Scranton Tribune.

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TWO CENTS. TWELVE PAGES SCRANTON, PA., SATURDAY MORNING, APRIL 6, 1901. TWELVE PAGES TWO CENTS.

CONFERENCE OF RAILROADERS

New Jersey Central Officials to Meet Representatives of Labor Organizations.

INVITATION TO WARREN

The Vice President of the New Jersey Central Asked to Confer with Labor Representatives and Listen to Their Grievances—From 2,500 to 3,000 Men Interested.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

New York, April 5.—A conference is being held in this city of the heads of the national organizations of railway employes and the chiefs of the organizations of the men employed on the Central Railroad of New Jersey. John D. Waite, of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers; E. Shea, of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen; L. P. Titus, of the Order of Railroad Conductors; Michael Dolphin, of the Order of Railway Telegraphers, and Joseph Harrison are representing the employes of the Central. With them, acting with them in an advisory capacity, are the following national officers: P. M. Arthur, chief of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers; F. F. Sargent, grand master of the Brotherhood of Railroad Firemen; P. H. Morrissey, grand master of the Railroad Trainmen, and E. E. Clarke, of the Conductors. At a secret conference held yesterday, an invitaton was sent by resolution to C. H. Warren, second vice-president and general manager of the Central railroad, asking him to be present today and confer with the labor representatives and listen to their grievances. After waiting all day for an answer from Vice-President Warren, the conference was adjourned tonight.

The conference will convene again tomorrow and remain in session until either a favorable reply has been received to the request for a joint conference with the officials of the road or until, in case of a refusal by the officials to accede to the demands of the men, some other plan of action has been determined upon.

As showing the feeling among the men, it is understood that the conductors, whose wages have recently been adjusted on a scale satisfactory to them, have accepted and allowed to go into force their new agreements only conditional upon a settlement satisfactory to other employes of the present differences. From 2,500 to 3,000 men are interested in the results of the conference. They include engineers, firemen, conductors, telegraphers, trainmen and yardmen.

Official Statement.

In answer to inquiries as to the report that a general strike of all the trainmen on the Central Railroad of New Jersey was threatened, the official statement was given out at the office of the general superintendent of the company in Jersey City today:

On Jan. 1 there went into effect a new schedule under which the conductors' pay was increased and the rate of pay of the engineers of the big engines was increased from 3½ to 4 cents a mile and other concessions were made. The telegraph operators asked for more pay, but that request, we have to destitution in saying, was refused, because the company now pays its telegraph operators more than is paid by any other railroad in this vicinity. The telegraph operators demand having been disposed of there are now pending negotiations between the company and the engineers, firemen and trainmen regarding wages.

In response to a request for more pay we have made to them very fair propositions, embracing better terms. We are now awaiting a reply from the men in answer to our proposition.

That is the situation. The company has been willing right along to adjust the difficulties as soon as possible. We are in no way responsible for the advertisement calling for new men. We anticipate no trouble.

The New Jersey Central has met its employes more than half way and therefore anticipate no break in the friendly relations which have so long existed between the company and its employes.

E. E. Clark, grand chief of the Order of Railway conductors, replied to the statement issued by the Jersey Central as follows:

Committees of employes of the Central Railroad of New Jersey chosen by, and representing the engineers, firemen, conductors, trainmen, yardmen and telegraphers, have been negotiating off and on for several months with a committee of officials representing the company on the subject of rates of pay and hours of service. Various propositions have been submitted by both sides and nothing mutually acceptable has been evolved. The committees called in the executive officers from their respective organizations for consultation and assistance. Messrs. Arthur, of the engineers; Sargent, of the firemen; Morrissey, of the trainmen; Dolphin, of the telegraphers, and Clarke, of the conductors, are here and for the purpose of reaching a thorough understanding of both sides of the question and in the hope of finding an acceptable basis of settlement have requested a conference on the subject with Vice President Warren. We are awaiting his reply.

