THE WASHINGTON TIMES

VOL. 1. NO. 138. WASHINGTON, D. C., THURSDAY MORNING, AUGUST 2, 1894. ONE CENT.

CONFEREES ARE LIBERAL

They Give the District $5,544,593.57 to Spend this Year.

INCREASE MORE THAN $300,000

Street Cars Must Provide Fenders—Few Changes in the School Appropriation—No Money for Compiling the Laws—Garbage Collection to Be Investigated.

The conference agreement on the District appropriation bill was finally settled upon late yesterday afternoon, after a fuller deliberation over the items than is usual. A great many modifications have been made in the bill, and recessions are made by both houses in their amendments.

The result, however, is to increase the total appropriations for the District from $5,206,473.57 as determined by the House to $5,544,593.57. Last year the appropriation was $5,412,223.71.

The following, showing the figures in the various stages of the bill, is interesting: The estimate furnished to the House was $5,381,473.91. The House bill reduced this to $5,206,473.57. The Senate bill increased this $680,615 to $5,887,088.57, and the reduction in conference was $342,495.

The Senate amendment for assessment and permit work, providing for the new system of dividing the cost between the District and the abutting owners, prevails in full, the amount, $165,000, therefor being left as in the House bill.

By its provision the Commissioners are authorized and empowered "whenever in their judgment the public health, safety or comfort require it, or whenever application shall be made therefor, accompanied by a deposit equal to one-half the estimated cost of the work, to improve and repair alleys and sidewalks, and to construct sewers and sidewalks in the District of Columbia of such form and materials as they may determine, and to pay the total cost of such work from appropriations for assessment and permit work.

The Commissioners shall give notice by advertisement, twice a week for two weeks in some newspaper published in the city of Washington, of any assessment work proposed to be done by them under this act, designating the location and the kind of work to be done, specifying the kind of materials to be used, the estimated cost of the improvement, and fixing a time and place when and where property owners to be assessed can appear and present objections thereto, and for hearing thereof. One-half of the total cost of the assessment work herein provided for, including the expenses of the assessment, shall be charged against and become a lien upon abutting property, and an assessment therefor shall be levied pro rata according to the linear frontage of said property. One-half of the cost of the assessment work done under the provisions of this act shall be paid to the collector of taxes of the District of Columbia, as follows: One-third of the amount within sixty days after service of notice of such assessment, without interest; one-third within one year; and the remainder within two years.

STREETS AND AVENUES.

The appropriation for work on streets and avenues suggested in the book of estimates, fixed by the House at $100,000 and the Senate at $200,000, is compromised at $145,750, as follows: Georgetown, $12,750; northwest, $57,000; southwest, $19,500; southeast, $28,000, and northeast, $28,000.

Under the appropriation for repairs of streets and avenues the Senate amendment requiring street cars propelled by any other power than horses to provide suitable fenders stands. Also in that providing that half the cost of new sidewalks or curbing required in streets being improved shall be assessed similarly to the rule in assessment and permit work.

The appropriation of $8,000 for grading and graveling Twelfth street extended from University Heights is to extend as far as Rhode Island avenue, instead of to Austin street. The Senate also provides in making appropriation for widening Fourteenth street, between Kenyon street and Whitney avenue, one-half the cost to be borne by the Washington and Georgetown Railroad, and in the appropriations added for paving the following streets:

The grading of Albemarle street from Grant avenue to Connecticut avenue extended, $9,000; for extending Clifton street, $5,000, half to be paid by the District; for macadamizing the road to Chevy Chase, $5,000, all to be paid by District; for opening entrance to the Zoo from Woodly road, $2,500; for improving Eighteenth street extended to Columbia road, $12,000, one-half to be paid by abutting owners.

ITEMS STRICKEN OUT.

The Senate amendments, as follows, are stricken out of the bill. For grading and graveling Roanoke and Irving streets, from Brightwood avenue to Thirteenth street, $8,000; for paving First street extended northward from S street to W street, $18,000; for paving Harrison street, Anacostia, from Monroe street to Fillmore street, $8,000; for paving R street northwest, extended, from Florida avenue to Twenty-second street, $3,000.

The net result is that $69,590 is allowed—the House bill having allowed $43,000 and the Senate amendment having raised it to $111,590.

The Senate amendment relative to the acquirement of the title of the Breton lands on North Capitol street stands. For sprinkling, the conferees go half way between the House and Senate, making the sum $137,500, instead of $125,000 and $150,000 respectively. The Senate provision for $5,000 for roads outside the city limits is receded from and stricken out.

For lighting, $142,400 is allowed in place of the House figure of $190,000, and the Senate allowance of $146,000. The price of each lamp is fixed at $20.50 instead of $21.50, in the Senate amendment, and $18 in the House bill. For electric lighting, $47,600 is allowed or 40 cents a night a lamp, against $59,500 or 50 cents a night in the Senate amendment, and 35 cents in the House bill.

For cleaning and repairing sewers and basins, $45,000 is allowed, and the sum of $65,000 is appropriated for relief-sewers and replacing obstructed ones. For main and pipe sewers, $9,000 is allowed, and $20,000 for suburban sewers.

