

ORGANIZATION DAY.

Meeting of Various State Legislatures--Messages of the Governors.

The Senatorial Outlook in Minnesota--Windom's Election Predicted.

A List of Candidates in Nebraska--A Dead Lock Probable.

A Republican Elected in Updegraff's District--A Bourbon Victory in Alabama.

GOV. CLEVELAND'S MESSAGE.

ALBANY, N. Y., Jan. 2.--The legislature convened to-day, and the message of Gov. Cleveland was read. He confines himself to state matters entire, and does not touch on national affairs. He says that the finances of the state are in a satisfactory condition, showing a balance in the treasury of \$3,857,563. He calls attention to the imperfect laws regarding taxation, and refers to the fact that personal property escapes to a great extent its fair proportion of taxation. He recommends the abolition of the auditorship of canals and the board of canal appraisers. All propositions and schemes for the enlargement of the canals or the expenditure of large sums of money for their alteration should, in his opinion, be stubbornly opposed, at least until the effect of the abolition of tolls is fully apparent. He urges a reduction in the expenses of maintaining the superintendency of the insurance department, and that the insurance laws be reduced to a plain and simple enactment, which shall be a safeguard against the abuses to which this important interest is now exposed. He trusts that legislation pertaining to the military will be in the direction of efficiency and good discipline. He believes that state prisons should be self-sustaining, but that state should not seek for a profit from prison labor. He recommends a reorganization of the department of agriculture with a view to its economical maintenance, and considers the present system of maintaining the harbor masters of New York city as a burden upon commerce. He hopes the reorganization of the various departments of the state will be speedily undertaken. In regard to reform in civil service he says: It is submitted that the appointment of subordinates in the several state departments and their tenure of office should be determined by merit and efficiency, and that this principle should be embodied in legislative enactment to the end, that the policy of the state may conform to the reasonable public demand on the subject. He touches upon several other topics, suggesting nothing in connection therewith, and concludes by urging a jealous watch of the public fund, the abolition of unnecessary offices, and the enactment of wise laws. Alfred C. Chapin, of Brooklyn, was chosen speaker of the House.

THE DELAWARE LEGISLATURE.

DOVER, DEL., Jan. 2.--The legislature organized to-day by the election of the democratic officers. Gov. Hall's message, which treats entirely upon state matters, was read.

THE OHIO LEGISLATURE.

COLUMBUS, Jan. 2.--The Ohio legislature convened to-day. The governor's annual message was presented and read in both houses.

Mr. Biggar's Trial.

WATERLOO, Jan. 2.--The trial of Mr. J. G. Biggar, member of parliament for county Cayuga, for the utterances in his recent speech here, began to-day. Mr. Edmund Learney, member of parliament for this city, defended Mr. Biggar. The prosecution asked for the latter's commitment to answer the charge of high treason, and he was committed for trial at the Waterloo spring assizes. Bail was accepted.

An Awful Crime in Quebec.

STONEMILL, QUE., Jan. 2.--At Little Rideau, east Hawkesbury, a hired man murdered Mr. and Mrs. R. W. Cooke and their eldest daughter and one of their sons. Cooke was murdered with an axe in the barnyard; Mrs. Cooke and daughter were strangled in the wood shed, and George, the son, was killed in the kitchen. Another son, who had his thigh broken may recover. Fannie Cooke, who came to her brother's assistance, received a severe wound in the breast, but will probably recover. The murderer is still at large.

A Little Boy Shot.

EVANSVILLE, IND., Jan. 2.--A little son of Policeman Smock was shot late on Sunday night by one of three roughs, who were with difficulty captured by the police. They are from Cincinnati, and gave their names as John Behrman, George Herchenberger, and John Kraus. The boy died yesterday. Another man took offense at a remark made by some of Smock's little companions, and the boy was immediately fired upon with a pistol.

Concluded to Close.

NEW YORK, Jan. 2.--The Tradesmen's Fire Insurance company, of New York, organized December 1858, has decided to close its business in view of the condition of the insurance business. The company is perfectly solvent, and will pay the original capital back to its stockholders, and a considerable dividend besides. The Standard fire office of London, re-insure the Tradesmen's on its outstanding risks.

Sales of Leaf Tobacco.

DANVILLE, VA., Jan. 2.--T. L. Brown, president of the Tobacco association, reports that there were sold in the last three months 5,039,000 pounds of leaf tobacco, at an average of \$9.72 per 100 pounds. For the same period last year, 5,114,000 pounds, at \$10.07. The internal revenue for manufactured tobacco for the last three months is \$20,950,000; for the same period last year, \$20,329,950.

