

FLORIDA BRIEFS.

ITEMS OF INTEREST GATHERED AT RANDOM.

News from all parts of the State summarized.

The Pensacola Pilot association has contracted for a steam pilot boat to cost \$40,000, to be built at the Newport News ship yards.

Mr. G. W. Saxon, of Tallahassee, has sent some fine samples of his tobacco to the Atlanta exposition for exhibit. He has also begun shipping to the market.

Two Mormon elders, one from Utah and the other from Arizona, and a street fakir showing bagpipes and exhibiting the antics of a trained monkey, are newest things in Tallahassee.

The two companies of United States troops that were withdrawn from Ft. Barancas during the summer, have been returned to the fort, and are once more at their old quarters under command of Capt. James Chester, U. S. A.

H. Tucker, a patient in the state insane asylum, committed suicide by hanging himself with a bed sheet to a joist. Tucker was from Sanford and was only in the institution two days. He was highly connected.

At a recent meeting of the Young Business League, of Pensacola, a proposition was read to inaugurate a steamship line between that city and Central America, which proposition is now in the hands of a committee for immediate action.

Mr. B. Christensen of Oviedo, says he has a five-acre grove coming on nicely. Last winter he wrapped all of his trees with three and four thicknesses of paper and succeeded in saving the trunks from the freeze, and believes he will have fruit next year.

The Washington county grand jury, in its general presentment, condemned the new jail building and the new wire fence recently built around it, and recommended that the county commissioners levy a tax to build a new jail building and also a new court house at once.

Captain C. E. Garner, manager of the Independent line of steamers, says that the orange crop in the Manatee river country will amount to 30,000 boxes this year. The fruit is bringing from \$2.25 to \$2.50 per box on the trees. He also says that the fruit is of a fine flavor and that there will be lots of grape fruit shipped, which is of the finest kind.

Mr. A. J. Tinsley, manager of the Western Union telegraph office in Gainesville, and one of the oldest citizens of Gainesville, died the other day of paralysis. He was second chief engineer of the Confederate warship Merrimac, and was one of the few survivors of that vessel's memorable battle with the Monitor. He was buried with Masonic honors.

Mr. Norton's family at Daytona was quite seriously poisoned recently by using for greens the leaves of the wild morning glory, which runs riot on the sea beach. They cooked the leaves, and the whole family, father, mother and four children, came near dying through the experiment. The effect was a stupor, such as laudanum produces. Timely aid brought them out safely.

The Friends of Cuba club, of Jacksonville, are now busily engaged in making arrangements for a big celebration about December 10. They will invite distinguished Cuban speakers to be present, as well as speakers from this and other states. The governor and other state officials are also to be invited. The railroads will be asked to give low rates, and excursions will be arranged from the principal cities of the state.

The war against Sunday liquor selling in Jacksonville is now on in earnest and recently warrants were issued for the arrest of eighteen saloon-keepers on charges of keeping their saloons open on Sunday and selling liquor. The warrants were issued by Judge Dzialynski of the municipal court, upon affidavit of John Kavanagh, of Savannah, who has been quietly working up the case against the saloon men and gambling houses for a month or more.

Jacksonville is getting to be quite Chicagoish. Stock yards are the latest enterprise. The yards are situated about three miles west of the city in what is known as Edgewood. A spur of the J. T. & K. W. runs alongside the pens. A storage house for bran, cottonseed, etc., has been built and pens constructed and 500 head of cattle are now in the pens fattening. None of the heaves will be slaughtered until after Christmas.

There are several candidates for the Eustis postmastership made vacant by the recent death of Chas. B. Hill. Among the candidates are W. S. McClelland, A. B. Aber, W. Woolverton, Arthur Key and A. Hewitt Hill. The latter is a brother of the deceased and has been doing the duties of the office during his brother's long illness. The bondsmen of the late postmaster made examination of the office as far as they could, took possession and put Mr. A.

Hewitt Hill in charge pro tem. The office is a presidential one.

Maj. S. N. Van Praag, president of the Pensacola and Northwestern railroad company, has just returned from New York and reports that work will begin in Alabama on the road in January. He says the bonds have been sold and that the company is now ready to let contracts for its construction. This line is very important to Pensacola and west Florida, as it will break the chain which binds Pensacola to the monopoly of one road and open the doors to a vast new tributary country.