Mileage Basis Desired.

The basis of pay for the Central Railroad of New Jersey is a daily rate, regardless of the number of miles run. The engineers and trainmen desire the adoption of a mileage basis of pay with reasonable allowance for excess hours and overtime.

The statement that the engineers are now receiving $3.75 and the firemen $3.10 is incorrect. The basis of the present schedule is $3.25 per day for engineers and $2.10 per day for firemen, eleven hours to constitute a day.

The committees have been negotiating separately for each branch of the service, although all are working under an agreement for cooperation which was made long before these negotiations were opened. We believe that conference between the representatives of the employes and the officials of the company will in this case, as they have in a great many other cases, result in an amicable adjustment of all questions at issue. Candidly anticipating arrangements for such conference, no consideration has yet been given to their means or methods. In as far as the requests of the men are reasonable and fair they will be given the encouragement and support of their organizations. Nothing will be demanded or supported that is not right and fair.

F. P. Sargent, grand master of the Order of Locomotive Firemen, was asked about the situation, and said:

If the officials of the Central treat us with the same fairness and consideration as did the officials of the New York Central some months ago when a similar condition existed, there is no doubt that an amicable basis for an agreement will be reached. I have no doubt that the officials of the Central will do this. We are looking over the situation and the presence of the chief executives of the various organizations shows that the matter deserves some attention.

Mr. Sargent said that there were 500 firemen working on the Central Railroad of New Jersey, and they had grievances. In talking of the way in which strikes are inaugurated, he said that two-thirds of the men could inaugurate a strike by voting for it. If the men, before doing this, called in the chief executives of the various organizations and had their sanction and support, they would, in the event of a strike, receive assistance from the national organizations.

HUGE RAILROAD COMBINATIONS

Rumors That They Are in Process of Formation Are Widely Circulated in New York.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

New York, April 5.—Reports that huge railroad combinations are in process of formation were widely circulated here today. Detailed statements concerning the plan already published, looking to the combination of all of the great railroad systems of the United States under the control of one company, were given, but as a general thing prominent railroad officials and bankers declined to discuss the matter.

According to all accounts, the enterprise involved the greatest combination of capital known in the history of finance. It was said the company would be formed under the laws of New Jersey for the purpose of conducting a general freight and transportation business throughout the United States, that the company will hold a controling interest in all the great railroad systems, and that the management of the road would be vested in the controlling company. According to the proposition, each road would preserve its identity and corporate existence, but the new company would control the affairs of all. By this policy it was claimed large sums of money could be saved as a result of economies in management and the stoppage of rate-cutting. The names of men like J. P. Morgan, William K. Vanderbilt, James J. Hill, Edward H. Harriman, George J. Gould, John D. Rockefeller, Jacob H. Schiff and James Stillman were freely used. One report stated that the first step in the proposed plan would be the securing of control of the stocks of the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy, the Erie, the Great Northern and Northern Pacific, and that provision would be made for the acquisition of other properties in the immediate future. Discussing the reported amalgamation of the railroad interests of the country, the New York Press tomorrow will say:

"All that is aimed at, according to the best authority obtainable, is a 'community of interest.' The close amalgamation of a 'community of interest basis' was first brought about through the efforts of J. P. Morgan. As a result of this close union of interest ruinous rate wars are already at an end, not so many high-priced officials are needed as before and one can buy a ticket on any trunk line in almost any one of the large offices in the cities. However, that a single company will be formed under the New Jersey laws to take over all the railroads of the coutnry is not considered seriously by well informed railway men."

STRIKE IS THREATENED.

Three Local Unions at Linton Repudiate Agreement Between Operators and Mine Workers.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Linton, Ind., April 5.—Three of the thirteen local unions which met in this city, have held meetings and repudiated the agreement entered into between the Coal Operators' association and the union mine workers at Terre Haute last Wednesday. It is thought that the other locals will take the same stand. The trouble arose over the clause in the agreement compelling the miners to purchase powder from the operators exclusively.

