

TWO CENTS.

# SCRANTON, PA., THURSDAY MORNING, FEBRUARY 15, 1900.

general observation, there is no com-

## TWO CENTS.

SECRET OUT

# **ENGLISH TROOPS** ALL IN FAVOR OF THE NEW RAILROAD **MOVING FORWARD** THE DELAWARE VALLEY AND KINGSTON CASE.

# General French Crosses the Modder River and Captures Three Boer Laagers.

#### PERFORMANCE BRILLIANT A

Hudson canal from Lackawaxen to Owing to the Rapidity of His Movements, but Little Kingston tidewater. The session was held at the Fifth Avenue hotel. The **Opposition Is Encountered—General Gordon** application is opposed by half a dozen ailroads, whose counsel contend that Captures Two More Supply Camps-Many Men ities in the section-Ulster and Sullivan no public demand. Frank Platt, of Are Prostrated by Heat and Exhaustion—Dust no public demand. Frank Platt, of Tracy, Boardman & Platt, is voicing he arguments of the opposition. Thomas G. Shearman and John A. Storm Raging-Fight at Rensburg. Garver, for the applicant company, have but witnesses on the stand who

London, Feb. 14.-11.35 p. m.-The war | Riet, eight miles from Jacobsdall, one office has issued the following further of the Boer supply bases. message from Lord Roberts, received this evening.

"Dekiel's drift, Feb. 14, 8.10 a. m. General French left this point at 11.30 yesterday morning with three brigades of cavalry, horse artillery and mounted infantry, including several colonial contingents, in order to seize a crossing of the Modder, distant about twenty-five miles. He reports by dispatch, dated 5.30 p. m., that he had forced a passage at Clip drift and occupied the hills north of the river, capturing three of the enemy's laagers, with their supplics, while General Gordon, of the Fifteenth Hussars, with his brigade, who had made a feint at Rondeval drift, four miles west, has seized it. and another drift between that and Clin drift, together with two more laagers.

"General French's performance is brilliant, considering the excessive heat and a blinding dust storm which raged during the latter part of the day. "Owing to the rapidity of his move-

ments, General French met but slight wanting. and his loss Lieutenant Johnson, of the Iniskilling Dragoons, is the only officer reported severely wounded.

that property had depreciated from 50 to 90 per cent., and that only the con-On Monday General French, with the struction of the proposed railroad would cavalry division, seized the crossing of revive the former prosperity, and afford the Riet river at Dekiel's drift, south an outlet for the bluestone quarries, of Jacobsdall and eighteen miles cast lumber camps and millstone deposits of Honeynest klopf. He skirmished awaiting development, Individual coal with the Boers and cleared the way mivers from the Scranton anthracite for 20,000 infantry, who followed across, region have testified to the inability or On Tuesday, with his three cavalry unwillingness of the Eric, Pennsylvabrigades and the horse artillery, Gennia and Ontario and Western railroads

eral French rode to the Modder river, to handle all the coal they can produce. distance of twenty-five miles, and They told the railroad commission that took three fords, with high ground bef better facilities were provided there yond the river and five Boer camps. would be a larger output and a conse-He had a few casualties in brushes quent decrease in the price to the conwith the Boer horse. General French mer.- E. L. Fuller, president of the has now fixed himself on General Individual Coal Operators' association, Cronje's main line of communication swore that his association had guaranwith Blomfontein, and has 20,000 inced to the Delaware Valley and Kingsfantry with guns pushing up. on road, when completed, 2,000,000 tons Lord Roberts' dispatches, wired from of coal as freight annually.

inside the Free State and on the Riet river, left him Wednesday morning, His advance had not been opposed by the Boers in force. Their patrols meltin the assembly from Sullivan county ed away as the British moved forward. and once sheriff, testified today regard-The Boer army is likely to be felt in a ing the reduction in assessment on the day or two and a battle is consequently canal property and the consequent inimminent.

rease of taxation to the citizens at As to what forces General Cronje has large now at his disposal, and as to where he purposes making a stand against the invaders, no one here connected with the war office knows anything, The data for conception are wholly

"Do you know why that reduction was made." asked Mr. Platt, in crossexamination, "Why the property owned by the Delaware and Hudson canal depreciated more than \$800,000, ame the pr of Mr.