Jacksonville is becoming a metropolitan city—at least so far as expenses are concerned, and especially as regards the size of salaries and the number of salaried officials. At a meeting of the city council recently the special budget committee presented its report, naming \$303,728.99 as the amount necessary to run the city government for a year. This is an enormous increase—one of 51 per cent—over the budget of 1894, which was only \$134,307. The difference between the two is \$69,421.99.

Two brothers named Arnold were drowned a few days ago at Biscayne Bay. They had taken a boat and went outside the inlet to fish and, it is supposed, were upset in a squall. The young men came to the bay country with their brother-in-law, Mr. Groom, of Lexington, Ky., one of the editors of an industrial journal, and who, last year, purchased property on the bay. The elder brother had just graduated from a law school and had begun the practice of law. The other was preparing to improve a place. Both were brilliant young men and greatly liked.

Mr. E. Dillingham's novelty works and lumber yard at Daytona were visited by fire which consumed the mill and contents with much valuable machinery. Mr. Dillingham's family occupied a frame structure adjoining the mill, while awaiting the building of a home near by. They saved their household goods, and some dressed lumber was rescued. There was no insurance and the loss falls heavily upon Mr. Dillingham, but the mill will be immediately rebuilt and business will go on by shipping in to supply contracts.

One of the principal cases tried in the United States court at Pensacola, Judge Swaine presiding, was that of C. B. Jenkins, late postmaster at Sneads, Jackson county, for embezzlement of post office funds. The amount of shortage claimed is over \$10,700, and this, too, from an office that does not pay over \$250 per annum. The claim is made that he issued numerous orders, extending over several months for \$100 each, and entered them on his returns as \$10 each. This trial lasted three days, and closed by a disagreement of the jury. A mistrial was declared, and the defendant placed under \$6,000 bond.

One of Orlando's prominent business men has been in correspondence for some time with three successful Cuban tobacco men, trying to get them to come to Orlando and start a tobacco farm and cigar factory. One of these men is an expert cigar manufacturer, another is a successful grower, and another understands curing the leaf. All three have promised to visit Orlando whenever a meeting of the business men is called, to discuss the matter and tell them what they will agree to do if the business men will give them the proper inducements. Under certain conditions they will start a factory for manufacturing cigars, and employ twenty persons to begin with.

The unusual sight of a United States army officer defending prisoners in Judge Corbett's court, at St. Augustine a few days ago, caused comment. Lieutenant Eugene T. Wilson, third artillery, appeared and defended several soldiers charged with fighting and being intoxicated. The lieutenant got two discharged, and secured lesser charges for four others. Judge Corbett complimented him. The custom requiring army officers to ever stand ready to defend or prosecute cases in civil courts is seldom put in practice, consequently the appearance of Lieutenant Wilson was novel. He is a member of the Ohio bar, and learned in military jurisprudence.

None From Duval. In the list of grand and petit jurors of the United States court, in session at Jacksonville, there is not a single name of a citizen of Duval county. This is the first time such a thing has occurred for years, but it does not mean that there will be no jurors from the county at the next term of the court. In making the order for the drawing of the jury, Judge Locke designated the counties from which the jurors should be selected. He omitted Duval, knowing that at every term of court a number of persons, whose names are drawn, cannot be found, and others are excused. Their places have to be filled by special venire, and they are always selected from Duval county. At the last term of court so many persons were excused that fully two-thirds of the petit jurors were Duval county men.

Talking for Cuba. Senator Call addressed the people of Ybor City in the interest of Cuba. He spoke briefly and to the point. He declared that the sympathies of the American people were all with Cuba in her heroic struggle for the independence of the men of '76 had won for America, and that the only legitimate outcome of the existing situation was

the recognition of Cuba by this country.

The senator continued by saying that he should go back to Washington prepared to take that ground, and that he should not rest satisfied until the recognition of Cuba as a nation among the nations was an assured fact.

Senator Call was followed by R. R. D'Armas, who delivered an address in Spanish that wrought his hearers up to fever heat.

