The National Republican.

VOL. XXVIII--NO. 91. WASHINGTON, D. C., THURSDAY MORNING, MARCH 8, 1888. THREE CENTS

EMPEROR WILLIAM DYING.

HIS ILLNESS TAKES A SUDDENLY CRITICAL TURN.

All Hope of Prolonging the Venerable Ruler's Existence Abandoned by His Physicians—He Rallies at Night After an Exceedingly Bad Day—Wild Rumors Afloat in London—Some Persons Professing to Believe the Emperor is Dead.

LONDON, Mar. 7.—There is now no doubt, even in the minds of those accustomed to accept the invariably optimistic reports from Berlin as true, that the emperor of Germany is dying. The wildest rumors are afloat to-night concerning his condition and the succession to the imperial throne, and many persons professing to have reliable information boldly assert that the Kaiser's earthly career is already terminated, the announcement of his death being withheld pending the perfection of certain of the German chancellor's schemes for strengthening his hold upon the succeeding ruler. The presence at the palace of Prince William, Prince Bismarck, and Count Von Moltke is regarded as evidence that the Kaiser's physicians have abandoned hope of saving his life. Hitherto the emperor's peculiar malady has always yielded to the injections of morphine, which his doctors have fallen back upon as a last resort, but in the present case this treatment has failed to produce the desired effect. All of the European bourses were feverish to-day, and there is likelihood that a feeling akin to panic will take possession of some of them to-morrow.

BERLIN, Mar. 7.—The emperor slept badly the first part of the night.

Prince William, who has just returned from San Remo, visited the emperor and empress at 11 o'clock this morning.

The condition of Emperor William is unsatisfactory. Prince William, Prince Bismarck, Gen. von Moltke, and the court physicians are present at the palace.

It is reported that the closing of the reichstag will be postponed in consequence of the condition of the emperor.

The *Reichsanzeiger* publishes the following bulletin which has been issued by the emperor's physicians:

"To the general symptoms of cold which have affected the emperor since Saturday, together with an affection of the mucous membane of the throat and irritation of the membranes of the eyelids, have been added during the past few days painful abdominal disorders, which have occurred frequently since yesterday. The emperor's appetite has materially diminished, owing to which there has been a marked decrease in his strength.

"VON LAUER, Leuthold."

4:30 P. M.—The emperor awoke at 3:30 o'clock this afternoon and took some nourishment. His condition is critical. Prince Bismarck left the palace at 3 o'clock.

5 P. M.—The emperor has suffered a serious relapse. He has been in a heavy sleep since 2 o'clock this morning. His condition causes great anxiety.

7:30 a. m.—The emperor is dying. Prince Bismarck, who had returned to the palace, has just left again to convene a meeting of the ministers.

The Grand Duchess of Baden, the emperor's daughter, and her husband, and the Crown Princess of Sweden, the emperor's granddaughter, have been telegraphed for, and will arrive in the morning.

10 p. m.—The slight nourishment the emperor was enabled to take this afternoon has perceptibly revived him, and there is still hope, despite his feeble condition, that he may rally.

A late afternoon, yet Berlin dated midnight says that the emperor was at that hour no better, and was in an almost comatose state.

The doctors were anxious on account of the emperor's rapidly declining strength. Last night the emperor had a serious fainting fit, the second during his present illness. After midnight he lay in a doze. The doctors were unable to wake him to administer food until late in the afternoon. Late this evening he asked for food, and on partaking of it felt refreshed. The members of the ministry of the imperial house were in attendance during the night, and the telephone to Potsdam was kept open. It is stated that, in addition to the kidney affection, the emperor is also suffering from an intense pain due to inflammation of the parts affected by the rupture which he suffered some time ago. It has been found that the morphia administered to alleviate the pain is too much for his strength, and has a bad effect upon his appetite. The injections of the drug will, therefore, be discontinued. Doctors von Leur and Leuthold do not leave the emperor an instant. The greatest excitement prevailed in the palace all day, but to the general public little was known until toward evening.

Midnight potshare has been no change for the worse but until now the emperor has been unable to sleep again.

The emperor talked a little with his aide-de-camp, but his mind wandered somewhat. It is stated that it is impossible to administer remedies, and that his recovery depends upon his recuperative powers. Another fainting fit would probably prove fatal.

The emperor slept from 4 till 5 and then ate some oysters, which did him much good. All the afternoon and evening the palace was besieged by inquirers, many of whom came in carriages. Prince Bismarck was loudly cheered on leaving the palace.

The Crown Prince passed a very comfortable day. It is expected that in view of the illness of the emperor he will return immediately to Berlin or to some place in Germany at least, if his uneasiness to travel should render his journey to the capital impossible.

BRIGHT SCORES GLADSTONE.