Mr. Decker's Testimony.

James D. Decker, of Pond Eddy, twice

oad commission today continued the

hearing on the application of the Dela-

vare Valley and Kingston railway for

permission to construct a railroad

along the line of the old Delaware and

here are sufficient transportation facil-

ounties-and that the road can satisfy

testified that since the abandonment of

the canal communities along its route

has dwindled to half their former size:

Cheaper Fuel. Among the advantages to accrue to Port Jervis from the proposed road, Mr. Van Ingwen included a reduction in the price of coal and the advent of manufacturers. At Branchport and Goshen. where there are competing lines, the price of coal is less than that at Port Reliable Witnesses Before the New Jervis, although both places are several miles further from the coal regions

petition."

York Commission Demonstrate than is Port Jervis. A reduction of twenty-five cents a ton, the witness said, would be a saving of \$4,000 to \$6,the Need of the Proposed Line. Property Along Closed Delaware 000 a year to the community. and Hudson Canal Said to Have Leland A. Johnson, of Sparrow Bush, about four miles from Port Jervis, on Depreciated Greatly - Villages the Delaware river, a dealer in blue Dwindled in Population-Witness stone flagging and railroad ties, complained of the lack of facilities afforded Who Was Sure of His Facts. by the Erle railroad, which passes within an eighth of a mile from his New York, Feb 14.-The state rail-

place of business. Since the canal had been closed there no competition, and, declared the witness, nothing can bring a return of former prosperity but the construction of the proposed road.

vention.

the same time.

in the gallery.

here," was shouted.

Chicago, Feb. 14 .- Stormy scenes

characterized the sessions of the na-

the final adjournment tonight.

tional anti-trust conference preceding

stand for government ownership and

on their feet in an instant to block

the movement. A score of delegates took the floor and all tried to talk at

"You must not stiffe free speech

"Everybody must be heard," was the

warning that came from a delegate

climax came when Delegate Joseph George J. Smith, former president of Parker, a middle-of-the-road man, the board of trade of Kingston, and surprised the conference with a resochairman of the Republican central lution pledging the members not to committee, testified that he had canvote for a candidate that does not cassed Ulster county and had found the popular sentiment unanimously in the principle of direct legislation. The favor of the construction of the Dela-Democratic leaders interpreted this as ware Valley and Kingston railroad. an attack upon W. J. Bryan and were

A. S. Bennett, of Wurtsboro, former-ly collector of the Delaware and Hudson company, told of the lack of facilities for the Summitville branch of the Port Jervis and Monticello road and presented a petition signed by all the business men and farmers in the vicinity of Wurtsboro. Lewis Rhodes, of West Brookville, presented a petition in the name of the people of West Brookville, and said the new rallroad is wanted to prevent the extinction of the village.

Samuel A. Adams, a coal dealer, of adjourned the convention. Summitville, testified that he has to pay \$4.60 per ton in car lots for coal at Summitville, while at Cornwall, which is forty-one miles further from Scranton, the price is \$4.10. A competing railroad, he thought, would remedy that injustice

Dwight Divine, a manufacturer of cutlery at Ellenville, said he employes every citizen a free home. Since the closing of the canal 125 men. the Ontario and Western had carried the all his goods. He was unable to get prompt service. The new road would pealed to Quinn to withdraw serve him better than the Ontario and amendment, but he refused. Western, and at least as well as the canal did

The hearing was adjourned until tomorrow morning.

KENTUCKY MUDDLE.

