THE RICHMOND DISPATCH.

WHOLE NUMBER, 12,930. RICHMOND, VA., THURSDAY, JANUARY 5, 1893. THREE CENTS PER COPY.

FIGHTING LYNCHERS.

A Desperate Engagement in the North Carolina Mountains.

THIRTY-THREE MEN KILLED.

Many Others Wounded—The Lynching Accomplished—A Second Battle—Twenty-five More Men Killed.

[By telegraph to the Dispatch.]

MARION, N. C., January 4.—The last attack on the Mitchell county jail was made at 6 o'clock Tuesday night. The structure is a frame building, little calculated to withstand an assault, but Sheriff Moomaw had it garrisoned with about seventy-five determined men, who declared they would see the law upheld or die. The attack was expected all day. Tuesday the mountaineers of Mitchell, McDowell, and Yancey counties were assembling in the little mountain hamlet of Bakersville until the population of 500 was about doubled. At 4 o'clock in the afternoon a formal demand was made upon Sheriff Moomaw for Snipes and the two Whitsons by a messenger from the mob, who approached the jail under a flag of truce. To this the garrison responded: "We will die first." Then they knew there would be a fight.

The little company split up into three parties, one remaining in the jail and the other two occupying the Sheriff's house and a barn near the main building. Winchesters were loaded and the wait for the final struggle began. The men were not long in suspense. The night would be bright with moonlight, and it was useless for the mob to wait for darkness. About sundown the first attack was made. At least 500 armed men marched up the road, and with a howl broke into a run for the jail. The garrison was ready for them. "Halt, or I'll give the order to fire!" sang out Sheriff Moomaw. No attention was paid to his warning.

THE BATTLE.

"Fire!" rang out the order, and seventy-five rifles poured a direct and flanking hail of bullets into the determined lynchers. They wavered a moment as a score of them went down, but with the steadiness of veterans they closed up their ranks and rushed forward again under the leadership of a gigantic mountaineer, who urged them forward with the old "rebel yell." Again the rifles of the besieged rang out, and this time they were answered by a concentrated fire from the mob. The aim was deadly. Every window on the exposed sides of the building occupied by the defenders was shot out. A dozen men fell wounded or killed. Their bodies hampered the deputies who were unharmed, and only a few could close up to the windows and return the volley before the mob was upon them. There was a short struggle. A few revolver shots, one hundred clubbed rifles, and all was over. The deputies, with their leader, Sheriff Moomaw, mortally wounded, were in the hands of the mob, and every one of them was looking down the muzzles of at least three Winchesters. There was no hope of further resistance, and the fate of the three murderers was sealed.

THE PRISONERS LYNCHED.

Without waiting to pick up the dead or care for the wounded, the mob made a rush at the door of the jail and it went down before the shoulders of a score of stalwart men. The prisoners were reached. They were the only ones in the jail, and the mob had no trouble in breaking down their frail cells. Half dead with fear, the culprits were dragged out into the open air, where ropes were placed around their necks, with 100 men, mad with the thirst for blood, at the end of each. The wretches were dragged over the ice-covered rocks to a piece of woodland half a mile away. Behind them followed the remainder of the mob, firing at the inanimate forms at every step. The victims were undoubtedly dead before they had been dragged twenty yards, and it was the mere semblances of human forms that were strung up when the woods were reached. Then the mob returned to look for the dead and wounded.

KILLED AND WOUNDED.

In the little enclosure and in the road in front of the jail twenty-five bodies were found, and in three buildings eight more were rigid in death. About thirty others were wounded, some of them fatally, among these being gallant Sheriff Moomaw, who was shot twice through the chest and three times through the abdomen. Nothing definite is known of the wounded, as Bakersville is miles away from any telegraph office and all news brought to this point or Johnson City, in Tennessee, comes by carrier. Since the first news was received four more of the Sheriff's posse are reported dead and five more of the mob.

ANOTHER BATTLE.

The mob remained under arms. Scattered handfuls of the Sheriff's posse also remained under arms and were rapidly reinforced. All through the morning the crowd continued to receive accessions to its ranks and by noon the party numbered 500 to 600 men. Feeling ran high, and after a few speeches the posse resolved to avenge Sheriff Moomaw's death. Another battle took place shortly after noon, in which at least twenty-five more men were killed. What will be the result no one here can tell, but troops are expected.

THE STORY CONFIRMED.