LONDON, Mar. 7.—A letter from John Bright was read at a reception given to Lord Hartington this evening. He reminds the liberals that the Gladstonians had shirked discussion of the Gladstonian bills which had ruined the party. No one familiar with the details of the bill was willing or able to defend them. The Gladstonians preferred to attack the government, denounce Balfour, and spread extravagant stories of the brutal enforcement of the crimes act. They have great sympathy for disloyal Irish leaders and priests, who forget their mission is one of peace and not violence. They say nothing for the humble men imprisoned for offenses incited by gentlemen disturbers of the peace. The sentences for common offenses in England are more severe than those whose writings and speeches had caused terrorism and boycotts, outrages and murders which had disgraced Ireland and shocked mankind for seven years. There is no instance in modern history of humiliation so great as that to which the liberals had bear reduced by blindly following a leader who, toward the close of a great career, had committed the grievous error of adopting a policy which the country will never commend.

Lord Hartington contended the unionists had every reason for congratulation, and their increasing strength would enable them to maintain their opposition to Gladstone's dangerous and dishonest schemes. Gladstone had openly palliated violence and dishonesty in Ireland.

Queen Victoria and the Prince of Wales have sent telegrams to Berlin asking for the latest news regarding the emperor's condition. The German embassy here has not yet received official notification of the emperor's serious condition.

The queen's "drawing-room" appointed for Friday will be postponed if Emperor William becomes worse in the meantime.

The queen will start for Windsor Castle at 11 o'clock Saturday evening after the silver wedding banquet of the Prince and Princess of Wales. The police have taken measures to protect the whole route. All the members of the royal family except the queen will attend service in the royal chapel on Sunday.

Imports during February increased £1,020,000 over February, 1887, and exports £1,740,000 over those of the same period.

W. H. Smith announced to-day that Chancellor Goschen would state the government's proposals regarding the national debt at Friday's sitting.

At a meeting to day Lord Charles Beresford said it would be impossible for the navy in its present condition to defend the merchant service in time of war. He declared the existing admiralty system was completely rotten.

Count Herbert Bismarck is betrothed to a relative of the Marquis of Londonderry, Lord Lieutenant of Ireland.

The Russian naval fleet is to be reorganized, so as to improve the subdivision and distribution of forces in European waters.

The shipment of freight by the subsidized Black Sea Steamship Company has been suspended, and order have been given to fit out a line of steamers for freight shipments.

FRENCHMEN TALK TOO MUCH.

PARIS, Mar. 7.—In the chambers to-day M. Floquet complained that the speeches were too long, and said the government would not be responsible if the budget was not adopted by the end of the month. The estimates for the department of agriculture were adopted. The first clause of the estimates for public worship was passed.

The chamber has adopted the proposition to create five inspectors general.

M. Wilson's appeal from his two years' sentence will be heard March 19.

Premier Tirard has denied that the use of Gen. Boulanger's name as a candidate is sufficient ground on which to interpellate the government. The *Temps* says it would be difficult to place Boulanger on the retired list, but if reports are true cipher telegrams of a compromising nature are extant which ought to be published.

SHUT OUT BY NEW ORLEANS.

The Washingtons Lose the Second Game of the Southern Series.

[Special to the REPUBLICAN.]

NEW ORLEANS, Mar. 7.—Two things can be attributed to the Washington's defeat here to-day—extreme cold weather and the looseness of the Washingtons in contrast with their game Sunday, and continued practice the last three days. Daily was ordered not to exert himself on account of the coldness of the day, as it was better that he should have a good arm for the opening of the championship than to go north a cripple. New Orleans had a pitcher who did nothing but barely toss the ball, completely baffling the Senators. Murray is indeed a jewel for Washington. His catching here to-day was without an error. He batted finely. The two clubs play again Friday and Saturday, after which the Washingtons start for Birmingham. The score:

WASH'N, R.	B.	PO.	A.	E.	N. ORL'NS.	R.	B.	PO.	A.	E.
Wilmot, l. f.	0	2	1	1	0 Powell, r. f.	0	0	3	2	1
Irwin, 3b.	0	0	3	1	0 Sneed, c. f.	0	0	0	0	0
Shoch, r. f.	0	1	2	0	0 Werden, 1b.	1	2	7	1	0
Hoy, c. f.	0	3	1	1	0 Kelly, l. f.	2	1	2	0	0
O'Brien, 1b.	0	1	4	2	0 Fuller, s. s.	1	1	1	0	1
Daily, p.	0	0	0	11	2 Bligh, c.	2	2	8	2	0
Myers, 2b.	0	0	2	3	1 Bradley, 3b.	1	1	2	2	1
Murray, c.	0	2	12	4	0 Geis, 2b.	0	0	4	0	0
Gardner, ss.	0	0	2	4	1 Dunn, p.	0	3	0	10	3
Total	0	9	27	27	4 Total	7	10	27	17	6

INNINGS.