The Senate amendment providing for the continuing the construction of the Rock Creek intercepting sewers, and appropriating $20,000 therefore is accepted, with a promise that the Commissioners are authorized to enter into a contract for the complete work at a cost of not more than $10,000, of which only so much is to be paid for from time to time as special appropriations cover.

For the care, repair, and extension of the public bathing beach on the Potomac River, in the District of Columbia, $1,000 is allowed.

For care of minor bridges a deduction of $4,000 is made from the Senate estimate of $19,000 and the Senate amendment providing $51,070 for the repair of the Aqueduct Bridge stands. For the Washington Aqueduct, for which the House allowed $45,000 and the Senate $90,000, $52,500 was compromised on, and $90,000 fixed as a limit to the cost.

For protecting the conduit at wasteweir numbered one, near Great Falls, $5,000 is allowed to stand.

SCHOOL APPROPRIATIONS.

Few changes were made in the school appropriations. The Senate receded from additions of $5,000 for repair shop and improvements, and the Senate amendment preventing teachers or trustees from deriving any benefit from sale or use of text books or supplies prevailed. The House also receded from the provision charging for pupils who are children of non-residents and the Senate provision for an eight-room school building in Mount Pleasant of $29,000 stands. The House also recedes from the Senate allowances for heating boilers for Sumner School, $2,500, and for fireproof stairway for Curtis, Seaton, and Abbott Schools, $9,000.

For the police 240 privates of class one (Senate) at $900 instead of 230 (House) prevails, also 180 of class two (Senate) instead of 75 (House) at $1,080 are provided for. There is an additional driver for patrol wagons, and the total appropriation is $514,520 (Senate) instead of $499,760 (House). For contingent expenses for the police department $20,000 (Senate) is allowed instead of $16,500 (House).

The Senate amendment for an additional fire engine company for six months is not allowed. An allowance of $23,200 for a new engine house, lot, etc., in northeast Washington instead of $12,000 (House) is made. The item for a new fire engine, $4,500, and hose cart, $900, is stricken out.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

In the health department, the Senate yields its amendment for an assistant chemist; for chemicals for the laboratory, and the provisions for contract by the Commissioners for removal of garbage, allowing the House provision appropriating $24,400 to stand, and $1,000 extra in summer months if deemed necessary by the Commissioners. A substitute amendment is, however, inserted directing the Commissioners to examine into the question of garbage collection and report to Congress. The House yields to the Senate amendment declaring the o rdinances of the late board of Health to have the same effect as if enacted by Congress in the first instance.

The Senate amendment allowing $6,000 to W. S. Abert for compilation of annotations, &c., in force in the District is stricken out. For the emergency fund the House recedes from its appropriation of $5,000, and the Senate amendment of $25,000 stands. For support of convicts $25,000 (House) stands.

The Senate amendment placing the Reform School under the Commissioners is receded from. For charities few changes are made. The Central Dispensary and Emergency Hospital get $12,000 (Senate), instead of $10,000 (House), and the Columbia Hospital for women gets the Senate extra allowance of $10,000 for an addition. The Homeopathic Hospital gets $8,000, instead of $7,000 (House) and $9,000 (Senate). The Senate yields its amendment putting the Freedman's Hospital under the board of incorporators and its expenditure under the Commissioners. A number of changes are made in the allowances for the Girls' Reform School, resulting in an increase of $1,085. For sundries $10,500 (House) gives way to $5,000 (Senate).

St. John's Orphanage and German Orphan Asylum get $1,800 (Senate) each instead of $1,181 (House). The Association for Relief of Destitute Colored Women get $9,900. St. Joseph's Asylum is allowed $1,800; the Association for Works of Mercy, $1,800; the House of Good Shepherd gets $2,700; Industrial Home School, $9,900; St. Rose's Industrial School, $4,500; St. Ann's Infant Asylum, $5,400.

BOARD OF CHILDREN'S GUARDIANS.

The Senate amendment placing salary of agent for Board of Children's Guardians at $1,500 and reducing general expenditures $1,000 to $4,000 prevail. For care of feeble-minded children $13,000 (Senate) prevails over $19,100 (House).

By the provisions of the bill making specific appropriations for those institutions caring for children, which have heretofore received an apportionment from the Board of Children's Guardians, they are made wholly independent of that board.

The House yields the Senate addition of $7,000 for a camp of instructions for the militia.

In the water department the Senate yields $1,500 for a civil engineer, and the item is stricken out. The House yields to the Senate amendment allowing such money as is necessary to pay an additional amount of money for a sinking fund not exceeding $300,000 out of the surplus general revenues of the District remaining on July 1, 1894.

Other changes in the bill are the following: In the executive office, the Senate amendment to credit and allow the audit of Collector of the District John F. Cook in 1881 for $4,079.70 on account of redemption of special tax certificates stands, and the certificates are to be delivered to their owner, Isaac S. Lyon. In the collector's office the item providing for a deputy collectorship is receded from. In the auditor's office an extra $1,000 clerkship is added, and in the attorney's office the special assistant attorney gets $1,600.

MINOR CHANGES.

Provision is made for a stenographer and typewriter at $720 and a deputy property clerk at $1,000 in the executive office. In the engineer office the Senate amendment providing that the President of the United States may detail from the Engineer Corps of the Army not more than three officers, junior to the engineer officer belonging to the Board of Commissioners of said District, to act as assistants to said Engineer Commissioner in the discharge of the special duties imposed upon him by the provisions of this act stands.