JOHNSON CITY, TENN., January 4.—The facts which led up to the terrible lynching affray in Bakersville, N. C., were as follows: Aaron Wiseman (or Whitson?—*Ed.*) and Calvin Snipes were partners in an illicit distillery in Mitchell county, N. C., and had told William Osborne and Isaac Osborne (brothers) where the distillery was situated. William Osborne reported the distillery to the officials at Bakersville, N. C., and helped them to destroy it. Wiseman and Snipes suspected Isaac Osborne as the reporter. On the night of August 27, 1892, Snipes and Wiseman, armed with Winchester rifles, went to the house of Isaac Osborne and called him out. Mr. Osborne came to the door and the culprits opened fire, almost riddling him with bullets. Wiseman and Snipe were arrested, but sufficient evidence could not be obtained against Wiseman, and he was released. Snipes was bound over to appear in the Superior Court on purely circumstantial evidence. He was placed in jail, and after being confined about two weeks, confessed to the killing in the manner above related. The story of the lynching, and the fatal conflict with the Sheriff's posse is confirmed. The names of those of the Sheriff's posse killed are as follows: J. N. Williams, D. T. Ritchie, R. N. Jones, P. B. Sams, E. E. Johnson, Aaron Reed, T. N. Beckner, J. W. Laws, N. R. Pannell, G. N. Hallified, and Tom Hall.

The names of three of the mob killed are John Worth, William Osborne, T. G. Radliff, Will Perry, John Osborne, Phil. Crowder, Jim Nance, Will Butler, Hagey Byrd, Owen Thomas, Jack Phillis, and several others, whose names are not known at present.

A DOUBT FROM CRANBERRY.

ASHEVILLE, N. C., January 4.—A special dispatch to the Citizen from Cranberry, N. C., Mitchell county, nine miles from Bakersville, says the reports of a lynching at Bakersville are unfounded.

NORTH CAROLINA LEGISLATURE.

Interesting Data as to the State Finances—Valuation of Personal Property.

[Special telegram to the Dispatch.]

RALEIGH, N. C., January 4.—At noon the Legislature began its session. All the fifty senators were present and 113 of the 120 members of the House. Only two election contests were announced. In the Senate A. M. Stack was sworn from Stokes and Surrey. His case is a notable one.

PRESIDENT PRO TEM.

John King was elected President *pro tempore* to serve until the inauguration of State officers. The Senate, by a resolution, named January 11th as the date of the inauguration, but it is learned to-night that this is considered too early, and will be made some days later. The votes for State officers will be canvassed January 10th.

THE SPEAKER.

The House elected Lee S. Overman (Democrat), of Rowan, Speaker. General Robert B. Vance nominated him. J. A. Satterfield, the Republican nominee, received only 15 votes and J. H. Parker (Populist) only 8. All other House officers were unanimously elected.

STATE FINANCES.

Your correspondent is able to give some interesting facts as to North Carolina finances. There was turned over to the new State Treasurer, Colonel Tate, $319,642, on deposit in thirty-six banks; State bonds costing $50,213; cash and cash items, $21,907. The balances at the close of the fiscal year (November 30th) were: Educational fund, $28,568; public fund, $810,400; for partial payment, $3,978; for receiver in the Swazey suit (North Carolina railroad), $33,600; for sale 4 per cent. bonds, $20,650—total, $397,198. From the public fund there was due (most has since been paid) $225,198; leaving as the true balance due that fund in hand $85,502. The State Board of Education has North Carolina 4 per cent. bonds (old investment), $99,250; North Carolina bonds, $30,000; and cash balance in treasury, $28,568—total, $657,518.

EXPENSE ESTIMATES.

The following are the estimates of the expenses of the State for the two fiscal years ending November 30, 1893, and November 30, 1894: Legislative, $63,600; executive department, $26,000; judiciary, $55,750; Railway Commission, $9,200; agricultural societies, $2,250; Bureau of Immigration, $150; Bureau Labor statistics, $3,100; Capitol Square, $6,0 ; Agricultural and Mechanical College, $17,500; conveying convicts to the penitentiary, $9,900; rewards for fugitives from justice, $2,000; interest on 4 per cent. State debt, $132,000; normal schools, $8,500; Oxford Orphan Asylum, $10,000; pensions, $100,000; public printing (estimate), $20,000; quarantine regulations, $2,400; sheriffs for settling taxes, $1,100; State Board of Health, $2,000; State Geological Survey, $10,000; State Guard, $16,000; State Library, $500; State University, $20,000; general contingent account, $30,000; Deaf, Mute, and Blind Institution, $40,000; North Carolina Insane Asylum, $60,000, and for the same, for the hospital and infirmary, $20,000; State Hospital, at Morganton, $80,000, and for the same, special, $9,000; Eastern Hospital, at Goldsboro', $33,000, and for the same, special, $7,500; Normal and Industrial School for Girls, $15,000; School for White Deaf Mutes, at Morganton, $40,000; Soldiers' Home, $3,000; Colored Orphan Asylum, at Oxford, $1,000; Colored Agricultural and Mechanical College, at Greensboro', $2,500; disabled firemen, $2,500; Guilford battle-ground, $200—total, $864,750.

MAY NOT WANT AID.

There is no estimate here for the penitentiary, as it is not known whether that institution will require aid beyond its present balance. If, however, it be not self-sustaining with that balance the estimate for the deficiency will have to be added. These estimates are based upon the reported needs of the various objects mentioned. As a guide it may be stated that the latest valuations of real and personal property in the State, as reported by the Auditor, is $242,429,891, and to this is to be added the value of railway property assessed by the Railway Commission—$19,726,760; making the total of valuation $262,156,557. Each 1 cent on the $100 value will yield, free of costs of collection, about $25,000.