A big mass meeting of miners is called to meet in this city tomorrow, when it is thought President Van Horne will be called upon to resign. None of the thirteen mines in the field was working today, and they will not until after Saturday's mass meeting, which President Van Horne is expected to attend.

Fifteen hundred miners are idle, and a strike is imminent.

Sheckard Reclaimed.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Philadelphia, April 5.—President Ebbetts, of the Brooklyn National league base ball club, has succeeded in reclaiming Sheckard from the Baltimore American league club. Since signing with Manager McGraw Sheckard has been uncertain as to the legality of his action. Today, in company with President Ebbetts, he waited on counsel for the National league, and was assured that his American league contract was invalid. This opinion satisfied Sheckard and he at once notified President Ebbetts that he would play for Brooklyn this year.

All Hands Work at Oneida.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Hazleton, April 5.—The lockout at the Oneida colliery of Coxe Brothers & Company is at an end. A committee representing the employes had a satisfactory conference with superintendent Kudlick today and all hands will return to work on Monday.

BASE BALL.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

At Philadelphia—Princeton University, 7; Philadelphia (National league), 2.

At Lexington—University of Pennsylvania, 11; Virginia Military institute, 2.

At Chester—Montreal, 4; Columbia university, 2.

At Baltimore—Baltimore (American league), 10; Yale, 3.

STRANGE TALE OF A PORTRAIT

The Stolen Gainsborough Picture of Duchess of Devonshire Returned After 25 Years.

STORY OF ITS TRAVELS

The Canvas Valued at $50,000 Is Carried in Hermetically Sealed Box Through England, America and the European Continent After Having Been Stolen by Porch Climbers. Large Reward Is Paid for the Return of the Painting—Chicago Detectives Find the Thieves.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Chicago, April 5.—After traveling through England, America and the European continent for twenty-five years, the famous Gainsborough portrait of the Duchess of Devonshire, which was stolen from the art gallery of the Agnew Brothers in London, England, May 16, 1876, is reported to have been returned to its owners. The painting is valued at $50,000. A Chicago detective agency claims to have been instrumental in recovering the picture. The holder of the picture, who, it is said, was one of the band of thieves who stole it from the gallery, is said to have received a large reward for its return and exacted an agreement to drop the prosecution.

According to the detectives, he had carried it with him for years, carefully packed and sealed. The picture, it is announced, will arrive in London tomorrow.

The theft of the portrait was remarkable in many ways. The doors of the gallery were found locked and bolted on the inside. The policeman on the beat, the watchman of the block and the janitor of the building had heard no suspicious noise and they had noticed no suspicious strangers. There appeared to be no clue until in 1886 a certain Joseph Elliott, then under arrest for a large forgery, asserted that the Gainsborough picture was still in existence and could be recovered providing his liberty was granted. Elliott said the picture had been stolen by professional "porch climbers" who had entered one of the gallery windows and cut the canvas from the frame.

The picture had been taken, Elliott said, not for the reward that would be offered for it, nor for the proceeds of its sale, but as the means to secure bail for a member of a band of forgers who had been arrested in France for a forgery on the Bank of England. The forger had been extradited and the Agnew Brothers were to be asked to sign his bond, on condition that the painting was returned. Before the plan could be completed, however, the forger was given his liberty on a technicality.

Negotiations were later made with the thieves to return the painting for a large reward. The sum offered was too small, in the opinion of the burglars, and the negotiations fell through. Recently trace was again found of the thieves, and negotiations reopened. A larger reward was offered, which resulted in the return of the picture in Chicago.

When returned the picture was hermetically sealed in a box made especially for its reception and was pronounced in perfect condition. It was carefuly packed in cotton batting. The casket was brought from England to this country fifteen years ago and has remained in a storage warehouse and safe deposit vaults in various cities.

