The Somerset Herald.

WEDESDAY . . . . . April 4, 1877.

HON. CHARLES F. CONANT, Assistant Secretary of the Treasury, has been placed in charge of the syndicate business in London, and Gov. McCormick, of Arizona, Secretary of the Republican National Committee, has been tendered and accepted Mr. Conant's place as Assistant Secretary of the Treasury.

THE effect of the President's policy in attempting to conciliate the South by placing a Democrat from that section in his Cabinet, and distributing other positions among members of that party, may be judged by the facts given by a correspondent of the Cincinnati *Times* concerning the treatment of one of the Republican electors for that section.

COMPACTS between railroads regulating the rates of freights, appear to be made, only to be broken. It is again announced by the eastern papers, that war has been renewed between the New York Central Railroad Company and the Baltimore & Ohio road, and that rates from the west are being rapidly reduced. This will be good news for shippers, but not for stockholders.

ANOTHER distinguished Democrat has gone to join that innumerable caravan, that have left their country for their country's good. OAKEY HALL, Ex-Mayor of New York has mysteriously disappeared—"gone abroad," for fear of being "blowed on" by TWEED and SWEENY who are about disgorging part of their stolen wealth, on a compromise with the city of New York, and have threatened to disclose all they know of the "ring" of which HALL was a member.

Forney's Press asserts that nothing but the "transfer of the State Capital to Philadelphia will call into the Legislative service of the Commonwealth the men who are best fitted to protect and promote all her great interests."

Philadelphia sends more political bummers to the Legislature, than does the whole balance of the State, and we presume the *Press* means that if she is made the Capital, she will condescend to elevate the standard of her members. Judging from the heft of average Philadelphia members a residence, or sojourn in that city, is not conducive to legislative ability or morality, and the *Press* can only induce a change of public sentiment on that point, by adducing the example.

THE Democrats propose to organize the House that will meet in extra session in June. Of that there can be very little doubt. A correspondent of the Cincinnati *Gazette* gives a hint of the bold plan adopted. He says: "Facts have come to light to show that the Democrats are playing a sharp game to secure the organization of the next House. While some of the most prominent officers of the last House are busily circulating the report that the roll of the Clerk will show only ten Democratic majority, it is now discovered that the roll determined on will show a majority of about twenty. There has been an attempt to keep this very quiet, even to the Democracy. It is alleged as ten so as to lead the Republicans to work for overcoming this small majority only. Gentlemen who have talked with these officers have ascertained that they are greatly frightened at the strengthening prospects of the Republicans being able to control the organization. In this connection it is certain that a concerted attempt to create the impression in the South that certain alleged Republican pledges have been violated, are a part of the efforts to counteract the tendency toward Democratic assistance in the organization of the House for the Republicans."

THE President having determined to send a commission of eminent citizens to Louisiana, to ascertain if some peaceable measures cannot be adopted to satisfactorily adjust the claims of the rival State Governments, and originate a policy restoring the supremacy of the civil power, has tendered the positions to the following named gentlemen, who have accepted them, and have started for New Orleans.

Judge Charles B. Lawrence, of Illinois; ex-Governor J. C. Brown, Tennessee; Gen. Joseph B. Hawley, of Connecticut; General John M. Harlan, of Kentucky, and Wayne MacVeagh, of Pennsylvania.

Charles B. Lawrence, of Illinois, was a Justice of the State Supreme Court for nine years, part of the time as Chief Justice. In January last, after General Logan's name was withdrawn, he was the Republican candidate for Senator, but was defeated by Justice David Davis.

John C. Brown, of Tennessee, was an old line Whig, before the war, served during the rebellion in the Confederate army, becoming a Major General, and was elected Governor of the State in 1870, and again in 1872. He was a leading candidate for Senator at the time of Andrew Johnson's election in January, 1875.

John M. Harlan, of Kentucky, served in the Federal army during the war, and was Attorney General of the State; in 1871 he was the Republican candidate for Governor. He has been the law partner of ex-Secretary Bristow, and was prominently named in connection with a cabinet appointment.

The other two members are well known—General Hawley having seen long service in Congress and at the head of the Centennial Commission; while Wayne MacVeagh has long been active in Pennsylvania politics.

WE really do not see why the President and his Cabinet should waste their time wrestling with complicated affairs of State, when the Philadelphia *Times* and one or two other Independent journals, are so willing and so competent to relieve them of their cares. They have it all so pat, that their superabundant knowledge will slop over despite them. For instance, what the *Times* does'nt know about running the Government, from the settlement of the Southern complications, to the perfect enforcement of Civil Service reform, is'nt worth knowing. If Government contracts were not so odious, it would be true economy to give that journal the job of running the machine.

Its self abnegation and tender care of the people's interests, are as remarkable as they are unselfish and admirable. Or why not appoint its editor-in-chief dictator, and have done with it.

