

The railroads of Australia, with the exception of two small lines, are owned by the Government.

Many persons will be surprised to learn that the United States have, since their existence, formally declared war but once.

Argentina is being tempted. A French syndicate is said to have offered the Government \$50,000,000 for a ten years' monopoly of the sale of matches and tobacco.

A plea of insanity was set up as a defense for a prisoner before a British court on a charge of felony, but it did not save him from being sent to penal servitude for three years, during which time the judge said it would be possible to thoroughly investigate the plea and make sure that it would hold water.

The San Francisco Chronicle concludes that the belief in the contagious character of the grip must be pretty strong in England, when steps are taken to avoid marching through an infected district. It is easy to believe that the affliction may be epidemic in certain quarters of London, but it is hardly possible that the disease would menace people merely passing through them.

To-day the beet-sugar industry is acknowledged to be the leading agricultural industry of Europe, declares Frank Leslie's Weekly, contributing largely to its revenue, increasing the value of its real estate, reducing interest, giving employment to thousands of skilled and unskilled employes, causing millions of dollars to be paid to them for sugar that is sold to other countries.

In Ohio last year, says the State Labor Bureau, twenty-two million dollars' worth of material was converted by the factories into 211 million dollars' worth of product, paying nearly fifty-four million dollars wages to 105,000 employes of all grades, equal to \$508, average, each. This was for 294 days, average, work each, equal to \$1.73 per day of average, 9.7 hours, or nearly eighteen cents an hour.

The insurance men of Chicago have resolved to insist that no more buildings shall be erected with a height greater than one and a half times the width of the street, and that insurance rates on higher buildings hereafter erected be so great as to be practically prohibitive. For office buildings an exception will be made and a height of 120 feet allowed, which will give room for eight or nine stories. Whether the insurance men will succeed remains to be seen, but they have the support of the fire department, and of many leading men in the city.

The San Francisco Examiner remarks: "The Government of New South Wales has determined on rain-making experiments. To judge by the American experiments the most successful rain-maker is the imaginative correspondent who accompanied the Dyrenforth expedition. The floods of rain that that young man brought down (on paper) as the results of explosions that never occurred were the most remarkable of the year. The United States could do a graceful act by offering the New South Wales Government the use of the correspondent, and thus enable our Australian cousins to save their powder."

The recent loss of an eye by Prince Christian von Schleswig-Holstein, through the bad aim of his brother-in-law attempting to shoot a bird, recalls some similar misfortunes. Napoleon I, while hunting pheasants in Fontainebleau, shot out the eye of the most genial of his marshals, Nicholas Massena, Duke of Rivoli and Prince of Essling. Massena, however, was even a greater courtier than general, and immediately declared that the shot had come from the gun of Marshal Berthier. Berthier at once declared himself the cause of his comrade's misfortune. This diplomatic attempt to shield the Emperor greatly pleased his Majesty, and he rewarded both marshals with favors and presents.

It is not only in the United States, learns the New York Post, that defaulters continue to live luxuriously on small incomes without exciting suspicion. Herr Pfusich, who committed suicide the other day after robbing the Budapest (Hungary) Savings Bank of \$500,000, had been stealing right and left for years. He bought an estate, built a magnificent chateau upon it, entertained guests in princely fashion, subsidized a theatre for the amusement of himself and his friends without a penny of honest money to his credit outside an exceedingly modest salary. And yet nobody thought of suspecting him or examining his books, although he was cashier of the establishment. When he shot himself, and the truth came out, everybody was profoundly astonished. A clearer case of defaulters who did not direct could scarcely be made out.

The Baltimore Sun thinks that Professor Koch's alleged consumption cure was the scientific failure of the year.

There is more genuine physical culture in productive labor, avers the Detroit Free Press, than there is in a fancy gymnasium.

The ingenuity of the American people is shown from the fact that fully three-fourths of the entire manufacturing capital of this country, or \$6,000,000,000 is based upon patents.

A Russian city is trying a novel plan to produce good servants, by giving prizes to every servant who can show a record of services performed to the satisfaction of her employers for the term of two years. The money for the prizes the society raises by selling pass-books to the girls who wish to enjoy its benefits. In these pass-books are inscribed the testimonials of employers.

Vienna with its new territorial enlargement has now an area more than three times greater than it was; and is half as large as London, more than twice as large as Paris, and almost three times as large as Berlin. The increase in population has not been equal in the same ratio as that in area. The palace and park of Schoenbrunn, the Kahlenberg and Leopoldsdorf are now within the city borders.

