

THE INTER-STATE COMMERCE LAW. LONG AND SHORT HAUL.

The Supreme Court Decides Against the Railroads.

An opinion was rendered by the Supreme Court Monday in the case known as the "long and short haul" case, involving the validity of the provision of the Inter-State Commerce act, prohibiting a higher charge for a short haul than a long haul, appealed from the decision of the Circuit Court of Appeals for the Fifth circuit. The appeal was taken by the railroads.

The Interstate Commerce Commission vs. the Cincinnati, New Orleans & Texas Pacific Railroad Company, the Western and Atlantic Railroad, and the Georgia Railroad. The decision of the court below was affirmed in the main, the opinion holding that in cases of shipments from one state to another on through bills of lading railroad companies could not exempt parties and give them special rates. Justice Holmes delivered the opinion.

The dispute concerning this matter is one that has been continually arising in various parts of the country, and it has been of great public importance, as well as to the interests of commerce as to our railroads in every part of the country, that the question be put at rest. There was also drawn in question in the case the very important one of the power of the Interstate Commerce Commission to fix maximum rates in cases of emergency brought before it, as distinguished from a mere decision that a particular rate is excessive.

The three railroad companies are the connecting lines running from Cincinnati to Augusta, Ga. This litigation began through the complaint of a seller of bugles at Cincinnati to the Interstate Commerce Commission, that the rates to Augusta, at the end of the Georgia Railroad, and to Social Circle, which was a point on the Georgia Railroad, 50 miles below Atlanta, were such as to unfairly discriminate against Social Circle.

The Texas Pacific and the Atlantic and Western railroads claimed in their answer that the rate to Social Circle was the only one made by the consent of the Georgia road on which it is located. The Georgia company admitted that the rates to Social Circle were the rate to Atlanta plus the rate from Atlanta to Social Circle, and contended that they were not excessive, but that the rate to Atlanta being less than it should be because of the competition with lines from that city to Baltimore.

WATCHING THE STEEL MEN.

Their Proposed Organization is Expected to Help Business.

R. G. Din & Co., say: The regular quarterly statement of failures show 4,301, with liabilities of \$57,425,135, against 3,802 last year, with liabilities of \$47,813,683.

As consumers make spring purchases they must lessen stock and compel less buying. The stocks taken in advance of consumers' demands last summer have been distributed far more slowly than was expected, but months of waiting has helped to lighten the load which, it is hoped, spring buying will clear away.

Apprehensions of foreign or financial difficulties have hindered, but are now scarcely felt. Gold exports are rumored, but at this season are so far natural that they have no such power to cause alarm as they had in winter. The gigantic steel combination is expected to have a great influence in sustaining markets and stimulating confidence, and though such operations often miss the success they seek they rarely fail to kindle speculative buying for a time. The sudden advance of 2 1/2 to 3 in bills a week ago has raised Bessemer pig #1 at Pittsburg and the demand for structural forms increases the expectations that prices will advance. Nail associations have given notice of another advance of 15 cents at the end of this month. Bars have been greatly demoralized, but some makers now hope to re-establish the combination, as steel bars will become dearer. The steel companies are expected to produce more than their share \$2 per ton to those who produce less.

A HORRIBLE BUTCHERY.

Gov. Robinson Cables an Account of the Fight at Inyati.

Sir Hercules Robinson, governor of Cape Colony, has cabled to the British government the details of the massacre of white men at Inyati in Natal, including Helder, and Helder, and Helder, which was exclusively reported to the Associated Press on Tuesday.

Assistant Commissioner Graham was murdered by the Matabele at Inyati on March 27. A general massacre of whites followed and they were entirely outnumbered and almost overwhelmed, being unable to make any effective stand against the rush of the native warriors. They managed to get hold of a wagon, and with this they effected a retreat of three miles. Their flight was perceived and they were closely followed the whole three miles.

