Scranton Tribune.

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ASKS AID FROM CONGRESS

The President Sends a Strong Message on the Financial Problem.

OUTLINES NEW PLAN OF RELIEF

Concedes That the Carlisle Measure Is Dead, but Asks for Non-Partisan Consideration of a Grave National Emergency.

By the United Press.

Washington, Jan. 28.—The president sent to both houses of congress today a message on the financial situation, substantially withdrawing his support from the plan outlined in the Carlisle bill and outlining the only policy which seems to him now possible to maintain the gold reserve. The message was as follows:

The Message in Full.

To the Senate and House of Representatives:

In my last annual message I commended to the serious consideration of the congress the condition of our national finances, and in connection with the subject, indorsed the plan of currency legislation which at that time seemed to furnish protection against impending danger. This plan has not been approved by the congress. In the meantime, the situation has so changed, and the emergency now appears so threatening that I deem it my duty to ask at the hands of the legislative branch of the government such prompt and effective action as will restore confidence in our financial soundness and avert business disaster and universal distress among our people.

Whatever may be the merits of the plan outlined in my annual message as a remedy for ill that existed, and as a safeguard against the depletion of the gold reserve then in the treasury, I am now convinced that its reception by congress and our present advanced stage of financial perplexity necessitates additional or different legislation.

With natural resources unlimited in variety and productive strength, and with a people whose activity and enterprise seek only a fair opportunity to achieve national success and greatness, our progress should not be checked by a false financial policy and a heedless disregard of sound monetary laws, nor should the liability and fear which they engender stand in the way of our prosperity.

Plea For Non-Partisan Action.

It is hardly disputed that this predicament confronts us today. Therefore, no one in any degree responsible for the making and execution of our laws should fail to see a patriotic duty in honestly and sincerely attempting to relieve the situation. Manifestly this effort will not succeed unless it is made untrammelled by the prejudice of partisanship and with a steadfast determination to resist the temptation to accomplish party advantages. We may well remember that if we are threatened with financial difficulties, all our people in every station of life are concerned; and surely those who suffer will not receive the promotion of party interests as an excuse for permitting the present troubles to advance to a disastrous conclusion. It is also of the utmost importance that we approach the study of the problems presented as free as possible from the tyranny of pre-conceived opinions, to the end that in a common danger we may be able to seek with unclouded vision a safe and reasonable protection.

The Real Trouble Located.

The real trouble which confronts us consists in a lack of confidence, widespread and constantly increasing, in the continuing ability or disposition of the government to pay its obligations in gold. This lack of confidence grows to some extent out of the palpable and apparent embarrassment attending the efforts of the government, under existing laws, to procure gold, and to a greater extent out of the impossibility of either keeping it in the treasury or cancelling obligations by its expenditures after it is obtained.

The only way left open for the government for procuring gold is by the issue and sale of United States bonds. The only bonds that can be so issued were authorized nearly twenty-five years ago, and are not well calculated to meet our present needs. Among other advantages they are made payable in coin instead of specie especially in gold, which in existing conditions detracts largely and in an increasing ratio from their desirability as investments. It is by no means certain bonds of this description can much longer be disposed of at a price creditable to the financial character of our government.

The Treasury Is Drained.

The most dangerous and irritating feature of the situation, however, remains to be mentioned. It is found in the means by which the treasury is despoiled of the gold thus obtained without cancelling a single government obligation, and solely for the benefit of those who find profit in shipping it abroad, or whose fears induce them to hoard it at home. We have outstanding about five hundred millions of currency notes of the government for which gold may be demanded; and curiously enough, the law requires that when presented and in fact redeemed and paid in gold, they shall be reissued. Thus the same notes may do duty many times in drawing gold from the treasury; nor can the process be arrested as long as private parties for profit, or otherwise, see an advantage in repeating the operation. More than three hundred millions of dollars in these notes have already been redeemed in gold, and, notwithstanding such redemption, they are all still outstanding.

How the Gold Flows Out.

