

A WEEK'S HISTORY

The Important Happenings of a Week Briefly Told.

IN ALL PARTS OF THE UNION

All the Latest News of Interest from Washington, From the East, the West and the South.

THE LATEST FOREIGN DISPATCHES

FIFTY-SIXTH CONGRESS.

The United States senate was not in session on the 3d. In the house the Indian appropriation bill was passed and the bill for the relief of the life and public services of the late Representative Ermentrout, of Pennsylvania.

A bill providing a civil government for the island of Porto Rico was favorably reported in the United States senate on the 5th. Bills were passed to create a new division of the eastern judicial district of Tennessee and authorizing the building of a bridge across the Mississippi river at Dubuque, Ia.

The diplomatic and consular appropriation bill brought out a discussion on expansion.

FROM WASHINGTON.

The United States and Great Britain have reached an amicable agreement concerning the control by the United States of the proposed Nicaragua canal.

The supreme court of the United States has adjourned until the 26th inst. With Representative J. W. Babcock, of Wisconsin, as chairman, the republican congressional campaign committee was organized.

In a report to congress the secretary of war says there are 10,343,152 Americans available for military duty.

A treaty with England has been signed giving the United States the right to build the Nicaragua canal.

THE EAST.

At the age of 72 years Mrs. Annie Wittmeyer, famous as an army nurse during the civil war, and known throughout the country as an author and lecturer, died at Sanatoga, Pa.

Maj. Gen. W. W. Averell, the last of the great cavalry leaders of the union army, died at Bath, N. Y., aged 68 years.

Fire destroyed the plant of the Hopkins & Allen Manufacturing Arms company and its entire stock of firearms, at Norwich, Conn., the loss being \$500,000.

In the United States the visible supply of grain on the 5th was: Wheat, 54,363,000 bushels; corn, 14,383,000 bushels; oats, 5,776,000 bushels; rye, 1,134,000 bushels; barley, 1,690,000 bushels.

Near Huntington, L. I., the barge Wilson was sunk and Capt. John Finley and his wife were drowned.

The death of William Henry Gilder, soldier, explorer, artist and journalist, occurred at his home in Morristown, N. J.

WEST AND SOUTH.

A noted negro Methodist evangelist, Rev. Booker Fox, died at his home in Ottumwa, Ia., aged 104 years.

Maj. John A. Logan's body lay in state in Memorial hall in Chicago, after which it was taken to Youngstown, O., for burial.

Eif Knudson and his wife were asphyxiated by coal gas at Wilmet, S. D. The body of the late Maj. Gen. Henry W. Lawton lay in state in Fort Wayne, Ind., his former home.

Flames nearly wiped out the business portion of Rudd, Ia.

In Chicago George W. Hinman, editor of the Inter Ocean, was acquitted of the charge of criminally libeling H. H. Kohlsaat, editor of the Times-Herald.

The republicans and democrats in conference at Louisville agreed that the legislature shall meet at Frankfort, Ky., and pass without filibustering a joint resolution validating its acts while kept from the capitol, including the seating of Goebel and Beckham.

Democrats agree not to prosecute Taylor or other republicans and to notify the Goebel election law. Taylor's approval to the agreement is necessary.

George Mackey and John Jacobson were blown to atoms by an explosion of dynamite in a mine at Crystal Falls, Mich.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

The worst heat ever experienced in the city of Buenos Ayres caused 93 deaths from sunstroke in one day.

Advised received in London say that Gen. Buller has recrossed the Tugela river and is marching on Ladysmith.

The coast of Newfoundland was swept by a tornado and at Lake Harbor 20 buildings were destroyed and many vessels wrecked.

A dispatch received in London from Durban, Natal, says there is no definite news from Gen. Buller, but it is reported that there has been heavy fighting.

In the house of commons Mr. Chamberlain declared the war would not be ended until Pretoria had been dismantled.

Manila advises say that Brig. Gen. Kobbe's forces in the islands of Luzon, Leyte and Samar have occupied permanently and garrisoned nine towns.