Some 300 Matabeles then surrounded the wagon and set a stop to its progress, and the last stand with nothing left them but to sell their lives as dearly as they could. They kept off their foes as long as possible with their firearms, and when the blacks closed upon them a heroic and desperate hand-to-hand contest ensued. The whites were superior in numbers, six of the whites were killed, Donovan, the only survivor of the massacre, managed to escape by hiding in the long grass and creeping away undiscovered. Donovan estimates that fully fifty of the Matabeles were killed before the party of white men was overpowered.

BISMARCK'S SIST BIRTHDAY.

Emperor William's Present to the Aged Ex-Chancellor.

Prince Bismarck was 81 years old April 1st and in his honor bands of music played in the Schloss park all the morning. Representatives of the Hamburg senate and several friends waited upon Prince Bismarck, who also received many floral tributes and presents, and a large number of telegrams, including one from Prince Henry of Prussia. Emperor William's present to Prince Bismarck was a photograph of the imperial family, in a group, enclosed in a handsome frame.

Prince Bismarck entered the salon at 11:30, and was affectionately greeted by his son, Count Herbert Bismarck, and by his daughter, Countess Bismarck. After dinner the prince appeared on the balcony, and the assembled bands played a choral. Prince Bismarck said he was pleased at having enjoyed the constant sympathy of the Hamburgers, which he had never lost, as he had several other sympathies. In conclusion he called for cheers for Hamburg and its rulers.

Then followed a brilliant torchlight procession, which occupied 45 minutes in passing. Prince Bismarck stood most of that time, constantly expressing his acknowledgments to those passing. He observed that he was no longer able to move as he did, but that his heart went with them.

GLARA BARTON HEARD FROM.

Distress and Disease Increasing at an Alarming Rate in Armenia.

Glara Barton has telegraphed from Persia as follows: "The distress and disease at Harsh is increasing alarmingly. I have ordered eight physicians with medical supplies to proceed as March from Beyrout at Harsh."

A TRAIN HELD UP.

Three Masked Men Loot the Safe After Blowing It Open.

The east-bound cannon-ball train No. 6 on the St. Louis and Frisco railroad, was held up three miles east of Lebanon, Mo., at 1:05 Wednesday morning by three masked men and the safe blown open and robbed. The robbers boarded the train at Lebanon at 12:30 a. m., and after reaching the scene of the robbery held up the engineer and fireman, stopped the train, and with the engineer in front of them, marched to the express car. The messenger refused to open up and the door was blown open with dynamite, the safe cracked and its contents removed.

Several packages of valuable papers were found beside the track and some money which had been overlooked in the hurry of departure.

The passengers were not molested. The engines were detached and run by the robbers to Sleepers, where it was abandoned. A brakeman hurried back to the city and started Sheriff Jones and a posse on the track of the robbers.

Three strangers who are supposed to be the robbers were seen drinking in one of the saloons at 10 o'clock Tuesday night here and they were seen near the depot by Night Operator Martin only a few minutes before the cannon-ball arrived. The brakeman furnished a fair description of the men to the officers in pursuit and the railway officials are confident they will be speedily apprehended.

While the amount of money secured by the robbers is known to have been considerable, the local express officials will not place an estimate on it.

TELEGRAPHIC TICKETS.

Earthquake shocks were felt Sunday at Rawlins, Wyo.

A dramatic college for ladies is to be started in one of the suburbs of London.

Bernard Mensing set 74,100 tons in seven hours on a typotype machine at St. Louis, Mo.

W. E. Strubinger, 29 Euclid avenue, Cleveland, substituted himself at Detroit, Sunday.

The gold reserve Monday was \$128,711,950, the highest point reached during this administration.

A dispatch from Mexico denies that the rebels will join with Spain against this country.

James Raines and his son Zeb, both miners at Jellico, Tenn., have been fatally shot in drunken quarrels since Saturday.

The Cuban Junta in New York is receiving \$4,000 every month from some mysterious unknown, as well as other anonymous gifts of cash.

GEORGIA TOWN DESTROYED.

Most Disastrous Fire Visits Brunswick, Ga.—Loss \$500,000.

