## THE DAM FINISHED.

### AUSTIN'S GREAT ENTERPRISE NOW TAKING WATER.

**The Flow in the Colorado River Temporarily Reduced to the Supply of Springs and One Creek.**

Austin, Tex., May 13.—(Special.)—Austin's big dam is completed. That is, the stone work of the great wall that is to hold the great lake in place is finished. All outlets were closed several days ago, and the only water that now flows down the bed of the Colorado river comes from Barton's creek, just below the dam, and a number of springs in the river's bed. The west extent of territory covered by the lake created by the dam is shown by the length of time it takes it to fill. It has been rising slowly for several days, each day covering new ground and filling new gulches and gulleys. Quite a rise came down last night, but the water is still eight or ten feet below the top of the dam. Not a drop passes over, through, around or under it. Every inch of it stays in that great thirty-five-mile-long lake.

Meanwhile work on the adjacent power house progresses rapidly, and the prospects for the near completion of the entire enterprise are most promising.

All the world knows of the great regatta which is on foot for next month. All the leading oarsmen from the four quarters of the globe are entered for the races, and the attendant features will unquestionably be of a most brilliant character.

Several of the oarsmen are already here getting themselves into condition, and the public is looking forward to the forthcoming event with the most pleasant anticipations.

### AUSTIN'S BRIDGE MUDDLE.

Austin, Tex., May 13.—(Special.)—The Colorado river flows between north and south Austin. The latter is a pretty little suburb known as Fairview park and Switcher's addition. Two years ago Austin rounded out and gathered this suburb within her limits. At the same time she took in the bridge over the Colorado river and another wooden structure some distance further south, crossing Boggy creek, which enters the river just below the city.

The Boggy bridge was in bad condition; it was dangerous. The city did nothing toward its betterment save an occasional patch on its rotten floor. People became afraid to pass over it, and then the county commissioners' court took hold of the matter. They tore the old bridge down last year and built a stone arch over the creek, the roadway on either side being built up in the form of a dyke, dirt-filled and rock rip-rapped to prevent washing. That is, they intended to do this with the city's help. A half dozen times the work has been stopped, and it is yet far from completion, yet again the work is at a standstill.

The last move that has been made was the passage of a resolution by the commissioners' court to the effect that no more money should be paid out on the bridge until the bridge is completed, and there it stands.

## CARLISLE

### ATTENDS STRICTLY TO BIZ AND IGNORES WALL STREET.

**Needs Not the Cry of the Importunate Gamblers and Hence Is Held Up as a Scapegoat.**

New York, May 13.— Wall street is still wondering. Because Secretary Carlisle refused to float bonds the query is: What next? The street and its agents confess they have been worsted, but something is in the air.

Under the policy of years the flurry of last week would have been called a crisis. It was simply a lot of brokers pinched because they could not meet their obligations. Since the celebrated "Black Friday," whenever such heretofore happened, the secretary of the treasury has taken the first train to New York. But Carlisle remains at his desk, doing the legitimate business of government, and the aim of Wall street now is to discredit his financial acumen.

I was on the stock exchange when the recent "financial crisis" culminated. True, there was the maximum of excitement. A promiscuous crowd were let into the galleries, and from this cycle the scene below was hilariously. In other words, two opposing forces, ludicrous called bulls and bears, trying to out-bunko each other. Simply a gamble between madmen, who were buying and selling securities they did not own or expect to see. It was the game of margins, with no expectation of tangible dealing. Up in the dry goods district, where there were real goods for sale by the job lot or yard, there was no excitement. Not at all. It was only among the class of investors whose stock is wind, and the hope of catching the flush card. If they win, Easy street is all right. When they lose, they make tompling faces toward the government, and call loudly, "financial crisis," thereby trusting to bunko its financial head.

But the subsidence came quickly when the realization dawned that the government was not going to take a hand. With it the criticism that Carlisle is a theoretical financier, dangerous to Wall street agencies and methods and with no keen sense of what contributed to a panic. Men who but a short month ago thought him a Colossus now term him a weakling. The hope is somebody to win Cleveland over, and the play is to make of Carlisle the scapegoat. He must expect criticism from now on, and it behooves his honest friends to hold up his hands.