New Orleans	0	2	0	0	0	3	0	2	0	—7
Washington	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	—0

Earned runs—New Orleans, 3. Two-base hits—Fuller, Dunn, Werden, O'Brien, and Bligh. Total bases on hits—Washington, 5; New Orleans, 14. First base on errors—Washington, 2; New Orleans, 4. First base on balls—Washington, 3; New Orleans, 4. Left on bases—Washington, 5; New Orleans, 7. Struck out—By Daily, 10; by Dunn, 7. Passed balls—Murray, 1. Umpires—Snyder and Suck. Time of game—2 hours and 15 minutes.

ONCE AGAIN THE FISHERIES.

Canada's Proposition and the United States' Declination of It.

OTTAWA, ONT., Mar. 7.—During the past twenty-four hours communications have been passing between Ottawa and Washington relative to the publication of Canada's proposal for the settlement of the fisheries dispute on a trade basis, and the American answer thereto. The necessary consent of Sir Charles Tupper's colleagues having been obtained, the minister of finance tabled the documents at the opening of the house this afternoon. The Canadian proposal is as follows: That with a view of removing all causes of difference in connection with the fisheries, it is proposed by her majesty's plenipotentiaries that the fishermen of both countries shall have all the privileges enjoyed during the existence of the fishery articles of the treaty of Washington, in consideration of a mutual arrangement providing for greater freedom of commercial intercourse between the United States and Canada and Newfoundland. The American reply is as follows:

While continuing their proposal heretofore submitted on the 30th ultimo, and fully sharing the desire of her Britannic majesty's plenipotentiaries to remove all causes of difference in connection with the fisheries, the American plenipotentiaries are constrained, after careful consideration, to decline to ask from the President authority requisite to consider the proposal conveyed to them on the 3d instant as a means to the desired end, because the greater freedom of commercial intercourse so proposed would necessitate an adjustment of the present tariff of the United States by congressional action, which adjustment the American plenipotentiaries consider to be manifestly impracticable of accomplishment through the medium of a treaty under the circumstances now existing. Nor could the American plenipotentiaries admit that such a mutual arrangement as that proposed by her Britannic majesty's plenipotentiaries could be accepted as constituting a suitable basis of negotiations concerning the rights and privileges claimed for American fishing vessels. It still appears to the American plenipotentiaries to be possible to find an adjustment of the differences by agreeing on an interpretation or modification of the treaty of 1818 which will be honorable to both parties and remove the present causes of complaint, to which end they are now, as they have been from the beginning of this conference, ready to devote themselves.

MRS. GARFIELD AT HOME.

Accompanied by Her Daughter She Arrives From Europe.

NEW YORK, Mar. 7.—The North German Lloyd steamer Trave, having on board Mrs. Garfield and her daughter, arrived this morning. Mrs. Garfield's two sons, Irwin and Abraham, together with John A. Logan, son of Gen. Logan, went down to quarantine on board the United States cutter Chandler to meet Mrs. Garfield.

The Trave experienced a boisterous voyage. When off the Needles the steamer met with heavy seas and strong westerly winds, both of which she battled with during almost the entire voyage.

Mrs. Garfield did not leave the steamer until it reached the wharf. Besides her daughter Mollie, Mrs. Garfield was accompanied on her trip by a Miss Mason and a Miss Paulfin. The party was not detained by the custom authorities, they passing the baggage without examination. Mrs. Garfield had nothing to say beyond the fact that her health was very much improved.

MURDERED A UNION SOLDIER.

One of the Deeds of the Knights of the Golden Circle.

CAIRO, ILL., Mar. 7.—Sheriff Burrell yesterday arrested Dr. J. W. Stone, charged in the confession of Albert Quackenbush with complicity in the assassination of a Union soldier named Jackson Bollard in March, 1864. The assassination was ordered by the Knights of the Golden Circle to prevent the capture of Anderson, a deserter. A plot was laid to murder several others, who were serving papers as drafting officers.

REPUBLICAN CLUBS.

Gratifying Increase in New York City and State.

NEW YORK, Mar. 7.—At the subexecutive committee of the Republican League to-day it was reported that 25 new clubs have been added since Feb. 1, making a total of 63, and that 30 others will join within a week. There are 205 clubs in the state. A meeting of the full executive committee will be called for Albany March 27 to decide whether a convention of the state league will be called at the time of the regular state convention.

THE STRIKE IS SPREADING.

THE ENGINEERS ON THE NORTHERN ROAD LEAVE THEIR ENGINES.

Brotherhood Men of Other Lines Refuse to Handle the Burlington Cars—Complaints Made of Secret Assistance to the Burlington—Other Roads May be Tied Up.

CHICAGO, Mar. 7.—Five Lake Shore engineers to-day refused to take Burlington cars from Englewood to Sixteenth street, declaring they would quit before handling anything with a "Q" label. The Wabash and Union stock yards switchmen also refused to handle Burlington cars. The twenty-five "Q" employes at the stock yards were discharged to-day, as no stock has arrived for some days.

