

HOUMA

Devoted to Politics, Agriculture, Home Interests and the Material Development of Louisiana.

ESTABLISHED 1878.

HOUMA, TERREBONNE PARISH, LOUISIANA, SATURDAY, JANUARY 23, 1892.

VOL. XIV.—NO. 28.

CURRENT COMMENT.

It is now reported that the typefounders of America are unable to agree on terms of sale to the English syndicate.

The American Economist quotes Japanese labor at from ten to twenty cents a day, and the population increasing in Japan.

Russian agents are distributing throughout Russian Poland manifestos accusing Polish land owners of causing distress by exporting corn and declaring that the czar is doing his utmost to alleviate the suffering.

JOHN A. McCALL, a manager who has brought forward more popular comic opera people than all other American directors combined, is a hopeless invalid at his home in Baltimore and is in poor circumstances financially.

The Baroness Burdett-Coutts has not only been conspicuous for setting the fashion among English women against the use of birds and bird plumage for the adornment of millinery, etc., but she has successfully promoted the manufacture of artificial birds for the purpose, a new industry that gives employment to several hundred girls and women in Paris.

DETECTIVE WOODS, of Denver, now in San Francisco, who has been employed by the friends of Dr. Graves, under sentence of death at Denver for the murder of Mrs. Barnaby, has thirty affidavits from people in that city showing that Mrs. Barnaby was not poisoned by Dr. Graves. These affidavits insinuate that Mrs. Barnaby's nurse purchased poison and that she had expressed the wish that Mrs. Barnaby would die and leave her some money.

The steamers Aspalco and City of New York, belonging to the Pacific Mail Steamship Co., have left San Francisco for Panama. On reaching Santa Barbara, Cal., they will be given a speed trial, extending through the Santa Barbara channel, to fix their rating under the new mail subsidy schedule adopted by the postmaster-general, and also to determine the availability of the vessels as cruisers if needed in the event of war.

The New York Central's cannon ball train, the empire state express, has broken all previous records by running ten miles in six minutes, which is at the rate of one hundred miles an hour. There was a freight wreck at Lyons and the express was detained at Clyde. Time it was switched to another track in order to get through in some short of time. It arrived in Rochester nineteen minutes late. Charles Hogan, the engineer, had a level stretch of track before him ten miles long to Grimsfield. He pulled the throttle wide open. Railroad men predict that he will reach a speed before long of one hundred and twenty-five miles an hour.

An eastern financial paper recently published the following: The most important of the actual results so far accomplished by the big crops as seen in the general disposition of western farmers to pay off their mortgages. It seems likely that there will this year be more farm mortgages paid off than have been in a number of preceding years together. The state of Kansas keeps a record, which is published monthly, showing the statement of mortgages released in the various counties. Without exception the releases show a heavy increase over the amount of new mortgages recorded. This will be found to be true all through the west.

The oil men of Pennsylvania are excited over the objection to their exhibit at the world's fair, alleging that a storage of petroleum or its products on the ground would be of such a dangerous character as to be a constant menace. The oil men say that it is not fair that one of Pennsylvania's greatest products should not be displayed. They threaten that if the commission will not give them room to put up a building they will purchase ground and erect a structure in which all of the oil men who wish can display their exhibits. If the commission gives them a plot of ground the men in the oil regions propose to put up a large building.

THOMAS A. EDISON has perfected and patented the "sea telegraph." It is a system by which telegraphic communication can be carried on between ships at sea, between ships and the shore and between distant points of land without using wires. It is worked on the principle of induction. Two vessels at sea equipped with the proper instruments can communicate with each other by sending up captive balloons to a height sufficient to overcome the curvature of the earth and bring the balloons on a level with each other. The telegraphic circuit between the two ships is had by means of the water and the air, the molecules in the air being utilized to complete the circuit, based on the conductivity of the water.

An enunciator company of Detroit, Mich., has made a novel proposition to the Chicago world's fair directory. It proposes to connect the cities of the two hemispheres by electricity, so that when President Harrison touches the electric button and starts the machinery the fire bells will ring and the national flag be hoisted in towns all over the United States and the opening of the exposition be announced to the cities of the old world. Another feature in connection with it will be the starting of music boxes in all of the cities. The program which will be carried out in that connection in Chicago. They propose to do this without charge to the directory. The matter will be considered later.