Mr. V. D. Carleton, of Arcadia, was next heard in a speech, in which he referred to the Cuban element of Tampa as the life-blood of the city and every industry in it. He was loudly applauded, and his description of Senator Call as the man who had for twelve years, stood in his place in the senate and urged the negotiation of terms with Spain for the garden spot of the world, brought out long and loud applause.

Ramon Rivero, editor of Cuba, was the last speaker on the list, and his fervent periods were almost drowned in the applause they evoked. At the conclusion of his address two telegrams he had handed Mr. Figuerado were read. They were in Spanish, and were received with an irrepressible outburst of enthusiasm.

AT DELMONICO'S.

The New York Chamber of Commerce Banquets—Carlisle Speaks.

The New York Chamber of Commerce held its 127th annual banquet Tuesday night at Delmonico's. The banquet hall was decorated with the stars and stripes and the greatest enthusiasm prevailed. Alexander E. Orr, president of the Chamber of Commerce, presided, and around him were seated, besides the speakers of the evening, Hon. Carl Scrogg, Rear Admiral Erben, Mayor Strong, Hon. Hilary A. Herbert, Hon. Judson Harmon, General Thomas H. Ruger, Commander Montgomery Seward, J. N. Constable, W. H. Webb, Calvin S. Brice, General Horace Porter, J. Edward Simmons, John Jacob Astor and James G. Cannon. The meeting was called to order by President Orr, who introduced the Hon. John G. Carlisle, secretary of the treasury, who spoke on "Our Currency Question."

The other toasts responded to were: "Our Domestic Commerce, by Hon. Julius O. Burrows; "National Development and Opportunity," by Hon. Charles Emory Smith; "The City of New York," by Mayor Strong, and "Ethics in Politics," by Rev. Dr. M. W. Stryker.

Mr. Cleveland Sends Regards. Among the letters of regret read was the following:

"EXECUTIVE MANSION, Washington, D. C., November 1.—My Dear Mr. Orr: I am sorry that I feel obliged to write it, but you must let me off from the Chamber of Commerce dinner this year. There never was a time when my admiration for this important business organization was so great, and I am sure that the recent efforts of its members to save the country from the havoc of financial madness ought to be appreciated by every patriotic citizen. "I would enjoy exceedingly a renewal of my association with my friends in the chamber at their banquet board, but the trouble is, I cannot attend this year and do the things required of me here in the way of official duty. Very truly yours, "GROVER CLEVELAND."

A letter of regret was also read from Governor Levi P. Morton, who stated that official engagements prevented him from being present.

FIVE PEOPLE KILLED.

Death and Destruction Caused by Flames at Chicago.

A fire, disastrous to life and property, swept through the Dry Goods and Woolen Exchange building at Chicago Friday morning. Five firemen, in the active discharge of their duties and totally unmindful of danger, were carried through a floor and buried under tons of wreckage from the five floors above. Four of the men died, but the fifth was seriously injured. One girl fell from a window and received injuries, from which she died. A dozen other men, women and girls were hurt or overcome by smoke and many were rescued from imminent death. The property loss is estimated at \$400,000. The dead are: Patrick J. O'Lonnell, lieutenant of engine company No. 2; Thomas J. Prendergast, pipeman; John Down, pipeman; Kate Landgraf, employed in A. Stern & Co.'s garter factory. Among the injured were: Daniel McNally, pipeman; Olga Keller, leg and arm injured; Nellie Turner, fell from fourth-story window and seriously hurt; Harry O'Neill, arm broken and back injured; John Bruenheimer, badly injured by falling from fourth story while assisting girls to escape. The others who were injured were girls and spectators who saved them, all being overcome by smoke, but they soon recovered after medical treatment at hospitals or their homes.

All the dead and injured firemen were members of Engine Company No. 2. Their captain, Lewis Fiene, escaped the awful plunge to death only by hanging to the wall of the window on the second floor until released from his perilous position by firemen on a ladder.

M. AND N. G. SALE.

Bid in by the Representative of the Construction Creditors.

The Tennessee division of the Marietta and North Georgia railroad, 106 miles, and including the bridge across the Tennessee river at Knoxville, was sold by Special Master E. H. Taylor Saturday afternoon at R. T. D. Lawrence, of Marietta, Ga., representing the construction creditors. Mr. Lawrence's bid was \$330,000, a sum largely in excess of the upset price.