Chief Arthur said to-day there was serious danger of the strike of the Brotherhood engineers and firemen spreading. The men all over the country are complaining that other roads are aiding the Burlington, and telegrams of complaint are being received daily. From Aurora comes a request to investigate the charge that Reynolds, a New York Central engineer, was forced to take a position on the Burlington or consider himself discharged. The Michigan Central is also under the ban for offering to send engineers to the Burlington free.

Not a single road on which the Burlington made a demand to handle freight responded favorably. The Wabash refused point blank. The St. Paul declined, and a train which was switched on that road was hauled back, and the Chicago, St. Paul and Kansas City road says it prefers a law suit to a strike.

At the Burlington offices to day it was reported that seven passenger and 101 freight trains were run in Iowa yesterday. More trains were also handled on the Illinois division yesterday than on the preceding days.

The grievance committee of the Chicago and Northwestern railroad were to meet at McCoy's Hotel this evening, but all the members not having arrived adjournment was taken until 9 o'clock to-morrow. The question to be discussed is the handling of Burlington freight by the Northwestern. Complaints are being received of the actions of the St. Paul, Wisconsin Central, and other roads. The air is full of war and rumors of war. The general opinion is that a strike would be justifiable on the Burlington, though Chief Arthur entertains more conservative ideas. John J. O'Brien says there is no imminent danger of a strike on the other roads, as Chief Arthur does not want to paralyze trade in so vast a territory.

Grand Chief Wilkinson, of the Brakesmen's Brotherhood, has arrived for consultation with Chief Arthur in consequence of the issuance by the latter of an order by him directing the brakemen to show the new engineers the road. He says no member of the Brakemen's Brotherhood will be allowed to do anything outside of his legitimate duties.

The full support of the entire Brotherhood of Engineers and Firemen has been pledged to their members who may strike on any road in the country. The grievance committee of each road held meetings today, and the sanction of the general executive board is thus given in advance to any strike which might occur. While each meeting closed to-day with authority to inaugurate a strike on roads affecting a vast stretch of country, yet no such demonstration had been made up to this evening. No meetings were held in this city to-day while others were held at Omaha, Rock Island, and Kansas City.

LA CROSSE, WIS., Mar. 7.—The engineers of the Chicago, Burlington and Northern Railroad left their engines at 10 o'clock this forenoon. Arrangements have been made by the company to supply men enough to prevent serious delays. The offices of the company were crowded with non-brotherhood men seeking positions. Of the refusal to cease handling Burlington freight, the company claim to be guided entirely by the interstate law.

DENVER, COL., Mar. 7.—The Burlington strike threatened to extend to the Denver and Rio Grande to-day. There were several loads of freight consigned by the Burlington to the Rio Grande, but the engineers on the switch engines refused to handle them, saying they would quit work before they will move them.

BURLINGTON, IOWA, Mar. 7.—The Brotherhood has a grievance against Railroad Commissioner Day. Chief Engineer Fowler, of the Brotherhood, said that, by request, he obtained affidavits of 125 men to the incompetency of fifteen men, who had taken the Brotherhood's places. Shortly afterward Commissioner Day came to this city, and, though a delegation called on him seven times in that day, he could not be found. The next day he had left the city without making a move in the investigation.

There are 175 men who left the Burlington service, one third of whom are non-Brotherhood men. They are all confident of success. The yards here are guarded by eighty-nine special policemen, but thus far their services have not been required. The men say the company is doing but one-fifth of the business done before the strike. While they are running all but four trains they are only partly loaded, and the trains are not as heavy as formerly. The railroad officials are also confident of success.

MILWAUKEE, Mar. 7.—The engineers of the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul road said to-day they did not expect to be drawn into the strike. Everything is quiet in railroad circles.

GALESBURG, ILL., Mar. 7.—Of the 150 Brotherhood engineers in this division 111 left their engines at the command of Chief Arthur. Division Superintendent Rice says they are as fine a body of men as he ever saw, and expresses regrets that they should have deserted the company.

The division holds meetings in a house directly opposite the depot. They are not discouraged, and neither do they attempt to conceal anything, having acknowledged that two of their members have returned to work. The mayor ordered the Brotherhood men to keep away from the tracks, but Superintendent Rice says it is unnecessary, as they would not place a straw in the way of obstruction.

The Brotherhood men say that but thirty men have taken the places of the 109 who went out and remained out. Of the four trains started yesterday four pulled back dead, the engines having been wrecked. The boiler men ay twelve engines are in the shops, the result of careless handling by incompetent men. The Brotherhood men say the road is doing comparatively no business. Division Superintendent Rice, however, says the road is doing 50 per cent. of its former business and within a few days will be able to handle all freight which is delivered to it. He says thirty-five freight trains were moved yesterday. The new men are bunked in an upper story of the depot out of the reach of persuading committees.

THANKING BLACKBURN.

A Grand Army Post Commends His Defense of Hancock and McClellan.