#### Judge Taft Holds That His Courts Have No Jurisdiction in Cases.

Cincinnati, Feb. 14 .- Holding that the federal courts had no jurisdiction in gate Quinn, during the uproar, the contests in Kentucky, Judge Taft this afternoon refused to grant the application for injunctions against the Kentucky state board of elections and sustained by a large majority. the Democratic contestants for state offices other than governor and lieutenant governor.

After citing the law showing that the federal court had no jurisdiction in

**ANTI-TRUST MEN** THE NEWS THIS MORNING **ARE OUARRELSOME** Weather Indications Today: INCREASING CLOUDINESS. PROCEEDINGS MARKED BY A General-English Army Crosses the Modder River. Ex-Consul Macrum's Reasons for Com-BIG ROW YESTERDAY. ing Home, Day's Work of the National Lawmak The Climax Reached When Joe Parker, a Middle-of-the-Road Man. Climax in Anti-Trust Deliberations.

The

Surprised the Convention with a General-Northeastern Pennsylvania. Financial and Commercial Resolution Which Was Objected to Local Court Proceedings. Referee Van Wormer's Opinion in Bankruptcy Case. by the Friends of W. J. Bryan. Score of Delegates Attempt to Editorial. Speak—The Chairman Becomes News and Comment.

Confused and Adjourns the Con-Local – Lackawanna Bar's Reques Presented to Governor Stone. Appeal for the West Side Viaduct. Rev. M. F. Firor Installed.

> Local-West Scranton and Suburban. Round About the County. Local-Live Industrial News. Dunmore Borough News.

**BILL TO REDUCE** 

# THE WAR TAX

Tribune.

Beer, Tobacco, Cigars, Cigarettes and Teas to Be Affected-Expenditures of the Government Are Docreasing-Puerto Rican Tariff Bill Will Go Over Until Monday-Spirited Debate in the Senate

Washington, Feb. 14 .-- Representative

Chairman Monnett was in doubt as Levy (N. Y.) has introduced a bill to what to do. Disorder reigned for amending the war tariff act by reducten minutes, and then Chairman Moning the tax on beer from \$2 to \$1; fixnett used the gavel and temporarily ing the duty on tobacco at six cents Another per pound; cigars and cigarettes, \$3 per 1,000; repealing the tax on teas, and whirl of excitement took place after the reading of the report of the comreducing the stamp taxes. Mr. Levy mittee on resolutions, when Delegate says as to his bill; Quinn, of Illinois, offered an amend-The treasury department reports

ment to the declaration of principles that the surplus from revenues of the calling for the repeal of all laws susgovernment will amount to between taining the right of citizens to pri-\$30,000,000 and \$40,000,000 this year. The vate property with a view to giving report of the commissioner of internal A long revenue for 1899 shows that the estlwrangle ensued over the disposition of mated revenues from the special war amendment. Captain W. P. tax (\$100,000,000) was exceeded by over Black, Tom L. Johnson and others ap-\$2,500,000. The daily expenditures of the the government are decreasing and will After continue to decrease, now that the war much discussion, during which Quinn with Spain is over. The need of the was denounced as a disturber by dele-\$100,000,000 proposed to be raised by the gates on the stage, Chairman Monnett war tax will no longer exist. It is the alm of this bill to reduce taxation by put the motion to adopt the report. He was in doubt and two ballots were internal revenue by at least \$60,000,000 seeks to accomplish is the restoration

taken. Thunder of Disapproval. of this amount to the pockets of the Finally, he declared the report of the people, who will put it in business circommittee adopted and the ruling culation." caused a thunder of disapproval. Dele-

It was the intention of the Republican leaders of the house to call up the pealed from the decision of the chair and his motion was seconded. The vote Puerto Rican tariff bill tomorrow, but there was such a demand for time to was put and Chairman Monnett was discuss various questions during the

A strong attempt was made at the conference today to offset the partisan general debate upon the legislative, executive and judicial appropriation bill, which was called up today, that Mr. effect of the resolutions adopted yes-Payne gave notice that he would allow uncing the pending curthe Puerto Rican bill to go over until Monday. The debate upon the legislative bill today strayed far from the bill, touching the question of government deosits in National banks, reckless expenditures for pensions, and finally drifting into the question of election methods in Missouri. Mr. Bartholdt (Mo.) raised the latter question by attacking the Nesbitt law and provoked

The Ex-Consul Explains His Course in the Transvaal.

