HOUSTON DAILY POST.

Houston Printing Company.

J. L. Watson, President; R. M. Johnston, Vice President; G. J. Palmer, Secretary.

THE DAILY POST, 56 Columns. SUNDAY POST, 140 to 192 Columns.

Semi-Weekly Post 112 Columns Per Week.

Entered at the Postoffice at Houston, Texas, as Second-Class Matter.

Subscription by Mail—Daily and Sunday Post—One year, $8.00; six months, $4.00; three months, $2.00; one month, $1.00.

Sunday Post—One year, $1.50.

Semi-Weekly Post—(Mondays and Thursdays)—One year, $1.00; six months, 50 cents; three months, 25 cents.

Eastern Business Office, 44 Tribune Building, New York, The S. C. Beckwith Special Agency.

Western Business Office, 469 "The Rookery," Chicago, The S. C. Beckwith Special Agency.

The Post's Traveling Agents: Colonel W. D. Carey, General Traveling Agent; Will F. Lunn, J. M. Benish and J. Van Pearse. Traveling Auditor, C. S. E. Holland.

TELEPHONE NUMBERS.

Editorial 431; Business 186.

HOUSTON, THURSDAY, FEB. 13, 1896.

THE FIDDLER TO PAY.

The San Antonio Express submits the following among other arguments against the proposed State primary election:

There is no way of paying the enormous expenses of such primary elections except by tapping the candidates for State office and it is a question whether even the most ambitious would not quail before the prospect of covering all the primaries of the State and putting up the necessary money in advance to pay for the printing of ballots, to print tickets, etc. The legitimate expenses alone of such a campaign would reach into a fortune. The primary elections involve a primary meeting to nominate the ticket in absolutely all the counties. Additional primaries must be held to elect delegates to the county convention, in brief, in each precinct there must be held two primaries and one primary election.

The primary election will involve as much, if not more expenditure as does a county convention. The ballots will contain from twenty to seventy-five names. Each candidate will need two sets for his silver and gold constituents respectively. It will take days to count the ballots. If this system, which it is proposed to force upon the people of this State, the man of moderate means is excluded from seeking the suffrages of the people, as only the wealthy can foot the bills.

The Express states the facts in the premises. It will cost as much, approximately, to hold this proposed primary election as to hold a regular State election, and no one as yet has explained where the necessary expense money is to come from. Of course, in a good many counties the election will be held, as contemplated by the State committee, but in a great majority the thing will prove a fizzle. The whole proposition is impracticable, even if it were authorizable and binding—which it is not.

NATIONAL DEBTS.

A comparison between Great Britain and the United States, with reference to finance, will not prove very pleasing to Americans.

While the national debt of the United States has been enormously increased during the year past, the National debt of Great Britain has been decreased by a handsome figure. The total clearings of the London bankers' clearing house for 1895 have only been exceeded in two years of its history, 1893 and 1888, both years of inflation and speculative activity. The transactions in 1895 were nearly as large as in those two years. They largely exceed the clearings of 1891-2-3-4-5. These figures show an important increase in the volume of business. The boom in African mines and the attending increase of settlements on the stock exchange account for part of the gain in clearings from 1894 to 1895. In the former year they were £4,327,222,000, but in 1895 £7,002,948,000.

It is not pleasant to contemplate an increase in our public debt while Great Britain is reducing hers. The Post gives herewith the figures of the British National debt. In 1816 it was £885,436,000. In 1876, £767,845,000; in 1886, £731,004,000; in 1887, £706,727,000; in 1891, £686,324,000; in 1892, £680,541,000; in 1893, £678,937,000; in 1894, £669,194,000; in 1895, £660,169,000. In other words, last year Great Britain reduced its debt by nearly forty-five million dollars. Of the present debt, amounting to about $3,300,000,000, it is estimated that one-third is held by government departments, one-third by great banks, financial and insurance companies, and the remainder by the public, some being held on the continent. Among government departments holding consols are the Government Postal Savings banks, which hold about $450,000,000 in value.

CHAPTER FROM HISTORY.

Congressman Barrett of Massachusetts is a companion piece, so to speak, to Boutelle of Maine, and the latter is generally regarded as a congressional nuisance.

Barrett barks and snaps at everybody and everything in sight, and evidently is of the opinion that unless he makes a noise he will not be noticed. He is the man who offered the impeachment resolution against Embassador Bayard, and is also the valiant patriot who wants Talbert of South Carolina (another very light weight) dealt with for alleged treasonable utterances. Talbert made a jack of himself, and Barrett surpassed Talbert in that line.

