

EVENTS ON THE PACIFIC SLOPE.

AN ANGRY GRASS VALLEY YOUTH SHOTS HIS BROTHER.

TWIN CITIES OF NOGALES PREPARING FOR THE CARNIVAL.

PUGET SOUND RATE WAR.

ARREST OF A STRANGER AT MOUNTAIN VIEW WHO RESEMBLED VITAL.

Grass Valley Lad Shoots His Brother. GRASS VALLEY, Feb. 23.—Losing his temper in a quarrel Frank Piper, aged 15, shot his brother aged 18, at their father's farm near the North Star mine this afternoon.

A MOUNTAIN VIEW SUSPECT.

Arrest of a Stranger Mistaken for Vital, the Murderer.

SAN JOSE, Feb. 23.—Constable Martin of Mountain View brought a man to this city whom he believed to be Antonio Vital, the Los Angeles murderer, who was to have been executed at San Quentin on August 5, but escaped the gallows by pleading insanity.

CARNIVAL AT NOGALES.

Twin Cities on the Mexican Border Prepare for the Festivities.

NOGALES, ARIZ., Feb. 23.—Preparations for the grand carnival, which begins tomorrow, are complete. This morning at 9 o'clock the Governor and his staff, with the Assembly and Council, arrived. At 12 o'clock tomorrow Mayor Proct of Nogales, Ariz., and Mayor Cortina of Nogales, Mexico, with two bands of music will welcome the King of the Carnival, and deliver the keys of the two cities to him, when, with street parades, athletic sports, a ball game, bicycle, horse and foot races, and a grand masquerade ball, the carnival will be a grand success, and the twin cities will do themselves proud.

RIVERSIDE IRRIGATION CASE.

Suit to Restrain Assessments for Interest on Bonds.

RIVERSIDE, Feb. 23.—A suit of considerable importance was begun in the Superior Court of this county to-day against the Alessandro irrigation district. The action was brought to restrain the Assessor from assessing lands of the district to pay interest on \$700,000 worth of bonds issued by the district to the Bear Valley Company; also to restrain the Collector from selling said lands for taxes levied to pay the bonds.

The complaint further asks that the court declare the said issue of bonds invalid. The complaint also avers that the execution and delivery of the bonds to the Bear Valley Company is in violation of the Wright act, under which the district formed.

A large number of land-owners in the district are plaintiffs, and the case promises to be hotly contested.

VISALIA AND THE NEW ROAD.

Citizens Taking an Active Interest in Raising Funds.

VISALIA, Feb. 23.—A rousing meeting was held here this afternoon to discuss the competing railway scheme. People from all over the county were in attendance and great enthusiasm prevailed.

A subscription list was circulated and \$15,000 was raised in a few hours. It is expected to raise \$75,000 in this city at least, besides securing rights of way and giving a depot site.

A meeting was also held at Woodville this evening and similar meetings will be held in every place in the county within the next few weeks.

EVERETT'S WHALEBACK COLLIER.

The City of Everett to Load Coal at Nainimo for San Francisco.

SEATTLE, Wash., Feb. 23.—The new whaleback, City of Everett, arrived in this city at 5:25 this afternoon from Everett, a distance of thirty-five miles, having made the run in two hours and fifty-five minutes. The engines worked perfectly and the boat is a complete success. After taking fuel she left at midnight for Nainimo, where she will take on a cargo of 4000 tons of coal for San Francisco.

Seattle Murderer Again Convicted.

SEATTLE, Wash., Feb. 23.—James Murphy has again been convicted of murder in the second degree for killing Phil Dawe, a saloon-keeper and ex-prize-fighter, in 1892. The jury brought in a verdict at 4 o'clock this afternoon, after deliberating forty-two hours. Murphy served several months in the penitentiary under his former sentence before a new trial was secured.

San Jose Pioneer Dies.

SAN JOSE, Feb. 23.—George Bruce Montgomery, a pioneer of Santa Clara County, died to-night of old age. He was a native of Virginia, 85 years of age, and came here in 1853. He leaves a widow and four sons and one daughter.