MACRUM'S

ACTIONS MISUNDERSTOOD

He Comes Home to Enlighten the Secretary of State of the True Condition of Affairs in the Transvaal and Finds That His Official Title Has Been Conferred Upon Another-Not Allowed to Unburden His Mind at the Department in Washington, the ex-Consul Makes a Statement Through the Press-Intimates That He is the Unsuspecting Victim of a Secret Alliance Between Great Britain and the United States.

Washington, Feb. 14 .-- Charles E. Macrum, former United States consul at Pretoria, who left Pretoria for the United States in the middle of December after cable correspondence with the state department and the reason for whose sudden departure from the Transvaal has been more or less of a mystery, gave out a signed statement tonight.

In the statement which is quite lengthy and detailed Mr. Macrum says that shortly after the war broke out the situation in Pretoria became such that he desired to return home and inform his government of the exact conditions and that he cabled for authority to return. He says he was sacrificing his own self-respect and that of the people of Pretoria by remaining there as a British consul and not an American consul, although he adds, there was not a single request made of him through the department or \$55,000,000, and the object which it of state looking to the care of British interests in Pretoria, which he did not fulfill and report upon according to his orders. American interests, though, were being interfered with through the censorship by British officers at Cape Town of all cablegrams sent by Americans and even his own official cablegrams to the state department at Washington were detained many days. For this reason he desired to hasten to Washington and acquaint his government of this interference by the British and to enlighten the secretary of state on the true condition of affairs. In pursuance of orders received he issued a statement received from the state department that Americans must remain neutral. In the face of this Americans were continually going to the front and taking up arms in the cause of the Boers. Many of these he knew were citizens of the United States. Even his vice consul, Mr. Van Ameringen, closed un his business, took the oath of allegiance to the republic and went to the front as a burgher.

"Four officers and fifty-three mer had to be sent last evening in the returning ox wagons to the railway, prostrated by heat and exhaustion.

"The Sixth division was last night on the north bank of the Riet, at Waterval drift, and is moving to support the cavalry. The Seventh division is here, and will go on this afternoon."

#### Fight at Rensburg.

Rensburg, Feb. 14 (Tuesday) .- Before dawn yesterday the enemy opened an attack upon Slingersfontein, assaulting with musketry the hills on the northeast held by three companies of the Worcester under Captain Hovel.

The artillery attack began at sunrise. The Boers approached in great numbers, and estimated at seven to one. The British, under good cover, sustained the attack throughout the day.

Meanwhile two big guns on the west opened upon the British at daylight and fired for half an hour, when a British howitzer silenced them with lyddite, the British artillery firing with precision.

Then another Boer gun, to the north, opened on the Royal Irish rifles, but rather ineffectually, as the rifles had good cover.

The shelling continued all day: and islature. Mr. Elkins says the new last evening the Boers brought up a 40-pounder in order to bombard the camp from a hill to the north. The attempt was plainly visible, as the gun could be seen being drawn up by 18 oxen. With the Boers surrounding the British in overwhelming numbers, and a permanent and fixed place of busihaving artillery, it then became evident that it would be impossible to that the retain Slingersfontein, which the British evacuated under cover of darkness, falling back upon Rensburg.

The British casualties were lighter than might have been expected in the circumstances.