The Senate recedes from its amendment providing for compensation for a plumbing board; also from its $24,000 appropriation for expenses under the contingent fund for offices of superintendent of charities, health department, harbormaster, etc., for which the House allowed $22,500. For the coroner's office the Senate amendment providing $1,000 was accepted. For advertising arrear of taxes the Senate amendment providing $12,000 stands. The Senate recedes from its amendment allowing $3,170 for repair of Western Market-house.

Another change, the word in parentheses indicating the amendment which prevailed, was: Three thousand dollars (Senate) for the plans of Mr. Olmstead for extension of streets, instead of $5,000.

Commonwealers Causing Trouble.

CLEVELAND, Ohio, Aug.—Count Rybakowski's Polish commonwealers who have been in camp here since Monday, got into trouble with the police to-day. They invaded an orchard, and when the proprietor drove them away they threatened. He called the police and a patrol wagon load of officers dispersed them. To-night thirty-five extra police are doing duty in the vicinity, and it is feared trouble will result.

Congressman Bryan to Be an Editor.

OMAHA, Nebr., Aug. 1.—Congressman W. J. Bryan will shortly assume editorial control of the Omaha Daily World-Herald. The paper will advocate the free and unlimited coinage of silver and oppose the Cleveland Democrats in the coming campaign. It is expected Bryan will assume editorial duties upon the adjournment of Congress, in furtherance of his candidacy for the United States Senate.

Will Investigate the Charges.

CLEVELAND, Ohio, Aug. 1.—The following telegram was received here to-day from Congressman Tom L. Johnson, in reference to the investigation of United States Judge Ricks: "Washington, Aug. 1.—I have just seen the Attorney General and he has wired J. W. Nightingale, an examiner now in Illinois, to report at Cleveland immediately and take up the charges. TOM L. JOHNSON."

Nominations.

The President yesterday sent to the Senate the following nominations:

Navy—Lieut. Commander William W. Reisinger to be commander; Lieut. A. V. Wadhams to be lieutenant commander; Lieuts. (junior grade) John H. L. Holbombe and William L. Burdick to be lieutenants; Ensigns Joseph L. Jayne and James G. Doyle to be lieutenants, junior grade.

TARIFF BILL IS SEE-SAWING

Now the Conferees Are Believed to Be Tipping Senateward.

AGREEMENT EXPECTED SOON

Concessions Will Be Made by Both Houses—Coal, Iron, and Sugar Still in the Way—Significant Conference of Conservative Senators Last Night.

It was stated by one of the Democratic Senate conferees last night that there was a possibility of reaching an agreement on the tariff bill about the end of the week with a probability of reporting the bill as finally agreed on next Monday.

It was found by the conferees yesterday that they had a great many questions to go over and agree upon, even after the main points in dispute are settled. It was stated by the House conferees that they had not made as much progress as they hoped.

The developments of yesterday were decidedly more favorable to the Senate bill, and from the best information obtainable, the tariff bill that will finally be accepted will be rather more on that basis than had been expected. There will be a spirit of compromise in the agreement on the schedule, however, and it is stated that very marked concessions will be made in the manufactures schedule to the demands of the House conferees.

It is thought unlikely now that there will be any change in the duty on coal or iron ore, although pleasing reciprocity clauses may be put in for effect. As to sugar Senator Brice said yesterday that half a dozen schedules had been debated, and he thought the conferees were not so far apart on that question, now that the President had taken a stand, as to present an agreement with little delay.

SENATE CONFEREES' POSITION.

The Senate conferees still take the position that they have nothing to compromise on sugar, but it is stated that a counter proposition is to be made to the House on this schedule. In this connection a significant and private conference was held last night, attended, as near as can be learned, by Senators Brice, Smith, Murphy, Jones, and Vest. It could not be learned if Senator Gorman was present. It is understood that the sugar schedule was the subject under discussion, and that the amount of concessions which will be yielded by the Senators who have the bill in charge was finally decided upon. It is possible that the other differences which exist were discussed at the conference.

The scheme for presenting to the Senate a bill that would suit Chairman Wilson and the advanced tariff reformers in the House for the purpose of testing the conservatives' good faith, does not seem to be making much headway. The Administration Senators have been urging it steadily, but the Senate conferees say it will kill the bill and refuse to try it. This course is causing considerable feeling between the Administration Senators and the Senate conferees.

The Senate managers, who do not like to concede that there has been any wavering in their lines, say that the House has never had an opportunity to pass upon the Senate bill, and inferentially leave the impression that they expect a report, not of an entire agreement, but of a disagreement as to many matters for which the Senate contends, and that the bill will be sent to the House in the hope that concurrence may result. It was claimed that this course was felt to be preferable to the caucus plan, and as the bill would be in possession of the House there would not be a charge of discourtesy to the conferees.

CHANGES IN THE SITUATION.