A San Diego Libel Suit.

SAN DIEGO, Feb. 23.—Application was made to-day by the defendants in the libel suit lately instituted by Dr. J. G. Hearne of this city against M. H. de Young, proprietor, and J. F. Blunt, local correspondent of the San Francisco Chronicle, for a

change of venue from this county to San Francisco. Both defendants demur to the complaint, which was based on an article relating to the recent divorce of Dr. and Mrs. Hearne, in which the antecedents of the couple were referred to, and state that they are advised by their respective counsel that they have a good and substantial defense to the action on the merits.

SANTA FE MEETS A CUT.

Reduction in Passenger Rates to Chicago From Los Angeles.

LOS ANGELES, Feb. 23.—The Santa Fe has given notice to the Interstate Commerce Commission that, beginning February 24, the second-class rate from Los Angeles and other Southern California points to Chicago will be cut \$2.50, making the rate \$50.

This movement was brought about by the action of other lines leading to the East in cutting rates to Chicago and other points, notwithstanding the new western trunk-line passenger agreement entered into a short time ago.

The action of the Santa Fe brings the matter to a head and is a declaration of open war.

UMATILLA INDIANS WANT COIN.

They Oppose a Scheme to Invest the Money in Houses.

PENDLETON, Or., Feb. 23.—Secretary of the Interior Hoke Smith has granted permission to Chiefs No Shirt, Peo and Young Chief of the Umatilla Indian Reservation to go to Washington to ask that money due for reservation lands sold to white settlers be paid to them in cash. Two hundred thousand dollars in the hands of the Interior Department remains to the Indians' credit, \$25,000 of which has been already distributed. The chiefs want cash, but Indian Agent Harper has a scheme to use the money in building houses. Colonel W. M. Parsons will accompany the chiefs as counsel.

UTAH BALLOT-BOX STUFFERS

FLIGHT OF ONE OF A TRIO WHO ARE UNDER INDICTMENT AT OGDEN.

SAN FRANCISCO POLICE ARE NOTIFIED TO INTERCEPT THE FUGITIVE.

SALT LAKE, Utah, Feb. 23.—A telegram has been sent to San Francisco by the United States Marshal here to intercept Alexander Wilkinson of Ogden, who, with two other citizens of that place, has been indicted for conspiracy in altering ballots in the last election.

The trio are accused of having doctored the vote in the Weber County ballot-boxes after they were deposited with the Utah commission in this city. Wilkinson left Ogden last Monday for San Francisco with the intention, it is said, of taking a steamer for Alaska or Australia.

Gilbert, the Democratic candidate, in whose interest the fraud is alleged to have been committed, is said to have gone to South America, presumably via San Francisco.

The Territorial Supreme Court to-day handed down the decision in the San Pete County election case of J. D. Page against the Utah Commissioners. The conclusion was that the court below properly found that there were no irregularities affecting the plaintiff's election appearing on the face of the returns, and that the lower court properly awarded the peremptory writ against the defendants, commanding them to certify to the plaintiff's election. The Utah Commission held a meeting this evening, and, in compliance with the decision of the Supreme Court handed down to-day, certified as elected as delegates to the constitutional convention fourteen more Republicans and eight more Democrats, making a total of Republicans certified 57 and Democrats 45, with five delegates uncertified. Of these the Republicans claim two and the Democrats three.

SPOKANE'S ARMY POST SITE.

ONE THOUSAND ACRES OF LAND TO BE GIVEN TO THE GOVERNMENT.

CITIZENS GRATIFIED AT THE SUCCESS ATTENDING THEIR EFFORTS.

SPOKANE, Wash., Feb. 23.—The committee here in charge of the work of raising cash and lands with which to secure a site of 1000 acres in the outskirts of Spokane for an army post announced to-day that the post is now practically assured. They have enough cash and land to buy and trade for all the land required. When this is done the deed will be made out to the Government. It is believed the War Department will immediately begin work upon the new post.