But speaking of the recent incident in the house the Memphis Commercial Appeal brings forth and commends to Mr. Barrett and others of like tilk an old chapter of history, as follows:

It was eighty-five years ago, in the year 1811, that a similar incident occurred in the house of representatives. The statesman who on that occasion figured in the role played yesterday by Talbert of South Carolina was Josiah Quincy of Massachusetts. It was during the debate on the bill for the admission of Louisiana as a State into the Union. The New England statesmen of that day were bitterly hostile to this project or to any acquisition of new territory, and their opposition went to the extent of threatening secession. It was on this bill that Josiah Quincy of Massachusetts rose in his place in the house of representatives and uttered these words: "It is my deliberate opinion that if this bill passes the bonds of this Union are virtually dissolved; that the States which compose it are free from their moral obligation and that, as it will be the right of all, so it will be the duty of some, definitely to prepare for separation, amicably if they can, forcibly if they must."

Then Hon. Josiah Quincy of Massachusetts was promptly called to order, but the house of representatives by a vote of 75 to 37, the New England representatives acting with the majority, decided that a congressman from Massachusetts had the right to preach the doctrine of secession on the floor of the house, whatever limitation might be put on a congressman from South Carolina. In the case of Mr. Quincy it was not a mere expression of theoretical and abstract opinion, as in the case of Mr. Talbert; but a threat made to affect pending legislation.

In further comment on this subject the Atlanta Constitution says that at that time, as all the historical authorities show, New England was dominated by the secession sentiment. When Louisiana was purchased the Massachusetts legislature resolved that its annexation "formed a new Confederacy to which the States united by a former compact were not bound to adhere." Three years after Josiah Quincy's speech the Hartford convention, of infamous notoriety, threatened to withdraw from the Union because the New England States had been required to furnish troops to fight against England. As late as 1844 the Massachusetts legislature adopted a resolution to the effect that "the annexation of Texas, unless arrested on the threshold, may drive these States into a dissolution of the Union," and the following year the same threat was repeated. Congressman Barrett's State was the cradle of secession, and the doctrine was generally brought to the front when the country was engaged in war, and in need of strong arms and loyal hearts. If Mr. Barrett will spend his leisure hours studying the history of the Republic he will run against a good many surprising facts, and he will probably come to the conclusion that Massachusetts came very near getting as much involved in the secession tangle as South Carolina herself.

The platforms of political parties, neither State nor National, can drive any man to change his own opinion, nor are they expected or designed so to do. Even if a democrat does not agree in opinion with a plank in the platform on a question at issue between the different political parties and among Democrats themselves, also he will be a loyal party man, stay with the party and support its nominees, until at last the question in dispute comes to a settlement. What else can you do? Will you go over to the enemy? Will that better things in any way?

Queen Victoria made her speech in parliament and Jeff McLemore was not in it.

The trouble in Texas is that as many who are the round money do the operating in the cotton-are massing democrats. They are ready to desert and join the republican or populist party or give them all and comfort, because others do not agree with them. The main thing now is to be a sound democrat and in the time an adjustment will be reached and all things will work together for the good of the people.

John James Ingalls is really very! Nowadays things to ask him, so he has daily being a candidate.

The Morgan syndicate, to which thirty-three million of the new bonds was awarded at 104 and a fraction, has sold out at a handsome profit of about one and a half millions. As the bonds were open to all bidders, all had a chance at the profits on a gilt, but some people thought the bonds might decline in value. Major E. W. Cave of Houston secured two of the new United States bonds on a bid of 104.

Dispatches from Caracas state that the war feeling still runs high, it always does, but it must be paid for.

These English people claim everything and we Americans are not to be allowed to have anything. England now claims that Mentor was not the birthplace of the doctrine at all, but that it was of British origin long before Monroe was born. The next thing they will claim that Lydia Pinkham is not the author of her own compound. There will be a fight yet.

Farmer Tillman is treading on ground in the hope that an opposition rain will give him material for another speech.

Those who believe in signs and omens should remember that there never was a president of the United States who was a white hat, came from Kentucky, and whose initials were W. O. P.

The ambulance corps will be on hand in St. Louis to carry off the candidate in whom Kentucky throws her strength.

Since it is not considered improper to use the words "Sundayed" and "Tarheeling," might we be allowed to remark that New York crooks are now playing on Roosevelt?

General J. Balnam Weaver indorses Tillman's bray. He is not astonished, for similar miracles happen in his party every day.

The large number of decisive blows reported as struck by the Spanish forces, that do not decide, arouses a suspicion that they are carrying their own umpires this season.

By special permission of A. M. Palmer and George du Maurier we would inquire, "Do you remember, sweet Allison, what made Bob bolt?"

Mr. Astor should learn from Mr. Pulitzer that the proper way to conduct a successful paper is to keep correspondents or noble birth at cables length.

The versatility of the editorial writer who heads his column "Letters from the People" in the New York World is worthy of remark.

At last accounts the tap roots of McKinley's boom had not derived any special nutriment from the one planted by Bridegroom Harrison.

WITH A FRESH NOTE.

Memphis Commercial-Appeal.