CAPITAL NOTES.

GOSPEL OF WASHINGTON IN BRIEF PARAGRAPHS.

Doings of the Chiefs and Heads of the Various Departments.

The magnificent new battleship Indiana has become the property of the United States government through acceptance from the contractors, the Cramp Shipbuilding company, of Philadelphia.

The annual meeting of the National Civil Service Reform League will be held in Washington December 12 and 13. Ex-Secretary of the Interior Carl Schurz, the president, will deliver his annual address on the opening night, and a reception will be given the next evening. All municipal associations and affiliated organizations have been asked to send delegates.

Hiram Hitchcock, president of the Maritime Canal Company of Nicaragua, has submitted his annual report to the secretary of the interior. There are no new features contained in it except that the Nicaragua Canal Construction Company has been reorganized and is now the Nicaragua Company. When the construction company failed in 1893 all work was suspended, but now the Nicaragua Company is making active preparations for resuming the work under the contract which the construction company had with the maritime company.

Monroe Doctrine Resolutions.

From hints thrown out by leaders of both political parties at the capital, strong probabilities seem to exist that two important joint resolutions will be offered immediately after the assembling of the fifty-fourth congress. The first will be an affirmation of the principles embodied in the Monroe doctrine, expressing in plain and vigorous language the sympathy of the American people with the government of Venezuela in its boundary dispute with Great Britain. The second, a joint resolution, which is being prepared with much care, provides for the annexation of the Hawaiian islands to the United States under a territorial form of government.

The Philadelphia Mint on Full Time.

The treasury department was informed Thursday of the withdrawal of \$500,000 in gold at New York for export to Europe. This reduces the treasury gold reserve to \$86,304,557. Of this reserve about \$32,000,000 is in gold coin, against which no gold certificates are held. The gold coin holdings at New York, because of the recent heavy exports of gold, have become less than it is customary to have in the subtreasury and gold coin has been ordered shipped from the Philadelphia mint to replenish the depleted stock of gold coin on hand at New York. The Philadelphia mint is now at work on full time and has been for several weeks past in turning gold bullion into coin. The coinage this month at the mint will be unusually heavy.

Internal Revenue Receipts.

The annual report of the commissioner of internal revenue just made public shows receipts during the last fiscal year as follows: From spirits, \$79,862,627; decrease, \$5,896,624. Tobacco, \$29,704,907; increase, \$1,087,009. Fermented liquors, \$31,440,617; increase, \$225,829. Income tax, \$77,139. Oleomargarine, \$1,409,211; decrease, \$314,228. Miscellaneous, \$551,583; increase, \$398,554. The total receipts from all sources were \$148,246,077, a decrease of \$3,922,371.

During the year 3,309 violations of the internal revenue law were reported by revenue agents; 1,727 stills were seized, 147 stills removed, 871 persons arrested, one officer was killed and three others were wounded.

Commissioner Miller estimates that the revenues for the year will aggregate \$165,000,000.

Famous Gaines Case Ended.

The famous Myra Clark Gaines case, it is believed, was finally ended in the supreme court of the United States Friday, when Chief Justice Fuller announced that the appeal of the city of New Orleans from the judge of the circuit court of the United States for the eastern district of Louisiana, in favor of the United States ex rel, W. Whitney, had been dismissed for failure to print the record. Myra Clark Gaines, then Mrs. W. W. Whitney (not the W. W. Whitney just named) instituted the first suit for the recovery of the property bequeathed her by the will of her father, Daniel Clark, in the circuit court of the United States for the district of Louisiana in 1836, and five years later it had reached the supreme court of the United States. From that date—1841—until now, in one form or another, the controversy has had a place on the calendar of the court. In 1856 the plaintiff, then a widow, having survived both Mr. Whitney and General E. P. Gaines, whom she subsequently married, filed an original bill in the supreme court of the United States against the city of New Orleans to recover property held by it and a decision in her favor was rendered at the December term, 1867. The value of the property claimed was estimated in 1861 to be \$35,000,000. Suits subsequently prosecuted were filed for the purpose of getting possession of the property included under the supreme court judgment of 1867. It was estimated that she recovered six or seven million dollars' worth in all, but she derived little personal benefit therefrom, as it was largely eaten up by the expenses of maintaining the litigation. She died January 9, 1895.