REVENUES.

The estimated revenues are as follows: 25 cents on each $100 value, less 5 per cent. sheriff's collections for collecting, $575,819; 25 cents on the $100 on railway property, $49,317; 3 cents on the $100, less expenses of collection, and 9 cents on the poll for pensions, $93,958; taxes under schedules B and C, $69,000; revenues from other sources paid direct to Treasurer, $50,000; total estimated revenue, $834,094; balance at close of last fiscal year, $85,202; aggregate estimated resources, $919,296.

Under the act of 1879, to compromise, commute, and settle the State debt, bonds described in that act were surrendered amounting to $1,405,545 in exchange for $9,298,950 of new 4 per cent. bonds. There are yet outstanding of the old bonds which would be subject to the scale under that act, if the latter were now in force, amounting to $1,221,500, to take up which would require $316,820 of the 4 per cent's., making the whole possible amount of 4 per cent. debt $3,615,770. The funding act expired July 1, 1892. Treasurer Tate says it would be fair to extend it for a reasonably limited time. The State owns as an investment $146,750 of these bonds and the Board of Education owns $129,250. The State also owns $13,750 in 6 per cent. bonds of Alexander county.

CONSTRUCTION BONDS.

The 6 per cent. bonds known as North Carolina railroad construction bonds, stand at $2,720,000. There are $36,000 of the old issue which cannot be heard from and which are supposed to have been lost or destroyed during the war. The dividends on the $3,000,000 of State stock in this road are pledged to the payment of these bonds and interest. The dividends are $90,000 semi-annually. The interest on the bonds is $81,600, semi-annual, leaving a surplus of $16,800 annually, which is, under the terms of settlement in the Swazey suit, required to be invested in the 4 per cent. State bonds. There is no other bonded debt.

STATE ROAD CONGRESS CALLED.

Governor Holt Issues His Proclamation Calling a Convention January 19th.

[Special telegram to the Dispatch.]

RALEIGH, N. C., January 4.—Governor Holt to-day issued his proclamation calling a State road congress here January 19. In it he says there is a great and growing disposition on the part of the people of North Carolina to discuss matters tending to improve the public roads, and that commissioners of nearly all counties, boards of trade, and chambers of commerce of the principal towns have appointed delegates and asked that the convention be called.

Shoplifting—Election of Mayor.

[Correspondence of the Richmond Dispatch.]

WINDSOR, N. C., January 3.—Shoplifting has become very prevalent of late. Yesterday Mr. J. B. Nichols caught a negro woman named Angelina Burch walking out of his store with a bushel basket filled with several bolts of cloth which she had taken off of the counter. The basket and contents were so heavy that she had to drag it.

A. S. Rosene, at a meeting of the Board of County Commissioners last night, resigned the office of Mayor. His resignation was accepted and C. T. Horden was elected in his place. Mr. Rosene left this morning for Raleigh to attend to his duties as representative in the Legislature.

An infant child of Mr. and Mrs. William T. Hukstall died at the residence of his parents, near town, yesterday evening.

Blizzard at Weldon.

[Correspondence of the Richmond Dispatch.]

WELDON, N. C., January 4.—The temperature fell many degrees here last night, and a regular blizzard is raging to-day. Another brisk snow-storm set in this afternoon, and the ground being in a fine condition to receive it, the soft, white flakes are piling up rapidly.

Master David Stainback, a little son of the DISPATCH correspondent at this place, has been appointed Speaker's page in the North Carolina Legislature by Lee S. Overman, Speaker of the House.

The railroad employees recently removed from this place express great dissatisfaction with the present Coast-Line schedule.

Notes from Scotland Neck.

[Correspondence of the Richmond Dispatch.]

SCOTLAND NECK, N. C., January 4.—The Southern Hotel, at Halifax, will change hands this week. Mr. R. G. Reid will vacate for Mr. Dempsey B. Bryant, of Enfield.

Roanoke river is impassable by reason of floating ice.

Rev. A. D. Hunter, late pastor of the Baptist church at Greenville, passed through to-day *en route* to Carrsville, Va., where he assumes the pastorate of the Baptist church there.

Another Snow-storm.

[Special telegram to the Dispatch.]

RALEIGH, N. C., January 4.—Another heavy snow-storm set in at noon to-day. Snow is falling steadily and is now 4 inches deep, with prospects of being very deep by morning. The temperature has been considerably below freezing point all day.

The Press and Chicago.

[By telegraph to the Dispatch.]

CHICAGO, ILL., January 4.—Major M. P. Handy has been informed that it has been decided to hold the next convention of the International League of Press Clubs at St. Paul May 18th, 19th, and 20th. These dates have been selected in order that the delegates may participate in the Press Congress at Chicago during the week of May 22d.

Freight-Train Collision.

[By telegraph to the Dispatch.]

