

THE NEWS.

The execution of Jacob K. Cumberland for the murder of James Roberts and son, of Shelby county, took place at Fort Madison, Iowa. A stay of execution was granted in the case of the train robber Rogers, who was to have been hung at Phoenix, Arizona, the first under the new law making train robbery a death offense. Jabez Wilson, colored, was hanged at Augusta, Ga., for murder. John L. Lathrop, auditor of the C. B. & Q. Railroad Company, died at Chicago, aged seventy-five. Prof. J. W. Harris, of Xenia, O., died suddenly of heart disease at Crab Orchard, Ky. A fire nearly destroyed the Home for Friendless Women at Cleveland. The inmates were saved. A Catholic priest named Gibrowski was threatened with personal violence in Cullago by some of the members of his church. He was compelled to leave the parish house. John Trumbull, the first maker of silk goods in the United States, died in Wisconsin, aged seventy-nine. Eleven persons narrowly escaped death by fire in the Hotel Royal, Chicago. Fire in Philadelphia caused loss of fifty thousand dollars.

Henry Figdore, employed by the Pennsylvania Agricultural Works at York, was seriously burned. William Lake, who killed his sweetheart, Emma Hunt, at Albion, N. Y., was indicted for murder in the first degree. Captain Bogardus, the famous wing shot, who had been reported dead, is alive and well at his home in Lincoln, Ill. The annual meeting of the National Starch Company, or trust, was held in Covington, Ky. Harry Hayward laughed outright at Blitt during the latter's cross-examination in the Minneapolis case, and the murderer, enraged at the taunting manner of Hayward, turned on him fiercely. Judge Goff, of the United States Court at Richmond, appointed F. J. Kimball and Henry Fink as receivers of the Norfolk and Western Railroad Company. A furnace in a public school at Elyria, O., exploded during the noon recess, blowing one wall out of the building, but injuring no one. Laura U. Wickes, the wife of the vice-president of the Pullman Palace Car Company, in her bill of divorce in the Chicago courts, charges that her husband kicked her out of bed. John Krewson and S. E. Lusha, coin exchangers, convicted last week in the federal court in Kookuk, Ia., have been sentenced to five years and eight years, respectively, in the penitentiary by Judge Woolson. A dozen bootleggers were also sentenced. Three masked robbers blew up the safe in the postoffice at Mattoon, and got away with several hundred dollars, after shooting a police officer.

L. Bowers was burned to death in a room in the rear of his cigar store in Denver. The reported finding of the hall of the Cheolera appears to be a canard. While William Burholder, a Pennsylvania Railroad fireman, residing at Watts Station, Pa., was walking along the railroad tracks in front of his house he found the mangled body of his son. It is supposed that the boy had been stealing a ride to his home, and fell under the train. A trolley car plunged through an open draw in Milwaukee. Three persons were drowned and a number of others hurt. Lockwood's Bank, at Milan, Erie county was entered by five masked burglars, the safe blown open and robbed of what money it contained. The men were seen as they were escaping in a wagon headed for Sandusky. A lively exchange of shots took place between Cashier Stoddard and the gang, but they got away safely. Mrs. John Zeller, a widow, and her grandson, James H. Keller, were fatally burned at her residence in Spring township, near Reading, Pa. By the explosion of a boiler at Earl Carpenter & Sons' explosion at Elmsford, near Providence, R. I., two men were killed outright, a third fatally injured and ten seriously hurt.

The Bodman leaf tobacco warehouse in Cincinnati, with its contents, was destroyed by fire. The loss is estimated at \$40,000. Judge Grosscup, in Chicago, dismissed the charges against several of the A. R. U. men. The H. T. Condit implement plant, Nos. 27, 29, 31 and 33 Capital avenue north, opposite the State Capitol, in Indianapolis, was wrecked by fire. The loss is estimated at \$100,000. The Western New York and Pennsylvania Railroad was sold at Pittsburg to Frederick Straus, of New York, representing the reorganization committee of the second mortgage bondholders. The price was \$1,000,000, and the assuming of \$10,000,000 first mortgage bonds. John Leak, a negro, was arrested in Battle Creek, Mich., charged with murdering G. R. Arnold on the night of December 16. Arnold's body was subsequently found on the river bank frozen stiff, and with a bad wound on the side of the head. R. G. Craig & Co., dealers in seeds and agricultural implements, in Memphis, Tenn., made a partial assignment, naming L. B. McFarland as assignee. The assets are estimated at \$100,000, and liabilities at \$50,000, of which about \$4,000 is preferred.