LAST week the President invited the two claimants of the Gubernatorial chair of South Carolina to come to Washington with the object of settling, if possible, the differences in that State. MR. CHAMBERLAIN quietly took the cars and arrived at the capital, and at once declared himself prepared to do all in his power to forward the undertaking. He announced his firm conviction of the entire tenability of his claims to be recognized as Governor, his ability to maintain it by evidence and argument, but at the same time expressed his willingness to submit to any decision the President and his advisers may arrive at. On the other hand Mr HAMPTON with the insolence of the bully, returned an impudent answer, but determined to come nevertheless. At Wilmington, at Richmond, at Petersburg and at other points, he was met by large numbers of the late rebels to whom he made inflammatory and denunciatory speeches in the old Confederate vein, boasting of the victory he and his followers had won at the late election with the shot-gun and revolver, and swearing that "My people tell me to hold on, and so long as they have the right to give such advice, so help me God, I will hold on."

Such is the tone of the two men and such the aspect of the question with which the President has to deal.

We hope he will stand firmly by the right, and not give way to the plantation bluster and bullying of the late slave driver. But in view of late developments we fear us much, that an excessive desire for conciliation may induce a surrender of this unquestionably Republican State to the control of those who inaugurated the late political campaign by the Hamburg Massacre, and other deeds of violence and blood. The insolence and bluster of Wade Hampton can only be accounted for on the theory of intimidating the President and his advisers. Oh! if the President would only sit down on him.

OUR Washington correspondent informs us that the deliberations of the Cabinet yesterday ended in a decision that the troops shall be practically withdrawn from South Carolina, and that the contest between Messrs. Chamberlain and Hampton shall be determined by the State Courts. Of course, this means the expulsion of the Republican leader and the installation of Hampton as the chief executive of the State. The proposition submitted by Mr. Chamberlain as a basis of settlement seem to us exceedingly fair, and the tribunal he proposed to create would have been in its composition more satisfactory than the commission which is about to leave for Louisiana. The rejection of the proposition is ascribed to legal considerations, and with it seems to have ended the last chance of a compromise. Hampton's unyielding arrogance proved more potent than Chamberlain's conciliatory suggestions, and the experiment resolved upon by the Administration will at once begin. Hampton would make no bargain, but he has put on record promises the value of which remains to be tested. This is not the solution of the South Carolina problem which we have desired. It is a solution which justifies some anxiety. It has not been arrived at hastily, however, and we are not yet fully advised as to all the details.—*New York Times.*

The Story of a Murderer.

CLEVELAND, March 27.—A despatch from Youngstown, Ohio, says Charles M. Stirling, who was to have been hung to-morrow for the murder two years ago of a young German girl named Lizzie Grumbucker, was yesterday respited by Governor Young till the 21st of April next. The mystery which has surrounded the accused was to-day intensified by parties who claim to be his mother and brother from Maxwell, Ontario, arriving in time and visiting him in jail. He has since his second trial commenced claimed that his parents resided there, and gave the names of different members of the family, and to-day, when his supposed mother was taken into his presence, she rushed forward to embrace him, when he coolly drew back, saying she was not his mother; he never knew her and had never seen her; that he had never been in Maxwell; that his name was not Charles M. Stirling, and that he had invented the story he has told so often; that he was once intimate with the real Charles M. Stirling, and has assumed his name. Mrs. Stirling is positive this is her son, though he left home seven years ago.

The Mennonites of Manitoba.

OTTAWA, March 29.—The parliamentary committee on immigration met to-day. Jacob Y. Shantz, father of the Mennonite settlement in Manitoba, was examined on the progress made by that colony. He said the Mennonites were well satisfied with the country, which was superior in every respect to that of Russia. The harvest of last year was the first they had reaped, and it gave entire satisfaction. The money brought out by the Mennonites averaged $75 to each individual; they had a language of their own, but all spoke low Russian. He said others were ready to emigrate from Russia if they received assistance. Those who had gone to the United States were also well satisfied.

By our Special Correspondent.

OUR WASHINGTON LETTER.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Mar. 31, 1877.

THE WEATHER.

The weather of late has been exceedingly unpleasant. Snow, sleet, rain, and cold winds. The Equinoctial has been visiting us with a vengeance. It has been colder than has been experienced at this season of the year for the past fifteen years.

BACKWARDNESS OF SPRING.

The farmers around are usually pretty well ahead with their spring work by this time, but on account of the backwardness of this spring little farm work has been done.

The broad streets of Washington are yet in a filthy condition. The street sweepers are seldom seen plying their vocation. For the want of adequate appropriation by Congress for the improvement of the city, the thousands of poor laborers are still idle.

PRESIDENT HAYES ACKNOWLEDGES HIMSELF FALLIBLE.