The site is a beautiful tract of land along the Spokane River, southwest of the city. It is historic ground, for it was here that Colonel Wright, with an army of more than 1000 regulars, struck the hostile confederated Indian bands of the upper country the final blow in his decisive campaign of 1858. That campaign brought peace to this section.

The citizens are much gratified at the successful termination of their efforts. In spite of hard times, they have raised nearly \$20,000 in cash and as much more in real estate at its present assessed valuation. It is said that \$500,000 will be expended in the construction of the post and that a garrison of not less than 1000 troops will be stationed there.

Found an Ellensburg Fireman's Body.

JACOMA, Wash., Feb. 23.—The body of Fred J. Pitzemeyer, the fireman who was killed in the freight-train wreck near Ellensburg Tuesday night, was found in the river this morning. The funeral will be held Wednesday under the auspices of the Order of Druids.

A Carson Man Found Dead in Bed.

CARSON, Nev., Feb. 23.—Alexander Mahen was found dead at his residence this evening. He had been dead several hours when found. He won \$15,000 in a lottery a year ago and has been drinking heavily since. Death was caused by apoplexy.

Nevada Railroad Legislation Checked.

CARSON, Nev., Feb. 23.—The bill providing for a rate of half a cent a mile on Pullman cars runs in this State was indefinitely

postponed to-day in the Nevada Legislature.

PUGET SOUND RATE WAR.

Big Cut in Freight Rates From Seattle to Alaska.

SEATTLE, Wash., Feb. 23.—The Pacific Coast Steamship Company yesterday reduced freight rates between this port and Alaska from \$11 to \$3 per ton on general merchandise, subject to a further reduction to parties having freight contracts with the company. Reductions were also made on livestock, lumber and fresh meats.

The cause of the cut is the advent of the new line, the Alaska Steamship Company, whose steamer, the Willapa, will leave this city for Juneau on March 3, connecting at Port Townsend with the steamship Parallon from San Francisco.

The Pacific Coast Company says it is determined to drive its competitors off the route.

A Thief in San Diego Jail.

SAN DIEGO, Feb. 23.—Fritz Theodore Brochner, a well-dressed Dane, was arrested this evening, charged with robbery, and lodged in jail. He confessed to having stolen a fine marquis ring, valued at \$250, from a wealthy Detroit lady in the city for her health. The ring was recovered.

Boise Mint Report.

BOISE, Idaho, Feb. 23.—The mint report of gold, silver and lead for 1894 shows a total of \$9,794,080. The same report gave \$8,654,217 for 1893.

DOUGLASS' FUNERAL.

The Event Will Be a Notable Demonstration in Honor of the Dead.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 23.—The arrangements for the funeral of the late Frederick Douglass have been practically completed and it will be a notable demonstration of the respect and esteem felt for the man.

Early Monday morning the remains will be removed from the Douglass residence in Anacosta to the Metropolitan A. M. E. Church in this city. There the remains will lie in state from 9 A. M. until 2 P. M. The services will be conducted by the pastor of the church, Rev. J. G. Jenifer, assisted by other clergymen. The list of honorary pall-bearers is as follows: B. K. Bruce, W. H. Workmen, J. R. Lynch, John F. Cook, Professor E. F. Messer, P. B. S. Pinchback, Captain D. L. Pitcher, Representative George H. Murphy, Dr. Purvis and L. C. Bailey. The active pall-bearers will be composed of negro letter-carriers of the District.

The remains will be sent to Rochester, N. Y., Monday. The colored people of the District of Columbia are providing various forms of manifestations of respect and the colored public schools have been closed.

A VENDETTA IN VIRGINIA.

FOUR DESPERATE MEN FIGHT WITH PISTOLS ON A COUNTRY ROAD.

THREE OF THEM KILLED AND THE FOURTH DYING OF HIS WOUNDS.

SARGENT, Ky., Feb. 23.—Three men were shot to death and a fourth mortally wounded in a fight between the Smith-Cox factions near Osborn, Dickinson County, Va., Wednesday.