A trolley car at Richmond, Va., jumped the track and ran into a telegraph pole. Motor man Fred C. Goyle was fatally hurt. A. S. Reynolds & Co.'s steam flouring mill, at Shepherdstown, W. Va., was destroyed by fire. The Denison Hotel, in Indianapolis, was burned, but all the guests escaped. Frank Nutter, fireman, and Patrick Ryan, electric light man, were knocked off a ladder, and both seriously hurt. A portion of a wrecked schooner went ashore at Martha's Vineyard, and three dead bodies were found lashed to it. The sailors rescued from the abandoned Dutch brig Gem at Eastport, L. I., are terribly frozen. Fire caused a panic in the factory of the Woolbine Machine Company at Woodbine, N. J., and one girl was fatally hurt by leaping from a window. The cornerstone of a monument to be erected in honor of Colonel Polk, the first president of the National Farmers' Alliance, was laid in Raleigh, N. C., with Masonic and Alliance ceremonies. Officers in Columbia, S. C., discovered a barroom in a tunnel under one of the principal streets in the city. Mrs. Marion Palmer, widow of the late Dr. Palmer, of Nyack, N. Y., has become insane from grief at the death of her husband. She is in an asylum.

JULIUS VON PAYER's projected expedition to the North Pole has a novel object. The Austrian polar explorer is going into the frozen zone in search of new landscapes and new animals for his brush. Von Payer wants especially to dip the polar night, with its copper moon and rivers of molten silver.

MORE BONDS

Mr. Cleveland Sends a Message to Congress.

STANDS AS A BULWARK.

The Amount, He Says, Is to Be a Little Over Sixty Million Dollars, the Bonds to Run Thirty Years at Four Per Cent.

The President to-day sent the following message to Congress:

To the Congress of the United States: Since my recent communication to the Congress calling attention to our financial condition and suggesting legislation which I deemed essential to our national welfare and credit, the anxiety and apprehension then existing in business circles have continued.

As a precaution, therefore, against the failure of timely legislative aid through congressional action, cautious preparations have been pending to employ to the best possible advantage, in default of better means, such executive authority as may, without additional legislation, be exercised for the purpose of reinforcing and maintaining in our treasury an adequate and safe gold reserve.

In the judgment of those especially charged with this responsibility, the business situation is so critical and the legislative situation is so unpromising, with the omission thus far on the part of the Congress to beneficially enlarge the powers of the Secretary of the Treasury in the premises, as to enjoin immediate executive action with the facilities now at hand. Therefore, in pursuance of section 3700 of the Revised Statutes, the details of an arrangement have this day been concluded with parties abundantly able to fulfill their undertaking whereby bonds of the United States authorized under the act of July 14, 1875, payable in coin thirty years after their date, with interest at the rate of 4 per cent. per annum, to the amount of a little less than \$22,400,000, are to be issued for the purchase of gold coin amounting to a sum slightly in excess of \$65,000,000 to be delivered to the treasury of the United States, which sum, added to the gold now in our reserve, will restore such reserve as to make it amount to something more than \$100,000,000 such a premium is to be allowed to the government upon the bonds as to fix the rate of interest upon the amount of gold realized at 3 1/2 per cent. per annum. At least one half of the gold to be obtained is to be supplied from abroad, which is a very important and favorable feature of the transaction.

The privilege is especially reserved to the government to substitute at par within ten days from this date in lieu of the four per cent. coin bonds, other bonds in terms payable in gold and bearing only three per cent. interest if the issue of the same should in the meantime be authorized by the Congress.

The arrangement thus completed, which after careful inquiry, appears in present circumstances and considering all the objects desired to be the best attainable, develops such a difference in the estimation of investors, between bonds made payable in coin and those specifically made payable in gold, in favor of the latter, as is represented by three-fourths of a cent in annual interest. In the agreement just concluded the annual saving in interest to the government if 3 per cent. gold bonds should be substituted for 4 per cent. coin bonds under the privilege reserved would be \$39,150, amounting in thirty years or at the maturity of the coin bonds to \$16,174,770.