During the last session of the California Legislature, a law was passed making it the duty of the Country Board of Horticultural Commissioners to inspect orchards, nurseries, or other places in their jurisdiction where they shall deem it necessary. By said law it is also their duty, if such localities are found infested with the scale insect, the codling moth, or other pests injurious to plants or trees, to notify the owner of such a fact, and they shall request such owner to eradicate or destroy the said pests within a time specified.

The total fleet of Chile, including transports and all types, wood and composite, numbers thirty-four; but, excepting the Magellanes and O'Higgins, the fighting wooden ships, says Harper's Weekly, are nearly all "lame ducks," as the sailors phrase it. We have certainly fifteen effective wooden ships, including the two frigates Pensacola and Lancaster, which are in every way better built and equipped than any Chile could send against them; and as a reserve, on both coasts, a large fleet of merchant-vessels, from which blockaders, fighting, despatch, transport and torpedo vessels of an excellent character could be drawn.

Dr. Leslie E. Keeley, who has engaged in reforming drunkards by the bichloride gold cure, announces that he has discovered a specific for the grip. He says: "Assafetida, in doses of sixteen grains administered four times a day, will completely break up the worst case of grip at any stage of its development." Assafetida is very common and easy to procure, observes the New York Independent, and the value of Dr. Keeley's recommendation can be very quickly tested. If it should prove to be a sure cure he will be entitled to the gratitude of the world, at least of that large part of the world which has been subject to this very harassing disease.

Modern iron and steel works are to be introduced into China, a contract with an English firm having been made for the supply of a complete Bessemer plant, to include two five-ton converters with cupolas, blowing engines, cranes and other machinery. The contract also includes the supply of the machinery for a large rail mill, a plate mill, a bar mill, twenty puddling furnaces, and two blast furnaces of the Cleveland type, the whole being for an output of 100 tons of pig-iron daily. Those works are to be located near the city of Hankow on the slope of the Han Yang Hills. It is further stated that a foreign technical staff for the conduct of these works has been secured.

The fire losses in the United States and Canada in the year 1891 aggregated the enormous sum of \$137,716,150, the heaviest annual losses by fire which the country has sustained since 1872, the year of the great Boston fire. The loss by that conflagration alone was \$80,000,000, while the loss by the Chicago fire in 1871 was upward of \$220,000,000. With the exception of the two years, 1871 and 1872, there has not been a year in the history of the country when the destruction of property by fire has been as great as in the year just closed. This does not speak well for the improvements that have been made in fire-proof construction, the provision of fire annunciators and automatic extinguishing apparatus, and the enormous annual outlay by the great cities for the increased equipment and efficiency of fire departments. There is evidently "a screw loose" somewhere outside of the fire plugs.

## EXECUTED BY ELECTRICITY.

### Two Shocks Required to Kill Murderer McElvaine.

### Experts Say Death Was Instantaneous and Painless.

Charles E. McElvaine, the New York burglar, who murdered Grover Christian W. Lucon, of Brooklyn, N. Y., August 22, 1890, has been officially killed by electricity in Sing Sing prison in the presence of the twenty-seven witnesses provided for by law. It was the first execution by this method, and the newspaper men were permitted to attend. Of the reporter witnesses four agreed that the killing was more merciful than hanging. The other four thought that it was brutal, but not so bad as the killing of Lemuel Auburn. P. J. Doyle, of Brooklyn, said that the means of death was quick and merciful. Assemblyman Meyer J. Stein said:

"The condemned man, after partaking of a substantial breakfast, arrayed himself in a suit of black, prison-made clothes, and engaged in prayer with Father Croden. He was calm, though showing none of the symptoms of bravado that characterized his life. At 11 o'clock Warden Brown led the witness to the death chamber, where all were seated on stools in a semi-circle about the chair. Behind it was the closet in which the executioner was concealed. Prof. Laudy took his place by the volt meter. On each side of the main table, where lay a solution of salt and water. Two rubber bags hung on either side of it with small pipes attached, and within them were concealed wires from the switchboard by which the current was to be conveyed to the subject's hands."

The Warden announced that the execution was about to take place, and then said: "E. F. Davis and Professor Laudy will have charge of the execution, and any witnesses who wish to pray will be at once ejected from the room."