The fallibility of private judgment is so frequently illustrated in the actions of our public men that it commands approval when we witness a willingness on the part of a legislator or an executive officer to alter his course when it is made evident that he has been wrong. President Hayes has repeated time and again that he will turn back when he finds he has been in error in the adoption of any policy. The adage attributed to Crockett, to "be sure your right, then go ahead," is very good if you happen to have judged correctly, but if after having applied the crucial test it be made clear that expected results will not follow operating causes, then it were for the better to follow the proposed rule of the President "to turn back." Doggedness is not wisdom, nor is it a proof of weakness if a public man be guided by the lamp of experience. The country will only be doing simple justice by applying this rule in placing an estimate upon the President's future policy in the administration of public affairs. Let him "turn back" when it becomes evident that he is wrong, and "go ahead" when it becomes obvious that he is right. In this he will be sustained by all fair thinking men.

THE PRESIDENCY, THE REWARD OF MERIT.

President Hayes is the nineteenth occupant of the Presidential Chair, Tyler, Fillmore, and Johnson having filled vacancies created by death. Of each of the Chief Magistrates chosen either by electoral college or by Congress, it may be said that his elevation was a reward for patriotic services. Washington, Adams, and Jefferson had distinguished themselves in the revolutionary struggle for severance from the mother country; Madison, Monroe, and J. Q. Adams, had given the important aid of their brilliant talents to the building up of the new republic; Jackson and Harrison had distinguished themselves in the war of 1812, the result of which was the advancement of our own country to a more elevated position in the list of nations; Van Buren and Polk had been in public service and given efficient support to Jackson in his contests with his political enemies; Taylor and Pierce had gained military renown in the war with Mexico; Buchanan had gained reputation as a Senator, as a Secretary of State, and as Minister to England; Lincoln in his controversy with Douglass for the United States Senatorship, gave indubitable proof that in a contest in opposition to the aggressions in the South for the extension of the institution of slavery, he would be an efficient leader; Grant and Hayes became prominent during the late war of the rebellion. The retrospect shows that the people of this country are wont to look to the records of candidates for the highest office in their gift, before deciding for whom to vote. Their fame in the estimation of posterity will depend upon faithfulness in the discharge of official duties. The good deeds and "the evils which men do, live after them." If those now in power will only recognize this, the country as well as the reputation of each will be the gainers.

THE DUAL GOVERNMENTS.

The heads of the dual State government in South Carolina are now in Washington, and are the "lions" of the day. Chamberlain has had interviews with the President and Cabinet, and his admitted ability has been brought into requisition to impress them favorably. Hampton attracts crowds to his quartors at Willards, all anxious to see the man who has occupied so much of public attention for months past. He is a gentleman who possesses rare magnetism which binds friends and conciliates enemies. The settlement of the South Carolina "unpleasantness" is near at hand. A speedy termination of the controversy is very desirable.

ALEX. H. STEPHENS.

It is astonishing with what tenacity Hon. Alexander H. Stephens, of Georgia, holds on to life. He yet lingers on his bed of sickness at the National Hotel, in this city, although his demise has been looked for from day to day for months. Mr. Stephens was sixty-five years of age on the 12th day of last month.

PRESIDENT HAYES AND LADY AS PRACTICAL REFORMERS.

That President Hayes is going to be a *reformer* in more cases than one, is very evident. Throwing politics aside, he and his family have already innovated customs, which, in our opinion, are honored in the breach rather than in the observance. On Sunday morning, in good old country style, he and his good lady walk arm in arm to the Methodist Church, that being the choice of Mrs. Hayes. There is no liveried servant and foot man called into service to roll him and his to the altar of his God. He approaches it in the character of an humble citizen, claiming no distinction on account of his exalted position.

It is *on dit* that Mrs. Hayes has no idea of fostering an exclusive, fashionable subservience on the part of those of her sex who have entree to the Executive Mansion. She will sustain the dignity of her position, without encouraging a frivolity, which of late has distinguishe what is termed "*Society in Washington*." The matrons of the country will bless her for such a recognition of good taste and evidence of an appreciation of what is "seemly" in the social bearing of the wife of a Republican President.

It is said that the Secretary of the Treasury will, in the organization of the working force of his Department, take cognizance of the well-known fact that several of the same family hold positions under him.

This should not be permitted unless the members of such family have wives and children of their own depending on them for support. Then again there are many employed who have an abundance of this world's goods upon which they can rely for sustenance, while there are hundreds of the impecunious equally or better qualified asking employment. In the past, promises of reform in these particulars have been widely advertised, but these promises have been "to the ear," having never been fulfiled. We will see if the present announcement is to be another "tub thrown to the whale."

The crowds of applicants for office which had congregated at the Capital are wondering how the President and his Cabinet can be so ungrateful. It is said that in the Post Office Department alone more than fifteen thousand applications have been filed. It is very certain that not one in a hundred of the expectants will be gratified by having his petition complied with. It is a satisfactory reflection that in our country so many are willing to sacrifice personal comfort and interest for the public good.

DELTA.

What John D. Lee Told Years Ago.