Several years ago Brunswick, Ga., was visited by a conflagration which destroyed it, and on Thursday the disaster was almost repeated. A fire started about 1:30 p. m., which swept away many of the most prosperous business enterprises of Brunswick and for a time it was feared the whole town would be in ashes. The total loss is conservatively estimated at about \$500,000, and the insurance is placed at \$400,000. A strong wind forced the flames and the local fire companies became powerless to check the fire, which was telegraphed for to Savannah, Waycross and Jacksonville, whose departments promptly responded that they would send aid. At 4:30 the fire was gotten under control, but not before one life had been lost, Charles Smith, an employe of the Brunswick & Western railroad, was overcome by the heat and died.

A number of sailing vessels were in danger during the progress of the flames, but all were saved. The flames started on the Brunswick & Western railroad wharves, and within an hour the wharves, two large warehouses, a number of cars, including the freight contained therein, were consumed, entailing a loss to the company of \$200,000, partially insured. The extensive property of the Downing Company, dealer in naval stores, became ignited and the structure with its valuable stock was consumed. The loss is estimated at \$200,000 almost covered by insurance. The flames swept up Bay street and a large portion of the business section of the town was in danger. As it was some thirteen stores, including the stock, were demolished, the loss on these being about \$100,000, insurance \$70,000. The fire started in the Ocean Hotel block, but did not make much headway there, the loss to hotel being about \$20,000.

A PHYSICIAN KILLED HER.

Jackson and Walling Will Make That Defense.

It has just developed that the attorney for Jackson and Walling intend to spring a sensation when the trial comes up on April 7. It is said that they have gathered evidence that neither of their clients was the real murderer of Pearl Bryan, and they intend to show that she died while in the hands of a certain physician and while under the influence of drugs that neither Walling nor Jackson were present at the time, but that they were sent for by the physician and threatened with exposure unless they would at once dispose of the body.

It is also said that Jackson threatened to involve the physician who was the operator and the three joined in the subsequent proceedings. Jackson and Walling's attorneys will also try to show that Pearl Bryan was dead when decapitated.

HEAVY SPANISH LOSSES.

Eight Hundred Said to Have Been Killed in One Battle.

In a fight in Pinar del Rio province, Tuesday, between the forces of Maceo and Colonel Inclan, the latter was seriously wounded, it is rumored, and the Spaniards lost 800 men. The insurgent loss, also, it is said, was heavy.

Torres acknowledges the loss of 67 men by an attack upon an exploring engine near Esperanza, but claims that the insurgent leader Brunel has burned 23 houses in the village of Breaca, Santa Clara. In an engagement at Manzanera, Santa Clara, the insurgents suffered a loss of 100 men.

TEN LIVES WERE LOST IN A FIRE.

SUFFOCATED IN BED.

All Escape Cut off—Several Jumped Through the Windows.

Ten persons perished by suffocation in a Brooklyn tenement early Wednesday morning.

The dead are: August Bruno, 40 years of age; Maria Bruno, 35 years; Alice Bruno, 5 years; Johanna Bruno, 18 months old; Lena Tralla, 21 years old; Nicholas Tralla, 28 years old; Dominick Tralla, 4 years old; their infant 5 days old; Cornelia Marretta, 25 years old.

The fire started in the lower hallway of the building, which is a four-story tenement in Union street, and before the sleeping tenants could be aroused their danger as a result of the fire was cut off. The flames swept up the stairs and the halls and rooms were quickly filled with smoke. Ten of the tenants were suffocated in their beds.

The section of the city where the disaster occurred is near the water front. The majority of the residents are Italians of the poorer class, and they form the biggest colony of that race in Brooklyn. The firemen succeeded in getting the fire under control after a short time. The damage to the building is estimated at \$4,000.

There were many exciting incidents connected with the fire. One man, an Italian, jumped from a window in the third story and escaped with only a few burns and bruises. The family of Joseph Estosto, living in the second story of the house, had a narrow escape from death. When aroused they found their way out and the flames were sweeping into their apartments. Estosto led his wife and three children to the street, except the fire escape the only outlet from the crowded rooms on the upper floors was the narrow wooden stairway, escape by which was cut off soon after the fire started.

GARROTED.

Horrifying Exhibition of Torture at a Spanish Execution.