The prisoner was ordered to be brought. He came behind two keepers, supported by Fathers Croden and Smyth. In his right hand McElvaine held a crucifix which his kneeling companions, who had their hands to prayers. He went straight to the chair and sank listlessly into it.

The right leg of his trousers had been ripped up to the thigh and the pieces folded up tightly about the thigh, leaving the leg bare. He wore a suit of blue and a black sash necktie. His face was sallow. His eyes twitched. He winked rapidly.

His legs were pinioned to the legs of the chair, and his arms were fastened tightly to the leg near the knee. Guard Jackson took hold of the crucifix. The murderer held it tightly, his voice becoming lower and more tremulous. Jackson seized the crucifix again. This time he seized the prayer of a moment, before he held the hand that had held it into the water, and buckled the cuff about the wrist. The leather harness containing the head electrode was clasped down over the head.

The murderer's voice died out. "Oh, merciful Jesus, help me," he cried, and prompted Father Smith. The murderer repeated the words twice, his voice dying again until it was inaudible.

The last strap was buckled. The praying lips had been still for perhaps five seconds. The electric current was then sent to his feet. He wore a suit of blue and a black sash necktie. His face was sallow. His eyes twitched. He winked rapidly.

The nervous strain had told. The man had broken down completely. The sound of the voice, the nature of the expression of the eyes, the manner in which he started the little company. The word "oh" had hardly left his lips when Dr. McDonald signalled to Professor Laudy.

The lever the Professor held was pulled down. Another lever inside the box, and the electric current was sent to his feet. This time he lost his consciousness. There was a half whisper, perceptible only to the quickest eye. The body shot up an inch. The leather harness cracked. The body stiffened. The eyes closed. The mouth opened. The lips parted slowly. Water came from the mouth and stayed the leather. It looked like blood. The mouth remained half open. The little skin of the face that could be seen turned darker. The lips and chin sank slowly and stiffly. To the witness it seemed ten minutes that the current held the body thus. It was really less than a minute.

"Stop," said Dr. McDonald. Professor Laudy pulled another lever. The body sank back into the chair. The body was rigid. The lips closed slowly, as they had opened.

"All off," asked Dr. Ward. "All off," answered Professor Laudy. Dr. Ward stepped quickly to the chair and seized one wrist to find a pulse. Then he pushed his hand up under the harness to feel the artery in the neck. Dr. McDonald took a wrist and then ran his hand up under Dr. Ward's. The body was rigid. The lips closed slowly, as they had opened. The body was rigid. The lips closed slowly, as they had opened.

"No, hold," said Dr. Ward, seizing a rubber tube that hung from a bag of water over the chair and pressing a stop that let down a stream of water into the leg and head electrodes.

It had been previously arranged that should a second shock be necessary it should be given by these electrodes instead of those on the side boxes through the hands. Eight seconds only had elapsed from the time of the first sign of life, or whatever it was, when the straps cracked, the flesh shrank, and the steam arising from both electrodes.

"The flesh is not burning," said Dr. McDonald. "Stop," said he a moment later. The current was turned off and the body fell back again. Dr. Ward examined first the pulse, then the throat. Then the clothing was opened. A cloth was thrown over the bare skin. The doctor held his ear close against it.

than had been discovered in the other cases where a total stop was made. Dr. McDonald gave out the official time as follows:

Entered the death chamber, 11:10 A. M. ready and first current applied, 11:11:40; broken, 11:12:30; time, 50 seconds. Interval of 43 seconds. Then second current at 11:32:25; broken, 11:33:58; time, 36 seconds. Amperage, first contact, 2; 3.01; 2.07; 3; 3.01. Voltage, first current, 1600. Amperage, second contact, seven amperes throughout. Voltage, 1500.

This report shows that it required one minute and forty-nine seconds to fasten the murderer in the chair.

After the execution McElvaine's body was claimed by his brother-in-law, Henry Neville, and taken to his home.

All the doctors present, with the exception of Dr. Robertson and Dr. Merrill, agreed that death was instantaneous. These two physicians had no hesitation, however, in declaring that the criminal felt no pain, and that there was instantaneous unconsciousness.

## WORLD'S FAIR NOTES.

NEW SOUTH WALES has asked for 300,000 square feet of space.

DIRECTOR-GENERAL DAVIS has declared that all applications for space ought to be presented by July 1, 1892.