The operations of the British forces in South Africa are kept secret. All sorts of rumors are heard in London. It is believed important movements are being made in northern Cape Colony.

Near Orani, Luzon, 12 American soldiers while guarding a train of bull carts were ambushed by Filipinos and half the soldiers were killed.

The new United States consul, Adelbert S. Hay, arrived at Pretoria and was received by the Transvaal government.

The total number of troops in the Philippines February 1 was 63,532, including officers and men.

LATER NEWS.

The feature in the United States senate on the 7th was a tilt between Senators Depew and Pettigrew over a letter from President Schurman, of the Philippine commission, read by the New Yorker, flatly denying a statement made by the South Dakota senator that he (Schurman) had tried to bribe the insurgents and failed.

The famine in India is becoming worse and the government is giving relief to 4,000,000 sufferers.

A Manila dispatch says the insurgents have been driven out of Legaspi, on Albay, province of Albay. In Tayabas province, 300 Spanish prisoners escaped from the rebels.

Nebraska republicans will hold their state convention in Lincoln May 2.

W. M. Allen, a carpenter, fatally shot his wife and daughter and himself at Black Hawk, Col. Domestic trouble was the cause.

At Nagoya, China, 60 girls were burned to death in a factory.

An entire family of Indians, six in number, with the Scotch name of McTavish, were charged with being witches and killed by a vigilance committee in British Columbia.

Thirty-one Japanese girls employed at a spinning mill at Koryumura were killed in a fire.

Irish leaders in the house of commons attacked the British policy that led to the war.

The National Coppage & Woodenware company's monster plant was burned at Escanaba, Mich., the loss being \$250,000.

The clothing firm of Miner, Beal & Co., of Boston, failed with liabilities of \$450,000.

So far as the situation in the controversy over the governorship of Kentucky is concerned, there is practically no change. Gov. Taylor has not yet affixed his signature to the Louisville agreement, but the general opinion is that he will ultimately do so.

MINOR NEWS ITEMS.

The total wealth of American colleges and universities is \$250,000,000. Rear Admiral Bradford estimates the cost of the Pacific cable at \$10,000,000.

Dreyfus is still in southern France, where his health shows continued improvement.

A geological survey expert has found much coal in the Philippines, but no precious metals.

In St. Joseph, Mo., there is offered a bounty of \$600 for every highwayman that is killed.

Imperial German regulations preventing practice of medicine by women are being rescinded.

Eli Jemerson, full-blooded Indian treasurer of the Seneca nation, is \$1,000 short in his accounts.

THE BRITISH ADVANCE.

Gen. Buller Moves Once More to the Relief of Ladysmith—Story of the Fighting.

London, Feb. 8.—The British columns are putting themselves in motion in all parts of the South African war. A combined attack upon the Boers appears to be in progress. Gen. Buller has gained a foothold on the plateau north of the Tugela, after two days' hard fighting. On the far western border Lord Methuen has begun a turning movement against the Boer right, while Gen. McDonald threatens the Boer flank, thus relieving the pressure on Lord Methuen's front. Lord Roberts, who, according to an informant in close touch with the war office, is in the middle of the theater of war, has begun the march on Bloemfontein.

The Boers have been on the initiative against Gen. Gatacre, attacking two of his positions at Sterkstroom.

London, Feb. 8.—The Standard has the following from Spearman's Camp, dated February 7:

"The force under Gen. Buller is again advancing to the relief of Ladysmith, it may fairly be said to have made a good step on the road to the beleaguered town. The movement was begun at an early hour on Monday morning by the 1st and 2nd divisions of the Fifth division under Gen. Warren. The first battalion to move forward immediately on our front. The kopjes was delivered at the outset under cover of naval guns on Mount Alice, and subsequently by the 1st division of the 1st division advanced steadily toward the Boer entrenched position at Brakfontein and kept the enemy busily employed. While the 1st division was attacking the position of the infantry took off for the attack, who had bivouacked Sunday night under the shelter of the kopjes and were only such Zwart's kop, in the direction of our right. A pontoon bridge was thrown across the Tugela by the engineers under the fire of the enemy. The first battalion to move across in the forenoon was the Durham light infantry, of Gen. Lyttelton's brigade. They advanced against the Boer position on the most direct road to Ladysmith, and after two hours' splendid work they got within charging distance of the Boers. The first battalion to move across the ridge they bivouacked on the spot.