Of course, there never should be a doubt in any quarter as to the redemption in gold of the bonds of the government which are made payable in coin. Therefore, the discrimination in the judgment of investors between our bond obligations payable in coin and those specifically made payable in gold is very significant.

It is hardly necessary to suggest that whatever may be our views on the subject, the sentiments of preference of those with whom we must negotiate in disposing of our bonds in gold are not subject to our dictation.

I have only to add that in my opinion the transaction herein detailed for the information of the Congress promises better results than the efforts previously made in the direct or effectively adding to our gold reserve through the sale of bonds and I believe it will tend, as far as such action can, in present circumstances to meet the determination expressed in the law repealing the silver-purchasing clause of the act of July 14, 1893, and that, in the language of such repealing act, the arrangement made will aid our efforts to "insure the maintenance of the parity in value of the coins of the two metals and the equal power of every dollar at all times in the markets and in the payment of all debts."

GROVER CLEVELAND Executive Mansion, February 8, 1895.

PERSECUTED ARMENIANS.

Their Trials Are Farces—Finished Without Being Allowed to Defend Themselves.

A despatch from Constantinople reports recent trials of Armenians at Yozgat, Fabelle of Sivas, Asia Minor, and says that many of the prisoners were condemned without being permitted to give evidence in their own behalf. In one case, however, a prominent Armenian was convicted, although he proved he was in prison at the time his alleged offense was committed. There were many similar cases, the trials being a complete farce.

Armenians are being swept into prison by the wholesale, tortured and money extorted from them to gratify private spite. At Sivas twenty children were imprisoned for two months, their offense being the formation of a society to raise subscriptions for the assistance of poorer children. Many Armenians have been thrown into prison for having in their possession Bibles and other books that did not bear the stamp of the censor.

FIFTY-THIRD CONGRESS.

SENATE.

Forty-Fifth Day.—In the Senate the chief interest of the day's proceedings centered around the controversy between Senator Harris (democrat, of Tennessee) and Senator Mitchell (republican, of Oregon), which was later satisfactorily adjusted. The District of Columbia appropriation bill was passed after debate and rejection of proposed amendments. The credentials of Mr. Perkins (republican, of California) were presented. The diplomatic and consular bill was taken up for discussion. The Senate after a brief executive session, adjourned at 4:40 P. M.

Forty-Sixth Day.—In the Senate Mr. Clark (republican, of Wyoming) occupied his seat for the first time. The credentials of Mr. Elston (republican, of West Virginia) were presented, as were also those of Mr. Chilton, of Texas. The diplomatic and consular bill was considered and an agreement was made that no amendments should be offered until the important provisions of the measure should have been disposed of. The proposition for the United States to lay a cable to the Hawaiian Islands was discussed by Messrs. Hays and Perkins. First and other Senators. No action was taken.

Forty-Seventh Day.—In the Senate the pending question of the construction of a cable to Hawaii was considered, but no action was taken. The credentials of Mr. Lucas Baker (republican, of Kansas) were presented. The differences arising out of a debate between Messrs. Harris (democrat, of Tennessee) and Mitchell (republican, of Oregon) were adjusted. The question of the payment of a star-bounty claim was referred to the appropriate committee. A diplomatic and consular appropriation bill was considered. It disposed of the resolution of Messrs. Morgan, White, Hale, Perkins, Groves and other Senators. The bill regulating commerce in inland waters was passed.

Forty-Eighth Day.—In the Senate Mr. Sherman introduced a bill appropriating \$10,000 for the relief of the poor of Washington. The question of the construction of a cable to Hawaii was further discussed. Speeches upon the question of the construction of the cable to Hawaii were made by Messrs. Morgan, White, Hale, Perkins, Groves and other Senators. At 5:45 P. M. the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE.

Forty-Fifth Day.—In the House of Representatives the entire day was devoted to a consideration of the pending financial bill. The speakers of the day were Messrs. Springer, Cox, Swanson, Reed and Patterson.

Forty-Sixth Day.—In the House the day was devoted to a consideration of the pending financial measure. The speakers of the day were Messrs. Brown, Latta, Groves, O'Neil, Band, Warner, Breckinridge, Hansen, Bryan, Hartman, Walker and Everett. At 5:25 P. M. the House adjourned.