SAN FRANCISCO, March 25.—The *Call* publishes an interesting interview with Capt. John Morse, concerning the Mountain Meadows massacre The gentleman referred to has figured during many years of an eventful life as a frontiersman, prospecter, trapper, and trader, and was in Utah prior to the Mormon settlement, and for many years after it. At the time of the massacre he was living with some bands of Indians not more than 30 miles from Mountain Meadows, and two days after the tragedy he visited the scene and saw the mangled bodies of the slaughtered emigrants lying on the ground as they had been left by the destroying horde of Mormon fanatics and their allies, the Indians. Capt. Morse was an intimate acquaintance of Lee, and this departed saint, in a conversation occurring years before the trial, admitted to Morse his complicity in the atrocity, but, as in his confession, he consistently, in his off-hand declarations, threw the responsibility of the butchery upon the leaders of the Mormon Church, and directly implicated, as accessory before and after the fact, Brigham Young. Morse disputes Lee's statement that there were 500 Indians present, claiming that there were not more than 300 in that whole section of the country. The butchery was planned by Mormons and almost entirely done by them, the Indians not killing over half a dozen. He says plunder was the chief incentive to the massacre. At that time the Mormons were excessively poor, having no money, and scarcely anything else. They would trade their produce with the Indians even for old clothes. The train was a very rich one, and excited their cupidity. Morse was very much with Lee during his residence in Southern Utah, and the latter unbosomed himself freely on the subject of the massacre, which seemed to so dwell on his mind that he constantly reverted to it.

Concerning the implication of Brigham Young with the massacre, Morse relates an interview with Lee. "The last time I saw him was in Mahon County. I went to his ranche, and he received a letter—in fact I brought it to him myself from a place called Kanab—which stated that troops were on Lee's track hunting him up, and he had better move on a little further. He showed me the letter, and I said: 'Lee, this is all an infernal lie; there are no troops on your track at all. This is all put up by those Mormons in St. George, where Brigham Young was, whom Brigham has influenced to get you out of the way. I told him, 'You take my advice and go into the Gentile camp and give yourself up, and make a clean breast of the whole thing, and you will get along first rate.' I asked him if Brigham Young was interested in the massacre. He at first said no. I said I knew better, and he said. 'Of course there is no use lying to you: as a matter of course. I was under orders; Brigham Young knew everything. He was with me from the time we left Salt Lake, but the intention was to let them pass on to Muddy and then catch them at Muddy. Do you suppose that any of those men—you know more of them—do you suppose they would have entered into this arrangement if they had not believed in the Mormon Church, and that this thing emanated from Brigham, their Mormon prophet?"

Capt. Morse says no attempt was made to procure his testimony further than that he was sent for to attend the first trial, but he did not appear, being down on the Colorado River, near Fort Yuma. Lee was confidential with him on account of their frequent, solitary companionship on prospecting and other expeditions, and because he knew Morse had other sources of information from the Indians. Capt. Morse is now a resident of this city.

"Road Agents" in the Black Hills.

DEADWOOD, March 26.—A bold attempt to rob the Cheyenne and Black Hills stage, bound north, was made near here last evening. As the coach was coming down Whitewood cannon, about two and a half miles from Deadwood, five masked men walking along the road before the stage suddenly wheeled, ordered the driver to stop, and instantly commenced firing on the coach. At the first fire Johnny Slaughter, the driver, was killed, and Walter Iler, of Deadwood, slightly wounded in the hand and arm. The horses started suddenly, throwing the driver, Iler, and another passenger off the coach. The stage was not stopped till it arrived in town, leaving the driver on the road, dead. About twenty shots were fired at the coach, but all the passengers, except Iler, were unhurt. A party went out and found the body of the driver with a charge of buck-shot in his breast. The robbers got no booty. The Sheriff and a party are in pursuit of the road agents. The Sheriff offers $500 reward for them dead or alive.

Fatal Affray.

TOPEKA, March 27.—At six o'clock this evening a shooting affray occurred between J. Clark Swayse, editor of the *Blade*, and John W. Wilson, formerly of the Topeka *Times*, in which Swayse was killed. Testimony before the Coroner's jury shows that Swayse drew his revolver first, but that they fired simultaneously. Wilson received only a slight flesh wound on the cheek. Wilson was arrested and lodged in jail. Swayse was shot through the heart.

Death of a Lady Lawyer.

CHICAGO, March 27.—News was received to-day of the death of the famous lady lawyer of this city, Miss Alta M. Hulett, in San Diego, California, yesterday.

A DESTRUCTIVE DISASTER.

Another Mill-Dam Gives Way.

FACTORIES, MILLS, DWELLINGS, PUBLIC BUILDINGS, RAILWAYS, &C., SWEPT AWAY——MILLIONS OF DOLLARS' WORTH OF PROPERTY LOST.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., March 27.—A Hartford despatch to the *Bulletin* says the Staffordville reservoir dam gave way about 7 o'clock this morning, sweeping everything along the valley from Staffordville through Old Furnace to Stafford Springs. The National Bank of Staffordville, the Congregational Church, L. W. Crane's store, the freight depot and all the houses on the island at Stafford Springs were destroyed. All the bridges between the scene of the disaster and Tolland, both on the railroad and highway, was washed off. The probable loss in Stafford alone is $2,000,000. No loss of life is yet reported. The loss in Staffordville is very heavy, the mills suffering more or less damage, and work will have to be suspended in them until the reservoir can be rebuilt.