"The feat at Potgieter's having served its purpose, the Boers concentrated the enemy at the critical point, the Eleventh brigade fell back to the river. In the course of the operation both the infantry and the artillery had been subjected to a severe shelling.

"Tuesday, at four in the afternoon, the enemy, encouraged by their superior position, opened a heavy fire from the position taken by us at Vaal Krantz. They were beaten back, however, with comparatively little loss. The assault was magnificently done. The shell and maxim fire poured in by the Boers has been extremely severe, but our losses are comparatively light. The Durham light infantry took a few prisoners in the course of their charge.

"The second day's fight with the utmost stubbornness. The British maneuvering and the accuracy of aim on the part of the British artillery during the day were most admirable. There is not the slightest likelihood that the Boers will succeed in dislodging us from the positions we have gained, and the prospect of the relief of Ladysmith are decidedly hopeful.

"It is said that the Boers suffered very heavily in the attack on the 7th. The Boer position consisted of a line of kopjes, strongly entrenched, extending three miles from Spion kop and curving round the eastern end of the ridge. About opposite Zwart's kop, which is a steep hill south of the Tugela that the British occupied before the seizure of Potgieter's drift.

"The war balloon has proved a most useful adjunct, making ascents daily and getting within range of the Boer positions. The Boers directed a heavy shrapnel fire, in the endeavor to destroy the balloon apparatus.

Boer Head Langer, Ladysmith, Feb. 6.—Since yesterday the British, with naval and other guns, have bombarded our positions on the Upper Tugela. The troops crossed the river at the point and at Molen drift, with the object of storming our positions. At the former, Gen. Burger beat them back and they recrossed in great confusion.

The fighting continues at Molen drift with the Standert and Johanna's ambulances were hard at work. There were no casualties on our side.

Further reports of the fighting at the Upper Tugela river show that the British lost heavily at Pont drift, but took an important position on a small kopje, on the Molen drift side. Four Boers were killed. The British loss is unknown. They are still in possession of the kopje, and the big guns have ceased firing.

Miss Anthony to Retire. Washington, Feb. 8.—At a meeting of the executive committee of the National Woman's Suffrage association Wednesday evening, Miss Susan B. Anthony, the venerable president of the association, who is now in her eightieth year, announced in a speech that she would not be a candidate for reelection. She would not, however, give up her work in behalf of woman's rights. Miss Anthony has held one or another office in the association since 1852. The impression prevails that Mrs. Carrie Chapman Catt, of New York, will be made president.

Public Opinion Effective. London, Feb. 5.—The Shanghai correspondent of the Daily Mail says: The changed attitude of the empress dowager and her virtual abandonment of her resolution to depose the emperor are directly due to the torrent of public remonstrances against her. For the first time in Chinese history, public opinion has been effective.

Victim of Bright's Disease. New York, Feb. 8.—John Taylor, the baseball pitcher, died Wednesday at New Brighton, Staten Island, of Bright's disease, aged 28 years. He pitched for the Philadelphia team for some years and last season was with the Cincinnati's by whom he was reserved this year.

Plague in Honolulu. Washington, Feb. 6.—United States Agent Haywood has called the state department from Honolulu, dated January 24, as follows: "Since the 17th of January there have been 12 new cases of bubonic plague at Honolulu and six deaths."

Mr. Bonelle Recovering. Bangor, Me., Feb. 6.—A letter retained by the friends of Congressman Boutelle conveys the information that the physicians say his improvement has been so marked that he will be able to leave the sanitarium in a few weeks, entirely recovered.

Our Militia Force. Washington, Feb. 6.—Secretary Root has sent to congress an abstract of the militia force of the United States. It shows the total number of men available for military duty, but unorganized, as 10,343,150 and an aggregate organized strength of 106,339.

IS MADE PUBLIC.