Forty-Seventh Day.—By a vote of 155 to 123 the House decided to take the measure of Mr. Springer for his third reading of the currency bill, thereby indicating unfavorable action upon that measure. The whole day in the House was devoted to a consideration of the bill.

Forty-Eighth Day.—In the House of Representatives there were fifty-two yeas in favor of the resolution allowing each member of the Congress \$1,200 per annum for clerk hire. The bill was read a second time. The President's message was received and referred. The question of reference caused a debate. At 4:15 P. M. the House adjourned.

THROUGH THE DRAW.

Three Persons Drowned in the Plunge of an Electric Car Off a Bridge.

Three persons were carried to their death at Milwaukee, Wis., on an electric car of the Russell avenue and Holton street line, which plunged through the open draw of the Kinzie bridge over the river. Eight others were rescued from the partly submerged car. The accident was due to the carelessness of the motorman, John Kennedy, who allowed the car to approach too near the open draw, and paid the penalty of his carelessness with his life. The thick ice in the river alone prevented greater loss of life, as the car was only submerged two-thirds of its length endwise in the river. Conductor Peterson, who has been in the service of the company only a short time, signaled for the car to go ahead, but when a dozen feet from the bridge he rang the bell for the car to stop. The motorman grasped the brake crank in a frantic manner and tried it, but the wheels slipped on the ice, and there there was no time to reach for sand. The panic-stricken passengers realized as soon as the bell was rung that something was wrong, and when they saw the car on the verge of the river they made a frantic rush for the rear exit. The conductor and one or two passengers who were standing on the rear platform jumped to the ground safely. Savery, who was the first to rush for the rear door, never opened it. The instant he opened the door the car toppled into the river, carrying with it the seven people, who had crowded to the front of the car in desperation.

The car gradually sank through the ice, and the fire in the car was instantly quenched. The women who met their death were probably suffocated as their body were no bruse, and they must have been at the bottom of the car. Miss Waeholiz elung desperately to Edward Hamilton while he raised himself from the water. Both would probably have been drowned but for the arrival of rescuers. Annie Albe was rescued in a similar manner.

EXPLOSIONS IN A FURNACE

Several Workmen Seriously Injured at Steubenville, Ohio.

Two explosions occurred at Riverside Furnace, seriously injuring several workmen. The explosion was caused by stock in the furnace setting. Tons of stock and bricks were blown out.

The first accident was a small explosion which occurred in the morning when considerable stock was blown out and the lighting gas set fire to the clothes of Patrick Timlin. He ran out of the flames and was rolled in the snow by William Burke, who tore his blazing clothes off. Timlin is burned from head to foot and is not expected to live.

The second explosion took place early in the afternoon, and was the worst, the material blown out wrecking the roofs of all the buildings as if they had been cannonaded. The explosion occurred at the hour when the whistle was blowing for work, and few men were around or more would have been injured. A score of men were burned or injured by flying missiles.

The ground for two hundred yards around the furnace is covered with brick, coke and other debris.

HAS ABDICATED.

Lilioukalani Resigns Her Rights to the Throne.

PURELY A VOLUNTARY ACT.

But She Was Under Arrest at the Time—The Government's Reply to the Letter—Asks for Mercy for Her Late Associates.

Ex-Queen Lilioukalani has abdicated in favor of the republic. The document was drawn up by A. S. Hartwell at the request of the ex-Queen. It was presented on the 20th inst., to President Dox, and according to the wording was executed freely and voluntarily. It was addressed to the President and goes on to say:

"Sir—After a full and free consultation with my personal friends and with my legal advisers, both before and since my detention by military order in the executive building, and acting in conformity to their advice and also upon my own free volition and in pursuance of my unalterable belief and understanding of my duty to the people of Hawaii and to their highest and best interests, and also for the sake of those misguided Hawaiians and others who have recently engaged in the rebellion against the republic and in an attempt to restore me to the position of Queen, which I held prior to the 17th day of January, 1893, and without any claim that I shall become entitled, by reason of anything that I may now say or do, to any other or different treatment or consideration at the hands of the government than I otherwise could and might legally receive, I now desire to express and make known, and do hereby express and make known to yourself, as the only lawful and recognized head of the government, and to all the people of the Hawaiian Islands, whether or not they have yet become citizens of the republic or have been adherents of the late monarchy, and also to all diplomatic and other foreign representatives in the Hawaiian Islands, to all of whom I respectfully request you to cause this statement and action of mine to be made known as soon as may be, as follows, viz: In order to avoid any possibility of doubt or misunderstanding on the subject, although I do not think that any doubt or misunderstanding is either proper or possible, I do hereby fully and unequivocally admit and declare the government of the republic of Hawaii as the only lawful government of the Hawaiian Islands, and that the late Hawaiian monarch is finally and forever ended and no longer of any legal or actual validity, force or effect whatsoever, and I do hereby forever absolve all persons whomsoever, whether in the Hawaiian Islands or elsewhere, from all and every manner of allegiance or official obligation or duty to me and my heirs and successors forever, and I hereby declare to all such persons in the Hawaiian Islands that I consider them as bound in duty and honor henceforth to support and sustain the government of Hawaii."

The Queen made a plea for the Hawaiians and others who took part in the rebellion. She hopes executive clemency will be exercised in their cases. She expresses a desire to live in absolute privacy henceforth. The document includes a copy of the oath of allegiance taken by her and closes:

"I have caused the foregoing statement to be prepared and drawn and have signed my name without having received the slightest suggestion from the President of Hawaii concerning the same, or any part thereof, or concerning any action or course of my own in the premises."

THE GOVERNMENT'S ANSWER.

Three days after the receipt of the letter of abdication the government made answer as follows:

Executive Building, Honolulu.—Madame: The document executed by you purporting to contain your abdication and renunciation of all the sovereign rights heretofore claimed by you has been delivered in your behalf to the President. As you were under arrest at the time this instrument was signed, it is desired before accepting and placing the same on file to make clear to you, Mrs. Lilioukalani Dominis, in order that no misunderstanding may hereafter arise, the views of the government in the matter.

First—The execution of this document cannot be taken to exempt you in the slightest degree from personal and individual liability for such complicity as a due investigation and trial may show that you had in the late conspiracy against the government, and the consequent loss of life, which position is recognized by you in your letter.

Second—It cannot be conceded that such rights and claims as you voluntarily relinquish have had any legal existence since January 24, 1893, when, by your public announcement that you no longer considered yourself bound by the fundamental law of the land under which you took office, and by which your acts in attempting, by the mere exercise of your own will, to establish a new system of government contract existing between you and the people was dissolved and all sovereign rights heretofore vested in you were lost. The statement by the members or your then cabinet that they could not control your proposal action and their appeal to the citizens of Honolulu for assistance was the next step which led to a resumption by the people of their right of government.

Third—So far as your communication may be taken as a notice to the disaffected that it is your desire that the republic should be recognized by them as the sole and lawful government of the country it is fully appreciated.

In this connection your unselfish appeal for clemency for those who took part in the late insurrection will receive full consideration by order of the executive council.

Wm. O. SMITH, Attorney-General.

Two additional battalions of Italian troops left Naples for Moscow, Egypt. This is the last draft of soldiers required to complete the Italian defensive measures against the Tiro Derivatives.

CABLE SPARKS.

Sir James Cockle, chief justice of Queensland from 1863 to 1879, died in London.

Earthquake shocks have been felt in the State of Oaxaca, Mexico, and a volcanic eruption is daily expected.

Professor Arthur Cayley, professor of mathematics at Cambridge University, died aged 74 years.

The Colombian rebels have been defeated in a battle with government troops. The Peruvian rebels have seized Arequipa.

Partisans of ex-President Peixoto are making hostile demonstrations at Rio de Janeiro and threaten to make trouble for the government.

The proposition to abrogate the special laws for the government of Alsace-Lorraine was discussed in the Reichstag. Prince Hohenzollern opposed the measure.

The North German Lloyd Steamship Company announces that 314 lives were lost in the sinking of the steamship Elbe in collision with the British steamship Crathie in the North sea.

SENON ROMERO, Mexican Minister to Washington, expresses the belief that there will be no war with Guatemala. It is reported from Mexico that the United States will not interfere to settle the dispute.

The Morrish envoy was struck in the face by a Spanish general as the former was on his way to the palace in Madrid to pay his respects to the Queen. The general was arrested and will be tried by court-martial.