Mashed to Death.

ALBANY, N. Y., Jan. 2.--Nimrod Owens (colored), and Michael Longevin, and Matthew Hassett, laborers, were killed to-day by the caving in of earth upon them while cutting down a high bank for a new street. Another man lost his life in the same way at the same place a few weeks ago.

Murderous "Gentlemen."

SHEVERPORT, LA., Jan. 2.--Dr. A. Cockerill and Thomas Moore Compton, prominent men, had a dispute on a street at Alexandria yesterday, each drew a pistol. Several shots were discharged. Compton was shot dead. Dr. Cockerill was badly wounded.

TELEGRAPHIC TWISTINGS.

Eighteen men employed in the department of yards and docks in the Brooklyn navy yard were discharged yesterday, owing to insufficient appropriations.

Mr. H. P. Filer, an old resident of Troy, N. Y., has given \$10,000 in cash to the Rensselaer polytechnic institute. The gift has been added to the endowment fund.

Hon. Samuel Woods, of Philippi, Barbour county, West Virginia, has been appointed judge of the supreme court of appeals of this state, to fill the unexpired term of Judge Hagmond, resigned.

A decision was rendered in the supreme court of Louisiana in the Rivet case, sustaining the premium bond act and the levy of the tax by the city. It caused the premium bonds to advance four points, closing at 84.

The boiler in the saw mill of H. P. Hollister, near St. Louis, Mich., exploded yesterday, killing S. E. Goodwin and injuring J. Richter severely, and F. Myer slightly. Cause, low water. The engineer has been arrested.

A draw bar in a freight train was pulled out near Thames Grove, Conn., and five dump cars loaded with coal were derailed, and others partially derailed. The damage was trifling, but a delay of several hours was caused on the Norwich and Worcester railway.

In the superior court of Boston, Wilson W. Fay began suit against the *Economist* yesterday, and *Mining Journal* to recover \$5,000. He alleges that the above newspaper charged him with making false quotations of stock, and added that he was not a member of the brokers' board, and had no recognized position among respectable firms.

In the state supreme court of Pennsylvania yesterday, Hon. George Sharwood formally retired from the office of chief justice, and Hon. Ulysses Mercur was inducted into office as his successor. The proceedings were also marked by the reading of a memorial from Hon. Silas M. Clark, who was recently elected to serve in that court.

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Comments of the Parisian Journals and English Papers.

What is Said of Him by the German Press--His Life Work.

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Other artists for the illustrated papers were similarly occupied in the rooms. The money M. Gambetta leaves principally accrued from his newspaper. A correspondent who made the tour of the Paris streets yesterday, says there was real consternation in the bourgeois and trading quarters. In the artisan districts there was stern indifference among the groups of workmen, and one person was even exclaimed against for saying that the republic had suffered a great loss. Further details of his death state that M. Gambetta was impatient to see the end of the year, which he considered had been unkindly for him. The body will be embalmed and reinterred to-day.

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The autopsy shows that the death of Gambetta was the result of peptiphilic pericellite. No surgical operations would have been dangerous, but inevitable. No lesion was discovered in any of the organs, except the intestines.

The decomposition of M. Gambetta's body, hastened by the muggy weather, has been fearfully rapid. The body died yesterday, and has become so shocking that the idea of having the body lie in state in the palais bourbon has been abandoned. The watchers by the corpse have been kept watching saturated with a disinfectant. The body of M. Gambetta's father has consented to a state funeral. Telegrams of condolence received by the family of M. Gambetta include one from the American consul at Lyons. The family have consented to a state funeral in the cemetery of the city.

The government will devote 20,000 francs to meet the cost of the funeral of M. Gambetta. At the autopsy to-day the top of the head was removed and the brain extracted. The latter will be given to the anthropological society. The official report of the autopsy shows that there had been a long-standing inflammation of the bowels, which led to a contraction of the small intestine, bringing about the fatal result.

The autopsy proves that the pistol wound inflicted a month ago had no connection with the cause of M. Gambetta's death.

Physicians and pathologists performed the autopsy on the body of M. Gambetta. After it had been completed the embalming process was begun. The coffin is made of fir wood and is lined with white satin. It will be enclosed in a leaden casket fastened with the triple lock. The casket will be placed in an oak coffin with silver mountings. The hall of the ground floor of the palais bourbon will be transformed into a chapel after the body of M. Gambetta will be taken to-morrow to the Palais Bourbon, where it will remain until Friday, when the funeral will take place. The interment will be in the cemetery of Pere la Chaise. The *Temps* states that the members of the diplomatic corps will ask leave to attend the funeral.