The men involved in the difficulty had long been regarded as terrors in the neighborhood, and for years the families have been deadly enemies. According to the best information obtainable, Rob and Sam Smith had been at the Gap and were on their way home when they met Ben and Lemuel Cox on the road about two miles from town. All four were under the influence of liquor.

The Smiths drew revolvers and commanded their enemies to surrender, instead of which the Cox boys jerked out their weapons. Then a general fight was begun and lasted for nearly half an hour. When the smoke cleared away Rob and Sam Smith and Ben Cox were found lying dead on the road while Lem Cox is so badly wounded that his death is expected hourly. The killing of these men puts an end to the feud that has long been prominent in criminal circles in this section of the country.

NO SETTLEMENT REACHED.

Mexico and Guatemala Still Wrangling Over the Question of Indemnity.

GUATEMALA, Feb. 23.—It is given out here that no positive settlement has been reached on the questions pending with Mexico. Minister de Leon has telegraphed that the Mexican Government still holds out for the indemnity clause and is not inclined to abate an iota.

From official sources it is learned that Guatemala has made absolutely no concessions to Mexico, and the question of amount has not even been mooted. It is certain that an agreement will not be reached for a fortnight.

The Rebels Were Badly Repulsed.

COLON, Columbia, Feb. 23.—The rebel General Tugo with 350 followers had an encounter with Government troops on the 20th inst. at Santero. The fight lasted two hours and the rebels were repulsed. Ten were killed, many wounded and a number captured. Three men were killed and two wounded on the Government side, and a portion of the rebel forces fled in the direction of Togu, a seaport in the State of Magdalena.

The Persian Earthquake.

LONDON, Feb. 23.—It has been ascertained that the report printed here of the destruction by earthquake of the town of Koutchat, Persia, involving a loss of several thousand lives, reports of the destruction of Kuchan, in Khorassan, Persia, on January 17, where there was an enormous loss of life. Reports of this earthquake were cabled the Association Press on January 21 and 26.

A Canadian Railway Suit.

LONDON, Feb. 23.—The Privy Council has dismissed the appeal in the case of the Atlantic and Northwestern Railway Company against Wood et al. The appeal was from a judgment given by the Court of the Queen's Bench for Lower Canada.

English Gold for the New Bonds.

LONDON, Feb. 23.—From Liverpool there was shipped to-day £350,000 in bar gold for New York on the steamer Aurania by the syndicate which took the new issue of the United States bonds.

Death of a Licensee of Plays.

LONDON, Feb. 23.—Edward F. Smith Piggott, M. A., licenser of plays, is dead.

BUYING LANDS AT TAX SALES.

THE BILL WHICH GIVES THE STATE POWER TO PURCHASE.

THE AUTHOR EXPLAINS ALLEGED VALUABLE FEATURES OF THE MEASURE.

NOT A MONEY-LOSING PLAN.

REPLY TO OBJECTIONS ADVANCED BY THE CONTROLLER AND AUDITOR.

SACRAMENTO, Feb. 23.—Many men are making fortunes throughout California to-day buying property sold for delinquent taxes, but there is a bill now awaiting Governor Budd's signature that will change all this.

The law at present enables those buying property in this manner to charge the owner redeeming it sometimes as much as 500 per cent advance on the original tax. This includes the penalty and many onerous and needless expenses.

The new bill, which confers on the State the power of purchasing the lands on which taxes are unpaid, was introduced by Bulla of Los Angeles.

There seems to be considerable misunderstanding as to its nature. In an interview with Controller Colgan and Auditor Broderick published in the CALL of the 14th inst. those gentlemen declared against the bill. Mr. Colgan said that if by allowing the State to buy the land sold for taxes became a law the State would own most of the property and there would be nothing to tax. Auditor Broderick said the State would lose revenue, as property-owners would allow their land to be sold and redeem it after twenty years had passed by, paying the taxes on its original assessed value.