The Dick Turpins of the street and of the big banks that stand in with them next will proceed to fight the Sherman silver law. These forces degrade silver as money, and at the same time, when they draw gold from the anti-treasury tender silver certificates. They keep the tight clutch on gold certificates and legal tender, and talk about a 70-cent dollar for which they draw good on demand. The discrimination is made against silver not because it will not accomplish every purpose other money does, but because it expands the volume of currency. The cry over here is to contract so that money may tighten and bank discounts advance, do into the street and one can hear from the brokers that the Sherman law is responsible because they cannot make good their margins. Even Henry Wall, who, for some inscrutable purpose, was an activity in the Coudage trust, would make such law responsible for his non-allowance of only twenty pairs of trousers at one time whereas he once had 100.

The currents which flow here from genuine and not artificial springs attend to their own affairs and let the government alone. It is only Wall street and the speculators who, disguised in the garb of patriotism, want to pry open the national strong box. When the farmers of the West meet distress and dary suggest government relief these men raise the cry of paternal government against them. When they overdo each other with pots and stills and the banks begin to squeeze they cry for government aid. And, mark the pay, until this political dispensation they have always enforced it.

In the effort to divorce this influence from the public treasury Mr. Cleveland has taken the stand of firmness, but he has shacked a class who did not expect it of him. It is this class now sturdily at work to undermine Carlisle. The call is that eastern and not western ideas should direct the financial bent; that it should be known of men that it is this class who put gold over 250 in the days of war and who would gladly do it in these piping days of peace if they knew just how they had hoped to declare the silver certificate to the basis of silver redemption. The entering wedge would have made gold a commodity and its premium at the mercy of a clique.

But Mr. Cleveland has settled one question. That is that as against the machinations of these men he will bring to bear every asset of the treasury reserves; that he will redeem every issue of paper money equally in gold without favoritism or discrimination. This policy has brought on the accentuated crusade against the existing silver law. It may operate as an influence, but the chances are that if the present law be repealed, it will be because of a sentiment made manifest from some other quarter than this. This section of the speculative world has just been beaten in a conspiracy to discredit the government, and any subsequent overtures will be looked upon as the Greek bearing gifts. The bulwark of strength behind a distressed national treasury is found lodged in the West. It exchanged its gold for greenbacks, and did not compel the counterpart of the Shylock. It took the government on faith, because believing in it and the matchless prosperity of its people. In this section when the government cried aloud for relief a token was demanded.

## THE PADRONE SYSTEM.

**Report of the Violations of the Alien Labor Law.**

Washington, D. C., May 13.—Immigration Inspector Conkling, in an official report as to the treasury department, as to the violations of the alien contract labor law, among other alleged startling facts, says: "The padrone system is the most damnable, outrageous and injurious to American workingmen of any system that was ever practiced in the United States, and there is no denying the fact that it exists in almost every city in this country where there is an Italian colony."

The report details how Italian laborers are brought into this country, contracted and induced at the padrone city, so that when they arrive, by false swearing they evade the inspectors.

"They have no conscientious scruples about perjuring themselves and will swear to anything necessary to accomplish their object, whether it be a violation of the alien contract labor law or the "Italian banker and padrone."

The former, in partnership with the padrone, furnishes the money and newly arrived Italians are supplied as laborers to work on American railroads, to the exclusion of American workmen. The padrone usually makes a contract with the railroad contractor to feed the laborers. A shanty costs about $100 or so and he charges his original investment from the first month's receipts, all the balance for many months being nearly all profit. The banker then gets the money he had advanced to the padrone.

"These slaves," Inspector Conkling says, "are of the very worst element—ignorant and hard to control, dangerous to the community near which they reside and are addicted in their manners and habits."

They work cheap, however. How is a manner their other laborers regard as barbarous and as a consequence, Mr. Conkling finds they are driving out laborers of other nationalities in railroad building. The report was called forth by instructions issued by Assistant Secretary Spaulding last March to look into the illegal landing of ten Italian laborers at Ellis Island. As a result of two months labors, Inspector Conkling has arrested F. Calzone, a padrone, on the perjured affidavit that the Italians were landed. The case is regarded as an important one and will be tried in the New York state courts this month.