The Full Text of the Recent Amendment to the Clayton-Bulwer Treaty.

Washington, Feb. 7.—The following is the text of the new treaty negotiated in relation to the construction of the Nicaragua canal. After the formal introduction the articles agreed to are set forth as follows:

"Article I.—It is agreed that the canal may be constructed under the auspices of the government of the United States either at its own cost, or by gift or loan of money to individuals or corporations, or through subscription to or purchases of stocks, or shares, and that, subject to the provisions of the present convention, the said government shall have and enjoy all the rights incident to such construction, as well as the exclusive right of providing for the regulation and management of the canal.

"Article II.—The high contracting parties, desiring to maintain the principle of 'general principle' of neutralization established in Article VIII. of the Clayton-Bulwer convention, and on the basis of such naturalization of the following rules, substantially as embodied in the convention between Great Britain and certain other powers, to wit: Peace, on October 23, 1858, for the free navigation of the Suez maritime canal, that is to say:

"1.—The canal shall be free and open in time of war as in time of peace, to the vessels of commerce and of war of all nations on terms of equality, so that there shall be no discrimination against any nation or its citizens or subjects in respect of the conditions or charges of traffic or other matters.

"2.—The canal shall never be blockaded, nor shall any right of war be exercised against it, nor shall any act of hostility be committed within it.

"3.—Vessels of war of a belligerent shall not revictual nor take any stores in the canal except so far as may be strictly necessary; and the transit of such vessels through the canal shall be effected with the least possible delay, in accordance with the regulations in force at the time of such transit, as may result from the necessities of the service.

"4.—Fires shall not be directed subject to the same rules as vessels of war of the belligerents.

"5.—The belligerent shall embark or disembark troops, munitions of war or warlike materials in the canal except in case of accidental hindrance of the transit and in such cases shall be resumed with all possible dispatch.

"6.—The provisions of this article shall apply to the canal and to the waters within three marine miles of either end. Vessels of war of a belligerent shall not remain in such waters longer than 24 hours at any one time, except in case of distress, and in such case shall depart as soon as possible; but a vessel of war of one belligerent shall not remain within 24 hours from the departure of a vessel of war of the other belligerent.

"7.—The plant, establishments, buildings, works, machinery, and other adjuncts, maintenance and operation of the canal shall be deemed to be part thereof, for the purposes of this article, and shall be immune from attack or injury by belligerents, and from acts calculated to impair their usefulness as part of the canal.

"8.—No fortifications shall be erected commanding the canal or its approaches. The United States, however, shall be at liberty to maintain such military police along the canal as may be necessary to protect it against lawlessness and disorder.

"Article III.—The high contracting parties will immediately proceed to the exchange of the ratifications of this convention, and to the notice of the other powers, and invite them to adhere to it.

"Article IV.—The present convention shall be ratified by the president of the United States, by and with the advice and consent of the senate, and by his Britannic majesty, and the ratification shall be exchanged at Washington or at London within six months from the date hereof, or earlier, if possible.

"In faith whereof, the respective plenipotentiaries have signed this convention and thereunto affixed their seals at Washington, D. C., February 5, 1900. (Signed) 'JOHN HAY, 'PAUCIPEPOTE.'

A HIGH HONOR.

President Appoints Judge Taft as Chairman of the New Philippine Commission.

Washington, Feb. 7.—The president Tuesday appointed Judge William H. Taft, of Cincinnati, and United States judge of the Sixth judicial circuit, to be president of the new Philippine commission. Judge Taft's place on the bench will be filled by the appointment of Judge Henry F. Severens, of Grand Rapids, Mich. These announcements were made at the close of the cabinet meeting.

The appointment of this commission is carrying out the suggestions of the present Philippine commission, which will shortly go out of existence. Some of the members of the old commission, it is said, will be appointed on the new one.

