Senator Muruaga will be recalled by his Government, upon the suggestion of Secretary Gresham. Minister Muruaga, it is said, has been guilty of no imprudence, which would make him persona non grata to the Government of the United States. While he has spoken his mind freely with respect to the Alliance affair, his friends say he has not violated any of the official proprieties. That Minister Muruaga may, for many weeks, voluntarily retire from Washington, is not doubted in official circles. Should he do otherwise, the policy of the Cleveland administration toward Hawaii, because of friction between himself and the Secretary of State, but for purely personal reasons.

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STATE OF THE REINA REGENTE.

One Paper Says Her Wreck is Discovered While Another Denies It. MADRID, March 20.—El Emparejale this morning says the report that the wreck of the missing cruiser Reina Regente had been discovered is utterly without foundation. The Alfonso XII, which was sent out to search for the missing ship has, the paper asserts, returned to the coast without having obtained any news regarding the fate of the cruiser. The Government still entertains hope that the Reina Regente, having run short of coal, has been blown into the Atlantic, and may yet be heard from.

SAYS THE CRUISER WENT DOWN.

MADRID, March 20.—The Correspondence this morning reiterates the assertion that the Reina Regente has been discovered sunk in shallow water at Bajo Aceitanos, adding that the wreck was just visible at low tide. The paper also says that the cruiser Alfonso XII, which brought from the wreck the bodies of thirty of the crew of the wrecked ship, the Alfonso XII, will return to the scene of the wreck with divers and drugging apparatus, in order to ascertain whether the Reina Regente has been blown into the Atlantic, and may yet be heard from.

THE QUAKERS GO TO HAMPTON.

PHILADELPHIA, March 20.—The Philadelphia Base-Ball Club left here at 10:30 o'clock this morning for Hampton, Va., for many practical purposes. It is the championship season. Manager Iwan took with him twenty-two players, several of whom were untried pitchers. The club will remain at Hampton until April 1st. After traveling to Richmond, they will play with local clubs at Portsmouth, Norfolk, Petersburg, Lynchburg, Roanoke, Hagerstown, Carlisle, Harrisburg, and other towns, and April 18th the club will open the league championship season at Baltimore.

A Cashier Commits Suicide.

LAWRENCE, MASS., March 20.—E. A. Butler, cashier of the Arlington National Bank, and an alderman, committed suicide by shooting this morning. Mr. Butler was taken ill a few weeks ago with the grip, and has been suffering mentally. Mr. Butler had been cashier of the Arlington Bank since its incorporation in 1850, and leaves a widow and three small children.

MINISTER RANSOM SAYS GOOD-BYE.

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 20.—Ex-Senator Ransom, Minister to Mexico, paid farewell visits to the President and the cabinet to-day. He leaves here for his home in North Carolina to-night, from where he will start for his new post. His intention is to start for Mexico on Friday next.

EX-SENATOR DAWES BARBARR.

He Criticizes the Massachusetts Committee for "Slighting" the Negro. BOSTON, MASS., March 20.—Ex-United States Senator Dawes has the following to say regarding the negro Teomoh affair: "I have read the account of a southern committee of the Massachusetts Legislature with a good deal of amusement. If the account is accurate, I shall be greatly surprised if the people of Massachusetts do not hold the committee to a strict account, and they may be right in their satisfaction of the people in a matter of greater importance than any opinion of the safety of Massachusetts dollars in the South."

"One would think from the account that all the representatives of Massachusetts were the anxiety of some of her people over the fate of her investments there. One looks in vain through the whole account of their trip for the slightest evidence that they supposed they represented Massachusetts traditions and principles as well as her dollars. It would seem as if they forgot that Massachusetts had ordained that in her merits Teomoh was their equal and entitled to all the respect to which they themselves were entitled."

"When they found themselves embarrassed at a railroad station in North Carolina, their embarrassment did not seem to arise from the fact that one of the number had received \$1,000 to how they could get along and pocket the insult. Is there anybody in Massachusetts who had to be told that there is no difference between permitting an insult to one's friend and associate and fully giving the insult to the man who hadn't spirit enough to come home and report that they could not look after the dollars that Massachusetts in any part of this country without leaving at home her principles. Such a report as that would have been a disgrace to the State of Massachusetts than any of their clapping on dividends."