Since the 17th day of January 1, 1894, our bonded interest bearing debt had been increased $100,000,000 for the purpose of obtaining gold to replenish our coin reserve. Two issues were made amounting to $50,000,000 each—one in January and the other in November. As a result of the first issue, there was realized something more than $50,000,000 on the gold. Between that issue and the succeeding one in November, comprising a period of about ten months, nearly $103,000,000 in gold were drawn from the treasury. This made the second issue necessary and upon that more than $58,000,000 in gold was again realized. Between the date of this second issue and the present time, covering a period of only about two months, more than $69,000,000 in gold have been drawn from the treasury. These large sums of gold were expended without any cancellation of government obligations, or in any permanent way benefitting our people or improving our pecuniary situation.

Impairs the Bonds' Usefulness.

The events of the past year suggest facts and conditions which should certainly arrest attention. More than $122,000,000 have been drawn out of the treasury during the pear for the purpose of shipment abroad or hoarding at home. While nearly $103,000,000 of this amount were drawn out during the first ten months of the year, a sum aggregating more than two-thirds of that amount, being about $69,000,000, was drawn out during the following two months, thus indicating a marked acceleration of the depleting process with the lapse of time. The obligations upon which the gold has been drawn from the treasury are still outstanding, and are available for use in repealing the exhausting operation, with shorter intervals, as our perplexities accumulate. Conditions are certainly supervening tending to make the bonds which may be sure to replenish our gold less useful for that purpose.

Gold Reserve Needs Replenishing.

An adequate gold reserve is in all circumstances absolutely essential to the upholding of our public credit and to the maintenance of our high national character. Our gold reserve has again reached such a stage of diminution as to require its speedy reinforcement.

The aggravations that must inevitably follow present conditions and methods which will certainly lead to misfortune and loss, not only to our national credit and prosperity and to financial enterprise, but to those of our people who seek employment as a means of livelihood and to those whose only capital is their daily labor. It will hardly do to say simple increase in revenue will cure our troubles. The apprehension now existing and constantly increasing as to our financial ability does not rest upon a calculation of our revenue. The time has passed when the eyes of investors abroad and our people at home were fixed on the revenues of the government. Changed conditions have attracted their attention to the gold of the government. There need be no fear that we cannot pay our current expenses with such money as we have. There is now in the treasury a comfortable surplus of more than sixty-three millions of dollarse, but it is not in gold, and, therefore, does not meet our difficulty.

Consider the National Credit.

I cannot see that differences of opinion concernig the extent to which silver ought to be coined or used in our currency should interfere with the counsel of those whose duty it is to rectify evils now apparent in our financial situation. They have to consider the question of national credit, and the consequences that will follow from its collapse. Whatever ideas may be insisted upon as to silver or bimetallism, a proper solution of the question now pressing upon us only requires a recognition of gold as well as silver and a concession of its importance, rightfully or wrongfully acquired, as a basis of national credit, a necessity in the honorable discharge of our obligation payable in bold or a bill of solvency. I do not understand that the real friends of silver desire a condition that might follow inaction or neglect to appreciate the meaning of the present exigency if it should result in the entire banishment of gold from our financial and currency arrangements.

Besides the treasury notes, which certainly should be paid in gold, amounting to nearly five hundred millions of dollars, there will fall due in 1904 one hundred millions of bonds issued during the last year for which we have received gold, and in 1907 nearly six hundred millions of four per cent. bonds issued in 1877. Shall the payment of these obligations in gold be repudiated? If they are to be paid in such a manner as the preservation of our national honor and national solvency demands, we should not destroy or even imperil our ability to supply ourselves with gold for that purpose.

Pleads for a Gold Basis.

While I am not unfriendly to silver, and while I desire to see it recognized to such an extent as is consistent with financial safety and the preservation of national honor and credit, I am not willing to see gold entirely banished from our currency and finances. To avert such a consequence I believe thorough and radical remedial legislation should be promptly passed. I, therefore, beg the congress to give the subject immediate attention.

In my opinion the secretary of the treasury should be authorized to issue bonds of the government, for the purpose of procuring and maintaining a sufficient gold reserve and the redemption and cancellation of the United States legal tender notes and the treasury notes issued for the purchase of silver under the law of July 14, 1890. We should be relieved from the humiliating process of issuing bonds to procure gold to be repeatedly drawn out of these regulations for purposes not related to the benefit of our government of our people. The principal and interest of these bonds should be payable on their faces in gold, because they should be sold only for gold or its representative, and because there would now probably be difficulty in favorably disposing of bonds not containing this stipulation.