It is gratifying to have your judgment indorsed when the one indorsing it is as able as the writer of the reflectious department of the St. Louis Mirror. That publication says: "Just as we are wearying of the 'stand-by' in American newspaper humor comes a new man with a distinctly fresh note into the field, and holds us with the charm of an unladed fancy and the spell of pure spontaneity. In all the newspaper fun for at least ten years there has been the evidence of a very mechanical quality and no esprit whatever. The new man, whose work deserves the attention of the reading public, is writing in The Houston Post. I have not the least idea what his name may be, but his work shows him to have a fine discernment in the contrasts and similarities that make wit, and in the kindliness that is seeing the goodness in frailty constitutes the essence of humor. The Texas flavor is quite an agreeable change from the sawdusty taste of most journalistic fun of late years. I hope the funny man of The Houston Post will not feel that he has to be humorous 365 days in the year and 720 minutes in the day. Real funny men are so scarce they should conserve their fun in that particular line, else they may become as funereal as Bill Nye."

This opinion was expressed weeks ago in this department of the Commercial-Appeal, and for the credit of the South, which has given birth to many American humorists, I would like to see The Post man continue winning golden opinions.

GOSSIP OF GOTHAM

New York, February 8.—Burr McIntosh, who is doing nicely as the big mountaineer in the "Governor of Kentucky" at the Fifth Avenue theater, will star next season. Augustus Thomas will fashion a play to fit Burr's talents, and the American Theatrical Syndicate will do the rest. And Burr hasn't got the "big head," at that.

Looking out of a right-hand window, with nothing better to do, while riding up town on a Third avenue cable car the other night, I counted 114 clocks in shops between the city hall and Sixty-seventh street. The data thus secured is scarcely sufficient to use as a basis for an estimate of the number of clocks in this city, but it is pretty safe to conclude that there's a clock for every two persons, or a round million clocks in Gotham, not counting the other million or two stored away to meet the demands of the trade.

The kinetoscope folk are branching out. In Central Broadway two large first floors a block or so apart have been elegantly fitted up with a large number of talking and seeing machines. The attractive windows which also afford a good view of the interior, tell lots of pretty things inside, and the result is a sudden boom in this entertaining line of amusement. Here are an item to all the high-priced opera artists, the popular music hall alien, the favorite ditties of the Bowery, and at the same time get a peep at the coochee-coochee dancers, who have transferred their tabooed art to the lifelike plaything of Wizard Edison.

Visitors who want to see an architectural medley that represents millions only have to stand in Central Park plaza. Around and near this place more money has been spent in pretentious dwellings than in any equal area in the city. The result will not strike the lover of uniformity in architecture favorably, simply because the effect on such folk is apt to be shocking. As you stand in the plaza your bewildered gaze meets Commodore Garrison's red brick and brownstone house in French Renaissance style, next to the beautiful white marble of the Metropolitan club in a severe Italian style, then two enormous and graceless hotels, the Savoy and Netherland, a bitter lower down, C. P. Huntington's gloomy, but large and dignified mansion on the other side, fifth avenue Cornelius Vanderbilt's very large and grandeur house in white stone and red brick and finally the Plaza hotel trying to look Scottish. The odd contrasts are startling.

The sale of two inches of real estate here at $30 one inch led a land expert to do some odd thinking today. Did you ever stop to think what the value of a piece of land along the size of your hat, located on Broadway or in the business portions of Fifth avenue would last? he asked. Of course, the value would depend somewhat on the condition of your head for an inch difference inside would mean a good deal. The man who wears a seventeen hat and owns a frontage on Broadway of the same dimensions can realize money enough from the sale of it to give him a moderate start in business. An inch of land facing on Broadway in the business section of that great thoroughfare is worth today, say, ordinary real estate men between $50 and $60, so that the fellow who owned a strip as wide as his hat could legally inward at $900 in cash if he sold out for cash. The most valuable land in the city is located on Fifth avenue between Twenty-third and Forty-second streets. Here land on the west side of the avenue is worth $2000 an inch, while land on the east side of the avenue sells at $1500 to $600 per inch. All the property in this section is not located in the gold mining camps.

A few days ago a well dressed young man entered a Grand street jewelry store and professed a desire to buy a diamond ring. The stock was exhibited and several rings were finally fixed upon, which he directed the jeweler to hold aside for him until he passed later in the day. In handing over the counter to give them instructions the young man leaned too heavily upon the showcase and his elbow went through the top glass with a crash. He was fairly overcome with annoyance and regret and assured the jeweler that he would settle for the damage when he called for the ring. The jeweler plainly stated that he would like to have his loss, which was only a matter of $5, made good on the spot. "But I have no money with me," protested the customer. "Pardon me if I call your attention to the fact that you have," replied the shopman, and, reaching over the counter, he drew from the young man's pocket a $20 bill, the corner of which had been plainly in sight. The young man's confusion was painful. He vowed upon his honor that he was not aware that he had the money with him and he most cheerfully consented that the jeweler should take the amount of his loss. This was done, and, receiving $15 change, the young man left, promising to return and complete his purchase. He never came back, and when the jeweler made his deposit at the bank that evening he was shocked to have the bill thrown back to him as counterfeit. This is a new game, according to the Central office man who told me the story.