A new story came out yesterday relative to the caucus. It is said that the sudden change in the situation, which has led to the reports of an impending agreement, was caused by the threat contained in Mr. Springer's caucus call to show that the House sentiment would not justify the conferees in any attempt to insist on their ground to the point of endangering the ultimate success of the bill. This is said to have been a warning to the House conferees that they were likely to find themselves alone if they went too far. While this story of the situation is not entitled to absolute faith, it comes from a very prominent Democratic Congressman, who favors "surrender," as any concessions to the Senate is now called.

The President is said to be absolutely firm and to have no intention of yielding. That was the story of Bourke Cochran, who saw him yesterday. But the statements were many yesterday that when it came to signing or refusing to sign a bill he would not waver very long in accepting the best he could get.

While the outlook for a speedy settlement is excellent, this fact must be borne in mind: both sides are claiming the victory. That is the best evidence that there have been some concessions on both sides and a good deal of compromise. The bill, therefore, is likely to be nearly the one that was tentatively agreed on at the first conference with regard to the manufacturing schedules, and with the coal, iron, and sugar schedules handled as suggested above.

One of the Democratic conferees, who has been most persistent in saying that no agreement was in sight, said last night that the situation was more hopeful of agreement than at any time, but he added that the compromise and agreements would be more in the nature of rewriting the schedule than in material changes.

Congress Caused Him to Fail.

INDEPENDENCE, Mo., Aug. 1.—The dry goods store, owned by Dr. J. S. Mott, was closed by assignment this evening. Liabilities are $100,000, assests about the same. The failure carries with it three branch stores, one each in Siloam Springs, Ark., Darlington, O. T., and Fort Worth, Tex. Dr. Mott was furnishing supplies to the Indians for the government and says that the tardiness of appropriations forced him to make the assignment.

In Field of Politics.

Second Iowa district Republicans yesterday nominated M. Curtis, of Clinton, for Congress.

Brazilla M. Blount was yesterday nominated for Congress by the Prohibitionists of the Seventh Indiana district.

Dr. William Godfrey Hunter was nominated by the Republicans of the Third Kentucky Congressional district yesterday without opposition.

Hon. John D. Anderson was renominated for Congress on the first ballot by the Democrats of the Third West Virginia Congressional district.

The Jeffersonian Club, of Watertown, New York, adopted resolutions yesterday condemning the United States Senate and commending Senator Hill and the House.

Dr. S. W. Johnson, was nominated for Congress by the Populists, of the Eleventh Georgia district yesterday to oppose Judge Turner. G. W. White was nominated by the Populists to run against Speaker Crisp.

The Florida Democratic convention at Jacksonville adjourned yesterday after nominating B. S. Liddon for justice of the supreme court and commending the President and the House of Representatives and condemning the United States Senate. Election of Senators by direct vote was indorsed.

IRELAND COMMENDS SATOLLI.

Approves of the Elimination of Liquor Dealers from Catholic Societies.

ST. PAUL, Minn., Aug. 1.—In the Catholic Total Abstinence Union to-day, Archbishop Ireland made an address in which he enumerated as among the chief aims of the warfare of Catholics against intemperance:

The conversion to sobriety of men, Catholic by baptism and profession, who are the victims of intemperance; the dicountenacing of social drinking customs; the elimination of liquor from the sideboard in Catholic families; from Catholic clubrooms; from all Catholic festivities and banquets; the removal of Catholics from saloon keeping in accordance with the instructions of the council of Baltimore; a high standard of practical civic virtue, so that no Catholic shall appear in public life as the representatives or advocates of the interests of the liquor trade, and no Catholic shall vote on election days to put into office such representatives or advocates.

The Archbishop expressed strong approval of the recent letter of Mgr. Satolli in regard to saloon keepers holding membership in Catholic societies.

FLAMES HELD HIGH REVEL

They Came Very Near Gutting Chicogo's Lumber District.

AN IMMENSE AREA BURNED

Strong Wind Fanned the Fire and Made the Work of the Engines Almost Useless—Two Persons Killed and Some Injured—Loss Will Reach a Million and a Half Dollars.

CHICAGO, Ill., Aug. 1.—The lumber district of Chicago was to-night visited by one of the most disastrous fires in its history, and the loss will probably foot up between $1,200,000 and $1,500,000, although it will be twenty-four hours before the damage can be estimated with accuracy. The following firms were entirely cleaned out by the flames and everything contained in their yards has been utterly destroyed:

S. K. Martin Lumber Company; Brown & Richards Lumber Company; Wells & French Company, car builders; Perley Lowe & Company, lumber; Shoemaker & Higbee, lumber; John Spry Lumber Company; Edward Hines, lumber; Conway & Company, cedar posts; W. C. Palmer, cedar posts; Whitcomb Cedar Post Company, and Siemans & Halske, manufacturers of dynamos.

The burned district is about six squares from east to west and three from north to south. The greatest portion of the district bounded by Blue Island avenue, Lincoln street, the river and Ashland avenue was burned over, and forty acres of lumber yards are nothing but smoking embers.

The fire was discovered by a watchman. He saw a blaze on the outside of the fence on the east side of Lincoln street, near a shingle shed belonging to S. K. Martin & Co. He turned in an alarm, but before the first engines arrived the shingle shed was a mass of flames which had communicated to the surrounding lumber piles. The Martin yards are 2,500 feet long by 300 feet wide, and the flames originated in exactly the right spot for the strong northwest wind, which was blowing at the time, to carry them through the entire length and breadth of the yards.