THERE is a movement on foot in Paris, France, to secure a popular observance of Sunday and a very strong society has been formed to this end. The society is headed by the president of the cause, the Honorable Jules Simon and the president M. Leon Say.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

Gleaned by Telegraph and Mail.

MANY petitions were presented in the senate on the 15th in favor of a loan of \$5,000,000 to the world's fair. The session of the senate on Sunday, Mr. Dolph introduced bills providing for sea coast defenses. The appropriations are \$20,000,000 extending over a period of eleven years. Mr. Dolph's bill introduced a bill removing the statute of limitations as to claims under the eight-hour law. Several bills passed and the session adjourned. The session of the house was brief. A bill fixing the time for holding courts in the northern district of Iowa was reported from the judiciary committee and passed. Mr. Fuller's bill to increase the use of eyes or limbs, and the house soon adjourned.

THE senate met on the 15th Mr. Jones, of Nevada, was sworn in for his fourth term. Bills were introduced and the bill to provide for the world's fair was referred to the finance committee. After an executive session the senate adjourned. In the house Mr. Holman offered a resolution from the appropriations committee declaring that all appropriations or bounties in any form to promote special private industries and against extraneous expenditures, which resulted in a vote on the continuation of the bill over for a day. Several resolutions calling for information as to the result of reciprocity were adopted. Mr. Hild offered a resolution of inquiry as to the continuation of the bill over for a day. After the introduction of a few bills the house adjourned.

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MISCELLANEOUS.

SENATOR STANFORD has sold Arion, the phenomenal two-year-old stallion, record 210, to S. Malcolin Forbes, of Boston, for the highest price ever paid for a horse. It is generally understood that it was \$150,000.

MEXICAN rebels made a desperate attempt to rob a silver mine in Texas, but were defeated by rangers and three men killed.

It is reported that a cook of Prince Ferdinand, of Bulgaria, has been arrested for trying to poison the prince. Fifty army officers are also in prison. JAY GOULD denies over his own signature that he preferred charges of cutting rates against western roads. He also stated that he had not left the western passenger association.

HERBY COBBIN, a negro fiend, was taken from the lockup in Oxford, O., and hanged and riddled with bullets. A CHICAGO street car was struck by a passenger train the other night and two women killed and fourteen persons injured.

A COURIER from Acsonson, Mexico, reports the suppression of the revolt there and the resumption of the way of civil law. Tuesday the stone mill was surrounded by troops under Col. Sanquines, and after a feeble resistance the beleaguered force surrendered and were placed under arrest. The total number of captives is 107, but the leader, Romiji Sasi escaped.

THE call for the national prohibition convention at St. Louis June 29 has been issued from New York. CHURCHMAN FURNESS, member of parliament for Hartlepool, Eng., has invited subscriptions from British ship owners to defray the cost of conveying to the Russian famine sufferers 4,000,000 pounds of flour contributed in the United States.

PRESIDENT HARRISON has issued a proclamation reserving from entry or settlement the Peoria river for the use of the Peoria river, making it a public forest reservation. The employees of the Pittsburg, Allegheny & Manchester Electric Traction Co., struck the other morning against an increase in hours of labor. The lines were completely tied up.

THE exports from the United States in December were millions beyond the record. The business situation at every center is reported by Dun & Co. as excellent. THE Andrews Opera company's sleeper was wrecked near Brainerd, Minn., the other morning and Mrs. Andrews and her maid riddled to death. Other members of the company were badly hurt.

A COAL train of twenty-seven cars, caboose and engine became unmanageable on the steep grade at Little Horse Shoebend, east of Bainbridge, O., the other night and was wrecked. Two men were killed. A COMMERCIAL convention has been signed between Portugal and Brazil by which special advantages are granted to Portuguese wines and Brazilian sugar.

FIRE the other night destroyed the large mill owned by John Stohr, a shirt manufacturer, at Pattison, N. J. The loss is about \$75,000. A DISPATCH from St. Paul, Minn., said that on the night of the 14th the mercury went down into the fifties. All through the northern part of Minnesota in Manitoba, North Dakota and in the Canadian northwest the temperature ranged from 30 to 50 below zero, on spirit thermometers.