HITS AND MISSES.

Every mortal must attend the school of experience for himself.—Dallas Snap Shots.

A new discovery.

With Nat Q. Henderson, Rosenthal and N. W. Cuney against him Reed ought in decency to walk off with a solid delegation from Texas in the National republican convention.—Corpus Christi Caller.

The trouble is decency will hardly figure in the proceedings.

Max O'Rell says in his last lecture that the sun never sets on British possessions because the great orb refuses to trust an Englishman in the dark, as to adjacent territory and boundary lines. This view of the case is worthy of consideration.—Brenham Press.

The same view has been considered for many weary years by readers of stale and ancient joke books before it occurred to Mr. O'Rell to say so.

Is a grammarian better qualified than others to answer the question: Did Harrison decline because he intends to conjugate?—Austin News.

We parse.

George Clark says wig wag and it is funny to see how the little fellows wiggle waggle.—Ennis Democrat.

Get out your magnifying glass and watch 'em.

SEVEN TRAMPS KILLED.

Gallipolis, Ohio, February 12.—Near Dexter, on the Kanawha and Michigan railroad, ten cars loaded with lumber and merchandise jumped the track. Before the accident ten tramps were seen on the cars by the train hands and afterwards three of them were found. It is believed by the crew of the wrecked freight train that the other seven were killed and are buried under the wreck. Spreading of the rails caused the accident.

PRACTICAL ARBITRATION.

Bering Sea Seal Fishery Claims To Be Referred To Commissioners.

CONSIDERATION OF THE TARIFF BILL

Will Be Postponed Until the Appropriation Bills Are Passed—Congressional Proceedings.

Washington, February 12.—The convention between the government of the United States and Great Britain for the arbitration of claims for damages made on account of Bering sea sealing vessel seizures was received by the senate in executive session and considered by the committee on foreign relations today. The treaty is a brief document signed by Secretary Olney on the part of the United States and by Sir Julian Pauncefote for Great Britain.

It provides for the reference of the claims to two commissioners, one to be appointed by the United States and the other by Great Britain, who, in case of failure to agree, are to be authorized to select a third commissioner. If not able to agree upon a man for this office, the matter is to be referred to the president of the Swiss republic with the request that he name the third man, which he has consented to do.

The agreement is made in conformity with the Paris arbitration and its findings are made obligatory on both governments. As admitted, the treaty only provides for the payment of damages by the United States for vessels engaged in seal catching belonging to citizens of Great Britain, but a supposition has already manifested itself in committee to amend it so as to provide also for the arbitration of claims which may arise on the part of citizens of the United States for seizures of American vessels made by Great Britain, as it is the probabilities are that such an amendment will be adopted in committee.

Senator Morgan talked at considerable length to the committee today explaining the origin of these claims and going into the findings of the Paris tribunal as well as the efforts to have the claims settled during the last congress by the payment of a lump sum which he opposed at that time. The committee adjourned without taking action, but the indications are that with the change making the scope of the commission mutual as between the two countries the committee will recommend the ratification of the treaty.

TARIFF BILL POSTPONED.

Appropriation Bills Will Be Passed Before It Is Discussed.

Washington, February 12.—The friends of the tariff in the senate have found it expedient to change their plans somewhat and instead of taking up the tariff immediately will postpone its consideration until after all the appropriation bills, which have been reported, shall be disposed of. It is believed that these measures will monopolize the greater part of the senate for next week. Other questions will intervene, so that it now looks as if the debate on the tariff or the silver substitute would be deferred until week after next at the earliest.

A prominent republican member of the committee on finance today expressed the opinion that the silver substitute would be defeated by at least fifteen majority, the same that not to exceed four of the silver republicans would vote for the substitute as proposed, but he thinks the tariff bill will pass with a solid republican vote aided by the votes of at least three of the populists.

DEMOCRATIC CAUCUS.

Washington, February 12.—The democratic senators held a caucus of two and a half hours' duration today. Upon the suggestion of Senator Hill it took up the tariff bill for an exchange of ideas, but no definite plan of action was agreed upon with reference to either the bill or any of the amendments proposed.

Senator Vilas made an animated speech urging the party to get together and present a solid front in view of the approaching campaign and others spoke in a similar strain. There was, in fact, a general concurrence of views upon this subject, but it was evident when particular questions were mentioned that any effort to put these theories into immediate practice would result in a demonstration that realization of the ideal which would be difficult if not impossible.

STATEHOOD BILLS.

They Will be Deferred to Prevent More Silver Votes.

Washington, February 12.—The house committee on Territories held a warm session today over the bills to admit Arizona and New Mexico into the Union. For several weeks it has been apparent that there was a disposition among some of the opponents of free silver on the committee to postpone favorable reports on these bills at least for the purpose of keeping the increase of the free silver strength. Today the fight culminated when, while the bill to admit Arizona was under discussion, the committee voted 6 to 5 to adjourn. Although the free silver opponents were responsible for the postponement of action on the bill, all the opponents of free coinage on the committee were not in favor of deferring action.