#### BRITISH PROGRESS.

#### Soldiers of the Queen Inside Boen Frontier for the First Time.

London, Feb 15.-4.20 a.m.-The British army, for the first time since the was began, is inside the Boer frontier. Lord Roberts, with at least 40,000 infantry, 7,000 cavalry and 150 guns, has turned the Magersfontein lines, before which the British forces have been encam for ten weeks, and with half of 1 , corps he is already operating on Free State territory. A batthe has not yet been fought, but large tactical advantages have been gained. The relief of Kimberley is within measurable reach and the way to Blomfontein is

appreciably easier. The dispatches of Lord Roberts sketch three days' work. The forward movement began on Saturday, when movement began on Saturday, when from Bremen and Southampton: Oceanic, Colonel Hannay set out with a brigade from Liverpool, Noordhard from Antof mounted infantry for Ramah, on the werp,

British Casualties. London, Feb. 14 .- The total British

asualty returns up to tonight are: Officers killed ...... 152 Officers wounded ...... 380 

# FLOOD AT ALBANY.

Worst Freshet Since 1857-Three Men Drowned-Half Million Dollars Damage to Property.

Albany, Feb. 14 .- Three men were drowned and balf a million dollars damage done to property along the Hudson river by the worst freshet which this city has seen since 1857. The dead are: Thomas Shea, of Bath: William Rinehart, of New York: Jos. Vogel, of Van Renaesseler

Island. The men drowned were out on the ice when it gave way, canal.

MERCANTILE TAX LAW.

#### Opinion Rendered by Attorney General Elkins.

Harrisburg, Feb. 14.-Attorney General Elkins rendered an opinion today to Auditor General McCauley on several questions connected with the mercantile tax law passed by the last log -

law contemplates the payment of mercantile taxes by the same class of dealers who were required to pay ender the old law and that only those persons who can be properly classed as merchants or dealers in goods, wares and merchandise, and who have ness, should be included in the mercantile appraisers' lists. He also says act of April 20, 1887, which provides for the publication of the mercantile appraisers' lists in newspapers still remains in full force and effect. There will be no necessity to designate in the published list the

amount of mercantile tax paid by each lealer because there is no such classileation. Mr. Elkins says the list should con-

ain the name of each dealer, together with his business address and kind of business he is engaged in.

#### More Tuberculosis Discovered.

Lancaster, Feb. H .- A case of cattle uberculosis was discovered in the herd of Samuel Showalter, residing near Terre Hill, and it has been killed. Some time ago a dozen cows belonging to Wenger Brothers, of Weavertown, were killed at-ter having been pronounced infected by the state expert. Farmers are alarmed by the fear that the dreaded disease will spread.

#### Steamsnip Arrivals.

Antwerp, Feb. H .- Arrived: Southwark, from New York. Southampton-Arrived: Saale, from New York for Bremen. Sailed: Aller, from Bremen for New York, Cleared: Tauric, for Liverpool, Sailed: Kensington, for Antwerp; New Sailed: Kensington, for Antwerp; New York, for Southampton, Arrived: Lahn,

Samuel Coykendall?" Decker, who, being seventy-six years old and very deaf, had not caught the question properly. As Mr. Coykendall is believed to rule with an iron hand the destinies of Ulster and part of Sullivan county, Mr. Platt said the answer was singularly appropriate and that he would not press it further. Everybody laughed. Mr. Coykendail as heartily as anyone eise. C. P. Reuling, a merchant of Port Jervis, was called next. He told of his

loss of trade since the through business of the canal was abandoned, and was about to tell of a popular sentiment in his section when Mr. Platt objected. "What is the good of wasting time and cumbering the record. We are willing to concede that all Lumberville and Highlands would like a railroad to bear

share of the tolls now that the canal is closed-" "We are not talking of Lumberville." interrupted Mr. Garver. "The commissioners believe," said Colonel Cole, the chairman, "that they

are likely to be influenced by a knowledge of the public sentiment." "We will concede," replied Mr. Platt, "that every community along the canal would like a railroad in place of the

"We accept that concession," said Mr. Garver. Replying to Mr. Platt. Mr. Reuting

said he believed the monthly pay roll of the Eric railroad at Port Jervis to be nearly \$100,000. Mr. Garver objected. and the commissioners sustained the objection, when Mr. Platt asked the witness if a conversion of the Erie's freight to the new road would not compel the laying off of a large number of the Eric railroad employes.