FIERCE GALE FANNED THE FLAMES.

The wind drove the flames so fiercely that the first engines which arrived were utterly helpless, and call after call for additional help was made until over fifty engines and three fireboats were at work on the fire. It is not likely that even they would have counted for much had not the wind died away after the fire had been burning an hour. The course of the flames was southeast and east for the first forty-five minutes and they literally licked up everything in their path. Piles of lumber, lath, shingles, and cedar posts were swallowed up with an appalling rapidity and for a time it seemed as though the entire lumber district of the city, which stretches a mile to the south, and as far to the east of the burning yards, must be consumed.

The wind, however, suddenly changed at 9:30 o'clock and began to blow from the south, and with much less violence than before. The flames started rapidly north again and burned back to a line level with its starting point. The sudden change in the direction of the flames caught several engine companies unprepared, and the men were compelled to run for their lives. No engines were abandoned, but three of them had close calls. Horses and men narrowly escape death.

The fireboat Yosemite was at work in one of the slips when the direction of the fire changed, and the long tongues of flame which shot over her made it necessary that she be removed at once. When an effort was made to start her up it was found that her steam was so low that the boat could not be moved with any rapidity, and the flames were swooping down upon her at a fearful rate. The men frantically pushed her off with poles and boards, and she finally crawled out of the slip with no more damage than a severe scorching in several places.

FATAL ACCIDENTS NOT LACKING.

The fireboat Geyser had also a close call, but ran through the flames, which leaped out over the slip, and escaped unharmed. Two of her men, John McCann and Thomas Freeding, were badly burned while fighting the fire. A large "Siamese" hose which they were holding got away from them and knocked both men over the side of the boat upon a pile of burning cedar posts a few feet away. Their injuries are not fatal.

In addition to the firemen injured the following casualties occurred:

Otto Rafter fell off lumber pile, back broken and will die.

Unknown man struck on the head by a flying cap from a fire engine, knocked in the river and drowned.

At 11 o'clock the fire was still burning fiercely, with the probability of blazing for twelve hours more. It is difficult to obtain an estimate of the loss, but the following are believed to be about correct: S. J. Martin Company, $500,000; Perley, Lowe & Co., $145,000; Wells French Company, $500,000; Siemens & Halske, $300,00 Shoemaker & Higbee, $125,000, and John Spry Lumber Company, $25,000. Total, $1,595,000.

Late in the night, when Fire Marshal Sweeny began to take account of stock, he found that he was short several thousand feet of piping and two fire engines, which the firemen were forced to abandon to the flames. Both of them were partly rescued, but the heat was so great and the rush of the fire so swift that it was necessary to abandon them.

Increase of Boston's Unemployed.

BOSTON, Aug. 1.—The state commission on the unemployed began its first real work to-night by holding a public hearing in city hall. All witnesses examined were connected with the building trades. It seemed to be the consensus of opinion that the period of unemployment in Boston has increased two-fold during the last ten years. The carpenters present emphasized their statements that the quota of workers in their craft that came from the British provinces for the working season only and regularly returned home each year, was fully three-sevenths of all the workers at the trade.

TO MAKE SAVAGES BLUSH

Japanese Guilty of Barbaric Cruelty in a Naval Battle.

SOME DAMAGING TESTIMONY

They Are Reported as Having Tried to Kill Men Struggling in the Water—Apology Offered to Great Britain but Not Yet Accepted—War Declared by Japan.

LONDON, Aug. 2.—The Times and Standard correspondents at Che Foo have sent accounts of the sinking of the Kow Ching, which are to the effect that the Japanese were guilty of wanton cruelty. They are reported as having done their best to kill every survivor of the sinking trasport Kin Chow.

YOKOHAMA, Japan, Aug. 1.—The following is the official account, from the Japanese government's standpoint, of the battle which took place on July 25 between the warships of Japan and China:

The Chinese cruisers, the Chih Yuen and the Kuwanii, were observed steaming from Kasan, and a transport, carrying Chinese soldiers, convoyed by the Chinese warship Tsao-Kiang, was seen coming from Tokii toward Kasan. The Japanese cruisers Akitsusu, Yoshino, and Naniwa, met the two Chinese warships near Pantao Island. The Chinese did not salute, but on the other hand they made warlike preparations. In order to get out of the narrow waters in which they were situated, the Japanese cruisers put to sea, whereupon the Chih Yuen pursued the Naniwa.

The Naniwa, so soon as she was in open waters, put about and steamed toward the two Chinese ships. The Chih Yuen and the Kuwanii, however, retreated and the Chih Yuen hoisted the white flag above the Chinese naval ensign. The Naniwa, consequently, delayed firing upon the warship and then the transport crossed the bow of the Naniwa. The latter fired a blank shot and signaled the transport to stop. In the meantime the Chih Yuen had approached under the Naniwa's stern, and when within a distance of 300 meters she discharged a torpedo, which missed the Japanese warship. The Naniwa then opened fire upon the Chih Yuen and the Yoshino joined in the action. The Chih Yuen finally fled and was pursued. The Chinese ship, however, was not overtaken.