PHILADELPHIA, Mar. 7.—The Gen. Robert Patterson Post, No. 275, G. A. R., met this evening at its headquarters, Broad and Ellsworth streets, when the following preamble and resolution was unanimously adopted:

Whereas a bill is now pending in the United States Senate called the dependent pension bill, and though this post feels thankful to a grateful country for its remembrance of the services of her soldiers, yet we learn with regret that the memory of loyal and brave veterans has been publicly insulted in the national Congress in order to advance the measure in question; therefore be it

Resolved, That the thanks of this post are tendered to Senator Blackburn, of Kentucky, for so ably defending the memory of these tried and true patriots, Generals George B. McClellan and Winfield S. Hancock.

It was ordered that copies of the above be sent to Senator Blackburn.

Earthquake in California.

PASADENA, CAL., Mar. 7.—A shock of earthquake was felt here to-day. Brick buildings were shaken, but no serious damage done.

SPRINGFIELD'S FATAL FIRE.

Six Lives Lost in the Burning of a Newspaper Office.

SPRINGFIELD, MASS., Mar. 7.—The new office of the *Evening Union*, at the corner of Main and Worthington streets, was burned out about 4 o'clock this afternoon, and the blaze was attended with the most sickening horror ever witnessed in this city. Six of the employes met a terrible death, most of them jumping from the fifth story and being crushed into a shapeless mass below. Six others were badly injured.

The fire was first discovered in the mailing room, and clouds of smoke were pouring out of the lower story windows before the fifty souls on the upper floor were aware of their danger. The flames shot up an old elevator in the rear, cutting off escape by the stairway, and most of the employes who escaped found their way to the ground by way of the roof in the rear. The unfortunate men and women who crowded into the editorial rooms met a horrible fate. Some were cut off in the composing room, and there is still a terrible suspense, as several fell back into the flames. The employes who rushed into the editorial room were cut off from the escape in the rear, and had to face the horrible alternative of burning to death or a jump to the sidewalk below and frightful mutilation. The fire department responded promptly, but it seemed an age before it reached the windows on the fifth story. A ladder was put to the fourth story, and the sight of rescue so near seemed to madden the suffering group at the two windows, who dropped in succession to the sidewalk below. Six fell in this way, some of them forced off and some madly leaping, and the crowd groaned and turned their heads away as they whirled through the air.

The dead are as follows: Henry I. Goulding, foreman of the *Union* composing room, burned to death; Miss G. Thompson, proof reader; Mrs. Frederick E. Farley, editorial department, fell from the window and killed; Mr. Lamzon, of Quebec, jumped and was killed; W. E. Hovey, of Boston, fell to the sidewalk; Mr. Brown, compositor.

The injured are: Thomas Donahue, compositor, bad cut on the head and left leg broken at the knee; Timothy Dunn, compositor, arm and leg broken; Joseph W. Witty, compositor, hand, neck, and ears burned; he clung to the window until the fire forced him to drop, but he fell on a ladder and was saved. G. F. Ensworth, compositor, compound fracture of the leg; Thomas Dobohue, compositor, broken thigh; fatally injured.

It is thought that the fire started among the lumber in a closet on the ground floor. The flames were drawn up the elevator well, and spread through the composing room. There were more than thirty compositors, men and women, on the fifth floor. There was no fire escape. A dense black smoke issued from the windows in clouds, and by the time the fire department arrived the top windows were filled with poor despairing human beings, who did not seem at first to realize their dreadful position. The crowd underneath cried to them to have courage, and on no account to try to jump or climb down, and they at first seemed disposed to obey, but so slow were the ladders in being erected that a panic seized the victims.

The scene, as the people began to drop or fall from the blazing windows, was horrible. A shriek broke from the crowd as each of the victims fell into the street below. There was a great clapping of hands when a woman was seen slowly descending the ladder. The noise of the crowd was hushed as the wounded were carried through to the ambulance. The only available article for quenching the flames in the office was an old watering can. There were no force pumps or fire buckets of any sort.

MYSTERIOUS ROBBERY.

A Package of Money Taken from a Safe—An Arrest on Suspicion.

[Special to the NATIONAL REPUBLICAN.]

RICHMOND, VA., Mar. 7.—A robbery has occurred at Pocahontas, in this state, involving a loss of $2,700 in money, which has not been explained. An old gentleman named Nelson applied to Mr. Crockett, the owner of a drug store in Pocahontas, and asked permission to deposit the money in his safe for a few days. Mr. Crockett agreed, but when the money was wanted a short time afterward it was not in the safe. It is said that one Mr. Crockett, his clerk, and C. S. Finley, a young man of Tazewell county, knew the safe combination. Suspicion pointed to Finley, and it is learned to-day that he has been arrested and bailed for his appearance. The affair has caused a sensation, as Mr. Finley is a man of good family and well connected.

NO INFORMATION WANTED.