BALTIMORE, MD., January 4.—In a collision between two freight trains this afternoon at Buena Vista, twenty-three miles east of Pittsburg on the Baltimore and Ohio railroad, Freight-Conductor Peregoy had his leg broken and Engineer Kane was injured about the head, but not seriously. several freight-cars were demolished, and both engines were damaged.

Coal Creek Restless.

KNOXVILLE, TENN., January 4.—A restless disposition has been noted for the last few days among the miners of Coal Creek. The State troops have been fired upon recently and the military authorities are preparing for more trouble.

It is not necessary to call a doctor for a cut or bruise; get Salvation Oil. Only 25 cents.

RIGHT-OF-WAY BILL.

A PROBABLE DEAL BETWEEN THE C. & O. AND N. & W. RAILWAY COS.

Secretary Tracy Favorable to Newport News—A Friend of Mr. Cleveland's Discusses Cabinet Positions—Notes.

[Special telegram to the Dispatch.]

WASHINGTON, D. C., January 4.—The Norfolk and Western railroad bill will come up again in the House next Monday. Some of its strongest friends had a conference to-day with Congressman Meredith and he thinks it will pass. He will make a fight in its behalf it well enough to go to the Capitol. It is now said that the Chesapeake and Ohio people are not opposing the measure, and it is reported that overtures are being made to the Chesapeake and Ohio by the Norfolk and Western to go into a deal with the latter company, run over the Norfolk and Western tracks to Washington, and build a joint depot at this side of the Potomac as soon as the right of way into the District is secured.

IS IT A DEAL?

It cannot be learned that the Chesapeake and Ohio has entered actually into the arrangement, and there is some doubt about the feasibility of so doing for the reason that the Chesapeake and Ohio now uses the Virginia Midland tracks under a running lease from Orange to Alexandria. However, it is claimed this contract could be thrown up, and it is known here that some prominent Virginia people are now in New York holding a conference looking to a deal of the kind named.

NEW ROUTE.

Should it be entered into the Chesapeake and Ohio would run to Washington by leaving their main line at Basic City and going down the valley over the Shenandoah-Valley line and the Norfolk and Western branch which it is proposed to build from Front Royal to Washington.

Congressman Meredith received a letter to-day from a gentleman at Middlesburg stating that the Loudoun-county people are so worked up over the fight against the Norfolk and Western bill that they are going to hold a public meeting to discuss the matter. The fight going on here before Congress between the rival lines in regard to the right-of-way bill for the Norfolk and Western involves besides that company the Pennsylvania, the Richmond and Danville, and the Chesapeake and Ohio.

A CRUISER FOR NEWPORT NEWS.

Several of the Virginia delegation have had conferences with the Secretary of the Navy in regard to the proposition to give the ship-building company at Newport News a chance to construct one of the new cruisers. Mr. Wise called at the department this morning and had a brief interview with Secretary Tracy and is to meet him again to-morrow morning by special appointment. Mr. Wise laid before the department the memorials from the Richmond and the Norfolk chambers of commerce.

Dr. Lawson has also had two conversations with the Secretary on the subject and impressed upon him the great interest felt in the proposition by the people of Virginia, and especially those in the Richmond and Norfolk congressional districts. The Secretary is very kindly disposed, but says that he has really no discretion or power in the matter. Under the law the proposals are advertised for a period of three months, and the sealed bids are put in. When they are opened the lowest bids are taken, if the department is assured the companies or firms are prepared to do the work in a satisfactory manner. The Newport News company, it is understood, have placed their figures considerably higher than Cramp & Sons and other firms. The contracts have not yet been let, and until they are there is still a chance for Newport News.

SHY MR. CLEVELAND.

A very prominent southern Democrat, and one who is a close personal and political friend of Mr. Cleveland, recently had a two hours' conference with the President-elect by special appointment. To-day, in conversation with the DISPATCH correspondent, this gentleman was asked pointedly if Mr. Cleveland in his talks about the Cabinet mentioned any one from Virginia, and the reply was that no Virginia name was brought up, although there was considerable talk about the attorney-generalship. The only names mentioned in this connection were those of Senator Gray, of Delaware, and Judge Culberson, at present the chairman of the House Committee on the Judiciary. Mr. Cleveland's visitor caught the idea, though he says he has no positive information on the subject that the President-elect has Senator Gray in his mind, and is also very favorably disposed toward Judge Culberson.

THE TREASURY PORTFOLIO.

He further said that he thought Mr. Cleveland would not actually dispose of the attorney-generalship until he has selected several other Cabinet officers, first and foremost of which is the Treasury portfolio. "I incline to the opinion," said the gentleman quoted, "that Senator Carlisle can be the Secretary of the Treasury if he wants the place. I know also that Mr. Cleveland is anxious to have Senator Gray in the Cabinet. He wanted to put him on the Supreme-Court bench several years ago. He cannot possibly place Mr. Bayard again at the head of the State Department, but as he is still friendly to Mr. Bayard and regards Senator Gray with such high favor, it would not surprise me should he appoint Mr. Gray Attorney-General, and that might open a way for Bayard's return to the United States Senate. In all probability this plan could be carried out, but of course I cannot authoritatively say that this will be done."