## VOORHEES' DOUBTFUL

**Of the Guilt of Carlyle Harris—Suggestions on Circumstantial Evidence.**

Washington, D. C., May 13.—Senator Voorhees, reputation as a criminal lawyer is well known. He has been attorney in some of the most noted cases in the history of criminal proceedings of recent years. Speaking of the Carlyle Harris case last evening the senator said: "If I had been in Governor Flower's place that man should not have been placed in the death chair until reasonable doubt of his guilt was removed. Being naturally interested in such matters I have followed the case attentively. As an outside and unprejudiced observer there exists in my mind now a doubt as to whether the man should have been executed. It was a case of morphine poisoning. Harris was charged with it and has paid the penalty that the law demands. A number of people who have not been proven disreputable have testified that the dead woman was a user of the drug which ended her life. Harris should have been allowed to live until these people were shown to have lied.

"One rat, shot up in a crib away from his fellow creatures amounts to little. His capacity for good or harm is restricted. The interests of society of the stern demands of justice cannot be affected one way or the other by allowing him to draw breath for an additional one hundred days. The people who made the affidavits in Harris' favor may have been then of truth cities. If they were the former they should have been proven as before the end of the culprit was even fresh him. If they were the latter he should not have been executed at all.

"The evidence upon which Harris was convicted was altogether circumstantial. I have had a great deal to do with circumstantial evidence. It is a mistake to suppose that circumstantial evidence is the best that can be had because it cannot be bought. It is as easy to manufacture this class of evidence as it is to hire men to swear falsely. In fact it is easier, since there is less liability of being found out.

"I have no desire to criticise Governor Flower in any way. He has acted in the way which seemed to him best, having no personal spite toward the condemned man. I think that he and every other state official of New York directly charged with with Harris' execution have made a mistake. It would have taken but little additional time to sift his new evidence and to have proven to the American people beyond the shadow of a doubt that he was guilty, if he was guilty."

## DIVIDED BY WHISKY.

### IOWA REPUBLICANS ARE SADLY DISTRAIT.

**Prohibition the Spectre that Haunts Their Dreams—Everything Points to Another Democratic Success.**

Des Moines, May 13.—There will be a prohibition plank in the anti platform that is adopted by the Republican party of Iowa. Of this there is scarcely a doubt. There will be no straddle, no half-way business about it. The plank will declare against any change whatever in the party's present and past attitude on the liquor question.

There has been a great revival of the prohibition sentiment in the state during the last month or so. It is a tidal wave that has been felt all the way from Council Bluffs to Davenport. There are two good reasons for this sudden change of sentiment in the Republican ranks. In the first place, the result of the recent investigation of the charge of the Iowa State Register against the Temperance alliance was a big feather in the cap of the cold-water people and has succeeded in healing the breaches that have existed in their organization for some time. The Register's charge, it will be remembered, was to the effect that the Third party people sold out to the Democrats for $500. An inquiry as to the truth of the allegation was ordered by the alliance. The result of the investigation showed conclusively that the Register's charge was maliciously false; that there was not even a shadow of truth in the assertion of the official organ of the Republicans. This verdict had a magical effect. Thousands of voters who had deserted the alliance on the strength of the Register's charge, and who voted with the Republicans last year, are now heart and soul with their first love, and there they will stick. There are 20,000 alliance men in Iowa. They have good leaders, and the latter's plans for the coming campaign are well laid. They propose to go to the Republican managers, bluntly inform them they must reiterate their stand on the question of prohibition or they (the prohibitionists) will put a ticket of their own in the field. The Republican bosses know they cannot hope to win with the alliance votes against them. While the pill is a bitter one they will have to swallow it.

TRYING TO STRADDLE.

Other things that have caused many Republicans who were on the fence to come off it and fight on the prohibition side are the hundred and odd crazy schemes suggested by the Republican leaders for the straddling of the question. The most potorious of these was that offered by Walter Given of the Marshalltown Times Republican—the famous mulct scheme, the disorderly house ordinance proposal which disgusted many good Republicans. If this is a sample of the liquor legislation their party is going to give them they figured they are willing to let the law stand as it is though they may be heartily sick of it.

The country papers pretty accurately reflect the sentiment out in the state. Few of them, very few, are in favor of making a change. The great majority of them want prohibition, pure and unadulterated. The "keep still" and other schemes of the state central committee and the extreme liberal wing of the party represented by A. R. Cummins will go down before the prohibitionists like a straw stack before a cyclone.