Suggests a New Bond Issue.

I suggest that the bonds be issued in denominations of twenty and fifty dollars and their multiples, and that they bear interest at a ratio not exceeding 3 per cent. per annum. I do not see why they should not be payable fifty years from their date. We of the present generation have large amounts to pay if we meet our obligations and long bonds are most saleable. The secretary of the treasury might well be permitted at his discretion to receive on the sale of bonds the legal tender and treasury notes to be redeemed and, of course, when they are thus retired or redeemed in gold, they should be cancelled.

These bonds, under existing laws, are to be deposited by national banks as security for circulation, and such banks should be allowed to issue circulation up to the face value on these or any bonds so deposited except bonds outstanding bearing only two per cent. and which sell at market at less than par. National banks should not be allowed to take out circulating notes of less denomination than ten dollars, and when such as are now outstanding reach the treasury except for redemption and retirement, they should be cancelled and notes of the denomination of ten dollars and upwards issued in their stead. Silver certificates of this denomination of ten dollars and upwards should be replaced by certificates of denominations under ten dollars.

Details Easily Adjustable.

As a constant means for the maintenance of a reasonable supply of gold in the treasury, our duties on imports should be paid in gold, allowing all other dues to the government to be paid in any other form of money. I believe all the provisions I have suggested should be embodied in our laws if we are to enjoy a complete reinstatement of a sound financial condition. They need not interfere with any currency scheme providing for the increase of the circulating medium through the agency ofnational or state banks, since they can easily be adjusted to such a scheme. Objection has been made to the issuance of interest-bearing obligations for the purpose of retiring the non-interest bearing legal tender notes. In point of fact, however, these notes have burdened us with a large load of interest, and it is still accumulating. The aggregate interest on the original issue of bonds, the proceeds of which gold constituted the reserve for the payment of these notes amounted to $70,326,250 on Jan. 1,1895, and the annual charge for interest on these bonds and those issued for the same purpose during the last year will be $9,450,000 dating from Jan. 1, 1895.

While the cancellation of these notes would not relieve us from the obligations already incurred on their account, these figures are given by way of suggesting that their existence has not been free from interest charges, and that the longer they are outstanding, judging from the experience of the last year, the more expensive they will become.

Credit Must Be Protected.

In conclusion I desire to frankly confess my reluctance to issuing more bonds in present circumstances and with no better results than have lately followed that course. I cannot, however, refrain from adding to an assurance of my anxiety to co-operate with the present congress to any reasonable measure of relief, an expression of my determination to leave nothing undone which furnishes a hope for improving the situation or checking a suspicion of our disinclination or disability to meet with the strictest honor every national obligation.

GROVER CLEVELAND.

Executive Mansion, Jan. 28, 1895.

WHAT THEY THINK OF IT.

Opinions of Leading Congressmen Concerning the President's Message.

By the United Press.

Washington, Jan. 28.—Ex-Speaker Reed would not talk. Mr. Dingley, of Maine, was willing to co-operate. Mr. Coombs, Dem., of New York, was highly pleased and hopeful. Other opinions follow:

Mr. Brosius, of Pennsylvania: "I am unalterably opposed to the wholesale conversion of $500,000,000 in non-interest bearing debt into an equivalent amount of interest-bearing debt unless the necessity for so doing is demonstrated—and in my opinion such a measure cannot pass. It is enough to arm the secretary of the treasury with authority to redeem and cancel the legal tenders as they are presented for redemption, without more."

Mr. Warner, of New York: "The retirement of outstanding treasury notes is the core of the message. That would solve the situation. Everything else is incidental."