NOT MENTIONED.

This same gentleman was asked if either he or Mr. Cleveland talked of Hon. John Randolph Tucker or Hon. John Goode, of Virginia, the one for Attorney-General, the other for Solicitor-General.

"No; we did not," was the reply. "Their aspirations did not concern me, and as Mr. Cleveland did not speak of these gentlemen, quite naturally I did not."

PROBABLE SUCCESSOR.

It will interest Virginians to learn that if Mr. Carlisle becomes Secretary of the Treasury ex-Judge William Lindsay, of Frankfort, will in all probability be his successor in the Senate. Judge Lindsay is a native of Rockbridge county and went from Virginia to Kentucky. He is a splendid type of man, and has been very successful in his profession, so much so that he refused an appointment tendered by President Harrison as one of the Interstate Commerce Commissioners, at a salary of $7,500 per year. Judge Lindsay is at present one of the World's-Fair Commissioners for Kentucky. He was Mr. Carlisle's chief competitor for senatorial honors just after Senator Beck died.

Senators Daniel and Hunton of Virginia and Vance of North Carolina were in their seats to-day on the reassembling of Congress. Senator Ransom has not yet returned to the city.

NEARLY ALL IN PLACE.

Most of the Virginia delegation in the House were in their seats to-day. Mr. Wise got back day before yesterday. Colonel O'Ferrall feared he would be detained at home by the illness of his youngest daughter, but she improved so much that he managed to leave Harrisonburg yesterday.

Messrs. Edmunds, Lawson, Buchanan, and Meredith are all here, and the absentees from the State are expected to-morrow.

Mr. Meredith attended the session of the House to-day. He still looks badly, but is slowly mending, and hopes soon to be all right.

Messrs. Henderson, Grady, and Crawford are the only ones among the North Carolina delegation in the House who are in town. The others are expected soon.

The House Committee on Post-Offices, of which Mr. Henderson, of North Carolina, is chairman, will begin at once the preparation of the regular annual appropriation bill.

IMPROVING.

Information has been received here that Mr. J. S. B. Thompson, assistant to the general manager of the Richmond and Danville railroad, with headquarters in Richmond, is recovering from his severe illness. He has been in New York for several weeks, where a successful surgical operation was performed. Mr. Thompson is so well and highly regarded in Virginia that the news of his improvement will be a source of satisfaction to his numerous friends.

VISITORS.

Among the well-known Virginia visitors at the Capitol this morning were Dr. W. C. N. Randolph and Mr. J. M. Murphy, of Charlottesville; Dr. Dunn, State Senator from Albemarle, and Judge Shepherd, formerly of Fluvanna, but now of Buena Vista.

Some well-known North Carolinians were also at the Capitol. Among the number were Major Wilson, State Railroad Commissioner; Colonel W. W. Fuller, of Durham, and Mr. S. P. Arrington, formerly of Petersburg, Va., but now of Warrenton, N. C.

United States District Attorney Borland and Mr. A. B. Cooke, of Norfolk, are other Virginians who have been on a visit to the city for several days.

Mr. T. Wilber Cheif, of Richmond, spent the past several days in Washington and Baltimore.

General Mahone is, from all accounts, making Herculean efforts to induce the government to purchase some land from him and his friends for the proposed new public printing-office. Many other people want to sell their property for the same purpose, and the scuffle is a lively one.

Cornelia S. Anderson has been commissioned Postmaster at Leesville, Va.

Miss Peachy, of this city, formerly of Virginia, died this morning. She was a cousin of Mr. George L. Browning, of Rappahannock county, who has a position here in the office of the Doorkeeper of the House, and in consequence of her death he was not at his post of duty today.

FIFTY-SECOND CONGRESS.

Stewart on Free Coinage—Anti-Options—Special Pension Bills.

[By telegraph to the Dispatch.]

WASHINGTON, D. C., January 4.—SENATE.—The holiday recess of Congress ended at noon to-day.

The McGarrahan bill was laid over till Tuesday next.

STEWART FOR FREE COINAGE.

Mr. Stewart called up Mr. McPherson's joint resolution (introduced December 21, 1892,) to suspend all purchases of silver bullion under the Sherman act, and gave notice of an amendment to it, being the bill introduced by himself on December 12th, with the third section modified so as to make its closing sentence read: "And all silver bullion belonging to the United States shall be coined as rapidly as possible without delaying coinage for depositors." He addressed the Senate in an argument against the repeal of the act of 1890 and in favor of free coinage.

THE ANTI-OPTION BILL.

The Senate at 2 P. M. took up the anti-option bill as the unfinished business. An amendment was offered by Mr. Washburn and agreed to inserting in section 2 words so as to make the proviso read: "That such contract or agreement shall not be made to be settled on future delivery or by settlement of difference, or by any other mode of performance or settlement, in or upon any board of trade," etc.