It is the intention to have the North Carolina State building at the Exposition a reproduction of the State capitol.

A PRACTICAL working business college, which is purely an American institution, will be one of the exhibits at the Fair.

THE Grand Rapids (Mich.) furniture manufacturers will make a united exhibit and want half an acre of space, in which to display it.

THE King of Italy has appointed a World's Fair Commissioner. Italy, it is believed, will yet formally decide to participate in the Exposition.

A CONSIGNMENT of exhibits for the Exposition—the first received from a foreign country—arrived at Chicago January 26, from Japan.

It is announced that the Imperial Bank of Emperor William of Germany will attend the Exposition, having already obtained permission to do so.

THE province of Ontario, Canada, will make an extensive mineral exhibit. Canada has asked for a total of 100,000 square feet of space in the various buildings.

GEORGIA, like Texas and South Dakota, is trying to raise a large portion of its needed money through the instrumentality of the school pupils and teachers.

HEER WERMUTH, the Imperial German World's Fair Commissioner, has already received nearly 2000 applications for space from the intending exhibitors of his country.

A CALENDAR states that the French Government has asked the exhibitors of deputies for an appropriation of 2,500,000 francs (\$700,000) for the French exhibit at Chicago.

Of the \$5,000,000 of bonds which the city of Chicago voted in aid of the Exposition, \$3,000,000 have been sold in New York at par and accrued interest, and the Exposition treasury has been replenished accordingly.

The California World's Fair State Commissioners have authorized the formation of a Woman's Board. Each commissioner will appoint one member of this Board. Each member is allowed \$1000 a year for traveling expenses.

The watchmakers of Switzerland, at a recent convention in Bern, decided to make an exhibit at Chicago, of their finest and costliest watches, but not to attempt any competition with American manufacturers in cheaper grades.

In response to an invitation the Illinois Society of the American Revolution has decided to furnish a company to participate in the parade incidental to the dedication exercises in October, 1892. The men will wear continental uniforms.

In Colorado's exhibit will appear a very complete showing of the flora of the State. Miss Alice E. Lansing, who has been in charge of the matter, gathered more than 1000 varieties last summer, including fifteen or more which had never been classified.

It is reported that it is the intention of the Government to establish at the Exposition grounds a complete postoffice, equal in capacity to that required by a city of 200,000 or more inhabitants, and to operate it, not only during the Fair but for several months previous to the opening and after the closing.

THE women of Nebraska have undertaken to furnish the hammer with which Mrs. Potter will drive the last nail in the Woman's Building when it is dedicated October 12 next. The nail, it will be remembered, will be furnished by the women of Montana, and will be an elaborate production, composed of gold, silver and copper. It is proposed that the hammer be made of the native woods of Nebraska and inlaid with gold, silver and pearl.

## NEWSY GLEANINGS.

FEBRILE OWEN but one vessel.

SMALLPOX is raging in Yokohama.

PHYSICIANS head the list of suicides.

THE deficit in the Spanish budget is \$32,600.

CHICAGO water is so poor that they have to filter it.

CANADIANS caught \$25,000,000 worth of fish last year.

HEAVY floods are devastating the northern part of Spain.

A NEW United States man-of-war is to be named "Marblehead."

RABBIT scourge in New South Wales is spreading at an alarming rate.

The Bahama Islands are now connected with the American Continent by cable.

THE new coins bear the initial, A. B. of their designer.

The earthquakes in Japan are reported as continuing with much violence.

THERE were 2,450,000,000 cigarettes made and sold in this country last year.

HOLLAND has offered to buy Portuguese possession in the Malay Archipelago.

The New York Poultry Show included a fine lot of birds from England and Canada.

THE farmers of Huron County, Cal., have contracted with a Kansas rain company for rain for the season's crop.

THE United States Supreme Court denies the writ of mandamus to compel the Treasury to coin all silver presented.

CANADA has an available army of thirty-seven thousand men. The Australian Colonies an aggregate force of thirty-four thousand, taking no account of the reserves of either.

A MINER named Latus, living at Myclovia, in Prussia, has just awakened from a sleep that had lasted four months and a half. He was not aware of the long time he had been asleep.

The Indian agent at Sacaton, in Pinal County, Arizona, the principal Indian agency of the Territory, says that 100 Pimas died in three weeks of grip. The epidemic is spreading through the Papagos and other adjoining tribes. Whole villages have been depopulated.