Mr. Bulla explained to-day that apparently neither of these gentlemen was aware of the provisions of his bill. It allows five years for the redemption of land sold for taxes. After this time, the State receives a deed. The land assessed during the five years following the sale, and the tax collector is required to stamp across the face of the tax receipts the words: "Sold for taxes." In this way, any one paying taxes on land sold will be sure to receive notice without any expense whatever.

"This feature," said Mr. Bulla, "will correct one of the most undesirable effects of the present law. Now the land has to be assessed for only one year after the date of the sale. The lands are then stricken from the assessment-rolls. In this way much property, now of great value, is entirely omitted from the rolls, and escapes all taxation.

"Why, in San Francisco it is a notorious fact that many properties worth thousands of dollars are paying no taxes to the State whatever. What is more, they cannot be taxed under the present law."

Mr. Bulla's bill materially reduces the penalty for redemption. Under the existing law the owner pays 50 per cent, no matter if he redeems twenty-four hours after the sale. According to the new bill, if the redemption is made within six months the penalty is but 10 per cent; if within one year, 20 per cent; two years, 40 per cent; three years, 60 per cent; four years, 80 per cent; five years or any greater number of years, 100 per cent. Mr. Bulla urged, would encourage early redemption.

"Mr. Colgan and Mr. Broderick claimed that the bill would affect the revenues of the State," Mr. Bulla said. "They must be aware, though, that individuals who now make a business of purchasing tax titles amass fortunes thereby. It is absolutely absurd to contend that the State would lose money by doing that which makes these people wealthy. Besides, at present the delinquencies do not exceed 5 per cent of the total assessment roll, so that the State could not possibly suffer for at least eleven months of the year succeeding the delinquent sale, and before that time the redemptions will be sufficient, even with the small penalties imposed, to more than equal the total amount of delinquencies. In this way the State is doubly benefited in that the State instead of the speculator receives the penalties, and the citizen is relieved of a heavy expense.

"What I consider one of the most valuable features of the bill," Mr. Bulla concluded, "is the provision that lands heretofore sold to the State and not redeemed shall be decided to the State after the expiration of one year from the passage of the bill, provided the sale has taken place five years before the date of such deed. This will give the State title for lands not withheld from the assessment-rolls, and which the State has no means of obtaining possession, except by an action to quiet title, the cost of which would in many cases exceed the value of the land."

Thirteen Missionaries Rescued.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 23.—Secretary Herbert has received a cablegram from Admiral Carpenter, commanding the Asiatic squadron, saying that the gunboat Yorktown returned to Chefoo yesterday with thirteen missionaries who had been rescued from places of danger. The flagship Baltimore and the Charleston are also at Chefoo.

Thieves Rob a Bishop.

CHICAGO, Feb. 23.—Bishop R. C. Hale of Cairo was the victim of bold sneakthieves last night, and by their work is minus three robes valued at \$100 and jewelry worth \$200. The thieves carried off the Bishop's valise while he was purchasing a ticket at the railway station.

The Four Per Cent Loan Increasing.

NEW YORK, Feb. 23.—Morgan & Belmont announce that the total subscription to the new 4 per cent loan in the United States amounts to \$200,000,000.

Opposed to Cleveland's Actions.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 23.—In the House to-day Representative Fithian of Illinois in-

duced a preamble and resolution declaring that the resolution passed by the House indorsing the administration's act in the Chicago strike troubles did not express the sense of the House and that the President's action in sending Federal troops to Chicago was unconstitutional and in violation of State's rights.

THE EX-CHAMPION IMBIBING.

His Theatrical Company Disbands and His Trunks Are Attached.

JACKSONVILLE, Fla., Feb. 23.—John L. Sullivan continued his drunken carousal in this city to-day and was a conspicuous figure at various saloons. He made trips in an open barouche, accompanied by several sporting friends, and crowds of the curious followed him.

Sullivan was bitter against the newspapers for the notoriety he has received. He says he has been greatly misrepresented, but meanwhile he continues to spend his money freely for drink and shows no signs of letting up. He declares he has pawned his watch and diamonds to assist his company during the past few weeks when they played to small houses.