Mr. Bland, speaking for the silver men: "The message sounds very much like the one sent to congress insisting upon the repeal of the Sherman law as the only thing standing in the way of the prosperity of the people. The president is right from his standpoint. If the law which authorizes the redemption of all these notes in silver is to be ignored under the plea that it is necessary to maintain this gold standard, then, in order to do this, bonds must be sold for gold to redeem the greenbacks and treasury notes. But on the other hand, the power given to the banks to issue their notes on gold bonds opens wide the door for the banks to flood the country with their money, redeemable by the government in gold, and we should soon have outstanding in a short time a larger amount of gold obligations in the way of national bank notes than we now have by virtue of the greenbacks and treasury notes. I insist that the proper remedy is to pay out silver the same as gold. This is the Democratic creed and the Chicago platform."

Senator Jones, of Arkansas: "The proposition to issue a gold bond does not meet with my approval nor can I approve any proposition that does not do something for silver. The message of the president gives no comfort to the friends of silver and I, for one, could not support a bill drawn on the lines he suggests."

Mr. Teller, speaking for the silver men, declared that the message indicated the continuance of the hostility of the president toward silver and showed, only too well, that he was not in favor of anything that could be construed as assisting that metal to regain its old place in the coin of the United States.

Mr. Peffer, speaking for the Populists, said that from the president's standpoint he could not have done otherwise. It was, however, said Mr. Peffer, the first official utterance that proved the Populists were right on this question, for the message clearly admitted that the government was at the mercy of the bankers and brokers. This the Populists have always contended, and now, said Mr. Peffer, the president admits the truth of the claims the Populists have made.

Senator Hill: "The message states the situation very accurately. Permanent as well as temporary relief should be granted at once. I trust that there is good sense and patriotism enough in the present congress not to refuse consideration of this subject. The business interests of the country desire and demand action, and the Democratic party cannot afford to antagonize that sentiment."

The message from President Cleveland to congress upon the financial condition of the government was read to the house almost immediately after it assembled today. The reading of the message was followed with deep interest. A round of applause from the Democrats followed the conclusion of the reading. The message was received in the senate without manifestations of approval or disapproval, and senators were unwilling to talk publicly about it. The gold men opose the feature which suggests the retirement of the greenbacks, and the silver men repudiate it because it eliminates silver.

When Mr. Springer asked Representative Hitt, of Illinois, how the Republicans regarded the president's new financial measure, the latter replied that they stood for the bill, he thought, in the ratio of "sixteen to one."

The Feeling in New York.

New York, Jan. 28.—Interest in the gold exports and currency question which have caused so much attention for some time, was heightened today by President Cleveland's message to congress. The president's plans and recommendations for relieving the tension in financial circles were very generally approved by the presidents of the banks, private bankers and the heads of leading firms, but, nevertheless, there is not much confidence in the passage of a bill on the lines laid down by the president on account of the silver advocates in congress.

THE STRIKERS SURRENDER.

Many Old Employes Have Applied for Positions, Though Acts of Violence Continue—Cost of the Trouble.

By the United Press.

Brooklyn, N. Y., Jan. 28.—Beaten at every point except the one doubtful victory in the courts, the strikers practically surrendered to the trolley railroad companies this afternoon, only to be told that their places were filled. President Norton, of the Atlantic avenue system, contemptuously spurned the offer of his old men to return, and threw their formal letter in the waste paper basket. President Lewis, of the Brooklyn Heights company, sent a formal reply in which he courteously informed his old men that he would take them back as individuals upon his own terms as long as he had vacancies to fill. President Wicker, of the Queens County and Suburban company, replied also, offering his men as individuals, what places remained on his lines. Of the 7,000 men who went out on strike on Jan. 14, there are places for less than one-third.

Strike Leader Connelly declares that the strike is not over by any means, and that the men tendered their services in order to remove all questions of fact as to the ability of the roads to obtain men and thus furnish a new basis upon which to apply for peremptory mandamus against the companies.

The men say they have funds and will fight the companies by process of court and by boycott until the companies give in.

Two Men Are Shot.

Two men were shot by policemen in different encounters with mobs today. One is dying in the hospital. The other is less seriously wounded. A dozen other roiters have been injured by policemen's night sticks and the butt ends of revolvers in hand to hand encounters. Non-union motormen have been assaulted and severely beaten. Car tracks have been blockaded, car windows shattered and trolley wires cut. These occurrences have been less frequent than during the days of last week, but they indicated that the safety of the public is far from being established. Early in the day the troops of the First brigade began leaving for their homes. General McLeer and the civil authorities reached the conclusion that the peace could be maintained by the Second brigade with its 2,800 men.