Mr. White (Democrat), of Louisiana, moved to insert in section 3 the word "flour" as one of the articles referred to.

Mr. White moved to strike out the proviso at the end of section 2.

The vote was taken after discussion and resulted—yeas, 12; nays, 30. As a quorum did not vote the roll of the Senate was called. Forty-four senators (just a quorum) answered to their names, but without further action on Mr. White's amendment the Senate went into executive session, and at 3:20 P. M. adjourned.

House of Representatives.

At 12 o'clock the Speaker, in a clear voice, called the House to order, and the Chaplain offered prayer.

PUBLIC BUILDING QUESTION.

Mr. Scott (Democrat), of Illinois, asked consent for the consideration of a resolution setting forth that the Fifty-first Congress provided for the construction or extension of seventy-five public buildings, and that forty-seven have not yet been contracted for, and calling on the Secretary of the Treasury for information as to the reason why so many of these public works have not been begun, and why more than $8,000,000 remained unexpended during the last two years, while the public service suffered.

Mr. Dingley objected, and the resolution was referred.

PRIVATE PENSION BILLS.

Mr. Martin (Democrat), of Indiana, called up the private-pension bills on the calendar of unfinished business.

One bill was passed and then the House, at 2 o'clock, adjourned without a quorum, being able to muster but 148 votes.

UNDERGROUND MAIL-TUBES.

An Experimental Line May Be Laid in Washington City.

[By telegraph to the Dispatch.]

WASHINGTON, D. C., January 4.—It is among the possibilities of the near future that the experiment will be made in this city of a rapid method of handling mail-matter in a large town by means of underground tubes. Under the encouragement of Mr. Wanamaker a company has now under consideration plans for making a practical test of this system in carrying the mails from New York to Brooklyn. It is proposed now that at the same time a similar test be made in this city. The route suggested is between the general post-office and the city post-office. The tube for the transmission of mail matter is to be underground, and instead of using compressed air electricity will be the motor. It will be known in a few days whether the company will make this city an experimental station.

The McGlynn Case.

[By telegraph to the Dispatch.]

WASHINGTON, D. C., January 4.—Bishop Keane, being asked this evening as to what he had to say in regard to recent statements touching the alleged suppression of a letter in the McGlynn case, said: "It is very singular that the parties who have so carefully reproduced the old story of 1887 have failed to give also to the public the official statement which the story was at that time said to dispose of. On September 12, 1887, a statement was given to the press of the country explaining the reasons why Dr. Burtsell's letter was not handed to the Propaganda. Briefly stated, the letter was directed to Cardinal Gibbons, then in Rome, and not to the Propaganda.

"Instead of 'suppressing' the contents of the letter Cardinal Gibbons was very careful to communicate them to the Cardinal Prefect of the Propaganda. Cardinal Gibbons was in no way authorized to act as an intermediary between Dr. McGlynn and his Archbishop, and, therefore, scrupulously avoided interfering in a matter in which he had no direct concern, and his visit to Rome had in view a different purpose."

California's Senatorship.

[By telegraph to the Dispatch.]

SACRAMENTO, CAL., January 4.—New complications in the senatorial fight arise every day. To-day was made noteworthy by the withdrawal of Jeremiah Lynch, which leaves the Democratic field clear for Stephen White. White is now confronted with mutiny in his own ranks, two assemblymen refusing to sign the caucus rule. Even if the two Populists and one Independent vote with the Democrats they have no majority. To secure a majority the Democrats have issued a secret call for a caucus to-morrow evening on the senatorship. They need three votes. An attempt will be made to unseat H. B. Miller, of Alameda, and James McGown, of San Francisco. It is reported that four Republicans will absent themselves during the senatorial balloting. This would give White a clear majority.

West Virginia's Senatorship.

[By telegraph to the Dispatch.]

CHARLESTON, W. Va., January 4.—Ex-Governor E. W. Wilson is the latest candidate for United States senator. Ex-Senator Johnson N. Camden is developing considerable strength and the re-election of Senator Faulkner is regarded as by no means certain.

Lodge for Senator.

BOSTON, MASS., January 4.—The Republicans of the Legislature in joint caucus this afternoon nominated Congressman Henry Cabot Lodge for Senator to succeed Henry L. Dawes. He received 147 votes, to 30 for William W. Crapo, and 9 scattering.

Sister Lease Withdraws.

TOPEKA, KANS., January 4.—Mrs. Lease has put an end to her candidacy for the United States senatorship, which her admiring friends and newspapers have brought upon her. In a letter to-day, addressed to Chairman Bredenthal, of the Peoples' Party State Committee, she makes a formal withdrawal from the contest and advocates the election of a straightout Populist.

Clothing-House Damaged by Fire.

[Special telegram to the Dispatch.]

NORFOLK, VA., January 4.—A fire at the clothing-house of Nicholas & Wallace, on Main street, to-night, considerably damaged the building and stock. The fire was accidental and the property partly insured.