The second Chinese warship, the Kuwanii, had in the meantime been engaged with the Japanese cruiser Akitsusu, but, like the Chih Yuen, she finally fled and took refuge between the shore and a shoal.

SINKING THE TRANSPORT.

The transport carried six guns and had 1,100 soldiers aboard. The captain of the transport surrendered; but the soldiers on board of her refused to do so, and resisted capture. The Naniwa was ultimately obliged to open fire upon the transport and eventually sank her. The captain and others were rescued by the boats of the Naniwa.

It was afterwards discovered that the transport was a British steamer, the Kow Shing. She had on board four chiefs of battalions, fifteen colonels of the Chinese army, in addition to the soldiers referred to. The Japanese government so soon as it was informed of the sinking of the British ship expressed its regrets, declaring to the British charge d'affaires that if, after an inquiry into the subject had been made, Japan was shown to be in the wrong, the Japanese government was prepared to make full reparation for the loss sustained.

The naval engagement of July 25 should not be confounded with the naval battle fought on July 30; nor should the Chih Yuen, a Chinese unarmored ship of 2,300 tons, in this first encounter, be confounded with the Chinese armored battle-ship Chen Yuen, 7,300 tons, reported sunk in the second fight.

WAR HAS BEEN DECLARED.

TOKIO, Aug. 1, via Rome.—The Japanese government sent a note to the foreign representatives here forty-eight hours before war was declared, to the effect that it was still disposed to consider any peace proposals which might be made that were compatible with the actual situation and with Japan's dignity.

LONDON, Aug. 1.—The Japanese legation here has received an official dispatch announcing that the Emperor of Japan has declared war against the Emperor of China. The announcement that war had been declared had previously been communicated to the foreign envoys at Tokio.

The Earl of Kimberley, upon receiving from the envoy of the Tokio government the official notification that Japan had formally declared war against China, declared that Great Britain remained neutral in the matter, although the British government would immediately take steps to safeguard British interests in the far East. So far as the sinking of the transport Kow Shing, flying the British flag, is concerned, the envoy was informed, Great Britain awaits the statement of the English captain of that steamer before making any reply to the apology offered by Japan.

The admiralty has instructed Admiral Sir E. R. Fremantle, in command of the China station, to prevent troops, arms, or munitions of war being conveyed under the British flag to either China or Japan. The admiral is also instructed to guard British lives and interests.

The legations of China and Japan have received numerous offers of assistance from British army and navy officers, who are desirous of serving under the flag of one of those countries. The two legations are constantly besieged by inventors and purveyors.

MANCHESTER, Aug. 1.—Private advices received here to-day from Shanghai say that Japan has ordered the Japanese legation at Pekin to be closed, and has recalled all the Japanese consuls throughout China.

MONTREAL, Quebec, Aug. 1.—C. R. Hosner, manager of the Canadian Pacific telegraph, points in an interview the serious position that Japan occupies, telegraphically being dependent for an outlet through China and Russia. He says that sufficient financial progress had been made in 1891 for laying a cable from Vancouver to Japan via the Aleutian Islands, and if the Japanese government had taken any interest in the matter, the cable would now be in operation, and might be the means, during this war alone, of saving Japan more than the cost of laying the cable, which was estimated at about $4,000,000. Mr. Hosmer believes that this war will lead to complications which will result in the speedy laying of a Pacific cable, either to Japan, China or Australia, as this route offers the only safe outlet for the far Eastern countries in case of war.

FEAR FOR MISSIONARIES.

BALTIMORE, Aug. 1.—Bishop Alpheus W. Wilson, of the Southern Methodist Church, who has traveled extensively in China and Japan, and spent many years in close connection with the mission work in those countries, says: "There is much reason to fear for the safety of the missionaries, both men and women, now stationed in China and Korea. While not directly concerned in the dispute between China and Japan, the missionaries will probably feel its effects, because of the readiness of the natives to visit the responsibility of trouble on foreigners, no matter how remote the work of the missionaries may be from the cause of the trouble. Korea is a remarkably exclusive country, and does not eye foreigners with favor, even in the most peaceable times. The Chinese are so deeply pervaded with superstition that natural antipathy to foreigners merges into fanatical hatred and fear.

"While the present danger to the missionaries is to be feared, it is likely that the war, in the long run, will help the cause of the missions by calling attention to them and to their objects and by stimulating the government to greater concessions in their behalf."

NEW YORK, Aug. 1.—The central cable office of the Western Union Telegraph Company has received the following information from London:

"The Chinese land lines from Shanghai to Chefoo, Tien Tsin, and the north are now repaired." Also government messages from Tien Tsin and Pekin, when not written in plain language, are accepted, but are subject to the scrutiny of the Chinese government.

JUDGE HOLT DEAD.

One of the Most Conspicuous Personalities of the War Period Passes from Life's Stage.

Gen. Joseph Holt, of the retired list of the Army, ex-judge, statesman, and an orator of great reputation, died at 3 o'clock yesterday morning at his residence, 236 New Jersey avenue southeast, in this city, aged eighty-seven years.