There was great rejoicing in the ranks of the men who had served the state and acquitted themselves nobly during the eight days of riot duty.

The strikers under advice of counsel have decided to move before the attorney general for the forfeiture of the charter of the corporation known as the Brooklyn Heights Railroad company. This is the company against whose officers Justice Gaynor issued the writ of mandamus.

The strike has lasted fifteen days. It has cost the railroads half a million dollars. The troops have cost the city $189,000. The strikers have lost $90,000 in wages, and the roads in loss of revenue $228,000. The general paralysis of business has amounted to a loss of many millions to the general public. Two lives have been sacrificed and many people injured.

Fitzsimmons Arraigned.

By the United Press.

Syracuse, N. Y., Jan. 28.—Robert Fitzsimmons, the pugilist, was arraigned today before Justice Vann on the indictment charging him with manslaughter in the first degree in causing the death of Con Riordan, by a blow struck during a sparring exhibition at Jacob's opera house on Nov. 16 last. He pleaded not guilty and was held in $10,000 bail, which he had not secured at 3.30 this afternoon.

ACTIVITY AT HARRISBURG

Opposition Is Developing to the Candidacy of Captain Delaney.

WHAT IT IS SAID TO SIGNIFY

The House Gets to Work Again and the Rush of New Bills Is Almost Staggering—Some Notable Legislative Features.

Special to the Scranton Tribune.

Harrisburg, Jan. 28.—There are mutterings of a storm over the bill to create a custodian of public buildings and grounds with large powers. The first custodian is expected to be Captain John C. Delaney, formerly of Lackawanna, but now a resident of this city, formerly senate librarian. The chief opposition to Captain Delaney and his comfortable place in prospect comes from the patriotic orders. Delaney is a Catholic, and the orders are opposed to him on that ground as a starter. But the matter does not end there. The new bill gives the custodian the power to make all contracts for supplies, repairs, stationery, printing, etc. A good many people beside the patriotic orders object to that part of the programme, and petitions against the passage of the bill and others against the appointment of Captain Delaney will become a feature of this week and next. Among the remonstrants will be the grangers, who are sore over what they regard as the failure of the administration to recognize them. They have neither received any of the first rate appointments or any of the former second rate appointments with bills attached to increase salaries and enlarge powers of the offices. In short, they feel they have been ignored. The farmers feel they are being neglected and the cry is heard from them that all the good places are being given to the lawyers, with the exception of two or three that are to be handed over to politicians. They say the lawyers make the laws so as to create more litigation and adminster them to create trouble, and they are about ready to revolt. With sixty-seven agriculturists in the house and a number of sympathizers, they are a power not to be laughed at.

The sub-committee of the fish and game committee, appointed to act upon the matter of creating a game commission, has decided to report to the full committee favorably to the proposition. The bill will establish game commissioners and is patterned upon the fish commission act. The sum of $15,000 is asked to establish the commission, though it is expected the fines collected will make it self-supporting after the first year.

Work of the House.

The house re-assembled at 8 o'clock this evening. Bills were introduced by:

Mr. Weaver, Allegheny—Authorizing county commissioners to employ county solicitors.

Mr. Smiley, Clarion—Amending act relating to the destruction of bridges by ice, and directing that counties of which the stream is the boundary line bear the expense, after two successive grand juries have passed upon the matter and the court has made the proper order.

Mr. Mullen, Cameron—Authorizing county commissioners to sell to actual settlers and convey unseated lands owned by the county.

Mr. Bliss, Delaware—Regulating the pay of election officers, providing judges and inspectors shall receive $2.50 for each election and clerks $3; changing the manner of advertising election proclamation, amending the act so as to require the sheriff within ten days of an election to advertise the same in two newspapers.

Mr. Hawkins, York—Providing that typewriting shall have the same legal effect and force as writing.