#### He Was President.

Peter E. Farnum, of Port Jervis dealer in real estate and owner of silk mills on the line of the Delaware and Hudson canal, testified that the Port Jervis and Monticello railroad, with its Summitville branch, had been a failure from its inception. Asked by Mr. Platt how he was competent to make so broad a statement, Mr. Farnum replied: Unfortunately for myself, I was its president."

Cross-examined by Mr. Platt, Mr. Farnum said that coal brought to Port Jervis by the Eric road could be carried to Kingston tidewater by existing lines of railroad, from Port Jervis along the Summitville branch of the Port Jervis and Monticello road to Summitville

and thence to Kingston on the tracks of the Ontario and Western. To Mr. Garver the witness said that that route was roundabout and across

difficult grades that would make the hauling of coal very expensive. He had seen no coal carried that way. Charles F. Inwegen, president of the First National bank of Port Jervis, was the next witness. He identified the names on the petition presented by Mr

Farnum, and said they represented the leading citizens of Port Jervis, Mr. Platt objected, on the ground that petition cannot be received as evidence, but the commissioners, after a long conoverruled the sultation. objection Asked by Mr. Garver why he thought

the proposed road would benefit Port Jervis, Mr. Van Inwegen replied: "It would give us a competing road, and competing roads encourage manu-Nominally the Eric com facturers. petes with the Summitville branch and its connection with the Ontario and

such cases, he reviewed the Goebel "I know Mr. Coykendall," replied Mr. election law as the most infamous statute that had ever come before the attention of a court, and also denounced in very vigorous terms the conditions that have existed in Kentucky and cited in the bill of facts. He held that it was a matter of law with the court notwithstanding outrages that are alleged in the undisputed statement of the facts of the petitioners. Frankfort, Ky., Feb. 14 .-- When in-

formed that Judge Taft had refused jurisdiction, Governor Taylor gave to the Associated Press the following statement:

The decision of Judge Taft today holding that his court has no jurisdiction in the case of minor state officers does not affect the merits of the case. He does not determine that the petitioners had no merits in their cases, but only that his court could not take jurisdiction and right the wrong. If he had held that he had jurisdiction it would have all been over, for the outrages were so glaring that the Republicans would have won

hands down. The decision in said cases not in the least affect my case, sned) William S. Taylor, (Signed)

Governor of Kentucky. MILITARY INSPECTION.

#### An Improved Knapsack and New Tents Have Been Adopted.

Harrisburg, Pa., Feb. 14 .-- Major General Snowden and other leading officers the National Guard of Pennsylvania today inspected the military stores at the state arsenal. They also adopted an improved knapsack and a new pattern of tents for the enlisted men designated at the arsenal. In the new knapsacks the overcoats will be suspended beneath the knapsack, instead of the top. The new tents will be eighteen inches higher in the wall than

those now in use. The party consisted of Major General Snowden, General Schall, of the First brigade: Colonel Ralston, Third regiment: Colonel Burchfield, Fifth regiment; Colonel Dougherty, Ninth regiment; Colonel Elliott, of the major general's staff; Colonel Ripple, assistant adjutant general; Major Wormser, inspector general of the First brigade Major Millar, inspector general of the Third brigade; Lieutenant Colonel Hutchinson, of the Eighth regiment; Captain Finney, and Captain Fisher, of Company D, of the Eighth regiment.