The person who secured the information which led to the return of the portrait, is said by the detectives to be a sporting man, but they decline to make his name public. The crime itself has long been outlawed.

IN CONFERENCE AT HARRISBURG.

Congressman Connell and Postmaster Ripple Interview Gov. Stone.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Harrisburg, April 5.—Congressman William Connell and Postmaster Ezra B. Ripple, of Scranton, were in Harrisburg today in conference with Governor Stone relative to a successor on the common pleas bench of Judge Archbald, of Scranton, who has been made judge of the newly created federal court. The governor is expected to make the appointment as he received Judge Archbald's resignation.

Mr. Connell said his visit had nothing to do with the dismissal of Frank H. Clemons, director of public safety of Scranton, on account of alleged disagreement with Recorder Moir.

Charters Granted.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Harrisburg, April 5.—The state department issued charters today to the West Chester and Wilmington, Chester, Wayne and Norristown, Philadelphia, Wayne and West Chester, Parkersburg and Coatesville, Coatesville, Downington and West Chester, Philadelphia, Norristown and Phoenixville, and Philadelphia, Media and Wilmington street railroads. The total capitalization of the companies is $100,500. Albert B. Kelly, of Philadelphia, is president of the companies. They will build suburban lines in Chester, Delaware and Montgomery counties. Charters were also issued to the Jersey Shore Street Railway company, Jersey Shore; capital, $25,000, and the Reading, Birdsboro and Pottstown Railroad company, Reading; capital, $10,000.

Morgan Formed the Combine.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Columbus, April 5.—A special to the Dispatch from Cincinnati says: A gigantic amalgamation of four railroads has just been effected. The roads are the Southern railway, the Cincinnati, Hamilton and Dayton, the Chicago, Indianapolis and Louisville and the Cincinnati Southern. J. Pierpont Morgan is reputed to have formed the combine.

Aid for Strikers.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Wilkes-Barre, April 5.—The employes of the silk mills of Paterson, N. J., today sent a contribution of $400 to the striking silk weavers of this city.

MOTION TO CONTINUE INJUNCTION DENIED.

Justice Childs, of Buffalo, Decides Against the Lackawanna.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Buffalo, April 5.—Justice Childs, in the special term of the Supreme court, this afternoon handed down his decision denying the motion to continue the injunction secured by the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western Railroad company and the New York, Lackawanna and Western, restraining the assessors from placing on the tax rolls franchise valuations for $158,000 against the Lackawanna. The restraining order prevented the assessors from placing the assessment as fixed by the state board of tax commissioners upon the rolls.

This assessment will take the course of others now, and a tax will be levied against the company.

No other corporations have as yet begun any proceedings to resist the assessment levied upon their franchises by the state board under the Ford franchise tax law.

FRENCH PRESSING BOERS AT VRYHEID

Discovery of an Abandoned Pompom at Bottom of a Precipice—Lord Kitchener's Reports.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Cape Town, April 6.—General French continues to press the Boers at Vryheid, Transvaal colony.

The Boers abandoned a pompom, which the British found smashed at the bottom of a precipice.

London, April 6.—Lord Kitchener, reporting to the war office the finding of an abandoned and destroyed pompom, near Vryheid, says:

"This accounts for all the enemy's guns known to be in the southeastern district."

Lord Kitchener reports as follows to the war office:

"Colonel Plummer has advanced twenty miles beyond Nylstroom, unopposed on the way toward Pitersburg."

According to the Pretoria correspondent of the Daily Telegraph, the Boers have shifted their seat of government from Pietersburg to a point thirty-five miles notheast.

CONGRESSMAN LONG TALKS WITH CORBIN

The Latter Was Not Enthusiastic Regarding the Promotion of General Funston.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Wichita, Kan., April 5.—The Eagle tomorrow will publish an extended interview with Congressman Chester I. Long, of Kansas, relative to the appointment of Frederick Funston to a brigadier generalship in the regular army. Mr. Long has verified the interview for the Associated Press.