THE great snowfall in upper and lower Austria during the winter having been followed by warmer weather, the railroads are greatly troubled by avalanches. In one instance a train was buried in an immense fall of snow, and the passengers suffered severely before the obstruction could be removed.

NORTH ISLAND, near New Zealand, has been shaken by severe earthquakes, which are supposed to be connected with a violent eruption of Mount Neaehus. The flames from the volcano reach a great height, presenting a grand spectacle at night.

## THE NEWS EPITOMIZED.

**Eastern and Middle States.**

JOHN JAY KNOX, ex-Comptroller of the United States and President of the National Bank of the Republic, died in New York City, of pneumonia. He was born at Knoxville, Ontario, Canada, N. Y., March 19, 1825.

GOVERNOR BLAKELEY issued an address to the people of Connecticut asking them to meet at Hartford on Washington's Birthday to raise money for the World's Fair.

A DISTRICT shock of earthquake was felt in East Burlington, N. J. Houses shook and trembled as if about to fall, clocks were stopped and the people ran wildly and excitedly into the streets. The duration of the shock was about ten seconds.

A GRAND military funeral was given the late Adjutant-General McClelland in Pittsburgh, Penn.

THE jury in the extortion case against Mayor James G. Wymann, at Allegheny City, Penn., brought in a verdict of guilty on two counts. The penalty for extortion on each count is \$500 fine or one year's imprisonment, or both, at the discretion of the court. The court ordered his removal from office.

MANY cases of typhus fever were discovered among Russian Hebrews in New York City.

A MASS meeting was held in Cooper Union, New York City, to protest against holding the Democratic State Convention in February. Speeches were made by Oswald Ottobender, Frederic R. Condit, Charles S. Fairchild, E. Ellery Anderson and others.

JOHN A. McCALL, late Comptroller of the Equitable Life Assurance Society, was elected President of the New York Life Insurance Company at a meeting in New York City of which Board of Trustees, in place of William H. Beers, resigned.

**South and West.**

THE block bounded by Main, Union, Second and Monroe streets, Memphis, Tenn., was completely destroyed by fire. The block is in the heart of the dry goods district, and the loss was estimated at \$1,000,000.

BERTHA JACOBS, the fourteen-year-old daughter of a rich farmer, burned her father's barn, near Lima, Ohio, causing a loss of \$4000. When she ran away, she was caught while setting fire to a neighbor's barn. She has been subject to epilepsy for years.

AT England, Ark., Jonathan Ford, a Deputy Constable, undertook to arrest Hamp Biscoe, colored, a well-known desperado character. Biscoe and others at his house resisted. Biscoe's son, a seriously wounded Ford. A posse then was forced to kill Biscoe, wife, and son.

MARION C. HEDSPETH, one of the leaders of the notorious gang that robbed a train at Glendale, Mo., has been arrested at San Francisco, Cal.

JAMES COUCH, aged ninety-two, was killed in alighting from a street car in Chicago, Ill.

MOONSHINERS in Cleburne County, Alabama, killed three witnesses against them within a few days.

A HUNDRED children were skating in a bay near Sandusky, Ohio, when the ice broke up and began to drift out toward the lake. The steamer American Eagle went to the rescue and saved them all.

WILLIAM JOHNSON and Perry McKnight were killed by a train at Kelly, Ky. Their wagon had broken down on the track.

A COLD wave swept over most of Florida, the thermometer being down to fifty-five.

HENRY A. BRENS, President of the Merchants Bank, Morehead, Minn., is under arrest, charged with defrauding depositors of his bank out of over \$81,000.

WILL LAVENDER, a colored man who was charged with an assault, was hanged by a mob near Roanoke, Va.

THE opera house and eight stores at Monmouth, Ill., were destroyed by fire. Loss, \$150,000.

**Washington.**

THE President gave the last of the official receptions at the White House. It was in honor of the officers of the Army and Navy and the Marine Corps.

THE three Canadian Reciprocity Commissioners arrived in Washington.

SECRETARY ELKINS has directed that the designation of the institution known as the "Post Canteen" be changed to the "Post Exchange." This action is taken because of a letter on the part of the public to associate the word "canteen" with the article of a soldier's outfit intended to carry water, but sometimes used for carrying spirituous liquor.

THE House Committee on Rules decided that there should be an investigation of the management of the Pension Office.