SHORTLY before midnight of the 15th fire broke out in the Leader building at Pittsburg, Pa., and destroyed it and the block adjoining. The total loss to the Leader is 797,000, with \$45,000 insurance.

CONDENSED TELEGRAMS. THE worst blizzard of the season struck Ottumwa, Iowa, on the 17th. The mercury dropped 30 degrees in three hours, and it dropped colder until at night it was 19 degrees below zero.

THE recent cold weather has been very severe on cattle in the vicinity of New Iberia, La. One party lost twelve head in one day. It is rumored that Chilean agents have been in all the south cities making plans of the harbors and their approaches.

JAMES CHAMBERLAIN died in Chicago on the 17th at the age of 106 years. He had never been sick during his life and his mind was clear to the last. A DEER took place by moonlight in the City of Mexico, on the 17th between Carlos Esperza, a discharged prison official, and Innocencio Arriola, of the editorial staff of the Diaro Del Hogar. The newspaper published an article which led to Esperza's dismissal. Both men were wounded at the second fire.

THE board of managers of national homes for volunteer soldiers appeared before the House committee on appropriations on the 15th and advocated an increase of \$380,000 in the appropriations for the homes this year. AN attack is to be made in the present Congress upon the pension laws, with the hope of reducing the annual expenditures in this direction from \$138,000,000 to \$30,000,000, or at least \$50,000,000.

HEAVY rains of the past few days have brought disastrous floods in Alabama. M. V. HARBEN was hanged at Poplar Bluff, Mo., on the 15th. When placed on the scaffold Harben was smoking a cigar. He was asked if he desired to say anything, and replied: "No, gentlemen, I can only say I am innocent."

THE Kansas, Arkansas & New Orleans Railroad Company have recorded a mortgage at Little Rock for \$6,000,000 in favor of the Farmers' Loan and Trust Company of New York. This money is to be used in constructing a railroad 300 miles long, passing through some of the best counties in Arkansas. JOE DIXON, living on a farm near Pierre, S. D., is one of a family of eight who have fallen heir to an estate in England said to be worth \$15,000,000. Dixon is a quiet sort of fellow and has little to say about his good luck. He expects to leave for England shortly.

THE FATAL RAIL.

A Broken Rail Causes a Bad Wreck on the Northern Pacific Road and Disaster to an Opera Troupe.

BRainerd, Minn., Jan. 16.—The second section of a Northern Pacific passenger train with the Andrews Opera company on board left West Superior at midnight for Grand Forks. Near Jewsville the train struck a broken rail. The engine and baggage car passed over in safety, but the sleeping car of the opera company was derailed and ran some 50 feet on the ties when it toppled over, broke loose from the train and went down an embankment some five feet high.

The Pullman conductor, Herbert S. Scott, was one of the first to get out of the wrecked car and when he did so no fire was visible, but as soon as windows were broken to liberate those inside flames shot out in a very short time the car was enveloped. Trampmen soon liberated those who were unable to extricate themselves, but none were able to save their clothes, and the night being the coldest of the season—the thermometer reaching 30 below—their suffering was terrible.

At this time it was discovered that Mrs. Ed Andrews and Tillie Wallace, her maid, were missing, but no human effort could render them assistance, as the car was a mass of flames. The injured were placed in a baggage car and brought to Brainerd.

The list of the dead and injured as far as obtained is as follows: Mrs. Ed Andrews (known as Miss Annie Wilkinson), burned to death. Tillie Wallace, of Minneapolis, burned to death. Florence Joy, chorus girl, severely burned on back and head, probably fatally. May Douglas, chorus girl, burned on head and arms.

Letitia Fritsch, prima donna, burned on head and arms. Mrs. L. F. Bauer, Miss Fritsch's sister, shoulder dislocated. Marie Roe, soprano, slightly burned and bruised. George Andrews, barytone, burned on neck and arms. Louise Harris, chorus girl, burned on neck and arms.

Jay A. Taylor, tenor, cut and bruised. Ed Allen, chorus, burned on neck. Fred Allen, chorus, bruised. Josie Shearer, chorus girl, slightly burned. W. E. Barker, son of Mrs. Barker, burned on hands and arms. W. A. With, chorus, slightly injured. Bert Lincoln, chorus, arm fractured. G. E. Moody, leader of orchestra, slightly injured.