A startling exhibition of bungling in the execution by the gorrote of five Cuban prisoners took place in Havana, March 31. The men, classed as "murderers, violators and incendiaries," belonging to Cayabao, were recently sentenced to garrote and at 7 o'clock this morning a strong force of infantry was drawn up in the form of a square around the spot where the garrote had been erected. The instrument of execution, a chair with a post behind it, on which was fastened an iron collar and screw, which, when turned, strangles or breaks the neck of the victim, was set by the famous executioner, receiving the ministrations of the priests, the assistant to his own assistant, instead of as the principal executioner.

At the hour the troops were drawn up the five prisoners were still in their dungeons receiving the ministrations of the priests. One man confessed himself to be guilty of the crimes charged against him, and asserted that his companions were innocent. The latter stoutly maintained their innocence to the last, and prayed that their deaths might be a warning to those who had falsely sent them to the scaffold, and then the whole party was escorted inside the square formed by the soldiers.

The bungling of the executioner prolonged the torture of the prisoners and sickened the spectators.

A CUBAN MANIFESTO.

It Defends the Policy of the Insurgent Armies.

A manifesto signed by Salvador Cisneros, president of the insurgent Cuban government, has just reached the United States. It states that the insurgent armies have not burned country dwellings, except when used by Spanish troops as forts or garrisons, and that for the sake of the families, wives and children of non-combatants, food is allowed to enter towns and cities at present held by the armies of Spain on the payment of an import duty.

Cisneros emphatically denies that bandits or outlaws form any part of or have any connection with the Cuban army, and proclaims that notwithstanding the capture and pursuit by Spain toward captured insurgent soldiers and political prisoners, the Cuban government will not retaliate.

The manifesto concludes with these words: "We are now strong in numbers and in hope, but if our enemies unfortunately suffer defeat in the field, we will never give up. Cuba will perish with the world looking on before renouncing her one great hope and aim—Independence."

TRAIN ROBBERS CAUGHT.

Five Men Try to Hold Up the B. & O. Express at Garrett, Ind.

Five men attempted to hold up the west-bound express on the Baltimore & Ohio Wednesday morning. The robbers boarded the train at Garrett and robbed Theodore Bolaven a passenger, and three men from the moving train. He recovered and walked to Garrett to notify the officials. Night police went to the depot armed, and when the train arrived a desperate battle took place. Three of the robbers were arrested and placed in the Wagoner Hotel block, but they were wounded. A posse is searching for the two who escaped.

NEWS NUGGETS.

The rush to the Alaska gold fields is increasing.

Spanish agents have ordered 30,000 Mauser rifles in Berlin.

Senator Voorhees is lying seriously ill at Washington, and his friends are uneasy over his condition.

Matthew Adams, the defaulting district clerk of Denver, who fled from there last November with \$75,000, has been arrested at Southampton, England.

Booth Tucker, the new commander of the Salvation Army in America, is to make a tour of the country, and intends forming a plan for the relief of the poor.

Colonel Neff, the inspector and the deputy United States marshal with him, escaped the fate of their eight companions, reported drowned in the Rainy river in Montana.

A counterfeiters' cave has been discovered on an island in the St. Joseph river, between Bristol, Ind., and Motville, Mich., and a large quantity of spurious coin brought to light.

Wm. Haley, colored, is in the Memphis hospital, badly beaten and wounded with bullets in three places. He had been mobbed by whitecaps because of smallpox in his family several months ago.

William H. Wanamaker, brother of John Wanamaker, has joined Ballington Booth's new Defender's league.

FOR THE RIVERS.

Monongahela May be Free and the Allegheny Improved.

The Rivers and Harbor committee reported to the House the bill making the appropriations for the construction, repairs and preservation of rivers and harbors. The bill contains appropriations for the improvement of the Allegheny river and for the purchase of locks and dams in the Monongahela river. The Secretary of War is authorized to institute proceedings for the condemnation of all the property of the Monongahela Navigation Company and \$5,000 is appropriated to start such proceedings. For the improvement at Harris Island \$12,000 is appropriated and \$5,000 is to improve other parts of the Allegheny river. For the upper Monongahela river \$20,000 is appropriated, and \$250,000 is appropriated for Ohio river improvements, \$25,000 of which is appropriated for a survey from Pittsburg to Marietta, O., with a view to ascertain the number of possible dams that will be necessary to improve the river between those points and provide six feet of water during low water seasons.