Mr. Moore, Bradford—Authorizing the establishments of a department of agriculture and defining its duties. The bill provides for the appointment of a secretary at a salary of $3,000, who shall be director of farmers' institutes; an economic zoologist, a commissioner of forestry and a dairy and food clerk at a salary of $1,500, and two other clerks at $1,500 each.

Mr. Stewart, Philadelphia—Making the act to prevent the adulteration and traffic in impure milk in cities a general act.

Mr. Fow, Philadelphia—To prevent and punish persons for wilfully obstructing the tracks of railway companies, and making the act a misdemeanor; abolishing collateral inheritance upon bequests by will to hospitals that are deprived of state aid.

Mr. Kunkel, Dauphin—Amending the act regulating the practice of pharmacy and authorizing the state pharmaceutical examining board to fix the salary of its secretary; authorizing the election of assessors for three years in boroughs and townships; fixing the fees for examination and registration by the state pharmaceutical board, the fee not to exceed $3 for registration.

Mr. Seyfert, Lancaster—Making it unlawful for turnpike road companies to collect toll for travel over roads on which stones over two inches in diameter are used for surface macadamizing.

Mr. Bliss, Delaware—Giving burgesses powed to appoint and remove borough policemen.

Mr. Grigsby, Lawrence—Providing for a bureau in the insurance department charged with the enforcement of the laws against arson, and authorizing the appointment of a state fire marshal and assistants, and fixing their powers. The compensation of the fire marshal is fixed at $2,500 per annum, with expenses, and the compensation of the deputy shall be $1,500 per annum and necessary travelling expenses, these expenses to be included in the expenses of the insurance department.

Mr. Seanor, Indiana—Providing for medals of honor for Pennsylvania soldiers who engaged in the battle of Gettysburg.

Mr. Seyfert, Lancaster—Making it a misdemeanor to give checks drawn upon a bank in which the drawee has no funds.

Mr. Bliss, Delaware—Providing for the protection of passengers in sleeping cars on railroads, no greater charge than 1 cent per mile shall be made for the first hundred miles and 1-3 of a cent for every additional mile. The charges for a seat in a day Pullman no greater than one-third the above charge. The upper berth, unless occupied by a bona fide passenger, must not be lowered except by consent of the occupant of the lower berth. It does not apply to any railroad company chartered in this commonwealth.

Mr. Hawkins, York—Prohibiting the use of public school houses for election purposes.

Mr. Hammond, Westmoreland—Requiring physicians, surgeons and others furnishing aid or relief to poor and indigent persons in case of injury, sickness or other causes, to notify the directors or overesers of the poor of the proper district.

Mr. Tiffany, Wyoming—To permit the use of weirs or eel racks at a stated period each year.

Mr. Fow, Philadelphia—Providing that in all actions or suits upon written promises, wherein the statute of limitations may be pleaded, no acknowledgement of the claim shall be received in evidence to bar the statute, unless such acknowledgement be in writing and signed by the obligor.

Mr. Conrade, Philadelphia—Supplement to the act of June 29, 1881, making it unlawful for election officers to hold an election at any other place in an election division or district than where the general elections are held, making a violation of this provision a misdemeanor punishable by a fine of $500 and imprisonment not exceeding one year. A similar penalty is provided for any persons presenting a fraudulent certificate of election as delegate.

Several bills were recommitted, among them the Farr and Seyfert compulsory education bills, the forestry commission bill and the bill establishing circuit courts of appeal.

Mr. Nickell, Philadelphia, offered a resolution giving a place on the calendar to the negatived bill prohibiting the employment in the erection, enlargement or construction of any public building or work of any but citizens of the United States. The resolution went over under the rules.

The bill creating a banking department was a special order for second reading on Wednesday and final passage on Thursday. Seventeen bills were read for the first time and at 9 o'clock the house adjourned until 11 o'clock tomorrow.

To Suppress Lottery Gifts.