Mrs. Al Wakefield, wife of advance agent, foot frozen. W. A. With, business manager, badly burnt and cut. Grace Hale, chorus, slightly burned. Willy Rhye, orchestra, hands slightly injured and burned. Etna Hurning, chorus, feet frozen. C. A. Parker, comedian, back injured.

The bodies of the two women burned to death were charred beyond all recognition, the heads, legs and arms being entirely gone. The train was running smoothly and not faster than twenty-five miles an hour, when there came a terrific lurch which suggested at first to the train hands that the engine had plunged through a culvert. Everyone in the baggage car was pitched against its sides and more or less hurt. When the full extent of the wreck became apparent organized efforts were at once made to save the occupants of the sleeper. Twenty were taken out, most of them badly injured. There was no outcry from the end berth occupied by Mrs. Andrews and her maid. It was thought they had escaped and before a second effort could be made in their behalf the car was enveloped in flames. Conductor Hall believes that both were instantly killed when the car capsized.

All the members of the opera company were fast asleep when the crash came. An overturned stove caused the fire. The accident was an unavoidable one, the rail breaking some five yards from the end, the engine breaking in five places. The members of the company lost everything except stage clothes, including musical instruments, watches and money.

Dun's Trade Review. NEW YORK, Jan. 16.—R. G. Dun & Co.'s Weekly Review of Trade says: It was suggested two weeks ago that the reports in a December were likely to be extraordinarily large. The preliminary reports just issued indicate that the exports in that month were probably the largest ever known, for while no increase appears in cotton and exports of provisions, cattle and oil were slightly less than a year ago, a gain of \$20,100,000, appears in breadstuffs, making the net increase in principal items \$17,540,854, or nearly 25 per cent, indicating that the aggregate exports for the month will probably exceed \$110,000,000 against about \$98,000,000 last year, when the amount was greater than it had been in any month.

The depression at the south is not relieved by the talk at the cotton convention, and probably cannot be in any way except by free sales of cotton which is now held for higher prices. The business failures occurring throughout the country during the last seven days number 330 as compared with 433 last week (eight days). For the corresponding week of last year the figures were 411.

BRASS WORKS. WATERBURY, Conn., Jan. 16.—The entire rolling mill and wire mill plants of the Waterbury Brass Co., together with the engine room with its mammoth engine and the numerous other buildings, were burned. The loss is estimated at \$300,000. The origin is unknown. The total insurance is \$97,000.

DANGEROUSLY DROWY. YINGRIA, Ill., Jan. 16.—John Roberts, of Bear-Stown, who is in the county jail in this city charged with burglary, fell asleep last Sunday and every effort to arouse him has proved futile.

MISSOURI FINANCES.

The Annual Report of Auditor Felbert of the Receipts and Expenditures of Public Money.

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo., Jan. 16.—State Auditor Selbert yesterday delivered to Gov. Francis his annual report showing the receipts and expenditures of public moneys during the fiscal year ending December 31, 1891.

Without regard to particular funds, the aggregate receipts and expenditures for the year are summarized thus: Balances January 1, 1891, \$ 90,458,877 Receipts during year 1891, 4,508,182 1/2 Disbursements during year 1891, 4,508,200 Balance in treasury January 1, 1892, 87,638 1/2

The report shows in detail the receipts and expenditures on account of each particular fund. Concerning the management of the state debt during the past year the auditor calls attention to the fact that the bonds and interest have been promptly met when due; that during the year \$450,000 of the 3 1/2 per cent 5-20 bonds were redeemed; that of this amount \$100,000 was not subject to call until March 1, 1892. The holder of these latter bonds agreed to sell at par and accrued interest, and there being sufficient money in the sinking fund to pay them, the purchase was made, which resulted in a saving to the treasury of the interest on the amount from August 15, 1891, to March 1, 1892, to-wit: \$1,583.30.

The bonded debt of the state on January 1, 1891, exclusive of school and seminary fund certificates held in trust by the state for the benefit of these funds, amounted to \$8,583,000, and on January 1, 1892, to \$7,985,000. During the year the bonded indebtedness of the state, as evidenced by school and seminary fund certificates, has been increased \$531,938.35. This is due to the application of the \$548,958.25 of direct taxes refunded by the national government in 1891 as a permanent endowment of the state university and to the issuance of a certificate for \$5,000 paid into the treasury by R. B. Price, treasurer of the board of curators of the university, to the credit of the seminary fund. The aggregate amount of these certificates outstanding on January 1, 1892, amounted to \$4,881,948.35, the interest on which is devoted to the educational interests of the state.