Provision is also made under the continuing contract system for movable dams, two, three, four, five and six between Davis Island dam and the mouth of Beaver river, the total expense not to exceed \$2,325,000. The feature of the bill is the considerable number of projects placed under the continuing contract system for many of which comparatively small appropriations are made for the coming year.

The bill also contains these items: Improving Elk river, West Virginia, continuing improvement, \$2,000 to be expended on said river from Frankfort, Braxton county, said river, improving Guyandott river, West Virginia, for maintenance, \$1,000; improving Gauley river West Virginia, continuing improvement \$3,000; improving Cheat river, West Virginia, continuing improvement \$1,000; improving Little Kanawha river West Virginia, for maintenance \$1,500.

An appropriation aggregating more than \$600,000 is named in the bill for improving the lower Delaware river and for improvements at Philadelphia.

The total appropriation carried in the bill is \$9,677,630. The estimates of the chief engineers were in round numbers \$12,000,000. For last Congress appropriated \$11,471,150 for rivers and harbors, and the present bill more than is carried in the present bill. In addition to the cash appropriation that will be available at the close of the fiscal year, contracts are authorized in the bill for an amount in addition aggregating \$51,000,000.

THE COST OF CANALS.

Two Routes To Join the Mississippi Lake Superior.

Secretary Lamont sent to the House the report of Maj. Sear's corps of engineers on the survey for the location of a ship canal connecting Lake Superior and the Mississippi river. Maj. Sear states that he made surveys of two routes, namely, by Alloway bay and Brule and St. Croix rivers and via St. Louis and St. Lawrence and Prairie rivers and Sandy Lake.

The cost of a large canal 80 feet wide at the surface, 59 feet wide at the bottom and 7 feet deep along the first route as estimated at \$7,500,000 exclusive of compensation for existing interests.

The cost of a canal of similar dimensions along the other route is \$10,575,715, exclusive of compensation for the rights of water from the St. Louis river. A steamboat canal 100 feet wide at the bottom, 121 feet wide at surface and seven feet deep along this route, will cost about \$18,015,112.

The construction of a canal by the first route would take four years and by the second ten years. The most feasible route for these two routes is that the report made at St. Louis and St. Croix rivers.

HONOR TO AMERICANS.

Venezuela to Erect Another Memorial with Impressive Ceremony.

President Crespo, of Venezuela, has taken another step toward the conspicuous honoring of American citizens by issuing a decree directing the erection of a bronze column in honor of the citizens of the United States who aided Venezuela in the first struggle for independence. The decree has just been received at the Venezuelan legation at Washington. Venezuela has honored this government heretofore by erecting a statue of Washington and projecting another statue of President Monroe, commemorative of the Monroe doctrine, but the erection of this bronze column is a further evidence of the friendly feeling existing.

The decree states that the column is a memorial to the following citizens of the United States: Captain Donatus, Lieutenant Bilcop and Privates James Gardner, Charles Johnson, Gustavus Bugrud, Paul T. George, Daniel Kemper, Miles T. Hall, John Ferris and Sub-Lieutenant Francis Parquharson. It recites the interesting services of these men, who joined Miranda in an expedition which left New York in 1805 for the avowed purpose of freeing Venezuela from the Spanish rule. The party were captured at Porto Cabello and the Americans were shot by Spanish soldiers outside the castle of San Felipe. Miranda escaped, and subsequently took part in signing the declaration of Venezuelan independence.

The column is to be erected at Puerto Cabello, at the point where the Americans fell.

The unveiling of the column is set for July 4, and it is to be made notable by a demonstration lasting three days throughout Venezuela.

ON SUSPICION.

Ansion B. Strong Arrested for the Stone Murder.