ANDREW BREAKS THE RECORD. Defendant in the Suit for Millions

# Is Playing Golf.

Fernandina, Fia., Feb. 14 .- Mr. An drew Carnegie, who is visiting his sister-in-law, Mrs. Lucie Carnegie, at Dungenness on Cumberland island spent the day on the island. Late this evening he telephoned Colonel Page, manager of the estate, from a lodge house several miles away. Mr. Carnegie was informed by Colonel Page that several newspaper men were desirous of having an explanation from him on the Frick suit, but his reply WILST.

"Say to the correspondents that I am playing golf and that I broke my golf record yesterday."

#### Military Stores Inspected.

Harrisburg, Feb. H.-Adjutant General Corbin and the general officers of the National Guard of Pennsylvania inspected the state arsenal and military stores Western, but practically, as shown by today in this city.

den rency bill. Frank S. Monnett, permanent chairman, made a speech, in which he declared that the movement for public ownership of public utilities was

carried on by the Republican party as well as by the Democratic party. "In the Republican northwest," said he, "five per cent, of the public utilities are owned by the public, whereas in many southern Democratic states less

than five are so owned. "I would remind the convention that Ohio, which is the state of the president, is also the state of the author of the Sherman anti-trust act. If we have Attorney General Griggs, we also

have an Attorney General Olney." The convention was enlivened also by a talk by Prof. Demis on "Universities Whose Endowments Come from Trusts Magnates." The professor said the exprofessor of political economy at Chling. cago university does the best, but cannot overcome this handicap. As a remedy, he advocated the establishment, through the state legislature, of

chairs in state universities devoted to the study of these methods. A number of set speeches were heard

at the morning and afternoon session and the night session, which wound up the three days' conference, heard as many of the remaining speeches that had been prepared as could be read in the time that was left.

The conference tonight adjourned sine die.

# JACOBS' EFFECTS SOLD.

#### Placed Under the Hammer at Lancaster.

Lancaster, Pa., Feb. 14 .- The last of the effects of William M. Jacobs, the leader in the great Jacobs-Kendig-Taylor-Bredell counterfeiting case, were sold this afternoon at public sale by Deputy United States Marshal Thomas Marple, under an order of the United States court. The articles offered were twenty bunching machines and 20 suction tables, used in Jacobs' tobacco business. The bunching machines were sold to W. L. Lyman, representing the John R. Williams company, of New York: the tables to George Miller, of Montgomery county, an uncle of Jacobs, the total realized being \$1,315. Prior to the sale, counsel for John R. Williams company gave notice that the machines belonged to that company and were used by Jacobs under contracts that had expired; that the machines are subject to patents and the obligation to pay royalties; and that the purchasers would be enjoined by law from using them.

MINE INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

#### Notwithstanding Strikes, 1899 Was a Prosperous Year.

Wilkes-Barre, Pa., Feb. 14 .- Mine Inspector Williams, of the Fourth an thracite district, has completed his report for 1899. The year was a prosperous one. Notwithstanding the many strikes in the district, the number of days worked was 25.34 in excess of 1898. With the increase in the output and working days the number of fatal accidents is but six greater than in 1898, and there is a decrease in the number of non-fatal accidents, which is ninety less than in the previous year.

The total shipments of coal for the year was 8,648,152.06 tons; number of persons employed, 23,668; fatal accidents, \$1; non-fatal accidents, 188. The average number of days worked by collieries was 168.61.

a long reply from Mr. Benton (Mo.) who in turn aroused Mr. Pearce (Mo). Some very caustic things were said on both sides.

In the Senate.

Throughout its session today the senate had the financial bill under discussion. After 2 o'clock the debate proceeded under the ten-minute rule and at times became spirited and interest-

Late in the afternoon a test vote, indicating approximately the majority on the passage of the bill, was taken. Mr. Chandler (Rep., N. H.) offered an amendment to authorize the president to appoint commissioners to any international bimetallic conference that might be called, and it was defeated

by a vote of 45 to 25. The Chandler proposition out of the way, the discussion proceeded on the amendment brought in by the finance ommittee, providing that the provisions of the bill are not intended to place any obstacles in the way of interna-

tional bimetallism. The Democratic senators arraigned the Republicans for reporting the amendment, declaring they were insincere and that the propo-

sition was intended to hoodwink the people and to catch votes. No vote on the amendment was reached. The final vote on the amend- until his return, and finally of the arments and the bill will be taken some time tomorrow.