[William H. Taft is a son of the late Judge Alphonso Taft, who was attorney general under Grant, and a brother of ex-congressman Charles F. Taft, of the Cincinnati Times-Star. He was born in Cincinnati in 1857. He graduated at Yale in 1878 and at the Cincinnati law school in 1880. He had been prosecuting attorney, solicitor general, collector, county solicitor, superior judge in the state courts, solicitor general of the United States, and judge of the United States court of appeals. In 1888 he married Helen N. Herron, daughter of former United States District Attorney John W. Herron, of Cincinnati.]

Has 10,000 Creditors. New York, Feb. 7.—Albert B. Hilton, one of the heirs of the late Judge Henry Hilton, seeks to be rid of debts aggregating more than \$2,500,000. Creditors opposed Mr. Hilton's discharge in bankruptcy on the ground that in his schedule of assets he excluded Otter Rocks, his country home in Connecticut, which, it is claimed, he transferred to his wife. Mr. Hilton filed a petition in bankruptcy, giving his liabilities as \$2,539,907, all unsecured. He had more than 10,000 creditors. He said he had no property but clothing worth \$200, which is exempt.

Local Option in Ohio. Columbus, O., Feb. 8.—The Clark local option bill passed the house Wednesday afternoon by a vote of 59 to 40. The bill provides for local option elections in wards and cities, and was championed by the Anti-Saloon league. The friends of the bill say it is certain to pass the senate.

Acquitted of Libel. Chicago, Feb. 6.—George W. Hinman, editor of the Inter-Ocean, was acquitted Monday morning of the charge of having criminally libeled H. H. Kohlsaat, editor of the Times-Herald and the Evening Post.

Worried Over Smallpox. Frederickton, N. J., Feb. 8.—The New Brunswick government officials are enforcing the health regulations in several counties in view of an outbreak of smallpox. The disease was brought to New Brunswick from the province of Quebec, where now there are nearly 250 cases. There are about 60 cases in New Brunswick at present.

Alleged Embezzler Arrested. South Bend, Ind., Feb. 8.—William II. Stiles, 70 years old, was arrested here Wednesday charged with embezzling \$40,000 from the estate of the late Samuel Halsted, of New York.

REBELS ARE ROUTED.

The American Forces Under Gen. Kobbe Occupy and Garrison Nine Towns.

Manila, Feb. 6.—Brig. Gen. Kobbe's forces in the islands of Luzon, Leyte and Samar have occupied permanently and garrisoned nine towns, the regiments used being the Forty-third and Forty-seventh. This has placed on the market 180,000 bales of hemp. A thousand insurgents armed with rifles and over 5,000 armed with wooden swords, bows and arrows, were encountered during the entire trip. The troops killed 75 natives, 11 of whom had rifles. The others were villagers armed with wooden swords. The American loss was one man killed and nine men wounded. The Americans captured \$9,000 in gold, the enemy's money, and 40 muzzle-loading brass cannon. At Calbagog and Samar the enemy evacuated the towns, the Americans chasing, fighting and scattering them to the mountains.

At Tallebuan, island of Leyte, the enemy evacuated the town and the Americans pursued them to the hills. Several fleeing noncombatants were killed, including three women.

At Palo, seven miles distant, the enemy was found entrenched and resisted. Lieut. Johnson and 12 scouts of the Forty-third regiment drove out 150 of the enemy and captured the town.

Manila, Feb. 8.—The insurgents have been driven out of Legaspi, on Albay bay, province of Albay.

The rebels of Tayabas province were conveying some 300 Spanish prisoners to Libmanan, and on arriving there the prisoners, exhausted and starved, revolted and dispersed their guards with stones and clubs. They also captured a few rifles and barricaded themselves at Libmanan, where they are awaiting the arrival of American troops.

WITHHOLDS HIS SIGNATURE.

Gov. Taylor Has Not Yet Signed the Louisville Agreement, But Is Expected to Soon.

Frankfort, Ky., Feb. 8.—So far as the situation in the controversy over the governorship of Kentucky is concerned, there is practically no change. Gov. Taylor has not yet affixed his signature to the Louisville agreement, although the general opinion is that he will ultimately do so.

This agreement is in substance as follows: First—That if the general assembly in joint session shall adopt a resolution ratifying their recent action adopting the joint resolution setting George W. Beckham as the contestee, W. S. Taylor and John Marshall, shall submit without further protest.