Ansion B. Strong was arrested at Ravenna, Ohio, on a warrant signed by Detective Dunn, of Akron, which charges him with the premeditated murder of Alvin Stone and his wife and the attempted murder of his two daughters and the hired man at their home at Tallmadge early Sunday morning. Strong is past twenty-five years of age, and has a dark complexion, dark hair, moustache and bushy sides. He has served two terms in the Ohio penitentiary, one for horse stealing and the other for a fur robbery in which he was convicted last May.

The clue on which Strong was arrested was a threat he is said to have made several years ago, when Stone's testimony against him sent him (Strong) to the Ohio penitentiary. Strong was charged with horse stealing at the time, and sentenced in 1888 to ten years in the penitentiary. Being released at the end of a few years, he returned to this vicinity, and was again arrested for horse stealing, this time in Portage county. Mr. Stone again testified against him, and he was again convicted. He said at the time that he would get even with Stone at whatever cost. Strong was taken to Akron jail.

BLOWN TO ATOMS.

A Portable Saw Mill Boiler Lets Go, Killing Two.

The boiler of a portable saw mill owned by Frederick Grove, of Miamiville, Ohio, exploded on the Woodville pike, four miles north of Millford, Wednesday morning. Two men were killed and three injured, one fatally and the other seriously. The dead are W. R. Fitzwater, Ernest Martin. The fatally injured are Frederick Grove, spine injured seriously; Hiram Fitzwater, leg broken; Aquil Fitzwater left arm broken and side injured.

SO DENIED SWEEP INTO ETERNITY.

Cloudburst Changes Kentucky Creeks Into Torrents that Wrecked Many Homes.

FOURTEEN KILLED.

The cloudburst on Little Sexton and Buffalo creeks, Ky., did more damage than at first reported. Instead of four there were probably 14 persons drowned.

Sexton creek rises near Burning Springs, and is one of the feeders of the Kentucky river. People little thought that the brook would rise so rapidly, or was capable of gathering such a volume of water. The cloudburst occurred in the gorge, the water gathering in a moment, and the wild flood poured down in a solid wall. Buffalo creek is even more crooked and tortuous than Little Sexton. A great many logs were buried down with the tide, knocking the cabins and outbuildings to pieces.

Will Burns' house went out on the waters, and his two children were lost. Lige Barrett's daughter Mary was drowned, and two unknown people also lost their lives in that vicinity. A little farther down the creek the house of Mrs. George Gopson was destroyed, and Mrs. Gopson and three children were drowned. Next to them was the home of John Crane, a rafter, which was carried away with his family, of wife and three children. John Crane, fortunately, was near, and managed to ride the drift and rescue his family, although his wife was fatally crushed between timbers.

On Sexton creek and its tributaries five were drowned, as follows: Captain J. S. J. Bull, Mrs. Wade Marlers and child and two unknown persons.

Jackson county suffered heavily, as did Clay and Owsley. It was the most disastrous flood in years, and came so quickly that it is a wonder that any of the valley people escaped.

RIVERS BOOMING.

Driving Residents Along the Banks From Their Homes.

The winter rise of the Ohio river is about six weeks later than the usual time. The river at Cincinnati reached 46 feet above low water. But Row, near the Newport bridge, and Sausage Row, near the suspension bridge, were inundated to near the second story. Some commission houses in the bottoms removed their goods.

The Cumberland river is 55 feet deep at Burnside, Ky., and out of its banks. Many families have been forced to the second stories of their houses. At Carthage, Tenn., the water is above the danger line.

A Rochester, N. Y., dispatch says: The Genesee river is higher than it has been in 26 years. Many houses are surrounded by water and the occupants have had to desert their homes.

The Mohawk river gorged below Canajoharie and the New York Central ranched between Ft. Plain and St. Johnsville has been washed out for several hundred feet. Herkimer village is under water and the residents have to go about in boats. The flood, however, is rapidly subsiding.

FIVE MEN KILLED.

By the Explosion of the Boilers of an Oil Mill.

At Greenville, Miss., the two massive boilers of the Planters oil mill exploded, wrecking the mill property and causing the death of five men, as follows: Henry Williams and Oliver Humphreys, colored firemen; Iron Freeman, colored laborer; Horace Wilkins, colored carpenter, and Ed. Strassack, white carpenter.