"When I read of Funston's heroic deed," says Mr. Long, "I went straight to General Corbin's office and said:

"'Well, general, you see what Funston has done.'

"'Yes, I have seen it,' replied Corbin, not too pleasantly.

"'Well,' I said, 'don't you think that you ought to make Funston a brigadier general in the regular army?'

"'No,' said Corbin, 'he has done nothing to warrant that.'

"'But,' I insisted, 'it seems to me that he has done a very daring thing; that he has almost concluded the war.'

"'Mr. Long,' said Corbin, 'I am making lots of better stuff than Funston every day. Funston is a boss scout—that's all.'

"'We want him made a brigadier general,' I insisted.

"'Mr. Long,' said Corbin, 'the army has become a great school; we want teachers for brigadier generals; we want men who can teach and not those who should be taught.'

"'But the president may want to appoint him,' I said.

"'The president can do so, of couse,' said General Corbin, "but it was plain to be seen," added Mr. Long, "that the president would never do it on the recomendation of Mr. Corbin."

DUEL AT MONACO.

Count Tolstoi and Count Tarnowski Use Pistols and Swords.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Nice, April 5.—In the duel fought on the frontier of Monaco yesterday between Count Kantouzoff Tolstoi, a lieutenant in a Cossack regiment, and Count Tarnowski, secretary of the Austrian legation at Washington, the umpire decided, that owing to the gravity of the offence the honor of the principals required the use of pistols first and then swords.

The meeting was in consequence of a public altercation, the cause of which is not known. Two shots were exchanged without a hit and in the first assault with swords Count Tarnowski was wounded in the forearm.

Russell Harrison Satisfied.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Indianapolis, April 5.—It was reported from New York today that Russell B. Harrison intended to contest the will of his father, with the view of obtaining a portion of the estate direct. Howard Gale, Mr. Harrison's attorney, said this afternoon that the report was unfounded. Mr. Harrison, he said, is entirely satisfied.

Victims of the Plague.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Cape Town, April 6.—Five corpses of victims of the bubonic plague were found in Cape Town today. Seven additional cases have been officially reported, six of these being Europeans, and one of the latter being a yeoman at Green Point camp.

DEATHS OF A DAY.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

New York, April 5.—Colonel Robert Wallace is dead at the residence of his sister, Mrs. Alexander Elliott, in Jersey City, after a prolonged illness. Colonel Wallace was born in Easton, Pa., 80 years ago. He served as a captain in the United States army in the Mexican war and was made colonel of a western regiment in the Union army in the Civil war. After the war he lived for many years in the state of Washington. The interment will be at Mauch Chunk, Pa.

JAPAN ISSUES AN ULTIMATUM

Russia's Reply Concerning Manchuria Is Not Satisfactory to the Mikado.

RESULT OF CONFERENCE

A Second and More Peremptory Remonstrance Demanding a Reply Within a Stated Period Will Be Addressed to Russia—A Demand That Amounts to an Ultimatum. Japan Taking Measures with a View to Approaching Hostilities.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

London, April 6.—"Russia's reply concerning Manchuria being unsatisfactory, the Japan government has decided," says the Yokohama correspondent of the Daily Mail, wiring Thursday, "after a conference with the heads of the army and navy and of the departments of finance and foreign affairs, to address a second and more peremptory remonstrance, demanding a reply within a stated period. This remonstrance, communicated through the Japanese minister in St. Petersburg, almost amounts to an ultimatum."

London, April 6.—"Japan is taking measures with a view to hostilities with Russia," says the Pekin correspondent of the Daily Express. "She has entered into an arrangement with Liu Kun Yi, viceroy of Nankin, who is acting on behalf of the other friendly viceroys and governors, regarding the course they will pursue in the way of aiding Japan against Russia. It is understood that they have promised to place the telegraphic communications and transport facilities at the service of Japan."