As regards the future rate of taxation, the auditor closes his report with the following significant paragraph: "Section 8 of article 10 of our constitution provides that whenever the total valuation of taxable property in the state reaches the sum of \$900,000,000 the state revenue tax rate shall be reduced from 30 cents to 15 cents on the \$100 valuation. By reference to the abstracts of the assessment, found in the appendix to this report, it will be seen that that point has been reached, and, unless the state board of equalization, which meets the last Wednesday in next February, shall, in equalizing and adjusting the valuations of the several species of property between the counties, reduce the total to less than \$900,000,000, the levy for 1892 taxes must be reduced to the rate of 15 cents on the \$100 valuation. This board, at its meeting in February, 1892, fixed the total valuation at \$893,772,099.44, including railroad, bridge and telegraph property. When it meets next February the abstracts of assessment of property in the counties certified to this office will, with the valuation of railroad, bridge and telegraph property, foot up probably about \$910,000,000. It is evident at a glance that a levy of 15 cents on the \$100 valuation in 1892 on an assessment of \$910,000,000 will not be sufficient to meet the demands for one-third of the receipts into the revenue fund (appropriated for 1892 by the Thirty-sixth general assembly) for the support of public schools and to pay the expenses of the state government. The difference between the taxes raised on this sum at this rate will be \$399,448, less than 30 cents on the \$100 or \$77,733,779. This is a serious problem and must be solved, for it will be impossible to meet the demands on the revenue fund with a reduction of \$399,448 in the receipts."

HARBEN HANGED. JOHN W. HARBEN executed at Poplar Bluff—Protest his Innocence on the Scaffold. POPLAR BLUFF, Mo., Jan. 16.—John W. Harben was hanged here yesterday. The light board structure erected to shut out the public gaze was no protection from the cold and a shivering crowd witnessed the final scene. The hanging was set for 9 o'clock, but as Harben's request it was postponed for two hours. About 9 o'clock he was visited by Rev. Mr. Langtry and Rev. Mr. Hallbert.

At 11:15 the officers and the prisoner arrived on the platform. Prayer was offered by Rev. Isom P. Langtry and a song was sung. Harben was asked if he wished to say anything. He stood, coolly viewing the crowd for some minutes, pulling leisurely at a cigar, which he finally threw down and said: "Gentlemen, I have but little to say. I have written a statement which you will see published in the papers. I am not guilty of the crime for which I have to die."

Harben was a quick doctor. He owed an old man named Smith \$90 and gave him his note for the amount. One day old man Smith was found dead in the river with two bullets of different sizes in his body. The bullets were found to fit revolvers found in Harben's possession. The note which Harben gave Smith was gone, and Harben was arrested.

Cold in the Northwest. ST. PAUL, Minn., Jan. 16.—Thursday night the mercury went down until it froze. All through the northern part of the state, in Manitoba, North Dakota and in the Canadian northwest the temperature ranged from 30 to 50 below zero, on spirit thermometers. In this city it recorded 30 below at the weather bureau. At 9 o'clock yesterday morning it was 45 below at Pembina, in the northern part of North Dakota; Fargo 30 below, the total being the sixteenth consecutive morning with the mercury below zero; Bismarck 45 below; St. Vincent 40 below; Moorhead 38 below, and Winnipeg 40 below.

OMINOUS CALM.

It May be Followed by a Storm in Hazard to Chill—The Situation Considered Grave—Waiting for the Verdict.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 14.—There can be little doubt that the developments of the last few days in the investigation now being conducted at San Francisco by Judge Advocate-General Brame into the attack upon the Baltimore's crew, the publication of the testimony in the Shields case and the ugly demonstration at Valparaiso against the Yorktown's gig crew, have created a very uneasy feeling. Senators and representatives, who have all along denied the idea of serious results following the Chilean correspondence to the United States, had the greatest confidence that Chile would soon tender an ample apology and make reparation for the misdeeds of her citizens, are now willing to admit privately that the situation is full of the gravest difficulties.