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BURNING BUILDINGS.

Valuable Art Pictures Destroyed--All Sorts of Structures Reduced to Ashes.

New York, Jan. 2.--At 11 o'clock last evening the drapery in Miss Gibbons's art gallery, No. 12 Broadway, caught fire from a gas jet, and although the prompt arrival of the firemen saved the building, pictures valued at \$40,000 were destroyed. The following are some of the pictures burned, with their estimated value: "A Forest Scene," \$3,000; "A Venetian Peasant Girl," a landscape by Lefevre, \$2,000; "Rapture," \$2,000; "Vivette," \$1,000; "A Scene in the Alps," by Jodine, \$3,000, and two companion pictures of fruits and flowers, by Beecher, \$2,000. The loss is covered by insurance to the amount of \$20,000. The building was damaged \$2,000.

WHITE RIVER JUNCTION, U. S., Jan. 2.--The Union freight depot at this place caught fire this morning and was destroyed, together with the stock of the commission merchant of New York, Woodstock railway depot and Daniel Tilden's stock of flour were also burned.

NEW HAVEN, CONN., Jan. 2.--The house of Prof. Miller, of Yale college, was burned this morning. It contained a valuable library and a collection of scientific instruments. The loss is estimated at \$10,000 to \$15,000.

NEWARK, N. J., Jan. 2.--A fire on Sunday last destroyed the residence of Mr. George R. Vanderpool, late commissioner of New York. The loss is estimated at \$45,000 on the house, and \$5,000 on the furniture. The house was insured for \$22,000, and the furniture for \$10,000. The fire was caused by the upsetting of a stove, which had been left burning. The house at the time was only occupied by a servant. The neighbors saved about \$8,000 worth of furniture.

DUNFREM, Jan. 2.--Fire at Manistee last night destroyed J. H. Russell's meat market, L. W. Miller's photograph gallery, James Vandusen's saloon, D. Dehart's dwelling and barn and the stores of Parry & Mee (hardware), Mrs. Newson and the Misses Haley (millinery), Barrett & Cugin (grocery), and Bideman & Lane (clothing). Loss about \$50,000.

GALVESTON, TEXAS, Jan. 2.--The *Nes*'s Marshall special says the building and stock of the co-operative store at Harrison, range brick block, occupied by fire recently. Loss on stock \$10,000.

HALIFAX, N. S., Jan. 2.--The International hotel at Shelburne was destroyed by fire to-day, with the furniture. Loss about \$10,000.

CONCORD, N. H., Jan. 2.--The Union steam mill was burned to-night. Loss, \$30,000. The chief losses are Nadeau, Nason & Co., contractors and builders.

EASTON, OHIO, Jan. 2.--Fire to-day, burned J. H. Mumford & Co.'s grain elevator, with adjacent dwelling property of the firm. Loss, \$20,000.

PINE BLUFF, ARK., Jan. 2.--A fire here early this morning destroyed the two-story brick block, occupied by Rosenbaum & Ties, furniture dealers, and Sol Rosenberg, dealer in plantation supplies, as well as the adjacent stores. The loss is \$125,000; insurance, \$63,000. The fire was incendiary.

The Grand Grays were holding a dance over the room in which the fire broke out when the alarm was sounded. They all escaped, but lost their wigs and cloaks. The city has a steam engine, but there being a conflict between the city council and fire department, it was permitted to get out of order, and was therefore useless.

VICKSBURG, MISS., Jan. 2.--The stores occupied by Yanas & Shaster and Charles Kletter were burned to-night. Loss, \$125,000.

FLOODS IN EUROPE.

Cities and Towns Submerged--Thirty-five Persons Drowned.

VIENNA, Jan. 2.--All traces of the quays and banks of the Danube are lost here. Their places are merely marked by eddies in the torrent. A great quantity of water is still expected from the upper reaches of the river.

WIESBADEN, Jan. 2.--From Mayence down the entire plain between Mannheim and Worms is an immense lake.

VIENNA, Jan. 2.--The Danube is still rising. The race course here is flooded as far as the exhibition building. At Frankenthal, Bavaria, 6,000 persons have abandoned their homes on account of the floods.

WIESBADEN, Jan. 2.--The northeastern portion of the North Brabant is submerged. Hundreds are homeless.

FRANKFURT, Jan. 2.--A boat conveying passengers to-day from Oppan to Ludwigshafen was dashed to pieces against a tree. Thirty-five persons were drowned.

LONDON, Jan. 2.--A dispatch from Wiesbaden reports that 500 houses have been destroyed by the floods in the villages around Worms. The rain continues.