St. Petersburg, April 5.—The Russian government concludes a lengthy statement respecting the Manchurian agreement in these words: "While the Russian government maintains its present organization in Manchuria to preserve order in the vicinity of the broad frontiers of Russia and remains faithful to its original and oft-repeated political programme, it will quietly await the further course of events."

NEW AFFIDAVIT IN THE PATRICK CASE.

Brother of Charles F. Jones Tells of a Chloroform Order.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

New York, April 5.—It was announced at the district attorney's office today that an affidavit had been receeived from William L. Jones, of Texas, brother of Charles F. Jones, saying that in July and August, 1900, he sent bottles of chloroform to his brother, William, R. M. Rice's valet.

The affidavit says that Charles F. Jones said he wanted the drug for a friend who wanted to make toothache drops. Assistant District Attorney Osborne declared that he would procure in court the brother from Texas if necessary to hold Albert T. Patrick, the lawyer who is charged with having caused Rice's death.

REVOLUTION IN ARCHITECTURE

President McCurdy Lays the Cornerstone of New Building of Mutual Life Insurance Company.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

New York, April 5.—The beginning of a revolution in the architecture of lower New York city was marked today when Richard A. McCurdy, president of the Mutual Life Insurance company, laid the cornerstone of the company's magnificent new building on Cedar street. The building will be fifteen stories high above ground and will reach one hundred feet—four high-studded stories—below ground. This construction was made necessary by the geological character of lower Manhattan Island.

This is the only building that rests on absolute bedrock. Such rigid construction is required for the immense vaults the building will contain, as the least settling would cause their doors to bind. These underground floors will contain 55,000 square feet.

Steamship Arrivals.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

New York, April 5.—Arrived: Pretoria, Hamburg. Cleared: Steamers Lucania, Liverpool; Trave, Naples and Genoa; Ethiopia, Glasgow; Bulgaria, Hamburg. Sailed: Rotterdam, Rotterdam. Bremen—Arrived: Lahn, New York via Southampton. Genoa—Arrived: Aller, New York via Gibraltar and Naples. Cherbourg—Sailed: Deutschland (from Bremen and Southampton), New York. Prawle Point—Passed: Amsterdam, Rotterdam and Boulogne for New York. Moville—Sailed: Astoria (from Glasgow), New York.

Griffith Wins the Handicap.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

New York, April 5.—E. C. Griffith, of Pascoag, R. I., won the grand American handicap today by killing eighteen straight in the shoot-off, miss and out, and got $600 in cash and the silver cup. The second man was J. L. D. Morrison, of St. Paul, who killed seventeen and he received $500. R. Rahm, of Pittsburg, was third, with fourteen kills, and got $400 in cash. A. H. Fox, of Baltimore, missed his first bird in the shoot-off.

The Riders Salute Miles.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

New York, April 5.—Lieutenant General Miles and a party of friends occupied a box at the Wild West show at Madison Square garden tonight. The cavalry detachments connected with the Wild West show saluted General Miles, who returned the salute.

THE NEWS THIS MORNING.

Weather Indications Today:
FAIR; WARMER.

1 General—Railroad Officials Confer with Employes.
Japan's Ultimatum to Russia.
Favorable Communication from Russia.
Portrait Returned After Twenty-five Years.
2 General—Carbondale News.
3 Local—One Woman's Views.
Musical Gossip.
4 Editorial.
Weekly Letter on Municipal Affairs.
Note and Comment.
5 Local—Social and Personal.
Scientific Salad.
6 Local—Power of the Police Magistrates.
Taylor Silk Strike Settled.
7 Local—Recorder Moir Wants No Quarrel.
Fast Time of New Trolley Company to Wilkes-Barre.
8 Local—West Scranton and Suburban.
9 General—Northeastern Pennsylvania.
Financial and Commercial.
10 Local—Musical Programmes for Easter Sunday in the Churches.
11 Local—Sunday School Lesson for Tomorrow.
Religious News of the Week.
12 Local—Live News of the Industrial World.