One ominous sign is the inactivity of congress in the matter. Heretofore it has been customary whenever a matter of the smallest public interest to the subject of diplomatic correspondence for one of the two houses of congress to call upon the president for all the information in the possession of the state department in relation to the matter. But no senator or member has yet been venturesome enough to introduce a resolution calling for the Chilean correspondence although it has been apparent to all of them that the relations of the United States with Chile had been strained nearly to the point of rupture within the last few weeks.

The very gravity of the situation appears to have had a repressible effect upon congress. The republicans are indisposed to embarrass the president by calling for the correspondence, having in view his promise to transmit it to congress at an early day. The democrats are fearful of interfering with the negotiations and thereby precipitating trouble which may then be chargeable to their action. Of course the president might decline to accede to a request for the correspondence, as he has done in other cases, on the ground that it would not be expedient or in the public interest to publish it, but he would find it hard to do so after the strong expressions upon the subject contained in his annual message. So the situation in congress is one of anxious waiting in the hope that the president will soon relieve the general desire for information.

The gun boat Bennington arrived at Montevideo yesterday morning, and it was expected that the Atlanta would arrive later. These two vessels will increase the American fleet at that point to five, the others being the Chicago, Yantic and Essex. These will be available in case the negotiations with Chile should assume a more warlike aspect than at present. The Philadelphia, Concord and Kennebec at Port Antonio could be utilized in the event of prolonged trouble, together with the Miantonomah at New York and the Newark at Norfolk.

Secretary Tracy yesterday received a communication from Commander Evans, of the Yorktown, at Valparaiso, saying that the last of the Chilean political refugees who had been under protection at the different legations in Santiago were safely transferred to the Yorktown yesterday. There were seven of these refugees—five at the United States legation and two at the Spanish legation. They were accompanied from Santiago to the Yorktown by the American, Italian and Spanish ministers and will remain on the vessel until Saturday, when they will be transferred to the Pacific mail steamer scheduled to sail from Panama on that date en route for Europe.

The final report of Capt. Schley, commanding the cruiser Baltimore, in regard to the assault on the sailors of that vessel at Valparaiso October 15, was received by the navy department to-day. In it Capt. Schley makes a positive statement that the only interview he ever had with Judge of Crimes Foster of Chile on the subject of the attack on the Baltimore's sailors occurred shortly after that event, and, therefore, its full gravity was known and understood at Valparaiso. At that interview Capt. Schley says that Judge Foster expressly stated to him that the cause of the attack was the hatred that the lower class of Chileans had for Americans because of the belief that the Americans had been on the side of Balmaceda. This expression by Judge Foster is regarded by naval officers as highly significant in view of his subsequent statements in regard to the Baltimore incident.

FOUNDERED AT SEA. LONDON, Jan. 14.—A dispatch was received here yesterday from Hong Kong stating that the steamer Mifco has arrived at that port being the cause of the loss of the steamer Namchow, off Cupichipoint. The Mifco reports that the shaft of the Namchow was broken, supposedly at the point where it emerges from the hull. It allowed the water to run into the shaft alley and make its way to the engine room, and thence into the fire room. The steamer's fire was soon extinguished and she settled rapidly. The water continued to pour in, and in a short time the vessel foundered. The steamer was employed in trading locally in the China seas and she had on board a very large number of Chinese passengers. She sank so rapidly that it was impossible to launch her boats, even had she had enough to carry all hands on board. When she went down she carried with her 414 people, every one of whom was drowned.

A Paying Mine Discovered. DEWEY, Col., Jan. 14.—A strike has been promised to rival Cripple Creek has been made about nine miles north of Canon City, Col., between the latter place and the new gold fields of Cripple Creek, on what is known as the Mouth of Milsap. Parties have been working the vein and keeping the matter quiet for a month past, but the secret has leaked out and the truth of the matter was made known. The property is a forty-foot vein of mineral-bearing rock with a pay streak of about three feet. The ore is silver and copper, recent tests giving \$30 in silver and 40 per cent copper.

SOUTHERN GLEANINGS.