BOY TRAIN WRECKERS CONFESS

Expected to Get Thousands from Injured Passengers.

At the coroner's inquest over the bodies of Engineer Hager and Billy Bonn, who were killed in the recent railroad wreck at Rome, N. Y., Miss Celia Ferrin, a friend of Hildreth, the leader of the gang of boy wreckers, testified that Hildreth came to her house Tuesday and told her how the boys wrecked the train. He said to her that they turned the loosened rails so that the train would run into the ditch.

The four boys concerned all confessed except Bristoe, who is said to have been one of the leaders. The evidence of the others implicates him. All the boys had revolvers, which they threw away in the woods after the wreck.

All the youngsters had been reading dime novels. They went to Utica a few weeks ago, and while there purchased an outfit of revolvers. They came home from there in a box car and on the way they planned the wreck. They thought they would get several thousand dollars from the wounded passengers and corpses. They weakened after the rails had been loosened.

When the crash came and the boys heard the cries of the people they ran away through the woods, throwing their revolvers away as they ran. One of them lost his hat, but did not stop to get it. The finding of the hat caused suspicion to rest on the boys and they were arrested.

John W. Hildreth, Theodore Hibbard and Fred Bristoe, three of the young wreckers, were arraigned before the recorder for murder in the first degree. All of them pleaded not guilty, and a hearing was set for December 3d. The inquest was continued to November 26th. None of those wounded in the wreck are likely to die.

BIG CHICAGO BLAZE.

Sixteen Firms Burned Out—A Panic Narrowly Averted.

A fire which caused a property loss of \$500,000 and imperiled the lives of half a thousand persons, mostly young women, originated at 3 o'clock Thursday afternoon on the third floor of Charles Emerich & Co., feather and down goods factory, 175 and 181 South Canal street, Chicago. The conflagration was attended by scenes of intense excitement and a score of firemen narrowly escaped being killed by fire and falling walls. When the flames were raging most furiously, in spite of the best efforts of twenty-five engines and a small army of firemen, fire brands were carried by the wind to adjoining manufacturing buildings and it looked as if many more would have to go.

The seven-story brick building extending from 175 Canal street south to the corner of Jackson street, the nine-story brick building adjoining on the north and the greater part of the four-story brick building in the same direction were entirely destroyed. These buildings occupied nearly the whole of the block on the west side of Canal street between Adams and Jackson streets. The seven and nine-story buildings were owned by Warren Springer, and the owner of the four-story building, which is one-third saved, is William J. Wilson. The buildings were amply insured. In all sixteen firms were burned out, and the losses are estimated at \$350,000. The building loss is placed at \$150,000.

SOUTH CAROLINA HOMESTEADS.

The Exemption is \$1,000 in Land and \$500 in Personal Property.

The South Carolina constitutional convention at Thursday's session disposed of the homestead exemption matter, which had been left over for about a month. The exemption is \$1,000 in land and \$500 in personal property, and after it is set off it cannot be mortgaged. Three hundred dollars worth of personal property and wearing apparel is exempted to unmarried persons also.

The section on miscogeneration which was also left over, was brought up. The convention had practically agreed on prohibiting marriages where there is more than one-eighth negro blood, but another fight was made to prohibit them when any blood whatever existed, but no vote was arrived at.

TRUNK LINES AGREE.

Articles of Organization Approved and Take Effect January 1.

The following statement has been given out at the office of the Trunk Lines Association at New York:

"The articles of organization of the joint traffic association have been unanimously approved by every party to it, and it was agreed to make them effective January 1, 1896.

"The presidents are now in executive session in regard to the appointment of arbitrators.

"The board of managers will doubtless be announced in a very few days. The committee on revision has been continued with power to arrange all details, procure signatures to the engrossed agreement, decide on the delivery of copies of the proper public authorities, the press, etc."

EARTHQUAKES IN MEXICO.

Sufficiently Severe To Throw Down a Few Adobe Houses.