F. W. Converse & Co.'s mills have four sets of cards and 1,000 spindles, and employed a large number of hands. The Home Company, the Home Manufacturing Company and the Home Woollen Company are also situated there. The latter runs 3,360 spindles. The Staffordville Woollen Company has three sets of cards. The exact loss of these companies is not known. In Stafford Springs are the mills of Charles Fox & Co., six sets of cards; the Converse Company, with seven sets of cards and 1,800 spindles; in Ellis, Converse & Co., the Mineral Springs Manufacturing Company, six sets of cards and 1,740 spindles. In Stafford are the Valley Company's mills' the Glenn Mills, 2,000 spindles; the Granite Mills, 5,500 spindles; the Valley Manufacturing Company, the Phœnix Woollen Mills and the Rossiter Company, each with four sets of cards.

The Granite Mills and tenement houses at Staffordville were all swept away, and also the stores and storehouses. State Senator Julius Converse telegraphed that all the dams on the stream from Staffordsville to a point below the Springs, with all the bridges, are gone. Probably not less than thirty houses are destroyed, and the loss will be very large. The dam, which was raised six feet during the past winter, was considered safe, but the heavy rains of Monday afternoon and evening filled the reservoir to overflowing. The breaking away was wholy unexpected, but the reservoir being set some distance above the village, the alarm reached the people in time to effect their safety.

HARTFORD CT., March 27.—The losses by the disaster are estimated at from $500,000 to $1,000,000. One person, Richard Spedding, a well-known citizen of Stafford Springs is thought to have been drowned. The dam broke at about 6 o'clock this morning, after the workmen had been engaged all night trying to prevent the disaster. The two mills nearest the dam are not injured. The machine shop of Samuel Anidon and two houses were destroyed. The mill of the Phœnix Manufacturing Company, at Hydeville, was not materially damaged. The dam at Stafford Hollow, an iron bridge, one tenant house and a grist mill were washed away, and the roadside cut out for thirty-five feet. The dam at Glenville went, but the mill stood firm. At Stafford Springs the dam was carried off, and then the Granite Mill Company's dam was also carried away. Eight tenant houses belonging to the mill were swept away, together with L. W. Crane's store, the Home Mutual Fire Insurance Company's building and Congregational Church in succession. The Granite Mills were damaged by being undermined, but stand. The Stafford National Bank, Gerry Stables, the block of Baker & Heald, the storehouse and granary of G. O. Cleveland, the warehouses of W. Smith & Co., Shoddy and Flock, dealers in lumber; the coal yard of C. J. Holmes and the borough hall and engine house were all swept away. Among the losses are the Granite Mill, $50,000; the town of Stafford, $50,000; ten dams, about $35,000; Smith & Co., $30,000 to $40,000; G. O. Cleveland, $5,000; Thompson & Whiter, $10,000; L. W. Crane, $10,000; Congregational Church, $25,000 Most of the others lose from $10,000 down. The whole region is devastated. The damage below Stafford Springs, if any, is not included in the estimate of this dispatch.

ANOTHER ACCOUNT.

HARTFORD, CT., March 27.—The *Courant* gives the following particulars of the disaster. When the water burst out of the reservoir it struck and carried off a side building by the Converse Mills, the dwelling house of Otis Halbrook and two bridges. It left the mill and Basch's mill unhurt. Turning with the channel it destroyed Amadon's machine shop, several tenements and the house of Parley Howe, then the dams of the Phoenix Company, Howe Company and Valley Company were washed away, though the mills were not hurt. Growing greater, the volume of water reached Stafford Hollow, tore away an iron bridge, grist mill and several old bridges; making a new channel by Beebe's store it cut through the high way a passage thirty-five feet deep and spread over the meadow below there, but was gathered again at a gorge a half mile above the borough of Stafford Spring. Here it carried off the Glen Company's dam, but the mills and tenements escaped. From here a mass about thirty feet high, made up of debris, as much as of water, came rolling to the dam of the Converseville Company. The people, who had gathered in large numbers, acted like crazy persons; in some cases had to be carried to places of safety. The Converse mill was not destroyed, but the dam went, and also the dam of the Grant mill. The mill building was flooded and somewhat undermined, but did not fall. Eight tenements belonging to this Company were knocked over and literally ground to pieces; they disappeared or were ruined. The store of L. W. Crane, the Stafford National Bank building, containing also a savings bank, Banter & Heale's block, the building of the Home Mutual Fire Insurance Company, the Congregational Church, the two story warehouse of G. O. Cleveland, the livery stable of Levi Gerry and Gerry Bros., the warerooms of Wm Smith & Co., clock dealers; the coal and lumber yard of C. J. Holmes, the freight depot, the town hall, the engine house, a quarter of a mile of track and fifteen loaded freight cars were swept away. The accident is a terrible blow to the industries of the Valley. About one thousand hands are thrown out of work and business is sadly crippled. The loss down as far as Stafford's Springs is estimated at from half a million to a million dollars. Much of the amount is in small sums. Among large items are the reservoir dam, which cost $15,000; the dwelling of Otis Halbrook, $15,000; the machine shop of G. S. Amadon and two houses, $10,000; grist mill etc, $3,000; the Glenville Company, $4,000; the Converse Mill, $5,000

HARTFORD, March 27.—Reports this evening say that two lives were lost, Richard Spedding and Wm. Burwell.