Judge Holt was a Kentuckian by birth, and was educated at St. Joseph's College, Bardstown, and at Center College, Danville, in that State. In 1860 Judge Holt was appointed Secretary of War to succeed John B. Floyd, who had resigned in anticipation of the then imminent civil war. He was an able aide to Gen. Winfield Scott in the provision made to prevent hostile demonstrations at the inauguration of President Lincoln, March 4, 1861. He was an ardent Union Democrat of the Douglas wing, and earnestly supported the Lincoln administration.

He was appointed judge advocate general of the Army with the rank of colonel in 1862 and two years later was given the rank of brigadier general and placed at the head of the Bureau of Military Justice. He was judge advocate of the military commission that convicted and sentenced Mrs. Surratt for complicity in the murder of Mr. Lincoln and is the last of the official participants in that famous trial to pass away. His oratorical powers were of the highest order and it was said of him when in his prime that no man since Webster had equaled him.

Judge Holt's personal appearance would attract attention anywhere. He was above the average in height, and his smoothly-shaven face was strongly marked with indications of great force of character. Though wonderfully brilliant, he rarely went into society, and of late years practically lived alone, his servants comprising his family. His only relatives in this city are Colonel and Mrs. W. G. Sterrett, the former being his nephew.

Judge Holt's death was due principally to injuries sustained in a recent accident. While descending the stairway at his home his feet slipped and he fell, but the results were not regarded at the time as serious; the shock to his nervous system, however, in connection with the tax upon his advanced age, proved to be fatal.

The remains will be taken to the old Holt homestead, in Breckinridge County, Ky., for burial.

Being naturally philanthropic, Judge Holt had given liberally to others of his worldly goods, and it is not known in what condition he has left his estate, nor to whom or what object it is bequeathed.

As Judge Holt was on the retired list of the Army as a general, an official order was issued yesterday by Adjt. Gen. Ruggles, announcing his death to the Army and speaking in laudatory terms of his public services.

THOSE ARMOR-PLATE FRAUDS.

Congressional Investigating Committee Witnesses Tests at Homestead.

PITTSBURG, Aug. 1.—The House committee on armor-plate investigation, consisting of Congressmen Amos J. Cummings, chairman; J. P. Dolliver, J. F. C. Talbott, and D. D. Money, arrived here to-day and after a short rest went to Homestead and made a trip through the armor plate department of the Carnegie plant to witness the different processes for the purpose of assisting them in making their report to the House. The several departments were gone through and thorough explanations were made of the workings.

In the afternoon the most interesting tests were made. J. E. Buck, of the engineers, attempted to demonstrate the truthfulness of his testimony before the ordnance board. He told the board that he frequently manipulated the testing machine to make it show greater tensile strength in a piece of steel than the steel really possessed. He claimed by this manipulation he could raise the figures at least 6,000 pounds to the square inch. He was allowed to make two tests, but failed.

The informers had claimed that by running the machine fast or slow a higher or lower tensile strength could be secured. A test piece was turned down for two pullings. On the first pull at the slowest possible speed it pulled 91,850; on the second, at the fastest speed, it pulled 94,870. The committee was completely satisfied.

The committee left for Washington at 8:10 o'clock this evening. Their report will be made in few days, but none of the members would say what it would be, though all admit their satisfaction with what they had seen and the explanation of the officials.

COULDN'T PULL THAT LEG.

It Was Forty Inches in Circumference and Had to Be Amputated.

BUFFALO, N. Y., Aug. 1.—John Eckile, a laborer, twenty-eight years old, was to-day operated on at the Sisters' Hospital for a genuine case of elephantiasis. His leg was amputated. It was forty inches in circumference. The leg will be sent to the Army Medical Museum at Washington.

When Eckile was sixteen years old, his left leg began to swell. He paid little attention to it and for years the leg increased in size until a few months ago he was obliged to go to the hospital. The leg was a horrible object. The skin had cracked and dropped off in great chunks. Eckile will probably recover.

Elephantiasis is common enough in the far East, but is very rare in this country. Local doctors say that Eckile's leg was the most perfect specimen of the loathsome disease yet found in this country.

Adverse to Woman's Suffrage.

ALBANY, N. Y., Aug. 1.—The committee on suffrage of the constitutional convention, after a heated session this afternoon, decided to report adversely on all the woman suffrage amendments but not to give either majority or minority reasons for same, simply handing up the propositions as acted upon adversely.

Crimes and Casualties.

Tillie Seabern, of Richmond, Ind., fell yesterday from a parachute at Anderson and was killed.

Anderson Holliday shot and missed Rob Callaway at Elkhorn, W. Va., yesterday, but killed Wesley Cabbs. Holliday was lynched by 300 negroes.

Horace D. Baker, with a dozen aliases, was arrested at South Vineland, N. J., yesterday, charged with forgery. Baker was arrested in Washington in 1889 for the same offense and convicted, serving three years therefor in the penitentiary.

The fishing schooner Antelope was run down in a fog Monday morning off the banks by the White Star Liner Majestic, which arrived in New York yesterday. All but one of the Antelope's crew were rescued by the Majestic's life boat.

THEY JUST CHANGED PLACES

Dr. Woodward Made Health Officer and Dr. Hammett Coroner.

BOTH ARE PERFECTLY HAPPY

Each Learned the First News of His Appointment from the Representative of "The Times"—Complimentary Letter of the Commissioners to Dr. Hammett.