As a test of strength today's action indicated that the committee is opposed at this time to passing favorable reports on these bills. As the bill itself has not been debated in committee, the vote can be taken whenever the advocates of the bill are able to muster a majority.

CONGRESSIONAL PROCEEDINGS

SENATE.

Washington, February 12.—It was expected that the tariff would come up in the senate today, Mr. Morrill, chairman of the finance committee, having given notice of a motion to that effect, but the subject was not mentioned during the day, and the entire session was given to routine business. Considerable progress was made on the deficiency appropriation bill and the item of secret service expenses brought out strong criticisms from Messrs. Chandler, Tillman and Vest against the fee system.

A resolution introduced by Mr. Peffer calling for information in regard to bond sales, all dealings with syndicates and individuals. The resolution is so comprehensive as to cover every possible phase of the negotiations in the bond issues of the last three years.

Mr. Vest secured the adoption of a resolution calling on the secretary of agriculture to report what recent changes had been made in the quarantine line against cattle coming north from Texas. Mr. Vest explained that a recent publication stated that the secretary had issued a proclamation making radical changes to the detriment of the parties in interest.

Mr. Peffer (Pop., Kan.) came forward with a lengthy resolution proposing a senate investigation of the circumstances of all recent bond issues.

Mr. Morrill asked that the resolution go to the finance committee, but it went over by the rules until tomorrow.

A project for a memorial bridge across the Potomac river, connecting Washington and the old Arlington property in Virginia, was passed.

The consideration of the urgent deficiency bill was then resumed. The item of $250,000 for salaries of judges and officers of the Federal courts in the Indian Territory brought out a protest from Mr. Chandler.

Two of the judges, Springer and Kilgore, are ex-members of congress, and had gone to Indian Territory "with all the extravagant notions engendered by life in Washington and membership in a billion-dollar democratic congress."

Mr. Chandler said he was not yet prepared to make charges, but he believed from letters received that all is not as it should be in the administration of the Indian courts. Mr. Chandler also criticized the growing expenditures under the department of justice. These had trebled in ten years. The senator pointed out that the last congress, democratic in both branches, and with a democratic president, had appropriated $62,000,000 for United States marshals, and made it necessary to provide $1,100,000 for deficiencies for United States marshals.

Mr. Chandler declared that the fee system was responsible for the growing extravagance of Federal court officers. He spoke of conspiracies in South Carolina and elsewhere to get up fraudulent cases to swell the fees of officers.

This brought Mr. Tillman (Dem., S. C.), to his feet for a characteristic speech. He agreed with Mr. Chandler that the fee system was wrong. A supreme court judge had recently pointed out that court officials were encouraged to get up fictitious prosecutions. There is a class of habitual witnesses in the South. They do nothing but earn witness fees, going around "lamboozling negroes" and getting whole teams of negroes to prosecute fictitious cases. The thing to do was to reform the law.

Mr. Sherman spoke of the enormous cost of our governmental system, which

CONGRESSMAN BARRETT,

Author of the Bayard resolution of censure and the resolution to impeach Congressman Talbert of South Carolina for treasonable utterances.

arose in part from the complication of appropriation bills. Mr. Sherman urged that the budget system in use in England was far simpler than that of the American and could be profitably adopted.

Mr. Peffer spoke of the "robbery and plunder" practiced by United States marshals in order to obtain fees. "There were contracts and rings of these marshals who made it a trade to go around arresting men and dragging them hundreds of miles to jail, not for the purpose of justice, but to get marshal's fees."

The deficiency bill was laid aside at 4:15 p. m.

Mr. Hale called up the bill making February 12 (Lincoln's birthday) a National holiday.

Mr. Hill (Dem., N. Y.), said he had intended to offer an amendment making the birthday of Andrew Jackson a legal holiday, but in order not to interfere with the bill he would debate his bill separately.

Mr. Hawley objected to the immediate consideration of the bill and this prevented action.

The senate at 4:35 p. m. adjourned until tomorrow.

HOUSE.

Washington, February 12.—The house spent another day in the discussion of the silver bond bill. The feature of the day was the speech of Mr. McLeary, (Rep., Minn.) who used to illustrate his remarks the charts previously employed by Mr. Towne from his own State, and by them sought to refute the arguments in favor of free silver made by Mr. Towne, Messrs. Doolittle (Rep., Iowa) Broman and Brumm, (Rep., Pa.) also opposed the bill. Messrs. McMillin (Dem., Tenn.) Bailey, (Dem., Texas) Underwood (Dem., Ala.) and Cox (Dem., Tenn.) spoke in favor of free coinage.

The debate on the free silver substitute for the house bond bill was resumed when the house reconvened at 10:30 this morning.

Mr. Underwood (Dem., Ala.) and Mr. Cox (Dem., Tenn.) spoke in favor of nonintervention and the free silver substitute. Mr. Brumm (Rep., Pa.) in favor of the coinage of the American product. The latter ridiculed Mr. Hall of Missouri for arrogating to himself credit for changing his position on the silver question.