NEW YORK, March 27.—The *World's* special from Hartford says the reservoir which gave way this morning at Staffordville is about a mile long by a quarter to a half a mile wide. Ever since the addition was put on there have been fears of the dam. The recent filling was its first test. In spite of open gateways and other precautions a leak began about the waste-pipe. The water constantly made its way through the dam along the edges of the pipe, as had been predicted, the wall having been made of frozen material, which the approach of spring loosened. Men were at work all day Monday trying to patch up the holes, and only stopped Tuesday morning when certain of failure. The water driving the great pipe out of its place, tore the dam to pieces about six o'clock and started down the valley. As usual in such cases, the water chose queer and unaccountable paths, sparing some buildings directly in its way, while it tore others which seemed sure to stand.

Of twelve mills on the stream only two were carried away. A third, the Granite Mill, was damaged, while the rest escaped.

The stream beginning at Staffordville flows through Hydeville, Glenville, and Conversville, and enters Willimantic river at Stafford Springs. This place, with its three thousand inhabitants, has become a summer resort on account of its mineral springs. Its business is all incidental to the manufacturing interests. The flood washed about a tenth part of the village out of existence, including most of the central and active business portion. From the moment the flood struck the town to its subsidence there was not ten minutes' time, yet the damage done in that time was more than can be made up in years, if it does not entirely prostrate the community there. Mr. E. C. Pinney, of the Glen Mills, rode his horse down in front of the flood, and gave such warning that not more than one life was lost. The people had been expecting the warning, and at once found places of safety. Though the number in peril was not great, the stream bed being in a narrow gorge and the houses out of danger, the whole community was out to see the flood, which was a sight never to be forgotten.

The water did not seem like water at all, but advanced like a great mass of sticks and stones rolling over and over. It gorged a channel thirty-five feet deep in the road, tore up trees by the roots, and carried off soil from gardens, substituting rocks, so that its track is a waste. Every dam on the stream was carried off, and, instead of diffusing itself, the volume of the flood grew greater all the way until the Willimantic river was reached below Stafford Springs The only damage done was to roads and bridges. The river was able to absorb the flood without further injury to property. The whole district where the stream had created industry is now changed into a waste channel.

The damage below Stafford Springs is not easy to get at. So far as reported from in many directions it consists of injury to bridges and roads, but no other mills, it is thought, are destroyed. The following from the Superintendent of the New London Northern Railroad is the fullest account received:

My advices to this hour, 3 o'clock p. m., are that the track is all gone from Stafford Passenger Depot, half a mile south, and with the track went freight cars and the freight house. Two of the Howe truss bridges are gone—one two miles south of Stafford, 90 feet long, and another one-half mile below that 148 feet long Two miles south of Tolland the track is washed away, and the South Willington bridge is probably undermined. South of that another piece of track is washed out, and still another bridge endangered. Two bridges at South Coventry are in great danger, the water being up to the floor and reported still rising. The washout between Lebanon and South Windham, which occurred last night, and which detained our boat train, has been repaired. No danger is reported on other railroads in this State.

Escaped Criminal Caught at Harrisburg.

HARRISBURG, March 29.—John Hopewell and John McAbee, negroes, who escaped from the Martinsburg, West Virginia, prison, in December, were arrested near this city to-day. McAbee made a determined effort for his liberty, but an officer compelled him to surrender by firing a revolver at him. The negroes had been employed at the Pennsylvania Steel Works, below Harrisburg, for several weeks. They, with a confederate, who is still at large, robbed a jewelry store, and one of them had been sentenced to the penitentiary for five years and the other for three years. Before sentence was carried into execution they obtained their freedom by knocking down the jailor. Thompson, the other burglar, was recaptured and taken to the penitentiary, but he escaped from that institution.

Wholesale Bigamy.

PEORIA, Ill, March 29.—Dr. Myers alias Filligraff, the bigamist, was held to $1,000 bail here to-day, in default of which he was remanded. Five women have already sent word to the officers that they are his wives. These women were present at the trial to-day, all of whom he has married since the 26th of last October. It is thought that he may have twenty or thirty wives in various parts of the United States.

Killed by his Son.

NEW YORK, March 31.—Last night a son of Alfred Cox, of West Bowdoin, Maine, 14 years old, shot and killed his father as the latter was returning from church. The father and son had both been at church; the son was making a slight disturbance, and his father told him to go forward and occupy another seat. The boy took his hat and left the church. Going directly home, he took a gun, and meeting his father as he was entering the yard, he discharged the gun, the charge entering the man's stomach, killing him instantly. The lad is said to be insane.