After the Czar and Czarina had received the notabilities the deputation proceeded to the Ozen Cathedral, where a mass of Thanksgiving for the Czar's declaration that he would uphold the autocracy was celebrated.

A confederation of Central American Republics has been formed to resist the possible evasion of Guatemala by Mexico. War funds are being raised and troops are massing on the frontier. It is thought Mexico has no resource left but to declare war against Guatemala.

BLEW UP THE BANK.

Building Wrecked by Dynamite and \$30,000 in Money and Bonds Secured.

Five masked men entered the town of Milan, Ohio, and at 4 o'clock in the morning blew open the vault in the Lockwood Bank. The explosion was so great that it wrecked the building in which the bank was located and awakened the entire population. The citizens poured into the streets in time to see the thieves drive off in a buggy toward Sandusky, where two of them are reported under arrest.

The safe and vaults were blown open by dynamite, making a complete wreck of them and the office. The burglars took some \$15,000 in cash and \$10,000 in government, Nickel Plate, and Sandusky, Milan and Norfolk Electric Railway bonds.

Cashier Stoddard heard the explosion and rushing out with his gun he was confronted by three of the burglars who told him to stand off and fired at him. Stoddard returned the fire. They took the \$30 train at Sandusky for Cleveland. Cashier Stoddard will not tell the exact amount taken. It was known there was considerable on deposit.

SANDUSKY, O.—The police have arrested two men on the charge of being implicated in the robbery of the Milan Bank. The buggy in which the robbers escaped to Sandusky was hired from Herb & Hockes' livery stable by Edwin Stoughton, who runs a saloon on Water street. Stoughton was taken into custody soon after the Milan police came to the city in hot pursuit of the robbers. In his company was Sol Hirschberger, a young fellow who has been hanging around the gambling dens of the city for the past two years. Hirschberger was also arrested.

DEATH BY SUICIDE.

A Wealthy Kentuckian Deliberately Throws Himself Under a Train.

Mr. Samuel A. Miller, who came to Asheville, N. C., from Kentucky some months ago with excellent letters of introduction, showing him to be a millionaire and a man socially well connected, committed suicide at the depot as the train from the East came. He was talking to a friend, and as the cars came up he deliberately threw himself under the wheels and was horribly mangled.

Mr. Miller was suffering from melancholia, it is reported, by business cares, and had attempted to take his life before. He seemed for a time to improve in Asheville, where he was brought in the hope that a change of climate would improve his mental condition. A distressing incident of the suicide was that his son stood by and tried to restrain his father as he plunged forward under the coaches, and that a daughter was on the train which ran over the body.

LOUISVILLE, Ky.—The news of the death of Samuel A. Miller, who threw himself under the wheels of a train at Asheville, N. C., created a sensation here, not only from the manner of his death, but also on account of the great prominence he enjoyed in local financial, commercial and social circles. Mr. Miller was president of the Dennis Long Pipe Works, president of the East End Improvement Company, which is building the Louisville and Jeffersonville Bridge, was president of the Danville (Ill.) Water Works, which he controlled; was president of the Owensboro Water Works, and owned half of the Frankfort (Ky.) Water Works. He was connected with the Citizen's National Bank as director, and was vice-president of the B. F. Avery & Sons Company, extensive manufacturers of agricultural implements. He was 56 years old and his fortune was in the neighborhood of a million.

STAGE COACH OVERTURNED.

Several Persons Injured on the Top of Orange Mountains.

The Caldwell stage coach, which left Mont Clair, N. J., was overturned on a steep hill at the top of Orange Mountain and a number of the passengers received severe injuries. The stage, which contained fourteen passengers, struck a large stone during the descent and came over with a crash.

The driver of the stage escaped with very slight injuries and the rest of the passengers were not hurt to any extent.

PENNSYLVANIA ITEMS.

Epitome of News Gleaned From Various Parts of the State.

The safety of Ford City from destruction by an ice gorge was assured by the explosion of dynamite. Several other towns are in danger of floods caused by ice jams.

Mrs. John Zeller, a widow and her grandson were fatally burned in a log house in Spring Township.

A writ of ejectment was issued at Pittsburg against the Pennsylvania and the Pittsburg, Fort Wayne and Chicago Railroads.

It was denied in Pittsburg that there had been a consolidation of the plate glass manufacturers.

The jury in the will case of Griffith Miles, at Doylestown, returned a verdict in favor of the contestants, practically declaring the will a forgery.