Second—That all parties shall unite in an effort to bring about such a modification of the election law as will provide for non-partisan election boards and insure free and fair elections.

Third—That the conditions shall remain in status quo until Monday, the general assembly meeting and adjourning from day to day until that time.

Fourth—That nothing shall be done to hinder or prevent joint session of the general assembly for taking action on the ratification resolution.

Fifth—That the state contest board shall meet and adjourn from day to day until Tuesday without taking any action on the contests for minor state offices. This postponement is suggested in order that the action of the general assembly on the ratification resolution may be taken first.

Sixth—That the state troops shall be removed from the state capital at once, though with all the necessary precautions for the public safety. This matter is to be under the direction of Gen. Dan Lindsay, of Frankfort.

Seventh—That the republican officials and officers of the state guard shall have immunity from charges of treason, usurpation, court-martial or any other such offenses.

TERRIBLE FIRE IN JAPAN.

Spinning Mill Burned and Thirty-One Girls Perish—Fatal Explosion in China.

Victoria, B. C., Feb. 8.—From Nagoya, Japan, comes news of a terrible fire January 13 whereby 31 Japanese girls, employed at a spinning mill at Koryumura, Awarai prefecture, were killed. Six were severely wounded and a number more or less injured. There were no fire escapes and the majority of the girls at work on the upper stories were trapped by the flames.

From Hankow comes the story of an explosion which occurred in the gunpowder factory near the Tai Ping gate, killing several hundred people. Not a building was left standing in the vicinity.

Cuban Revenue Receipts. Washington, Feb. 6.—The war department gave out an itemized statement of receipts in the department of internal revenue for the island of Cuba during the five months ended November 30, 1899. The chief items are as follows: Inheritance and conveying tax, \$170,199; corporation tax, \$33,906; tax on railroad freight and passengers, \$129,537. The total internal revenue receipts for the five months ended November 30, 1899, were \$360,214.

Should Hold Philippines. San Francisco, Feb. 5.—Arthur Sewall, Bryan's running mate in 1896, said in an interview that America must hold the Philippines, come what may, and that no other course is open to the administration. Mr. Sewall says he is every inch an expansionist, but never an imperialist. He is here en route from the orient to his home in Maine.

Blown to Pieces. Iron Mountain, Mich., Feb. 7.—John Jacobson and George Mackey were blown to atoms by the explosion of seven boxes of dynamite at the powder house of the Crystal Falls mine Tuesday. It is not known how the accident happened. Only a small portion of the men were found. Both were married.

Taken to an Asylum. New York, Feb. 8.—Dr. William Steinitz, the famous chess player, was taken from his home to the insane pavilion of Bellevue hospital Wednesday night. He is 62 years old and was confined in an asylum in Moscow in 1897.

One Man Killed. Piqua, O., Feb. 8.—An immense water tank on top of the American Straw Board company's building fell Wednesday, crashing through the roof and carrying the floor into the cellar. Benjamin F. Keihl, an employe, was crushed to death under the debris.

Died in Prison. Albany, N. Y., Feb. 8.—"Bill" Cook, who was sentenced in 1895 to 45 years' imprisonment in the Albany penitentiary, died there Wednesday from consumption. He was one of the most noted desperadoes of the Indian territory.

OLD AGE IN THE SOUTH.

Good Sporting Blood Is Always a Ready Standby Even in Declining Years.

"Some one has said," remarked Jack Tollifer, "that the closing years in the life of a southern gentleman are sad and lonely; that the man who leads an out-of-door life, hunting and horse-racing, has no resources left with which to lighten his old age. Well, it may seem so, but it seems to me that that's a rather sweeping statement. Just take my uncle Archie, in Virginia, whom I visited during the holidays, three years ago.

"Why, Jack!" he exclaimed, as he met me at the door of the square, old-fashioned homestead, "I am glad to see you. Come right in and make yourself comfortable.

"I followed him into the dining-room, where the carved oaken legs of the old sidetable were almost bowed under the game and fruits and wines.