The Pope and Harrison.

LONDON, January 4.—The *Chronicle's* Rome correspondent says: "The Pope has been unusually irritated by the collapse of his project to appoint a nuncio to the United States, for which Archbishop Ireland had secured President Harrison's permission."

A CLEVER SWINDLER

HE PRACTICES ON PRIESTS AND CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS.

Attempt to Obtain Money from Fathers O'Farrell and Price—How Romaine War Entrapped by the Latter.

[Correspondence of the Richmond Dispatch.]

PETERSBURG, VA., January 4.—Rev. Father O'Farrell, priest in charge of St. Joseph's Catholic church, of this city, this morning received a telegram from Father Price, the Catholic priest in Halifax, N. C., announcing the arrest of a man named Romaine *alias* Goldsborough, and thereby hangs an interesting story.

On Tuesday of last week, while Father O'Farrell was seated in his library at his parochial residence, on Market street, he noticed two strangers walking up the street. A few minutes later the elder of these men, a person of very neat appearance and wearing gold-rimmed glasses, returned, and, knocking at the door of the residence, was politely received and bidden to walk in and take a seat. The stranger gave his name as Romaine, and introduced himself by handing Father O'Farrell a letter purporting to be from Father Allen, president of St. Mary's College, at Emmettsburg, Md. The Father carefully read the letter. It stated that Mr. Romaine was a commissioner in equity for Carroll county, Md., and executor of the estate of Mrs. Mary Ball, who had willed a considerable amount of money to St. Joseph's parish, of which the late venerable Father Thomas Mulvey was at one time in charge. The stranger stated the amount to be between $100 and $500. At this point there seems to have been a mutual recognition between Father O'Farrell and his visitor, as the latter, rising and excusing himself, retired, saying that he would call again in the afternoon. He never returned.

AN OLD ACQUAINTANCE.

The fact was Father O'Farrell had recognized Romaine, and the latter, who was a remarkably intelligent man and a person of fine conversational powers, had recognized the Father. This accounts for his abrupt departure. Father O'Farrell says that about ten years ago he was assistant to Rev. Father McVery, in Staunton, when this same man called at the parochial residence and introduced himself as Mr. Goldsborough. He then represented that a bequest had been left the church in Staunton and presented a check for $300, covering the bequest, but said that there were some expenses attending the case and wanted a fee of $25 for services. Father O'Ferrall, in the absence of his principal, declined to pay the amount, and the stranger got nothing from that source. It is stated, however, that under the same representations Goldsborough got about $150 from the large educational institutions in Staunton. After the stranger had left his residence here Father O'Farrell endeavored to keep a watch upon him, but he escaped his vigilance, as also that of the police, to whom the facts had been reported.

WORKING IN NORTH CAROLINA.

On Friday last Father Price, of Halifax, N. C., arrived in this city and called at once upon Father O'Farrell. He appeared very much elated over the fact, as he stated, that he had a check for $500, which had been given him by one Romaine to cover a legacy left to his church at Halifax, and the object of his visit here was to collect the money. While in Weldon Father Price accidentally met the confederate of Romaine, who told him there was no necessity for him to come to Petersburg to cash the check, as the money could be as easily collected through the express company. But Father Price preferred to get the amount in person. The probability is that he paid liberally for his experience, and that his spirits fell when Father O'Farrell told him that Romaine was a swindler, and repeated his own experience with him.

ROMAINE'S ARREST.

After talking the matter over Fathers O'Farrell and Price went to the telegraph office and sent messages to the priests in different parts of North Carolina requesting them to look out for Romaine. Father Price returned home with his bogus check and subsequently telegraphed Father O'Farrell that Romaine had been arrested and asking whether or not the prisoner could be held on the frauds committed in Staunton. The authorities of the latter city have been communicated with in respect to the matter.

A FORGED LETTER.

It should here be stated that Father O'Farrell telegraphed to Father Allen, at Emmettsburg as to the authenticity of the letter of introduction presented to him by Romaine and received an answer that the letter was a forgery. The stranger's intention was no doubt to swindle Father O'Farrell out of $25 or $50 as the alleged costs of bringing the bequest.

THE SWINDLER IN WILMINGTON.

[By telegraph to the Dispatch.]

WILMINGTON, N. C., January 4.—A stranger, representing himself as Dr. W. S. Ellison, of Washington city and executor of the estate of Mrs. Eliza Wardlaw, called on the Rev. Dr. Nash, pastor of the Fifth-Street Methodist church, last Monday and informed him that Mrs. Wardlaw had in her will left that church $500, and he wished to draw a sight-draft on Drexel & Co., of Philadelphia, in favor of Dr. Nash for that amount, which was done. He added that the costs in court when the will is probated would amount to $6.15, which amount Dr. Nash gave him. The stranger so captivated the pastor by his pleasant address and oily tongue that he was invited to supper at the parsonage, where he entertained the family with stirring incidents of the late war. It has just transpired that the seductive stranger is a fraud, and that he has been playing the same game at other points. There is no trace of him thus far.