The Democrats do not Wish to Face Their Victims.

Having marshaled their forces overnight the Republican members of the ways and means committee renewed their attack on the Democratic majority's tariff and revenue measure yesterday morning. Alsof the members were present at 10:10 o'clock, and when the committee had been called to order Mr. Reed opened the proceedings by renewing his motion that representatives of the cement industry be heard by the committee. After the exchange of some tart remarks between the opposing lines this motion was defeated by a strict party vote, as were motions to give the marble men and metallic manufacturers hearings.

Mr. Breckinridge, of Kentucky, next offered a general resolution that all industries affected by the pending bill have liberty to file written or printed communications before the committee, but no oral hearings be granted.

Mr. Kelley moved to amend so as to require that those communications already on file or hereafter received be read by the clerk to the committee.

The proposed amendment was rejected.

Mr. McKinley then requested the committee to hear workingmen and members of Congress on industries in which they are interested, and which were touched upon by the bill. Being put in the form of a motion this was also voted down, and the Breckinridge's resolution was adopted by a party vote after the Republican members had expressed their minds vigorously in opposition to it.

After adjournment a conference of the Democratic members was held, at which it was resolved to proceed with the consideration of the tariff revenue bill in committee, when certain information—mainly tables showing the present and prospective tariff receipts—shall be received from the printer. It is understood that this will be ready in a day or two, and a meeting of the committee will probably be called for Friday or Saturday.

LOUIS STIERMAN'S TROUBLES

Culminate in the Burning of His Store and Stock.

Special Officer James turned in an alarm from box 134 at 12 o'clock last night for the burning of Louis Stierman's store, Tenth street, near E. It was a one-story brick and almost entirely consumed when the fire department arrived. Mr. Stierman was unable to estimate his loss, but thought that about $350 would cover it. The origin of the fire could not be learned, but is thought to have been accidental. Mr. Stierman was much distressed at his loss, as it comes to him at a time when he can hardly endure it. His father was not long ago severely injured by a train at Boundary street and later his mother was killed by a train very near the spot where the father was hurt.

Theatrical Mechanics' Association Benefit.

The second annual benefit of the Theatrical Mechanics' Association at the New National next Wednesday promises to be a most pleasing and successful event. The special attractions will be W. J. Florence and Vernona Jarbeau, assisted by a legion of volunteers. A unique feature of the entertainment will be an act by the beneficiaries themselves, who will make a change from an outside to an inside scene in full view of the audience.

Last Week of Prof. Carpenter.

Prof. Carpenter's last week in this city has thus far been very successful, and there is every evidence that he will continue speaking to crowded houses during the remainder of his season at Willard Hall. His entertaining and instructive lectures on hypnotism have impelled many of our best citizens to investigate this strange while unknown science, and thousands have been amused by his startling and mirthful experiments.

MR. MASON, OF ILLINOIS,

Gaining Remarkable Prominence for a Young Member of the House.

The appointment on Tuesday of the Hon. W. E. Mason, one of the new members of the Illinois delegation in Congress, to the vacancy on the committee on claims is a deserved compliment to the ability and industry displayed already by that gentleman in this session of Congress. Besides this important place, Mr. Mason is one of the leading members of the strong minority on the committee on Pacific railroads, and his recent cross-examination of Mr. C. P. Huntington when he appeared before that committee displayed much judicial talent, and has been favorably commented upon both by the friends and opponents of that railroad company.

When Mr. Mason made his attack upon the various trusts of the country early in January the older members of the House looked aghast, and when Mr. Samuel J. Randall arose to reply they expected to see Mr. Mason routed completely. But they were mistaken, as he successfully answered Mr. Randall and the other representatives. Mr. Mason brought with him to the House the experience of a number of years in the Illinois legislature, and the prominent part he took in the leading measures there and then enacted gave him a well earned state reputation. Considering that he is a new member his success has been remarkable.

THE ANCIENT MARINER.

An Entertaining Performance Promised by the Choral Society.

The performance of the Choral Society of the "Ancient Mariner" at Albaugh's Grand Opera House, next Saturday night, promises to excel any of the organization's previous efforts. It has been heard here before and well received, and on this occasion it will be given with orchestra for the first time in this country. The soloists will be heard in separate numbers as well as in the cantata. Mrs. Ford of Cleveland, who immediately sprang into favor on her first appearance here, will sing "The Indian Bell Song" from "Lakme." Her high clear voice will be heard to great advantage in this number. The contralto, Miss Alice Goodrich, is also from Cleveland, although now located in New York. Much pleasure is anticipated in the appearance of this talented young artiste. Of her a late number of the *Musical World* says: "Miss Goodrich enters upon her artistic career with every advantage. She is young in years, good looking, and has enjoyed a fine musical training. She is a great favorite with musicians and musical people, and, what is better and much more essential than all, has a fine rich-toned contralto voice of great power and compass." She will sing "Patria" by Tito Mattei, and Lassen's "Nabe de Geliebten."