THE President sent the following nomination to the Senate: John H. Barford, of Oklahoma Territory, to be Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the Territory of Oklahoma. Walter H. Sanborn, of Minnesota, to be United States Judge for the Eighth Circuit. Joseph Huntington, of Pennsylvania, to be United States District Judge of the Western District of Pennsylvania. William A. Kelly, of Oregon, to be Commissioner in and for the District of Alaska; to reside at Wrangell.

THE Secretary of the Interior has appointed A. G. Conner, the Appointment Clerk of the Department, and George Evans, the Disbursing Officer, to examine into the condition of the work of the Census Office, and to ascertain its future needs.

PRESIDENT HARRISON has nominated Representative Joseph McKenna, of California, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Ninth Judicial District, and Rowland B. Mahany, of Buffalo, to be envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to Ecuador.

THE Canadian Reciprocity Commissioners had another conference with Secretary Blaine and General Foster at the State Department. Sir Julian Pauncefote, the British Minister, attended the conference.

SECRETARY FOSTER directed that no change be furnished to banks by Sub-Treasurer or the Treasury Department in New York unless the banks deposited gold to the amount of the exchange asked for.

THE War, Navy and Treasury Departments have got into a controversy over their respective wharfrage privileges in the Battery, New York Harbor, and a commission composed of one representative of each department will be sent to New York to investigate the matter.

**Foreign.**

THE British Parliament was reopened by the reading of the Queen's speech. The Norwegian Storting was also opened with a speech from the throne.

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A CONFLICT occurred at Landsberg, Russia, between a body of Russian gendarmes and a band of emigrants. Three emigrants were killed and ten were wounded. A number of emigrants were taken prisoners.

EIGHT THOUSAND coal porters went on strike in London, England. The strike was caused by a dispute over the wages paid by one firm to its men.

THREE Ministers of the Brazilian Cabinet have handed their resignations to President Peixoto, and this was taken as an indication that the Government was breaking up.

MARY ANARCHISTS were arrested at Barcelona, Spain; the Berlin (Germany) police discovered a widespread anarchist plot.

OFFICIAL notice has been given in Honolulu, that famine prevails in that Territory, and that the famine code will be applied over an area of 6000 square miles, including the districts of Bijuapur, Belgaum and Dharwar. These districts contain a population of 1,500,000 persons.

TYPHUS fever is moving down the inhabitants of the famine-stricken district in Russia. There are 2571 cases reported and 18,000 people are being fed by charity.

SECRETARY BLAINE has requested Chile to send home the remains of Higgins, one of the seamen of the United States steamship Baltimore murdered in Valparaiso.

THE big strike of coal porters in London, England, is ending. The trouble was caused by a dispute with one firm in regard to wages to be paid its employes; and 8000 porters stopped work. The merchants accepted all the terms offered by the strikers, who have obtained a complete victory.

## FIFTY-SECOND CONGRESS.

**In the Senate.**

29TH DAY.—Mr. Stewart made a statement regarding his position in the Idaho Senatorship contest.—Among the bills reported and placed on the calendar were the following:—The appointment of representatives from the various States to the Columbian Historical Exposition at Madrid in 1892; to define the grade of medical officers of the army; increasing by \$50,000 the limit of cost for the public building at Canton, N. J.; and for the public buildings at Bridgeton, N. J., \$75,000; Joplin, Mo., \$50,000; Bedford, Va., \$25,000; Fort Monroe, Va., \$15,000, and Laredo, Texas, \$75,000. For a municipal building in Washington, D. C.

30TH DAY.—The President sent to the Senate the nomination of William M. Grinnell, of New York, to be Third Assistant Secretary of State.—Mr. Sherman introduced a bill to prohibit the coming of Chinese persons into the United States. Mr. Squire reported back the bill appropriating \$300,000 for a monument and statue to General Ulysses S. Grant, on ground belonging to the Government in Washington. The Calendar.—The Finance Committee reported unfavorably three Free Coinage bills which were placed on the calendar.—Mr. Sherman offered a resolution, which was agreed to, calling on the Secretary of the Treasury for a statement as to the advisability of transferring the Revenue Marine Service to the Navy Department.

31ST DAY.—The Public Printing bill was discussed.—Mr. Vance offered a resolution to pay \$1000 to Mr. Davidson, the contestant of Mr. Call's seat.—Bills were placed on the calendar as follows: To increase the rate of pensions in certain cases of deafness. To amend the Total Helpless Pension acts. To amend the act relating to those who, having participated in the war, have since enlisted in the army or navy of the United States and become disabled. To provide for a permanent system of highways in the District of Columbia outside the city of Washington.