Grocers and other trademen who have been offering books, chinaware and other articles of value to catch trade, and all stores which have been offering prizes to those who will correctly guess the number of seeds in a pumpkin, will have to devise new schemes if a bill introduced by Representative Smith, of Jefferson county, should become a law. The proposed act is entitled an act for the suppression of lottery gifts by storekeepers and others to secure patronage, and the preamble recites that the gambling laws are evaded by giving tickets, etc., entitling the holders thereof to money or articles of value. The first section deals with cases where money or other prizes are awarded as a result of chance or hazard, and any one engaging in such a transaction is to be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction is to pay a fine not exceeding $100 or to suffer imprisonment not exceeding one year, either or both, at the discretion of the court. The second section imposes the same penalty on any merchant or manufacturer who gives with any purchase a ticket which entitles the purchaser to demand or receive any money or other article of value.

Several bills which have already passed second reading in the house provide for selling eggs by the pound and making the standard weight of a bushel of onions fifty pounds. Another unusual bill which has reached the house calendar is one creating a Sanitary Day, the ostensible object being to create among the people a sentiment in favor of better sanitary arrangements and health measures. The Friday following May 1 in every year is selected for the purpose. The public schools are to have but one session on that day and lectures on health matters are to be delivered to the children.

A bill of more than usual interest to the legal fraternity was introduced by Senator Kennedy, of Pittsburg, and favorably reported from the judiciary committee by Senator Brewer. It provides for the care of those who are not able to care for themselves. Heretofore there has been no provision for action in such a case except by declaring such a person a lunatic. This was a term too harsh to apply to many cases, where the subjects were not insane, but yet not able to properly care for themselves or their estate. The proposed act will provide for the appointment of a guardian by legal process similar to the proceedings in lunacy caess, but without having the person declared to be actually a lunatic. It is legislation which lawyers say has been needed for a long time and there appears to be no doubt but that the bill will become a law.

Another Anti-Peddling Bill.

The demand for the passage of the Woodring bill regulating peddling and banking is quite general in the rural districts. The measure has been reported affirmatively in the house. It does not interfere with the sale of meat, fish, country produce, and articles of one's own manufacture, neither does it touch the operations of delivery wagons. It is aimed at the pack peddlers, most of whom are foreigners, and do not pay any business taxes. The rural merchants state that their trade is badly damaged by the peregrinations of these traveling stores. The bill prohibits aliens from hawking any article around the country. It is argued that these people on account of their filthy condition and habits spread all sorts of disease. This arraignment of the peddling business satisfied the committee, and the Woodring bill was promptly reported.

Commenting on the peddling nuisance, Mr. Mast said he noticed that during strikes in the mining region of his county the hawkers are very scarce, but as soon as work is resumed they swarm through the country, picking up considerable money which should go to the merchants who carried the workmen through their wage difficulties. A bill similar to the Woodring bill was passed two years ago, but Mr. Pattison vetoed it.

HAMPTON ELECTROCUTED.

The Murderer of Mrs. Annetta Ahrens Pays the Penalty of His Crime.

By the United Press.

Sing Sing, N. Y., Jan. 28.—David Hampton, colored, who murdered and robbed Mrs. Anetta Athens, a woman 74 years of age, in her room in New York city on the night of Dec. 29, 1892, was electrocuted at the penitentiary here this morning.

At the end of fifty-seven seconds he was pronounced dead. The execution was devoid of revolting features.

The Reserve Reduced.

By the United Press.

Washington, Jan. 28.—The treasury gold reserve was reduced today to $52,463,173, the withdrawals for the day as officially reported to the treasury being $3,385,000. This brings the treasury gold reserve down to the lowest point ever reached.

THIS LOOKS VERY WARLIKE

Mexican Press and Public Clamors for Hostilities.

GUN FACTORIES ARE BOOMING

Secretary Gresham's Overtures for Mediation Are Not Relished by the Mexicans, but They Reply Guardedly in a Polite Manner.

By the United Press.

Washington, Jan. 28.—Secretary of State Gresham has received an acknowledgment from Minister Mariscal of Mexico, of President Cleveland's communication, expressing the hope that Mexico and Guatemala would agree upon some favorable method of settling the boundary dispute, or failing in that would agree upon a reference of the controversy to friendly arbitration. The dispatch, which is said to be very cordial in tone, indicates that Mexico is thoroughly incensed against Guatemala and can only assent to a peaceable settlement of the dispute when Guatemala approaches the subject in a more conciliatory spirit.