The surprise that was caused by the unexpected resignation of Health Officer Charles M. Hammett, gave way yesterday to another. This one was due to the appointment of Coroner William C. Woodward to fill the vacancy and the appointment of Dr. Hammett to the coroner's place.

Dr. Woodward, on learning that Dr. Hammett was about to resign, made application for the position, and was indorsed by many of the leading physicians of the city.

Rumors had arisen concerning Dr. Hammett's resignation. It was stated that the recent order of the Commissioners limiting the term of office of the health officer to three years had been a gentle hint to Dr. Hammett that his resignation was in order. The Commissioners, however, denied that such was the case.

Rumor has gone so far as to intimate that the garbage question, the recent smallpox hospital affair, and complaints against the health officer have been instrumental in operating against Dr. Hammett's continuance in office.

HAMMETT'S FRIENDS STOOD BY HIM.

Dr. Hammett's friends had heard of such reports some time ago, and to prevent the same from injuring him they defended his conduct of the health department.

Senator Harris and Congressman Meredith, of Virginia, both friends of Dr. Hammett, called on the Commissioners, when they heard the stories that were afloat, and defended him.

Dr. Hammett last night said to a TIMES reporter: "I heard all sorts of things that were said about me. I did my duty conscientiously, and knew very well that no harm could come to me.

"I resigned voluntarily, as I found that my duties as health officer interfered with private business. I had been considering the matter for some time and had had frequent talks with my family about it.

"I told Mr. Ross that I intended to resign and that my reason for doing so was that I wanted to build up my practice, as I had a large family to support.

"I said to him, however, that if he had a position that I could fill so as to not interfere with my practice I would accept it. Mr. Ross told me that I had put the matter in a good light. He answered me that none of the Commissioners had ever thought of interfering with me, as I had performed my duties to their satisfaction.

THE TIMES HIS FIRST INFORMANT.

"Your news of my appointment as coroner is the first that I have heard of it. I did not ask for the place and I feel obliged to the Commissioners for it as it assures me of their confidence in me. I shall accept the place as it is one that will not interfere with my private work."

Dr. Hammett said that Dr. Woodward was a competent man and he thought that he would make a good official. "He used to report to me and now I will have to report to him."

YOUNGEST HEALTH OFFICER OF THE DISTRICT.

Dr. Woodward, when seen by a TIMES reporter, was also informed of his appointment for the first time. He stated that he had been kindly aided by his friends of the medical fraternity. He also said that he had not mapped out any plans for the management of his new office.

"I must first get acquainted with my duties," he remarked, "before I think of what I shall do."

Dr. Woodward is well known to the Commissioners, especially to Commissioner Ross, as he served under the latter when he was city postmaster.

DR. WOODWARD'S BRIGHT CAREER.

Dr. Woodward is a native of Washington. He is only twenty-six years old and will be the youngest health officer the District ever had. He graduated from the High School in 1885, and is now the president of the alumni association of that institution. In 1885 he read medicine under the tutorship of Dr. E. C. Merriam, and in the fall of 1886 he entered the Georgetown Medical School, graduating three years later.

While attending the medical department he also worked in the city post office where he rapidly rose in the line of promotion, passing through the mailing, registry, and money order divisions, and finally became a clerk in the cashier's office, which place he resigned in 1890 to enter upon the practice of medicine.

To get further medical knowledge and practice in surgery he entered the Emergency Hospital May 1, 1892, and resigned there the following December to accept a position as physician to the poor. The last-named place he held until July 20, 1893, when he was made coroner of the District, succeeding the late Dr. Patterson.

Dr. Hammett's letter of resignation as health officer was answered yesterday by the Commissioners. In their communication to him they say:

"The Commissioners have received your resignation of the office of health officer of the District of Columbia, which, in accordance with your wishes, they accept, to take effect to-day.

"The duties of the office during your incumbency have been exceptionally complicated and trying, and, it gives the Commissioners pleasure to state, were always discharged with conscientious regard for the public interest and with unquestioned probity."

Illicit Whisky Found.

Sergt. Dailey made a raid last night on the grocery and notion store of John Leonard, at the corner of Third and F streets northwest.

He found two barrels of whisky, four barrels of wine, and one demijohn of gin in Leonard's possession, it was only after some very clever work that Leonard was located.

The case will be tried in the police court to-morrow, and it is said that Leonard will certainly be convicted. Leonard resisted arrest in such a manner that it was necessary to call two or three men to assist in making the arrest.

Telegraphic Brevities.

Vice-President Wickes announces that the Pullman works will be started to-day, 800 men having promised to return.

The Baker City National Bank, of Baker City, Ore., suspended yesterday. Liabilities to depositors, $75,000; assets, $160,000.

Eight hundred men employed in the packing houses at South Omaha joined the butchers' strike yesterday.

Three thousand insurgent troops are marching upon Porto Alegre, the capital of the State of Rio do Sul, Brazil.

There is a large number of clergymen attending Ministers' Retreat at Point of Woods, L. I. Fourteen States are represented.

J. L. Trumbull, for twenty years superintendent of the Central Division of the American Express Company, at Chicago, dropped dead of heart disease while taking a bath at his home Tuesday night.