32D DAY.—The Public Printing bill was discussed and again went over.—The bill to amend the law as to the coast trade on the great lakes was passed. Its object is to preserve all the various lake ports in certain cases. Mr. McPherson introduced a bill appropriating \$30,000 to erect a monument to commemorate the battle of Princeton; Mr. Gallagher to erect an equestrian statue at the cost of \$20,000 to the memory of General New Hampshire, and Mr. Voorhees for a statue to General Zach Taylor, at a cost of \$40,000.

**In the House.**

30TH DAY.—This being District day, Mr. Hemphill called up the bill empowering the Commissioners of the District of Columbia to grant respites or pardons in certain cases. Passed.—The Speaker then made the following committee appointments: Banking and Currency—Mr. Busey, of Illinois, and Mr. Russell, of Kentucky. Interstate and Foreign Commerce—Mr. Cramer, of Kentucky, and Mr. Comins, of New York. District of Columbia—Mr. Hollowell, of Pennsylvania, and Mr. Busey, of Illinois. War Claims—Mr. Cadmus, of New Jersey. Xth Census—Mr. Pittman, of Illinois.—It was decided that the Appropriations Committee should conduct the World's Fair investigation.

31ST DAY.—Mr. McMillan reported favorably the resolution providing for a full investigation of the Keystone National Bank, the Spring Garden National Bank of Philadelphia, and the Maverick National Bank of Boston.—Mr. Dockery offered a resolution directing the Judiciary Committee to inquire into the right of the Secretary of the Treasury to employ the \$100,000,000 gold reserve for current expenditures.—The House passed the bill placing the Secretary of Agriculture in the line of Presidential succession after the Secretary of the Interior.—The House resolved itself into Committee of the Whole on the Military Academy Appropriation bill. Mr. Wheeler in charge of the bill briefly explained its provisions.

32D DAY.—The Blank Free-Exchange bill was favorably reported.—The resolution providing for a special committee to investigate the Pension Bureau was adopted.

33D DAY.—Mr. Dickerson reported a resolution for the appointment of Walter W. Hilleck as an associate justice of the court. The resolution was overwhelmingly defeated.—The remainder of the day was spent in discussing the Military Academy bill, and without action the House adjourned.

34TH DAY.—The House passed the Military Academy Appropriation bill, with amendments reducing the total amount recommended by the Committee on Military Affairs (\$480,035.18) to \$417,505.18.—Mr. White's constitutional amendment to abolish the power of national banks to issue currency was reported adversely and tabled.

## BERING SEA TROUBLES.

France, Italy and Sweden Agreed on as Arbitrators.

A cablegram from London, England, says: In reply to a question asked in the House of Commons by James Bryce, Member for the south division of Aberdeen, in regard to the Bering Sea negotiations, James Lowther, Parliamentary Secretary of the Foreign Office, said that Great Britain and the United States had agreed that France, Italy and Sweden should act as arbitrators in the Bering Sea dispute. Mr. Lowther added, however, that although France, Italy and Sweden had been agreed upon, they had not yet been asked to appoint arbitrators. Great Britain and the United States, he said, would each have two representatives before the Arbitration Commission.

The Department of State at Washington confirmed the statement from London that Great Britain and the United States had agreed to invite the Governments of France, Sweden and Italy each to designate a person to serve as a member of the tribunal to be selected to arbitrate the Bering Sea controversy. This tribunal will have four members, two representing the United States, and two Great Britain and three representing neutral Governments.

## A FAMILY WIPED OUT.

Scarlet Fever Takes Husband and Five Children.

Six members of the family of James Broad, a slate manufacturer, who lives in New Jersey, near the Pennsylvania line, died within ten days of malignant scarlet fever. The only member of the family left is the wife and mother.

Her boy Philip died first. He was seven years old. A little son three years old died next day. The other son, James, Jr., aged thirteen, died the day following, and the older daughter, Ann, aged sixteen, died next.

Then the husband and father, James Broad, died, and next day the remaining daughter, Ida, aged fourteen.

This series of deaths under one roof created intense excitement in the vicinity of Belvidere, N. J., and stringent measures were adopted to prevent the spread of the terrible disease.