What it Costs to be a Republican Elector in Florida.

WASHINGTON, March 27.—The attention of the President has been called to the statement to which Mr. Humphreys, one of the Republicans in Florida, has been subjected since the Presidential election. Mr. Humphreys has been for ten years the agent of the Southern Express Company at Pensacola, Florida, and has lived in that State since 1826—over fifty years, and is not therefore a much despised and much dreaded "carpet-bagger." When the time came for the meeting of the Electoral College of the State, he applied for a leave of absence for a few days, to go to Tallahassee and attend the meeting. This request was refused by the Superintendent of the Express Company, a Democrat. Mr. Humphreys, however, went to Tallahassee, and cast his vote for Hayes, but was immediately suspended from his position as agent by the superintendent. Through the intercession of some prominent Republicans the President of the company, Mr. Plant, who has his headquarters in New York, ordered that Mr. Humphreys should be restored to his position as agent. Since that time, he has attended to the business of the office, until a few days ago, when he received a letter from Mr. Plant saying that it had been reported to him that he (Mr. Humphreys) was very unpopular, on account of his having been a Republican Elector, and that in consequence of this fact the business of the company was suffering, and intimating that he would be glad to receive his resignation, it not being the policy of the company to keep men in its employ who are not in political sympathy with the people where the office is located.

The resignation was promptly tendered and accepted. Mr. Humphreys was at the beginning of the war an officer in the Regular Army, but he resigned when Florida passed the ordinance of secession, and entered the rebel service, and served throughout the war as a Confederate officer. At the close of the civil strife he accepted the reconstruction policy in good faith, and identified himself with the Republican party, hoping, thereby, to show the sincerity of his professions. He has arrived here, and all the facts in the case have been laid before the President by some prominent Republicans, who are exerting themselves to secure his appointment to a Federal office in Florida. In consequence of his Republicanism, Mr. Humphreys says he has been deprived of a position which he has filled acceptably to the officers of the Express Company for many years, and his family has been ostracised, socially, by the element in Pensacola who represent the better class of society.—*Cincinnati Times.*

Death From Hydrophobia.

On Christmas eve Michael Crosson, 34 years old, a bar-tender in the saloon of his nephew, James Crosson, at the southwest corner of Eighteenth and Naudain streets, went into the cellar for a glass of ale for a customer. The cellar was dark and Mr. Crosson did not notice a terrier cur lying on the barrel. In groping about in the darkness Mr. Crosson put his hand on the dog's head, and before he could withdraw his hand he was bitten on the third finger of the left hand. The dog was killed that night and the wound was cauterized within two hours. In a few days the finger healed and the affair was almost forgotten. Last Saturday Mr. Crosson felt his hand growing cold, succeeded by numbness and tingling pains. The scar turned red and grew sore, but the redness would entirely disappear in an hour or two. On Monday the pain was felt in the shoulder, and on Tuesday Mr. Crosson, thinking it to be a case of acute rheumatism, sent for Dr. W. Carrol, of 617 South Sixteenth street. Dr. Carroll came in the afternoon, and, knowing nothing about the bite, he thought the pains were rheumatic, and treated them accordingly. At 8 o'clock in the evening the patient had grown alarmingly worse, and Dr. Carroll was again called. He found Crosson reeking with perspiration. His pulse was high and his breathing heavy. His thirst was intense, but he was unable to swallow either water or medicine. When water was offered him he made a tremendous effort to swallow it, causing a spasmodic contraction of the muscles of the neck. Dr. Carroll then learned that Mr. Crosson had been bitten by a dog, and, fully comprehending the case to be one of Hydrophobia, he told the patient's relatives that it would result fatally. At midnight the disease had made terrible progress, and Dr. Forbes was called, and after consulting with Dr. Carroll, nitrite of amyl was administered. The patient was kept under the influence of anodynes until Wednesday morning, when Drs. Ashurst and Winters were called.

Later in the day, while under the influence of morphia and amyl, Crosson was able with great difficulty to swallow water. The patient did not sleep for several nights, and during the intervals, when the pain was slight, he spoke of his approaching death and waited patiently for its arrival. His mind was clear until yesterday morning at 1:30, when in a terrible spasm he jumped out of bed. Four strong men, who were in the room, were hardly able to put the frantic man back in bed. After passing nearly an hour in a most terrible delirium, Crosson sank back utterly exhausted and died. The disease had not reached its height when the patient died, there being no frothing at the mouth; on the contrary a hot dry feeling at the throat.—*Philadelphia Times.*

Floods in Maine.

BOSTON, March 29.—The Maine rivers are still reported to be rising, and fears of serious freshets are apprehended. The bridge over the river at Saco has been closed to travel, being pronounced unsafe. A part of the freight house of the Kennebec and Boston Steamboat Company has been swept away. Plummer's boom, on the Androscoggin river, at Lisbon Falls, has given way, and a large number of logs has been swept down the river The Machias river is reported to be higher than it has been for thirty years, and the mills on its banks and the bridges over it are in imminent peril. Great danger is apprehended from an ice jam in the Androscoggin river above Lewiston.