"He operated upon me like a sunstroke," said Mr. Brumm. "Gladstone and I have changed our minds," he says. In my opinion his conversion can be characterized in one word—cinch."

At 12 o'clock the regular order began.

Mr. Hitt (Rep., Ill.) presented a senate joint resolution appropriating $75,000 for the purpose of making a survey together with Great Britain of the boundary line between Alaska and British territory. The resolution was adopted.

The general debate on the house bond bill substitute.

Mr. Dolliver took the floor in opposition to the free coinage proposition. He reviewed the history of the subject from the fourteenth century and said that the demonetization of silver in 1873 had not "struck it down," for during a previous period of seventy years there had been no silver in circulation. Free coinage has at all times proved a failure. He would rather stand where he was than to jump without knowing whether he would land upon a soft cushion or into a bottomless pit. He denied that any country where free coinage was practiced had ever enjoyed the circulation of both gold and silver at the same time. There was never a time when a man stood for so much and a dollar for so little as now.

Mr. McMillin (Dem., Tenn.) followed. He said there was an insufficient currency and that we should not wait for the co-operation of any foreign country before taking steps to improve our financial affairs. He was not for monometallism of any sort, but preferred the use of both metals. The theory that the amount of the currency in circulation did not affect prices was unfounded.

Mr. Brosius (Rep., Pa.) opposed free coinage.

Mr. Bailey (Dem., Texas) sought to prove that gold had appreciated within the last twenty years, saying that if this was true the opponents of silver would have nothing to stand on, as the basis of their contention was that gold was the most stable. He had no preference for either gold or silver, but desired that which was most stable.

Mr. McLeary (Rep., Minn.) said he would endeavor to answer the statements made by his colleague, Mr. Towne. He held maps employed by Mr. Towne last week and asserted that they did not bear out the free silver arguments of his colleague. His remarks were followed closely by the house.

At 5:30 p. m. a recess was taken until 8 p. m., the session to be devoted to debate.

The last night session of the general debate on the bill was more poorly attended than any of its predecessors. The galleries were almost empty and there were but seven members on the floor.

Mr. Bingham (Rep., Pa.) in opposition to the senate free coinage substitute predicted another $100,000,000 bond issue unless some legislation was enacted covering gold redemption of greenbacks. He favored an increase of National bank circulation, the payment of customs duties in gold and the retiring of the greenbacks and treasury notes into 2 per cent bonds. The only other speakers, Wood (Rep., Ill.) and Gardner (Rep., N. J.) were against the senate substitute. At 8 o'clock, for want of more speakers, the house took a recess until 10:30 tomorrow morning.

CAPITAL CULLINGS.

Washington, February 12.—A postoffice was established today at Charity, in Polk county, William H. H. Baker postmaster.

Following fourth class postmasters were appointed today: Auburn, J. B. Ingle, vice H. J. Townsend, resigned; Ellinger, E. J. Walter, vice A. F. Weber, resigned; Pomona, J. W. Wykes, vice S. A. Word, resigned.

The president has pardoned Riley Steadman, sentenced in Texas to thirty days' imprisonment and fine for bringing liquor into the Indian Territory, on account of the bad state of the convict's health.

Today's statement of the condition of the treasury shows: Available cash balance, $180,521,862; gold reserve, $65,582,870.

ABE LINCOLN'S BIRTHDAY.

Ex-Governor McKinley Made a Political Speech.

DECLARED THE TARIFF THE ISSUE

And Said Republicans Would Not Be Led Off By Every New Hue and Cry.

Chicago, February 12.—When William McKinley rose to speak tonight at the banquet in the Auditorium given by the Marquette club in commemoration of the firth of Abraham Lincoln, 1500 men cheered the Ohioan with the vehemence of enthusiastic admiration. It was the tenth annual banquet given by the club. The guest of honor was Mr. McKinley. He spoke to the toast "Abraham Lincoln."

Among those at the speaker's table besides Mr. McKinley were the republican governors of Wisconsin and Pennsylvania and the republican senators from Nebraska, North Carolina and Maryland. At every reference to the name of McKinley or the word "protection" outbursts of cheering followed.