The convention of the State school superintendents at Harrisburg after electing officers and hearing discussions adjourned.

The Heller-Laubach Senatorial investigating committee continued its settings at Easton and heard many witnesses.

The general fund in the State Treasury amounts to \$2,862,746 05.

The Executive committee of the State Camp, patriotic sons of America, met at Harrisburg to indorse certain legislation.

Alexander Van Kariage, of Georgetown was charged with killing his baby because it kept him awake.

DISASTERS AND CASUALTIES.

A large coasting sled ran into a cable car in St. Louis, and eight of the young people in the sled were injured.

About 20 stores in Coaticook, Quebec, comprising a large part of the town, were burned. The loss may reach \$100,000.

The main building of the Rhode Island College of Architecture and Masonic Arts, at Kingston, was burned. Loss \$34,000.

The residence of Thomas Williams, near Homer, Alton county, Ohio, was totally destroyed by fire. His two children perished in the flames.

A boiler in a big electric railway power house in West Denver, Colorado, exploded wrecking the building. Three men were killed and several injured.

George N. Groat and his son, Wm. A. Groat, aged 21 years, wealthy lumber dealer, were struck by a drill engine in Jersey City, and probably fatally injured.

There were reported earthquakes shocks, in Jamaltepec and Tuxtepec, in the State of Oaxaca, Mexico. Houses were wrecked and nearly all the inhabitants fled to neighboring hamlets.

A sled load of young people from Salem, Ohio, on the way to spend the evening with some friends in the country, was thrown over a steep embankment, and four persons were badly injured.

Naval Constructor S. W. Armistead, while superintending preparations for receiving the cruiser Olympia at the Mare Island Navy Yard, was struck on the head by a hammer which parted without warning. He may die.

Patrick Shields, one of the seamen on the United States cruiser Baltimore, who was attacked by a mob in Valparaiso, Chile, during the war there several years ago, was found drowned in a pool of water in West Oakland, Cal. It is thought he fell in while drunk.

The coroner's investigation into the powder explosion at Butte, Montana, by which fifty-eight persons were killed, was concluded. The verdict fixes the responsibility on the Kenyon-Cosell Hardware Company and the Butte Hardware Company, in whose warehouses the explosions occurred.

A CALL FOR HELP.

The Destitution in Kansas and Nebraska Is Acute.

Destitution among Kansas and Oklahoma farmers is becoming more evident and urgent appeals for outside aid are being made.

"Men and women begging for food is a daily sight upon the streets of our suffering little town," said Patrick McCuskey, a merchant of St. Francis, Cheyenne county, Kansas. He is a member of a relief committee appointed to apply for aid at the principal Western cities.

"We have given all our means," continued he. "The county has issued warrants to pay for food and fuel until its responsibility has been impaired and no one will take the warrants. We are forced to appeal to the country or see women and children perish with epid and hunger. The same distress prevails in other counties of Northern Kansas and across the line in Nebraska."

A letter to a local miser from a reputable woman at Backburn, Oklahoma, tells the same story. "Go where you will throughout this entire section," says the letter, "you will find men, women and children starving and starving—no cloths, no food, no fuel, no hope."

The Kansas Senate amended Sutton's reed-grain bill, in the House last week, so as to give \$30,000 for the purchase of seed to be loaned to settlers, and \$50,000 in cash for the relief of such as are at present destitute, for food, fuel and clothing.

LOST IN A MINE EXPLOSION.

Forty-Four Persons Victims of Fire Damp in a French Coal Pit.

An explosion of fire-damp occurred at Montcaules-Mines, in the Department of Saone-et-Loire. Forty-four miners are reported to have been killed.

The bodies of twenty-one of the dead miners have been taken out of the pit at Montcaules-Mines and eight have been taken out alive. All of the latter are injured.

President Faure has donated 2,000 francs toward the relief of the families of the miners who lost their lives.

A late dispatch received from Montcaules-Mines says that fifty-two men were in the mine at the time of the explosion. Only the eight taken out alive only two were uninjured. The number of lives lost is now given as forty-four. The bodies which have been removed are burned beyond recognition.

The Chinese peace envoys have reached Japan, and after consultation with their consul, ex-Secretary of State John W. Foster, they started for Hiroshima.