"Yes, Jack," my uncle said, when we were seated, "I certainly do seem good to see you, and I only wish you'd come oftener. But I suppose I'm getting to be poor company for a young chap like you. The boys, they have their huntin' and ridin', but we old fellows have to just sit 'round and think it all over. No more foxes or coons when your knee gets feelin' that stiff way; I guess there ain't much left in this world for your uncle now. But it's a great comfort to see you again, Jack; 'deed it is!"

"I did seem hard for an old widower to be living that lonely life, too old to take part in the hunting that he was so fond of, and with no one to talk to but old Joe and Aunt Sally. His one remaining interest seemed to center in his pet horse, who, like his master, was of good thoroughbred stock, but well on in years.

"Tack," my uncle said on the morning of my departure, "Robert and I may be well on past huntin' and racin' days, but I'm going to drive you down to the station behind him, and though there may be horses in the county that are faster now, I don't think we'll miss that train of yours by very much. Joe, just let that shovelin' rest awhile, and harness Robert L. to the light buggy. I shall drive Mr. Tollifer to the station."

"The old darkey touched his hat and hobbled off to the stable. Soon he returned leading Robert L. with one hand and dragging the clanking harness with the other. In the road he stopped, threw the lines over the horse and hobbled back to fetch the buggy. Just then we heard a shouting and the sounds of galloping hoofs up the road. Nearer and nearer it came, until a small party of horsemen dashed into sight and did not stop until they drew rein in front of Uncle Archie.

"Col. Tollifer," the leader began, breathlessly, "have you seen—er—the boys—er—ago by here lately? Jest scared up a big red fox—er—biggest ever seen here—started up back of—"

"What!" shouted Uncle Archie, his eyes suddenly snapping. "Big red fox? First in two years. No. Which way? I haven't seen 'em. Good-by, Jack. God bless you, my boy. Joe," he cried, "you drive Mr. Tollifer to the station!"

"Sweeping the harness off, he scrambled excitedly to Robert L.'s back, and without saddle or stirrup flew on with the rest in their mad tear down the road. Soon I could only catch a glimpse, between the clouds of dust of the white whiskers blowing back over his shoulders—an impressive reminder of that old age which, they say, so saddens the lives of gentlemen of the south."—N. Y. Sun.

OLD-TIME DIME NOVELS.

They Were Not Victorious, But Very Crude, and Decidedly Stupid.

"In looking over some old stock the other day," said a local newsdealer, "I ran across one of Beadle's dime novels printed in 1871. It was entitled 'The Danite's Daughter, or the Mystery of Echo Canyon,' and was a blood-curdling tale of Mormon deviltry. The story was set in ordinary 'minion' type and filled 148 pages, 4 1/2 by 6 1/2 inches, inclusive of margins, so you see, it was rather short, a fact that constituted its chief merit. There was nothing vicious about the little book, however—it was merely very crude and stupid—and as I looked it over I was surprised to recall the hours and hours of my youth and teachers when I was a youngster. Compared with some of the latter-day flash stories for boys, in which toughs and crooks figure as heroes, it was decidedly moral and rather elevating in tone. But it is a gratifying fact that all such trash seems to have seen its day. The old-fashioned dime novel, with its cheap yellow back, was followed by a flood of so-called 'nickel libraries,' which, incongruous as it may seem, were probably suggested by the success of the very high class Franklin Square library. The nickel presents were enormously popular for years and great fortunes were made out of them by several different publishers. But the demand gradually waned and their sale is a mere drop in the bucket against that of other days. I venture to say that not one boy out of 100 ever reads a line of them to-day. They are mostly preposterous stories of adventure, evidently ground out by the cheapest and clumsiest class of hack writers, and the modern schoolboy is entirely too intelligent to be attracted by that kind of drivel. Ten years ago the newsdealer would order such books in lots of 500 to 1,000. Now they order them by the dozen."—N. O. Times-Democrat.

Know the Tricks of the Trade. Tramp—Kin yer give me a cold bite, laddy? Housewife—Let me see. You were all through the Cuban war, wasn't you