The ex-Governor of Ohio, after giving a comprehensive sketch and tribute to Lincoln, in which allusion is made to his principal events in his life, Major McKinley devoted himself to a consideration of current political questions, as exemplified by the speeches and writings of Mr. Lincoln. He said:

Witnessing the government as we do today with its solemn warning, bond-issuing, gold-depleting, labor-destroying, low-tariff policy, with what mighty force the words of Lincoln, written more than half a century ago, come to us in this hour and emergency! They read as if written for the living present, not for the past. Why, do you know, that as far back as March 4, 1861, at a white meeting in Springfield, Mr. Lincoln offered a series of resolutions relating to the tariff, which could well be accepted here tonight? They were then instantly and unanimously adopted. An extract from these resolutions:

"For several years past the revenues of the government have been unequal to its expenditures, and consequently loan after loan, some times direct and some times indirect in form, has been resorted to. By this means a new National debt has been created, and is still growing on us with a rapidity fearful to contemplate—a rapidity only reasonably to be expected in time of war. This state of things has been produced by a prevailing unwillingness either to impose the burden of taxation or to resort to direct taxation, but the one of the other must come. Coming expenditures must be met, and the present debt must be paid, and money can not always be borrowed for these objects. The system of loans is not temporary in its nature, and must soon explode. It is a system not only ruinous while it lasts but one that must soon fail and leave us bankrupt. As a means to avoid or postpone the evil of borrowing soon finds his original means devoured by interest, and, next, no one left to borrow from, so must it be with the government. We repeat, then, that a tariff sufficient for revenue, or a direct tax, should be resorted to."

Perhaps it was not entirely accidental that these views of Mr. Lincoln found almost literal expression in the republican National platform of 1888. Now is it strange that this year, as in 1860, no chart is needed to mark the republican position upon the great economic question. The whole world knew a year in advance of its utterance what the republican platform of 1860 would be, and the whole world knows can and has known for a year past, what the republican platform of 1896 will be.

The battle was to arrest the spread of slave labor in America, now it is to prevent the increase of servant and degraded free labor in America. "The platform of 1896 I say, is already written—written in the hearts and at the homes of the masses of our countrymen."

We are faithfully wedded to the great principle of protection by every no of party fealty and affection, and it is dearer to us now than ever before. Nobody will dispute it, for we republicans, for it has more loyal supporters among the great masses of the American people, the representative of party, than at any previous period in our history. It is everywhere recognized and honored as the great, masterful, triumphant American principle—the key to our prosperity in business, the source of the greatness of the United States, and the bulwark of our National independence and financial honor.

The question of the continuance or abandonment of our protective system has been the one great overshadowing vital question in American politics ever since the Democratic party came into power in December, 1887, to which the immortal James G. Blaine made swift reply from across the sea, and it will continue the issue until a truly American policy, for the good of America, is firmly established and perpetuated. The fight will go on, and it will go on, until the American system is everywhere recognized, until all nations come to understand and respect it as decisively, and all Americans come to honor or love it as dearly as they do the American flag.

It may be asked what the next republican tariff will provide. I can not tell you. I can not tell you what the rates will be, but they will measure the difference between American and European conditions, and will be fully adequate to protect ourselves from the invasion of our markets by foreign products to the injury of American labor, and will in no case be too low to protect and exalt American labor, and promote and increase American production.

No one need be in any doubt about what the republican party stands for. Its own platform is plain, explicable and clear to admit of doubt. It stands for a renated and recreated Nation, based upon peace and honest elections in every township, county, city, district and State in the great American Union.

It stands for the street and preside, and the flag of the Nation. It stands for the American farm, the American factory and the prosperity of all the American people. It stands for a reciprocity that reciprocates and which does not yield one to another country a single day's labor that belongs to the American workingman. It stands for international arrangements which get as much as they give, upon terms of mutual advantage. It stands for an exchange of our surplus and home products for such foreign products as we require, but do not produce. It stands for the reciprocity of Blaine, for the reciprocity of Harrison, for the restoration and extension of the principle embodied in the reciprocity provisions of the republican tariff of 1890.

It stands for a foreign policy dictated by and imbued with a spirit that is genuinely American, for a policy that will revive the National traditions, and restore the National spirit which carried us proudly through the earlier years of the country. It stands for such a policy with all foreign nations as will insure both to us and them justice, impartiality, fairness, good faith, dignity and honor. It stands for the Monroe doctrine as Monroe himself proclaimed it, about which there is no division whatever among the American people. It stands now, as ever, for honest money and a chance to earn it by honest toil. It stands for a currency of gold, silver and paper with which to measure our exchanges, that shall be as sound as the government and as unstamped as its honor. The republican party would as soon think of lowering the flag of our country as to contemplate with patience or without protest and opposition any attempt to debase or corrupt the medium of exchanges among the people.

It can be relied upon in the future, as in the past, to supply the country with the best money ever known, gold, silver, and paper, good the world over. It stands for a commercial policy that will whiten every sea with the sails of American vessels, flying the American flag, and that will protect that flag wherever it floats. It stands for a system which will give to the United States the surplus of trade which every competing nation in the world. It is for a fiscal policy opposed to debts and deficiencies in time of peace, and favors the resumé of the government to a debtor-paying, and opposes the continuance of a debt-making policy.

The republicans of the county are not going to help the democratic leaders obscure the issue on which their party has been wrecked and the administration stranded, by taking up every new incident about which a hue and cry may be raised. They will give due credit for any sporadic outbursts of patriotic fervor for our rights in foreign countries that the administration may choose to indulge in and rejoice that it is at least on the right side of a great question, which is where the republicans have always been.

Senator Thurston of Nebraska delivered an eloquent address on "The Independent Contest."