COAL SCARCE IN EUROPE.

#### Large Margin of Profit Now Offered American Exporters.

Washington, Feb. 14 .- The complaints of scarcity of coal in Europe are becoming more acute and widespread. The representatives of the state department in all of the great manufacturing countries of the continent have already transmitted accounts of the industrial distress that has resulted from the heavy increase of price of coal in England and now Ambassador Draper at Rome thinks the situation in Italy is worthy the attention of coal mining enterprises in the United States.

His communication on this subject is published in the consular reports issued by the bureau of foreign commerce, state department, and, in brief points to the fact that a large margin

of profit is now offered to American coal exporters.

#### Meeting of Trainmen.

Pittsburg, Feb. 14.—Prominent officials of the Brotherhood of Railway Train-men have been holding a secret conference in this city for several days and all attempts to learn the objects of the meeting have been fruitless.

## \* WEATHER FORECAST.

Washington, Feb. 14.-Forecast for Thursday and Friday: eastern Pennsylvania, increasing cloudiness Thursday; rain or snow and colder Friday; winds shift-+ ing to fresh easterly.

#### Tampered with His Mail.

Continuing Mr. Macrum says: It was over four weeks from the time the war opened before I received a sin-gie mail dispatch from my government or a personal letter. The mail for the Transvaul had all been stopped at Cape Town by order of the high commissioner. When this mail was finally forwarded to me after Colonel Stowe, the United States consul general at Cape Town, had se-cured its release. I had the humiliation as the representative of the American government of slitting in my office in Pretoria and looking upon envelopes bear-lag the official seal of the American gov-ernment opened and officially sealed with a stocker, notifying me that the contents had been read by a British censor at Durban. Hooked up international law, but failed to find any where one military power can use its own discretion as to forwarding official dispatches of a neutral government to its representative in a besieged country.

He then tells of his cable correspondence with the state department, which has been heretofore published, in which he asked leave to return home, and suggested the selection of a Mr. Atterbury, an American, to occupy his office rival at Pretoria, on December 14. Mr. Hollis, the American consul at Delagoa bay, to take charge of the office, and the receipt of a cablegram from Secretary Hay, saying: "You may come home.'

He left Pretoria on December 16, he says, and on arriving at Washington, February 5, was officially informed by Assistant Secretary of State Hill that Secretary Hay's son had been appointed in his place and was then on his way to Pretoria.

#### Out in the Cold.

Says Mr. Maerum, in conclusion: Instead of this I find that Secretary Hay, whether acting upon the reports in the newspapers, or upon advice from the British government, or some other mo-tive, I do not knew, saw fit not to wait until I could present my reasons in person and has been a silent or conniving partner to discrediting reports of my offi-etal acts. I come home to find an at-tempt has been made to tear down my tempt has been made to tear down my personal reputation. I wish to state right here that when I accepted my post as consul I knew nothing of any secret al-liance between America and Great Brit-ain, and that I had seen nothing in the regulations which made the consul of the American republic subject to the whima and couries of an English military can-American republic subject to the whime and caprice of an English military censor at Durban. I came to America with a motive of which I am not ashamed. There is not one soul who can point to a single official act of mine which des to a single official act of mine which de parted from the strictest neutrality. My confidential dispatches to the department contained information which will show my sympathy for the republic, but which will prove to be unbiased as to ac time

tual facts. My acts as a public official are all re-corded at the department. My acts now as a private man can in no way involve the public service, and I simply make this statement in my own defense against those which have come from department, secretly and officially. from the