Advice From New York. Dan Tallmadge's Sons, New York merchandise culture brokers, authorities on rice, advise the raising of rice wherever the cotton growth is to be curtailed. As indicating the widespread interest felt in the matter of reducing the cotton acreage, which was so fully discussed at the recent cotton convention in Memphis, Tenn., has been given out by the firm named:

Wherever the culture of cotton is confined to suggest the growing of rice. It stands by other lowlands or uplands. As an all-round crop, it is among the safest and most profitable per acre, and the need of cultivation, to \$30 to \$50, the difference in outcome being due to character of cultivation or season. The consumption of rice in this country is increasing annually per capita, and as far greater ratio than production. The United States to-day needs twice its present product to meet the home market, and the surplus could be marketed abroad at prices which would leave handsome margins to the planter.

A Woman to be Hanged. Says a Raleigh (N. C.) Dispatch: Women have been hanged in North Carolina but it is a rare occurrence. One Miss May hung at Dallas, Gaston county, N. C., on the 15th inst. She murdered her husband in that county some months ago by poisoning him. Strong evidence has been before Gov. Holt asking him for the commutation of the death sentence. Gov. Holt has written a letter to the sheriff of the county, in which he says that he finds no reason has been given in this case why clemency should be exercised where that the criminal is a woman. The selector says: "She is guilty of an outrageous murder, and a woman."

The judge says there is nothing to recommend her to mercy save the fact that she is a woman, so the chances of her being pardoned are hanging are all gone, and the execution will take place on the date named above.

An Old Couple. Quite a romantic marriage occurred at Fayetteville, Ark., recently. Mr. J. H. Tiffin, of Benton county, Ark., 75 years old, some weeks ago began a correspondence with a lady of 84 years, of Jenny Lind, Sebastian county, Ark., which ended in plighted troth. The parties never met until he received her at the depot, and in about thirty minutes the knot was tied that made their two lives one. He lifted her tenderly into his wagon and they went on their way as gayly as if the flowers of May were blooming in their pathway.

Arkansas Hydrophobic Cure. Mr. J. F. Holloway, of Milan, Tenn., recently returned from Hot Springs, Ark., cured of hydrophobia. Forty-four years ago Mr. Holloway was severely bitten by a dog, a common one, of Jenny Lind, Sebastian county, Ark., which ended in plighted troth. The parties never met until he received her at the depot, and in about thirty minutes the knot was tied that made their two lives one. He lifted her tenderly into his wagon and they went on their way as gayly as if the flowers of May were blooming in their pathway.

A Sugar Planter Falls. E. H. Yale, a prominent sugar planter, made a cession of property at New Orleans the other day. Short crops and the failure of the government to promptly pay the sugar bounty are assigned as the reasons for the failure. The assets are given as \$11,123.30, including over \$7,000 of unpaid bounty. The liabilities amount to \$20,346.31, among the creditors being Congressman Logan for \$888, and William H. Chaffee & Co., a cotton firm that failed the day before, for nearly \$4,000.

The Sophie Newcomb College. Mrs. Warren Newcomb, of New York, who gave \$200,000 to endow the Sophie Newcomb college at New Orleans, has made an additional endowment of \$44,000. Mrs. Newcomb established the school for young ladies as a memorial to her daughter. The Tusculum university is the trustee of the fund, and the institution is now in a flourishing condition. It is established on the grounds of an old plantation which was the home of the millionaire John Burchard, occupying an entire square in the upper portion of the city.

Death of an Old Hotel Man. John H. Sparr died at Fayetteville, Ark. (He was formerly a prominent citizen of St. Louis. He was the proprietor of the old Virginia house in its prime, back in the 50s, and was one of the proprietors of the Lindell at the time it was burned. He was born in Switzerland in 1808, and came over to America with the Jacobards, of St. Louis, when he was 13 years old.)

An Incendiary's Work. J. W. Hays, Sr., near Roaring Springs, Tenn., lost a fine barn and contents, including eleven head of horses and mules, one cow, corn, hay, etc., by fire, which is believed to have been the work of an incendiary. Loss about \$3,000. Small insurance on building, but none on contents.

Cotton and Sugar Factors Fall. The firm of W. H. Chaffee & Co., cotton and sugar factors at New Orleans, has suspended payment. The suspension is attributed to their inability to secure the sugar bounty promptly, and the low price of cotton. The assets are estimated at \$700,000 and the liabilities at \$200,000.</