Most of the members of the company will leave for New York on the Clyde line steamer to-morrow. Some have money that they saved. Sullivan is said to have raised sufficient money to pay the passage of the two children of the company.

They will go by rail to-morrow. Miss Armstrong, a member of the company, had Sullivan's trunks attached to-day for \$120, which she claims to be due her for wages.

TELLER IS THEIR CHOICE.

THE SILVER PARTY FAVORS HIM FOR THEIR PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE.

HIS SPEECH REFERRED TO AS EVIDENCE OF HIS GREAT POWER.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 23.—The politicians are now discussing the probabilities of new political alignments on the financial question and speculating about the chances of the new silver party. Will the Southern Democrats part company with their Eastern allies and the Western Republicans with their party and join hands in the next Presidential campaign? is the question asked on all sides.

One of the prominent leaders of the silver movement discussed this matter with the CALL representative to-day. It seems to be agreed that if this new combination is effected the head of the ticket to represent it will come from the West and the second man from the South. Memories of the war are not, it appears, to be banished. Southern men of such caliber as would entitle them to consideration in connection with the Presidency all participated in the Confederacy.

Morgan of Alabama, Jones of Arkansas and Bland of Missouri all saw service under the Southern flag, and the fear is that this record might prove injurious to the ticket in the West. But for the second place the South would be expected to compete for the nomination, and would probably be accorded that, without very great difficulty.

For first place Teller easily has the call in popular speculation. The silver men regard him as their ablest champion in Congress. They refer to his speeches as evidence of his thorough mastery of the subject, and to his tactics in the Senate as a recognized silver leader as proof of his skill and discretion.

His presence in general politics has been wide and this has given him standing among the foremost men in public life. He is regarded as being invincible in the West. His friends declare that he has on every score the greatest individual force in politics in all the country between the Mississippi River and the Pacific Ocean. The South also, it is claimed, regards him with marked favor. He is more to her than an eminent advocate of silver. He was the Randall of the second force bill contest. He left his party on that issue and voted and acted with Democrats in the fight in the Fifty-first Congress that resulted in the shelving of the Lodge bill in the Senate.

This, it is asserted, would make Mr. Teller a Presidential candidate on a silver platform exceedingly popular throughout the whole of the South, and certain, if associated with a popular Southern man, of an overwhelming vote in that section. The gathering here at this time of Senators-elect Butler and Tillman, General Warner of the Bimetallic League, Editor Howell of Atlanta and other prominent friends of silver gives to this matter increased interest. One hears it on every hand.

The silver men, both in and out of Congress, are very confident. They believe that everything is going their way, and it is for this reason that they are urging the more conservative of their friends to go in for a bold movement, with silver put above every other consideration. The battle, they contend, cannot be won without the ranks of either of the old parties so long as both are so much under the dominion of the Eastern money power. The cause of silver alone, they hold, is worthy of a party.

Confessed to Five Murders.

HALESY, Ky., Feb. 23.—The statement of a negro who died here yesterday has created quite a sensation here. The negro was seen by the Louisville Evening Post's reporter just before he passed away, and he confessed to having committed five murders. Two of them were in Alabama, two in Tennessee and one in Georgia. He said that three of his victims were white women. He also said that one man had been tried, convicted and hanged for one of his deeds. The man was not guilty and was convicted on purely circumstantial evidence. He would not tell the exact towns or localities where he had committed these crimes.

Girls Cheer the Combatants.

BENTON HARBOR, Mich., Feb. 23.—A fight between the students of the senior and junior classes occurred at the Benton Harbor College yesterday. An American flag was raised by the seniors in honor of Washington's birthday and in addition the senior class colors were unfurled to the breeze. This caused a fight between the seniors and juniors and freshmen, in which all participated, and the girls cheered the combatants with the different class yells. Black eyes and bruised faces are numerous. The faculty suspended four of the seniors.

Robbers Loot a Spinster's House.