After referring to the division in the democratic party on the money question he said the republican party was today practically united and pledged to the policy of American bimetalism—to the greatest possible use of gold and silver consistent with the maintenance of the equal purchasing power and debt paying purpose of every dollar. It stood pledged to international bimetallism whenever brought about by the nations of the earth were united with us to guarantee the maintenance of a world-wide parity between the two money metals.

Senator H. P. Pritchard of North Carolina spoke of "Our Hope in the South."

He said it was for the republican party to adopt such a policy as would give assurance that the raw material of that section was to be amply protected against the competition of the foreign trade. It was universally admitted that in the South there was concentrated greater resources for the development for manufacturing and mining than in any other part of the world. The McKinley law, reflecting, as it did, the patriotic wisdom and statesmanship of the republican party stimulated and encouraged every industry in which concentrated southern people were interested. The senator concluded with the prediction that with William McKinley as standard bearer on such a republican platform the republicans would carry North Carolina, Virginia, Tennessee and perhaps other Southern States.

DEPEW'S SPEECH.

New York, February 12.—The tenth annual Lincoln dinner of the republican club was held at Delmonico's tonight.

Dr. Depew, the first speaker, said in part: "The republican party has its teachings and inspirations more largely from the statesmanship and principles of Abraham Lincoln than from any other source. The republican party in 1896 stands before the country as the only National party, with the Solid South broken and sectional lines gone."

Senator-elect Foraker of Ohio strongly advocated the development of American shipping and the building of an American ship canal across Nicaragua.

FOR OR AGAINST HIM.

(Continued From Page One.)

when about a dozen of their horses had been shot down the whole were thrown into confusion and the insurgents retreated for good, after, however, keeping up for nearly an hour a scattering fire, which was severe enough to prevent the troops from pursuing the enemy.

It was not until 4 o'clock in the afternoon that fresh vessels and fatigue parties were sent out to gather up the insurgent dead and wounded, while the Spanish cavalry pursued the retreating enemy. The soldiers found forty-eight dead insurgents on the field and it was estimated by fairly accurate counts that the enemy carried away with them a number of their wounded who fell too close to the Spanish square to permit of their friends carrying them off.

The Spanish cavalry, in pursuing the insurgents, captured a number of country people, supposing them to have information regarding the movements of the enemy. The prisoners after having been questioned by Colonel Lopez were released. They say that the insurgent loss is much greater than estimated by the Spanish officers, as they saw a number of dead men carried away by the surprised cavalry and the country people also assert the number of wounded carried off by the enemy was quite 200.

Spanish rule is believed throughout with the greatest courage and owing to the admirable position selected by Colonel Lopez for the formation of the square the loss sustained by the troops was slight in view of the fact that the fighting lasted over six hours. The troops lost Major Tomas, Sergeant Otera and four soldiers killed and had a lieutenant, one sergeant and 20 soldiers wounded.

The cavalry behind the spot where the Spanish square formed turned out to be an admirable field hospital, for there the army surgeons were enabled to care for the wounded, while the bullets of the enemy whistled harmlessly over them.

General Weyler has complimented Colonel Lopez.

Near Habe the insurgents have attacked a train escorted by volunteers of the Seneca battalion, and a few soldiers. The insurgents were beaten off with a loss of five killed and a quantity of arms and ammunition. They retired with their wounded. Five soldiers were wounded during the engagement.

A column of troops commanded by Colonel Perez has had two skirmishes with the insurgents in the vicinity of Jesus Maria, province of Matanzas. During the first exchange of shots the insurgents lost four killed and retreated. They were pursued by the troops and overtaken at the plantation of Elecin, where a second exchange of shots took place, with the result that the insurgents lost fifteen killed and in addition the troops captured six prisoners and a number of rifles. Only one soldier was killed during the two skirmishes, although several were wounded.

A band of insurgents commanded by Castillo made an attack yesterday upon the village of Managua, near this city. A detachment of volunteers belonging to Naccarno, a village close by Managua, was also attacked by the insurgents and the volunteers, without making any defense worth mentioning, surrendered their arms and ammunition and joined the insurgents.

The troops at Managua, however, made a brilliant defense, keeping up a hot fire upon the enemy until the latter retreated with the loss of four killed and a great number of rifles and machetes on the ground. The insurgents also carried away a number of wounded, including Castillo, their leader.

From preparations being made by the beleaguered troops it is surmised that extensive operations are about to be inaugurated against the insurgents. Horses for the infantry soldiers have been arriving from different sections for a number of days past and the work is being continued from morning and night. The object in mounting the infantry is to enable them to travel longer distances and make greater speed than heretofore in pursuing the insurgents.

The reports asked for by General Weyler have been received from nearly every quarter and it is thought he finds the situation to be more favorable than he anticipated. He has dispatched a number of orders to the commanders of different districts and the ammunition and the supplies landed from the Alfonso XIII and other steamers which have recently arrived here from Spain is being forwarded under