GENERAL CLAY DEFIES A SHERIFF

The Famous Duellist Defends His Mansion Against a Posse and Holds the Fort.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Lexington, Ky., April 5.—With the cry, "the vendetta! the vendetta!" on his lips, General Cassius Marcelus Clay, the famous abolitionist and duellist and former United States minister to Russia, this morning led his little bodyguard to battle against a sheriff's posse which had gone to Whitehall, his palatial mansion in Madison county, to serve papers upon the general in a civil case, instituted against him by his daughter, Mrs. Mary B. Clay.

Many shots were fired on each side, and the posse finally departed without accomplishing the purpose of its visit. It is reported that General Clay was wounded in the affray. Fleeing from his supposed enemies, he barricaded himself in his "den," in the mansion, and there he remains, guarded by his faithful servants. Whether or not he is wounded is known only to himself and to his little bodyguard. No physician has been summoned to the house and none dare approach except on invitation.

Today's conflict was directly connected with the domestic woes of General Clay, which have darkened the closing years of his life. The principals in the battle were General Clay and two of his bodyguard, Bud Literell and Jim Bolin, on one side, and Sheriff Colyer, Deputy Terrill and Frank Mason, of Madison county, on the other. The writ which the sheriff sought to serve was one ordering the delivery of some furniture belonging to the general's daughter.

GOVERNOR SIGNS BILLS.

Measure to Punish Kidnapping by Life Imprisonment—Other Bills Made Laws.

Harrisburg, April 5.—Governor Stone today signed the following bills:

To enforce the provisions of section 4, Article XVII of the constitution, to prevent the consolidation of parallel or competing lines of railroad, canal or other corporations.

Authorizing railroad and other transportation companies in Pennsylvania to acquire, hold and dispose of and guarantee the stock and securities of other corporations of this state or elsewhere.

Authorizing railroads heretofore or hereafter constructed to any river forming the boundary line between this and any adjoining state to be built by means of a bridge and its approaches to the middle of such river and there connect with any railroad of such adjoining state.

Validating private sales of real estate of decedents heretofore made under authority of orphans' court upon petition of executors or administrators for payment of debts.

Fixing the term of notaries public.

Enabling Indians to sue and be sued.

To punish kidnapping by life imprisonment.

Validating changes heretofore made in the names of corporations by courts of common pleas.

Providing for the division of the directors or managers of insurance companies into classes and for the election of such directors and managers and making lawful and valid such division and classification of directors or managers of insurance companies when heretofore made.

FOR COMFORT OF CARRIERS.

Postmen Will Be Allowed to Wear Turn Down Collars.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Washington, April 5.—An innovation looking to the comfort of letter carriers throughout the country during the heat of summer probably will be introduced this year by official permission to them to divest their coats on their rounds when felt to be necessary.

It is expected that the postmaster general, in the near future, will issue an order formally granting authority to postmasters for this purpose and modifying the requirements so as to allow the carriers to wear a suitable gray blouse, with turn down collar and a black tie.

Rockefeller Buys a Harbor.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Toledo, April 5.—The Bee publishes a story today to the effect that Dr. Ash, a former resident of this city, has just sold to John D. Rockefeller for $100,000 one hundred and sixty acres in Northern Wisconsin, which Dr. Ash purchased in 1884 for $1,000 on speculation. The tract is said to include the only natural harbor in Northern Wisconsin.

Contract for Milwaukee.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Washington, April 5.—The navy department has awarded the contract for the building of the armored cruiser Milwaukee to the Union Iron works, of San Francisco. The contract price is $2,825,000.

Preparing for Winter Campaign.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

London, April 6.—The Cronstadt correspondent of the Times, wiring Thursday, says that preparations are being generally made by the British forces for winter operations.

COMMUNICATION FROM RUSSIA

The Document Said to Have Produced a Profoundly Favorable Impression.