"It seems, according to the account, when they got back to Washington, that they did not receive the colored associate in the lobby of the hotel, and treated him exactly as they would under similar circumstances in Boston." I am glad to know that they did that much in violation of Massachusetts' principles, even if it was not the policy of the Massachusetts cannot afford to go back to the days before the war, when there were many willing to crawl before the southern patronage and barter northern principles for southern gains."

REBELS AT THE GATES OF LIMA.

Severe Fighting in Peru for the Past Three Days. NEW YORK, March 20.—A Herald special from Barranco, Peru, dated yesterday, says: The rebels and Government troops have been engaged in battle in Lima for three days.

The attack by the rebels began about 4 o'clock Sunday morning. The rebels were commanded by their chief, Pterolo, and by Duran and others. All communication with Lima has been cut off, and it was impossible to learn the strength of either force. All reports are based on rumors and speculations. It is known, however, that there was a heavy cannon and musketry fire on Sunday and Monday. This continued almost without cessation until sundown of Monday. Two distinct explosions were heard on Monday, but the place where they occurred is not known. There was a renewal of the firing at 5 o'clock Tuesday morning, and it continued for six hours. It is reported that the firing then ceased, so as to permit the commanding forces to care for the dead and wounded.

Reports from Lima are of necessity meagre. From one source, it is reported that President Casco holds the rebels at Barranco, and that the rebels are attacking the forts at Callao, and the Exposition square. It is also reported that he has closed all avenues of approach to the city, and that he has ordered the city to be fortified. In another report that a detachment of the rebels entered the city, but they are hemmed in by the Government troops. It is also reported that the rebels are awaiting orders to deliver it to the Government to reach the suburbs of Lima to-night.

THE CONSERVATIVE YIELD.

LONDON, March 20.—The House of Commons to-day the bill introduced by Mr. Timothy Healy, member for the north division of Louth, giving to every rate-payer in Ireland a vote in the borough in which he resides, passed its second reading. Though the measure is simply similar to the municipal franchise act, which has long been in force in England, it has been brought forward annually for the last twenty years, and its progress blocked by the Conservative members of the House. Mr. Halford and other Conservatives to-day announced that they approved the measure.

TO ARREST MEMPHIS GAMBLERS.

MEMPHIS, TENN., March 20.—E. L. Harris yesterday set on process for the arrest of ten of the best known gamblers of the city, and took steps to recover money he has lost in the local gambling houses. He claims to have lost \$10,000 in various forms of gambling during the last two years, which represents his patrimony, which consists of estates in Mississippi.

NORFOLK AND SOUTHERN DIVIDED.

NEW YORK, March 20.—The Norfolk and Southern Railway Company has declared a quarterly dividend of one per cent, payable April 10th. For the second week of March the company earned gross, \$21,888; increased, \$13,567, and for eight months ended February 29th, of \$264,302, a decrease of \$1,024.

A Negro Woman Lynched.

NASHVILLE, TENN., March 20.—A negro woman, named Harriet Taylor, was hanged by a mob near Petersburg, Lincoln county, last night. She was accused of burning a house belonging to a Mr. Bayless a few months ago.

WEATHER FORECAST.

WASHINGTON, March 20.—For Virginia: Fair, preceded by local snows in the southern portion; northerly winds; slight rise in temperature. For North Carolina: Generally fair, clearing in the early morning; northerly winds; frosts, followed by slowly rising temperature.

RANGE OF THE THERMOMETER.

Following was the range of the thermometer at The Times office yesterday: P. M., 7 P. M., 30; midnight, 24; 4 A. M., 20.

STATE PRISON INQUIRY.

TWO OFFICIALS RESIGN AS A RESULT OF DISCLOSURES MADE. The Governor, However, Expresses Confidence in the Men—Tuesay May Be Asked to Sign if He Is Satisfied.

NASHVILLE, TENN., March 20.—The investigation into the penitentiary deal which is being made by a committee of the General Assembly to-day reached a climax by the resignation of Adjutant-General John A. Fite and President C. C. Estill, of the board of railway commissioners. The resignations were accepted by the Governor, who, at the same time expressed confidence in the integrity of these men. A year ago the board of penitentiary commissioners purchased a piece of real estate near Nashville as the site for a new penitentiary, and advertised for bids for the structure. During the ensuing gubernatorial campaign it was charged by the Republicans that there was a scandal in the deal, hence the appointment of the present committee. The first definite information came in the shape of testimony from W. S. Mitchell, trustee of the real estate purchased, who said he had received \$2,000 to perfect the sale. He