Quite a severe earthquake shook visited the city of Mexico Sunday. Numerous water pipes were burst and four adobe houses in a suburb fell. The first shock was from east to west, as indicated by the seismograph at the national meteorological bureau. Afterwards the direction of the needle changed, making a flattened ellipse tracing in the sand, its direction being northeast and southwest, duration twelve seconds.

A NEW PLAN

FOR REPLENISHING THE RESERVE SHORTAGE.

This Move, However, is Only a Temporary Expedient.

The administration has decided on a plan to replenish the gold which it is confidently expected will have the effect of deferring, for a time, at least, the issue of bonds for that purpose. The following was sent to subtreasury officers:

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, Washington, D. C., November 23.—Department instructions of July 28, August 23d, 1886, requiring to reject and place a distinguishing mark on all gold coins presented to the office for deposit which are to be below the least current value are hereby so modified as to be when requested to accept gold coins at valuation in proportion to their actual weight, such valuation to be determined by deducting the nominal value of a cent from the grain, troy, found below the weight on each piece. All light pieces thus received by you are to be held in the cash of your office from full weight coins and a bag of such coin to be plainly marked with the amount of the face and value of contents. If the coins should prefer to have the pieces found to be below the least current weight returned to him, you are to return them, stamp each with the distinguishing mark referred to in department letter.

Scott Wicks, Acting Secretary.

United States Treasurer. The following this circular with instructions to the sub-treasury officers to be taken from banks and others United States gold coin in exchange for paper money. Deposits are required to be made in sums or multiples of \$500, and the express charges on the gold and the paper currency returned therefore will be borne by the sub-treasury department. Except in special cases the treasury department has never permitted express charges both ways on gold deposited in exchange for paper and the paper. The banks have endeavored to induce the treasury to do this, and the fact that it has not been done so is evidence that Secretary Carlisle has determined, as the president has heretofore announced, to be done, to exhaust all the means in his power to maintain the gold reserve.

Only a Temporary Expedient.

It is understood that this new departure will not be permanent, but looked upon as a temporary expedient to obtain gold. The expense to banks and others has always been large in securing new currency in cases of emergency and in paying express charges on the return currency when gold was deposited for it. Under this new arrangement the treasury will charge heretofore borne by the bankers. The rate paid by the government under its contract with the express companies, however, is less than the rate charged individual shippers. The government rate in all territory east of the Pacific slope is 50 cents a \$1,000 for gold and 50 cents a \$1,000 for paper. It will be the aim of the treasury supplied with all denominations of currency, so that depositors may receive what they desire promptly. They will not have to wait until the certificate of the gold deposited is transferred to Washington.

Treasury officials explain that...

financing shipments to \$500 or multiples thereof is to keep within the terms of the contracts with the express companies. This restriction does not apply to local deposits of gold in a subtreasury city, whereby any sum may be deposited and currency received for the same.

KNIGHTS OF LABOR ADJOURN.

The Next Convention to be Held at Rochester, N. Y.

The general assembly of the Knights of Labor adjourned at Washington Friday evening to meet at Rochester, N. Y., on the first Tuesday after the second Monday in November, 1896. The question of excluding the Japanese from this country was laid on the table, it being held that such action would not be consistent inasmuch as the Knights of Labor believed in universal organizations. Resolutions were adopted favoring amending the constitution so as to take the power of appointment from the president. Resolutions were also passed condemning the use of militia in labor troubles and the circulation of national bank notes and advocating the government control of highways.

CELEBRATED DEBE'S RELEASE.

Large Meeting of Workmen in Birmingham, Alabama.

Eugene V. Debe's release from the Woodstock, Ill., jail was celebrated at Birmingham, Ala., Friday, by a mass meeting in the Winnie Davis Wigwam, under the auspices of the Birmingham Trades' Council. Fifteen hundred men and women attended the speaking. J. E. McMullen, president of the local American Railway Union, E. E. Stamps, of the mine workers, and W. H. Stanley, of the plasterers, made addresses which were loudly applauded. Two bands furnished the music.

Three Children Roasted.

While securely locked in a cabin on the plantation of Mr. W. A. Ansley, near Forsyth, Ga., three negro children were roasted alive. The mother of the children, Georgia Ann Head, left them weep while she went to the lot to milk the cows, locking the door behind her.