—Every man in the United States enjoys, as a part of his inalienable right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness, the privilege of making a fool of himself both in public and in private, and this is a privilege in which Mr. Wade Hampton is now indulging with that fervent zest and that proud consciousness of superiority to the rest of mankind which characterize a certain class of Southern politicians.—*New York Times.*

The Mountain Meadows Massacre.

Original Order Concerning It.

NEW YORK, March 28.—A Tucson, Arizona, dispatch says a paper there publishes the following: The following is a correct copy of the original order given concerning the Mountain Meadows massacre. The order, with three affidavits authenticating it, was found among the papers of the late ex-Chief Justice John Titus, of Arizona, and formerly Chief Justice of Utah:

[*Special Order.*]

SALT LAKE CITY, April 19, 1857.

The officer in command of the escort is hereby ordered to see that every man is well prepared with ammunition and to have ready at the time you see these teamsters a hundred miles from the settlement. President Young advises that they should be all killed to prevent them returning to Bridger to join our enemies. Every precaution should be taken, and see that not one escapes.

Secretary is required,

By order of General Dan'l H. Welle.

James Ferguson, Ass't Adjt. Gen.

The original order, with the affidavits, are in my possession, and I have had frequent conversations with the late Judge Titus, my former law partner, in regard to the matter, and he never doubted the genuineness of the order or the guilt of Brigham. Young. L. C. HUGHES.

THE GENUINENESS OF THE DOCUMENT.

SAN FRANCISCO, March 28.—Referring to the despatch from Tuscon, Arizona, to the effect that an order for the Mountain Meadows massacre was found among the papers of the late ex-Chief Justice Titus, Agent Lemar, living in this city, formerly a resident of Salt Lake, says he had the above document at one time in his possession, and had no doubt of its genuineness. It referred, however, to some eighty men who had been teamsters in the army sent to Utah under Col. Albert Sidney Johnston, to escort the new Governor who replaced Brigham Young in 1857. An early fall of snow forced Colonel Johnston and his troops to winter at Fort Bridger, 120 miles east of Salt Lake, and as the Mormon troops under Lieutenant Governor D. H. Wells had burned up two trains of supplies for the United States army east of Green river, the General was forced to put soldiers on rations, and in early spring of 1858 these teamsters were discharged from the service. They preferred to go West, and started for California. They Believed that as non-combatants they would be permitted to pass through Utah unmolested, but as soon as the teamsters came over the mountains and entered Echo Canon they were taken prisoners and made subject to martial law proclaimed some months before by Governor Brigham Young.

A gentleman who was then among the Mormons in Echo Canon, and now residing in this city, saw a small division of eight or ten of those teamsters under Mormon escort on their way westward. The Mormon military authorities thought it prudent to divide the eighty teamsters into small squads, no doubt thinking their purpose could be easier accomplished than if they had been kept together in such a body. The Mormons deny that such massacre ever occurred, or that such order was ever given, but those who had given the subject attention have no doubt the order was issued and the work accomplished.

Diseased Cattle.

WASHINGTON, March 28.—The following circular, relating to the importation of live stock, has been issued by the Treasury Department. The prevalence of the rinderpest in Germany, and of that malady and the foot and mouth disease in England has led this Department to prohibit the importation of neat cattle and the hides of neat cattle from those countries into the United States. By reason of the proximity of Holland and Belgium to Germany and of Ireland to England, the prohibition is hereby extended to embrace such importations from those countries. The Department is informed that the rinderpest is infectious, as well as contagious, and that sheep, horses and swine may be media for its communication. It is also understood, that the litter upon which these animals sleep spreads the disease.

While the Department has no authority under the law to prohibit the importation of horses, sheep and swine, it desires that all measures practicable be taken on the arrival of such animals from the countries named to prevent the possibility of contagious diseases being communicated thereby to stock in the United States.

It is suggested that horses, sheep and swine coming from any of the countries named be examined by experts, and, if necessary, quarantined for a reasonable time, to which, it is presumed, importers, as a rule, will offer no special objection, as it is to the interest to all concerned to prevent the spread of this disease in the United States. Collectors and other customs officers are, therefore, directed to take such action in cases of this character as in their judgment may be necessary. Blooded stock coming from the countries named may be admitted when accompanied by a consular certificate of non-infection, as authorized by the Department's letter of the 10th of March last, it being presumed that such stock is selected with care, and that it would not be taken from herds which are infected with the diseases mentioned.

An Old Man Shot Dead.

CROWN POINT, IND., March 29, 1877.

A most deliberate murder was committed in Lowell this morning. The victim was an old man named Blatchley. He was approached by a man named Myers this morning, and shot down without a moment's warning. His death was instantaneous. Myers at once gave himself up. He expressed no sorrow and gave no cause for the deed. He said he had been thinking about killing Blatchley for some time, and now wanted the law to take its course, as he was ready to die.

Some imaginative