CLEVELAND NOT DICTATING.

He Has Expressed No Preferences in the Senatorial Contests.

[By telegraph to the Dispatch.]

NEW YORK, January 4.—The question has been asked Daniel S. Lamont, "What foundation is there for the published report that Mr. Cleveland is interfering in the senatorial contests in various States and endeavoring to dictate the election of his own friends?"

"It is time," answered Colonel Lamont, "that the friends of Mr. Cleveland took some notice of this falsehood. I can state authoritatively that Mr. Cleveland has not dictated or even suggested the election of any one in the States in which there are Democratic legislatures and where contests are being made."

"Has Mr. Cleveland expressed himself about these reports?"

"He has. I have received many letters asking if the reports were true. I may say that in many of the States Mr. Cleveland does not know who are candidates for senator except through general report. In New York, of course, Mr. Cleveland has stated his objections to Mr. Murphy, as he had a right to do, but he has not gone beyond his own State."

Colonel Lamont was asked if he would tell Mr. Cleveland's attitude towards those who might be looked on as having been anti-Cleveland men. He shook his head at first and then was asked as to the truth of the story afloat in political circles to this effect: "A prominent anti-Cleveland Democrat from this State called on Colonel Lamont and asked him about the treatment those men who had opposed Mr. Cleveland would receive, to which Colonel Lamont replied that he did not care to talk about that matter, but he could say that Mr. Cleveland would certainly not forget the men who were in favor of him."

"That is true," said he, "I said it, and it represents Mr. Cleveland's position."

A Wheeling Sensation.

[By telegraph to the Dispatch.]

WHEELING, W. VA., January 4.—A great sensation was sprung in this city by the filing of a suit by the Wheeling Bridge Company against William P. Hubbard, John M. Sweeny, W. D. Updegraf, Henry Schmelbach, J. E. Hughes, and F. J. Park, trustees, and George W. G. Ferris, and Gustave Kaufman at a late hour this afternoon by Attorneys Caldwell & Caldwell. Ferris and Kaufman are the contractors who built the bridge. The others are bridge trustees. They are charged with combining and overcharging to the amount of $125,000, which they divided among themselves. The defendants are leading citizens.

Two Skaters Drowned.

[By telegraph to the Dispatch.]

BALTIMORE, MD., January 4.—Arthur Kennedy, 19 years old, and George Freeze, 24 years old, were drowned while skating near Sparrow's Point this afternoon. William Freeze, a brother of George's, broke through the ice while attempting to rescue his brother and was himself rescued with difficulty. William Breenen, another of the party, managed to keep clear of the thin ice, and by means of a board which he procured nearby succeeded in getting William Freeze upon solid ice. By that time the younger men, overcome by their exertions to get out, were drawn beneath the ice by the current and drowned. Arthur Kennedy came from Steelton, Pa., where his parents reside. The parents of George Freeze reside at Camp Hill, a suburb of Harrisonburg, Pa. He had been employed with his brother at Sparrow's Point.

SHOT AND STABBED TO DEATH.

Rose (Negro) Cuts Martha Graves's Throat and Shoots Her Four Times.

[By telegraph to the Dispatch.]

HUNTINGTON, W. VA., January 4.—Martha Graves (colored) was murdered here this afternoon by John Rose (colored), who is a druggist. Since her separation from her husband last summer Rose has been paying attention to Mrs. Graves and had lately become very jealous. Last night, on the street, he slapped her and she threatened his arrest. He told her he would cease to bother her if she would not prosecute him, and if she did he would kill her. This afternoon he was arrested and fined for his assault upon the woman. He followed her from the Magistrate's office to the house of a friend and shot her four times in the region of the heart and then cut her throat from ear to ear. He attempted to escape, but was found and arrested under the Chesapeake and Ohio depot, where he had crawled for concealment. He says love and whiskey made him murder his victim. The colored populace are terribly excited and threaten lynching. A special grand jury will be empanelled for this case tomorrow.

MANY NEW FACTS.

The Panama-Canal Investigation Leading to the Gravest Developments.

[By Anglo-American cable to the Dispatch.]

PARIS, January 4.—M. Blondin, of the Credit Lyonais, was confronted before Examining Magistrate Franqueville this afternoon by Marius Fontane, the imprisoned director of the Panama Canal Company. Many new facts were elicited, and eventually Franqueville ordered that he be placed under arrest. It is reported that other important steps will be speedily taken by the examining magistrate. In the law courts to-day the report was current that M. Franqueville had found an important telegram addressed to Charles de Lesseps which would not only greatly strengthen the prosecution but would lead to the gravest developments before the opening of the trial next Tuesday. To-day Franqueville had numerous interviews with high police officials and with M. Tanton, the Procureur-General, and consequently more arrests are expected to take place within the next twenty-four hours.

RECEIVED HIM A CORPSE.

A Forgiving Father's Disappointment with Respect to a Wayward Son.

[By telegraph to the Dispatch.]

CRAWF