ZANESVILLE, Ohio, Feb. 23.—Six masked robbers broke in the door of the residence of Miss Jane Morrison, an aged spinster,

seven miles north of the city last night. They tore up sheets and bound Miss Morrison and Henry Bowers and his wife to their beds and left them. They secured \$200 in money, a certificate of deposit for a large sum and a gold watch. Bowers, who offered resistance, was hit over the head with a wagon spoke.

THE CREW PROBABLY FROZEN.

A Schooner Discovered in a Strange Plight Off Yarmouth.

NEW YORK, Feb. 23.—The steamship Brunell from Bermuda sighted near Yarmouth the schooner Emma S on February 13. The crew in the rigging and on the decks seemed to be strangely motionless. After sailing to windward about two miles the Brunell saw the British ensign lowered slowly and then mount to the masthead of the Emma S. Captain Henderson signalled: "Do you wish to abandon the vessel?"

No response came, and then he signalled, "What do you want?" The Brunell ran within 100 feet of the schooner, but there came no reply, and the crew was still motionless. After waiting in a dangerous sea six hours the Brunell steamed off. It is the opinion of shipping men that the crew had been frozen to death.

EXTENDING THE TIME.

The Commissioner of Internal Revenue Sends Out Circular Letters.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 23.—The Commissioner of Internal Revenue to-day sent out circular letters to all collectors of internal revenue calling their attention to the joint resolution which recently passed both houses of Congress and received the approval of the President extending to April 15 the time in which all income tax shall be made. This resolution was passed at the suggestion of Commissioner Miller of the Internal Revenue Bureau who, in his letter to Congress, stated that the unexpected delay in passing the appropriation bill for the collection of the income tax had so shortened the time that it would be quite impossible to distribute the blanks and receive all the returns by March 1, the date fixed in the original act.

TORPEDO BOAT PLANS.

Union Iron Works Submit Original Designs for the Vessels.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 23.—The experts appointed by the Bureau of the Navy Department to examine the plans submitted for the construction of three new torpedo-boats, are busily engaged in that work. Three of the bidders, Herreshoff, the Union Iron Works and Ramsay, submitted original designs for the boats. The others bid exclusively by plans prepared by the Navy Department.

So far the examination of the individual plan fail to show a feature of novelty and design, and the changes in design are generally in the direction of cheapening the construction, save in the case of Herreshoff's proposition to use bronze and aluminum for hull construction.

A TRAIN ROLLS INTO A DITCH.

FIVE CARS IGNITE AND ARE TOTALLY CONSUMED BY FIRE.

MIRACULOUS ESCAPE OF THE PASSENGERS FROM INSTANT DEATH.

GREENVILLE, Ala., Feb. 23.—The south-bound passenger train on the Louisville and Nashville, passing Greenville at 8:40 this morning, was derailed three miles below here and a bad wreck resulted. The cars rolled down an embankment and caught fire. Five of them were burned, including two passenger coaches, the baggage and express car and one sleeper. The engine tore its way along the roadbed for some distance, tearing up the rails.

A large number of passengers were on board, many of them en route to the Mardi Gras at Mobile and New Orleans. The physicians in the city were summoned in haste and soon reached the wreck, when everything possible was done to relieve the sufferings of the victims.

When the extent of the damage was ascertained, it seemed little less than a miracle that only one life was lost—that of C. F. Webb, a barber of Birmingham, who was killed outright, his neck being broken. Several were more or less injured, as follows:

Mrs. Armstrong, Buffalo, N. Y., arm broken; Mrs. Schoolcraft of Montgomery, badly cut; Mrs. Wisdom of Montgomery, badly cut; Mrs. Thompson of Montgomery, contusion of kneecap. Four others were slightly hurt.

The Commander Was Negligent.

NASSAU, N. P., Feb. 23.—The opinion of the court of inquiry, convened to determine the responsibility for the loss of the steamer Cienfuegos, was rendered to the Governor last night. The court holds that the vessel was lost through the negligence of her commanding officer, Captain Hoyt. His navigation of the ship was faulty in every particular. It appeared in