It is understood that Secretary Gresham has advised Guatemala to make further concessions in order that the United States may be in better position to reiterate to Mexico our desire to preserve peace with possibly a little more emphasis.

The Feeling in Mexico.

City of Mexico, Jan. 28.—The prospect of the slightest intervention on the part of the United States has elicited very bitter remarks from many public men here and has caused considerable excitement among the people. The war fever runs so high that any power trying to avert it must reckon with the hostility of public opinion. In the streets and places of popular resort there is but one sentiment, and that is in favor of Mexico's settling her differences with Guatemala, once and for all, without toleration of outside influences.

The newspapers want war. They denounce Guatemala as impudent and truculent and contend that she must be humbled before there can be any certainty of peace for her neighbors. The report that Guatemala, Nicaragua and Honduras have formed a triple alliance for offensive and defensive purposes is discussed with many ironical comments on the impotence of these small states. If Mexico takes the field with the army, the newspapers say, she might as well fight all three as any one of them, as it would be no harder to beat them.

Guatemala Fencing for Time.

Another cabinet council was held this afternoon, presumably to consider Guatemala's reply to Mexico's final demands. The nature of this reply has not been revealed, but the general understanding is that Guatemala is merely fencing for time. The only positive clue to the government's programme is found in the government's small arms factory, where work is pressed forward with unflagging energy every hour of the day and night. The ranks of the regiments are filling rapidly and apparently everything is in readiness for a sudden mobilization.

CHINA'S OFFER SCORNED.

The Japanese Think That It Is Quite Too Trivial for Anything—What the Mikado Thinks Is Due Him as a Solace for His Wounded Feelings.

By the United Press.

Tokio, Jan. 28.—The basis of peace mapped out by the Chinese government for the guidance of its envoys is an indemnity of from $35,000,000 to $50,000,000 (gold) a solatium of $10,000,000 for the families of the Japanese officers and soldiers killed in the war; a formal acknowledgement of the independence of Korea, and an exchange of prisoners, but no cession of so much as an inch of Chinese territory. China offered these terms two months ago, through the non-official channel of communication that has been kept open, and they were rejected.

It is a mockery on China's part to talk now of the independence of Korea. She has proved herself incompetent to exercise any sort of control in the peninsula or afford any sort of protection to her so-called tributary against foreign aggression. As for an indemnity, before the war is over Japan's direct expenditure will have considerably exceeded the sum supposed to be contemplated by China. What the Japanese nation want is some guarantee of continued peace. The payment of a paltry sum of money and a totally worthless declaration about Korea's independence constituted no guarantee whatever.

Many thoughful Japanese are beginning to ask themselves whether their country must not accept a much larger responsibility in the sequel of the war than she originally contemplated. After all the real question at issue is whether China is to emerge from or remain in her old grave of conservatism. If the latter, she will be a perpetual menace to the peace of the Orient.

DOWN AN EMBANKMENT.

Two Persons Killed and Twelve Wounded in a Wreck at Catesville, Ind.

By the United Press.

Indianapolis, Ind., Jan. 28.—A Vandalia train due here at 2.30 this afternoon, was wrecked at Catsville, twenty-five miles out. Two persons were killed and about twelve injured. The dead are John W. Norton, St. Louis, theatrical lessee and manager, and Mrs. W. S. Towers, Carthage, Mo.

The injured are: Margaret Roberts, injured about the face and breast; Ewing O. Whiting, Boston, bad cut over the left eye; Mrs. Zelda Zeguin Wallace, the singer, Indianapolis, badly injured internally; Mrs. Ewing O. Whiting, Boston, injured about side and breast, seriously; S. Negeon, Vigo, Tex., seriously hurt about head, will probably die; F. L. Wrap, hurt about head; Dr. J. H. Talbott, Indinapolis, seriously hurt about head and internally injured; Mrs. H. W. Ferguson, right side and internally injured, serious; Mrs. D. Hudson, cut on right side of head; Gertrude Parrish, cut on face; W. S. Towers, badly hurt internally; D. W. Mendeshal, seriously cut.

WEATHER REPORT.

For eastern Pennsylvania, snow, cr.

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