Mr. Whitney Mockridge, who was introduced to Washington music lovers by the Choral Society, will render "Celeste Alda." His first appearance here was with Miss Agnes Huntington, when the society gave Rheinberger's "Kiarchen von Eberstein." Dr. Hopkinson, of Baltimore, is favorably known to many Washingtonians. His appearance with the Oratorio Society in his own city was very highly spoken of. His selection will be Robandi's "Bright Star of Love," with 'cello obligato. The Washington Sympony Orchestra, under the leadership of Prof. Sousa, will give two selections. Many who were unable to attend the excellent concerts lately given by this organization will be glad to avail themselves of this opportunity to hear them.

THE NATIONAL FENCIBLES

Receive a Number of Active and Honorary Members.

At the regular monthly meeting of the National Fencibles last night the following active members were elected: John M. Boyd, E. L. Phillips, and H. S. Nichols; also the following honorary members: H. H. Nichols and George W. Brock. The resignations of W. H. Heald, Harry Kimmell, and J. M. Johannes were accepted. J. G. Stelle was chosen corporal, and Sergt. W. W. Mortimer was appointed to act as acting quartermaster sergeant.

A vote of thanks was tendered to the ladies and gentlemen assisting in the entertainment given by the company in January last. It has been decided that an informal hop will soon be given at the armory to the ladies who took part in equestrienne drill. Steps have been taken to furnish lockers, and also plans looking to the fitting up of a library, contributions to which have already been received. At a meeting of non-commissioned officers money was raised to furnish the room.

The company is in a very flourishing condition, and many applications are now before the recruiting committee. The company regrets that the lateness of the invitation from the Grand Army prevented their attendance.

CROWDED TO THE DOORS.

The Grand Army Fair at the Infantry Armory.

Last night the Grand Army fair was crowded to the doors. Notwithstanding the difficulties encountered in moving about everybody seemed to be in a jolly good humor. At 8:30 o'clock the Old Guard, Capt. Edgar commanding, headed by their famous drum corps, and escorting the National Rifles, Capt. James Oyster commanding, marched into the fair room. Col. Charles P. Lincoln received the visitors and extended them a warm welcome. Capt. Edgar and Lieut. Masson returned thanks for the Old Guard and National Rifles respectively.

At the close of the speaking the drum corps aroused great enthusiasm by playing "Marching Through Georgia." The commands as they marched up the avenue showed themselves to be soldiers in every sense of the word. Later in the night Col. Lincoln secured a large number of the members of the Loyal Legion from Grand Army Hall to the fair. Money seemed plentiful, and the "paddle" stands did the largest business thus far of the fair. Balloting closes to-night on a number of articles. To-morrow night all balloting closes and the fair ends Saturday. There were many prominent persons present.

The Caton Divorce Case.

The case of James H. Caton against Annie M. Caton for divorce was argued before the the court in general term yesterday by Mr. F. W. Jones as counsel for complainant. This is the case where the complainant was presented with a son two days after marriage, and who repudiated the heir as not being his. Owing to the peculiarity of the case Justice Cox decided to send the case to the court above for hearing when it was brought before him in the equity court. In his argument Mr. Jones claimed that this was the quickest time on record in the District, as the nearest competitor was a case where two months elapsed after marriage.

Colored Men's Savings Bank.

[Special to the REPUBLICAN.]

RICHMOND, VA., Mar. 7.—For the first time in the history of country a savings bank to be controlled by colored people has been chartered by the legislature of Virginia. The officers of the bank will be colored men.

Potomac Fair—admission 10 cents.

PERSONALITIES.

JAMES G. BLAINE, JR., and wife are at Welcker's.

COL. DONN PIATT has been removed to the Providence Hospital.

DR. RAPHAEL LORINI has been appointed resident physician for Garfield Hospital.

WM. O. GILMOUR, formerly of the Cecil (Md.) *Democrat*, has been appointed a railway postal clerk.

IN consequence of ill-health Hon. Simon Wolf was compelled to postpone his lecture to have been delivered last night at All Souls' Church.

EVERY old citizen of Washington will remember J. Knox Walker, private secretary to President Polk. While acting in that capacity a son was born to Knox Walker and named Samuel Polk Walker. This native of Washington has been for over twenty years a resident of Santa Rosa, Cal., and is now in the city of his birth on a short visit. He is stopping at Willard's.

SHAKESPEARE REPRODUCED

BY ENTHUSIASTIC AMATEURS WHO LOVE CHARITY AND THE STAGE.

A First-Class Performance at Albaugh's Opera House Last Night for the Benefit of the National Homeopathic Hospital—A Society Event.