SALUTARY DEVELOPMENT

No Official Statement as to the Terms Proposed, but It Is Understood That Russia Takes Occasion to Give Positive Assurance of Her Disinterested Sentiments on the Chinese Questions—Significant Statement.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Washington, April 5.—The United States government has received a communication from the government of Russia of unusual importance bearing on interests in China, and particularly those relating to Manchuria. The document is of such a character as to have produced a profoundly favorable impression, and at the state department is looked upon as the most salutary development that has occurred for many months in the problems of the east. As to the exact terms of the communication there is no official statement thus far, although later it doubtless will be communicated to the public. Secretary Hay received it from the Russian ambassador, Count Cassini, last night and took speedy steps to lay it before the president. The latter shared the secretary of state's gratification that a way has been found to dispose of the complications over the Manchurian question and to bring Russia into strong accord with the other powers. At the Russian embassy no information was obtained as to the communication, Count Cassini asking to be excused from all inquiries.

While there is an entire absence of authoritative information, yet it is understood that Russia now takes occasion to give positive assurance of the disinterested sentiments which have animated her throughout the consideration of Chinese questions. As to Manchuria, it is made clear that Russia's course never has varied in the purpose to leave that province an integral part of China and to retire the Russian troops as rapidly as safety would permit. This, moreover, it is made plain in the communication, has been Russia's course throughout, notwithstanding assertions to the contrary.

Aspirations for Peace.

But as a more signal evidence of Russia's purpose, and in harmony with the czar's aspirations for peace and harmony between the nations, the Russian government now gives assurances of the most definite and satisfactory character as to the execution of this purpose. The extent of the assurances can be best judged by the impression made in the highest official quarter here that the threatened crisis over the Manchuria has been completely averted.

The Russian communication is the more significant, coming at a moment when the press advices from Europe asserted that Russia was collecting an army of 300,000 men for the purpose of holding Manchuria without reference to the desire of the other powers. There is no doubt that Russia has a large military force in Manchuria, so that had she determined to hold the province she has the military establishment already on the ground prepared to maintain her occupancy.

To the officials in Washington one of the most gratifying features of Russia's action is that it is responsive to Secretary Hay's note of March 1, last. This note had been previously communicated to the Chinese minister at Washington and advised him that the United States viewed as unexpedient and dangerous to the interests of China the conclusion of any private territorial or financial agreement.

A copy of this communication was sent to the United States ambassador at St. Petersburg, Mr. Charlemagne Tower, and the Russian ambassador at Washington was also made aware of its contents. While the note never was addressed direct to Russia, yet by the foregoing means it came fully to the attention of the Russian authorities.

Race for Heavy Stakes.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Boston, April 5.—Thomas W. Lawson has accepted an offer of the Kentucky Trotting Horse Breeders' association for a match race at Lexington, Ky., in October, between Boramala and The Abbot for $10,000 a side, the association to add one-half the gate receipts for that day, winner to take all.

Will Study American Methods.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

London, April 5.—The managers of a number of iron manufactories of the Manchester district have decided to send out a picked party of British workmen to the United States for the purpose of studying American methods of workmanship in the automatic tool trade.

Increase in Wages of Railroaders.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Philadelphia, April 5.—A dispatch from Easton, Pa., to the Record says the Lehigh Valley Railroad company has increased the wages of its two hundred passenger conductors and brakemen between here and Jersey City and Buffalo $5 a month.

Pennsylvania Pensions.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Washington, April 5.—A pension of $8 a month has been granted to William H. Finklepaugh, of Justus, Lackawanna county, and one of $10 a month has been granted to William W. Schooley, of Plymouth, Luzerne county.

WEATHER FORECAST.

Washington, April 5.—Forecast for Saturday and Sunday: Eastern Pennsylvania—Rain Saturday with warmer in northern portion; high southeasterly winds, shifting to southwesterly. Sunday, clearing in the early morning.