This revival of the prohibition sentiment means much to the Democrats. It is just what they had hoped for and what they had all along expected. With a prohibition plank in the Republican platform victory for the Democrats is certain. There is no room for doubt.


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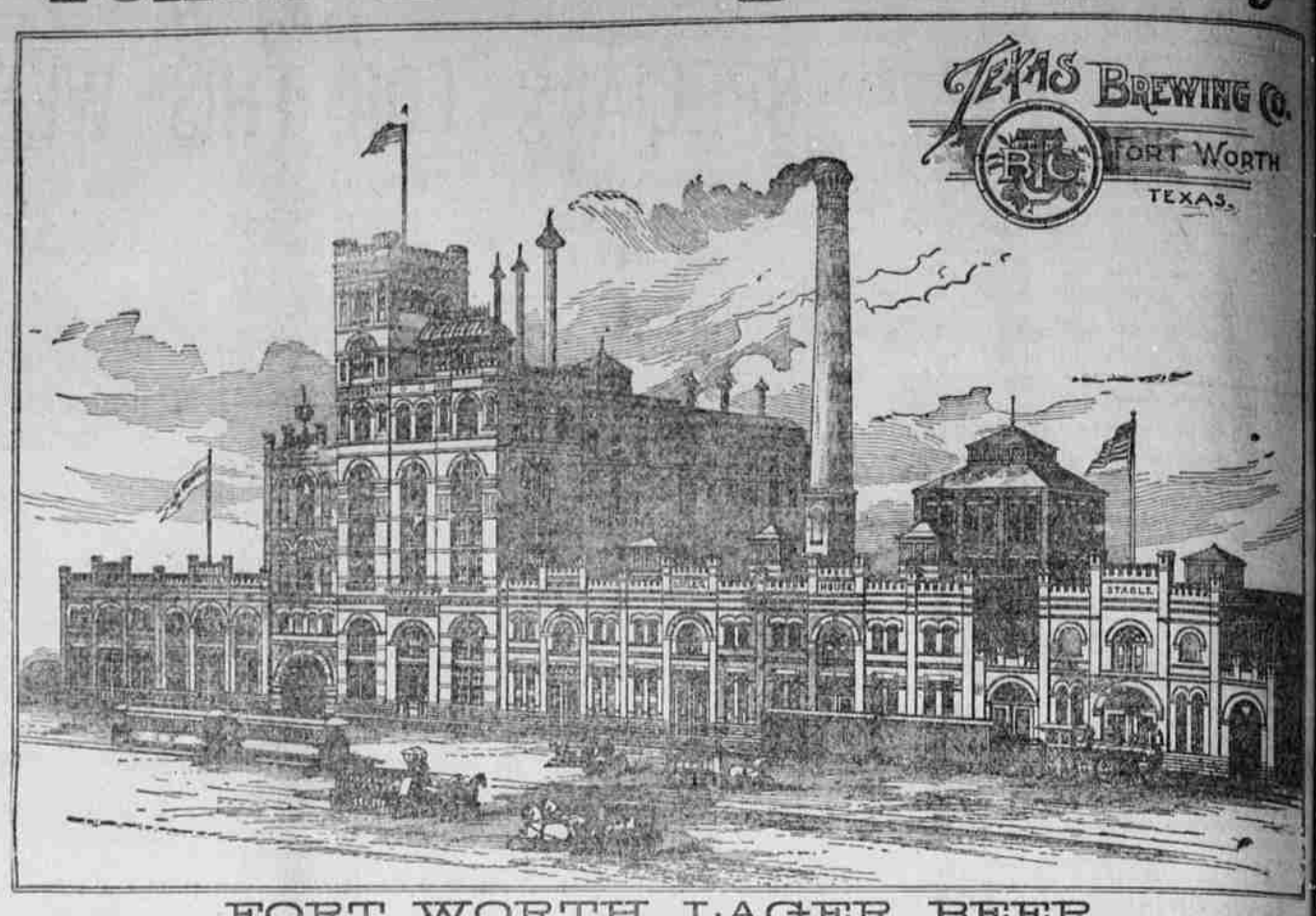


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