The grand Shakespearean pageant and pantomime which has been so extensively discussed and anticipated in society circles for some time past became an accomplished fact last night. The object for which the entertainment was given is a noble one, and the appeal made in this instance—to the charitable feelings of the amusement-loving public—ought to result in a generous addition to the funds of the National Homoepathic Hospital. Before the curtain went up on the first scene in Albaugh's Opera House last night it did not seem, even to the most sanguine of the outsiders, that the first presentation was going to be a success, for the audience was by no means a large one, although it included a number of senators and representatives with their families and friends. The managers, however, did not seem to be particularly blue because so many orchestra seats were empty, and investigation showed that the cause for their contentment was in the fact that the seats had been sold, although they were not occupied. The presumption is that a great many people thought that the performance was going to be another of those "amateur bores," and concluded that the best way out of it would be to purchase tickets and then (having been charitable) to stay away. If such an idea did prevail there never could be imagined one more full of error, for, from first to last, the "pageant and pantomime" was all that the most coldly critical could have asked for.

The opening scene—the court of Elizabeth—was a fitting introduction to the entertainment. The participants were as royal and courtly in demeanor as were the persons whom they represented. "Good Queen Bess," impersonated by Mrs. Thomas A. Riggs, was an admirable character, and her courtiers (all appareled is historically correct costumes) were represented by the following:

Earl of Leicester, Wm. de H. Washington; Lord Burleigh, F. D. Owen; Lord Bacon, J. H. Soule; Sir Francis Howard, C. C. Tyler; Sir Walter Raleigh, Joseph Wasdell; Sir Francis Drake, Mr. Scawell; Ladies of the Court, Mrs. Senator Sabin, Mrs. Senator Bate, Mrs. Representative Butterworth, Mrs. Commodore Washington, Mme. Romero, Mrs. Representative Lacey, Mrs. Judge Baker, Mrs. Assistant Secretary Maynard, and several other ladies of social distinction; Maids of Honor, Miss Leary, of Richmond; Miss Butterworth, Miss Tyler, Miss Bate, Miss Arth, Miss Pontland, Miss Schmidt. Knights and attendants.

After her majesty had summoned William Shakespeare (Mr. John Tweedale, admirably made up), and requested him to display, for the delectation of the court, representations of scenes from some of his masterpieces, the inner curtain went up and the second scene from act III of "Hamlet" was revealed. The entire cast was as follows:

King, Dr. Ralph Jenkins; Hamlet, John B. Randolph; Polonius, Frank Cleaver; Guildenstern, J. Hampton Thompson; Rosencrantz, George C. French; Horatio, J. P. Wooten; Bernard, Judson A. Lamon; Player King, Dr. E. R. Rust; Player King's Brother, Dr. E. S. Carroll; officers, H. P. de Forest and W. V. Perry. Queen Gertrude, Miss Hattie Douglas; Ophelia, Miss Kate Biggs; Player Queen, Miss Ida Reif; ladies in waiting, Misses A. B. Winne, Mary McNulty, Edith Soule, M. E. Newton, Lillie Roome, and Mrs. W. P. Clark.

Following this in a smooth, even manner that reflected the greatest credit on the stage director, Mr. George A. Gardner, came the following:

"Romeo and Juliet," act II, scene 2—the balcony scene. Romeo, George F. Erdman; Juliet, Miss Annie Sneede.

"King Lear," act 1 scene 1—where the king disposes of his kingdom to his daughters.

King Lear, A. F. Childs; Duke of Albany, J. P. McMillan; Duke of Cornwall, C. W. G. Feldhaus; Duke of Burgundy, F. W. Barker; Duke of Kent, W. F. Clarke; Duke of Gloster, Mr. Nesbit; King of France, John Jackson; Physician, Frank L. Dyer; Court Jester, J. J. Edson, jr.; Herald, Ross B. Brodhead; Captain of the Guard, W. C. Clephane; Pages, Alan O. Clephane, W. F. Sowers, Master Conard, Miss Helen Cannon; Regan, Miss Nannie Preston; Cordelia, Miss Wickware; Maids of Honor, Miss Louise Grosvenor, and Misses Katie Clara Barnes, Mamie Jones, Weber, Julia Clephane, Fannie Phillips, Juniata Lusk, and Retta Reed.

"Merry Wives of Windsor," Act III, Scene 3—The buck-basket episode.

Sir John Falstaff, Edw. B. Hay; Mr. Ford, S. C. Elliott; Mr. Page, Norman Fleming; Sir Hugh Evans, Whitney Moore; Dr. Caius, Mr. Towner; Robin, Neal Towner; Attendant, Mr. Hoffman; Mistress Ford, Rosa Poehler; Mistress Page, Bertha D. Lincoln; Dame Quickly, Fannie Milholland.

"Julius Cæsar," Act III, scene 1—The assassination.

Julius Cæsar, Prof. Wm. D. Cabell; Brutus, Lynn O. De Lashmutt; Cassius, Z. Vance Harris; Marc Antony, Mr. Manning; Casca, L. Garfield Spencer; Decius, W. A. Kinnan; Met