The cause of the explosion is stated to be a dry boiler. This version of it is not, however, definite, as all connected with the engine and boiler room were killed except the chief engineer, and he is too badly injured to make any statement. After the wreck of the plant by the explosion, fire seized the ruins, but this was suppressed by the fire department, not, however, until the bodies of the killed had been badly charred. The loss will reach \$30,000, insured in the Hartford steam boiler insurance company.

About a year ago the plant of the oil mill was destroyed by fire, entailing a loss of something like \$150,000, and had been built on such a scale as to make it one of the most extensive and complete in the South.

5,000 TROOPS TO MOVE.

England Bundling Many Soldiers off to South Africa.

The St. James Gazette says that two regiments which were ordered to the Cape Colony on Friday last, with orders were revoked on Saturday, have again been ordered to proceed immediately in view of the character of later dispatches from Matabeleland, representing that nearly all of that country is in a state of revolt.

The Bermuda Detached. Senator Dupuy de Lome, the Spanish minister at Washington, has received word from Spanish diplomatic and consular officials in Central America, saying that the steamer Bermuda, having on board munitions of war for the insurgents in Cuba, has been detained at Port Cortes by the Honduran Government and her cargo seized.

Big Catch of Seals.

The steamer Labrador arrived at St. Johns, N. F., from the sealing grounds with a full cargo of 17,000 seals. She reports that the Neptune has taken 20,000, the Walrus 9,000, the Kite 9,000 and the Leopard 10,000. The Labrador's report renders the prospect of a successful fishery season almost hopeless.

BRIEF MENTION.

A divine healer, born at Greensburg, Pa., in 1865, has caused a stir in Cincinnati.

Many Syrians in Illinois ordered home to Turkey as soldiers have become American citizens.

Five hundred lithographers on strike in New York returned to work pending arbitration.

The Lawrence cotton mill at Lowell, Mass., has shut down indefinitely, rendering 2,000 people idle.

Both Kansas and New Hampshire Methodists voted for women delegates to the general conference.

An association for the promotion of female emigration in the northwest territories has been organized in Toronto.

William Paul, sentenced to be hanged Monday night, in Columbus penitentiary was reprieved for 30 days.

Charles E. Clark, of Omaha, has been appointed superintendent of the Childs-Drexel home, at Colorado Springs, Col.

Another earthquake shock has been felt in the province of Calabria, causing panics there. The disturbance was also felt at Messina and Milazzo.

The Wheeler & Co., shipbuilding firm has gained its point on payment by check and most of the 1,500 strikers at Bay City, Mich., returned to work.

Samuel Cabot, the Boston flying machine inventor, who is just starting to Europe to study flying machines, has invented and tested a propeller to be used in aerial navigation.

CONGRESSIONAL.

Summary of the Most Important Measures Presented in Both Houses.

THIRTY-SEVENTH DAY.

Mr. Hoar (rep.), reported in the senate today the house bill to reduce the causes for which the death penalty must be inflicted and moved that it be passed. He explained that in cases of treason, murder and criminal assault capital punishment was retained, and that, in all other cases imprisonment at hard labor for life was to be inflicted where the jurists annexed to their verdict the words "without capital punishment." The bill went over until to-morrow.

Senator Quay was in his place in the Senate attending to his duties. One of the first things he did was to introduce a number of petitions or memorials protesting against certain appropriations, a subject that appears to be of very great interest, especially in certain localities in Pennsylvania. He next had called up and passed a bill for the relief of telegraph operators who served in the war in their professional capacities.

EIGHTY-EIGHTH DAY.

Senator Cullom, Chairman of the Senate Committee on Interstate Commerce, and author of the present inter-state commerce bill, announced his purpose of introducing a bill to amend the law so as to prevent the transportation of foreign goods at cheaper rates than those of domestic manufacture, as is allowed under the decision of the Supreme Court in the import case rendered yesterday.

The House spent the day considering the sundry civil bill and fair progress was made. A determined effort was made by some of the southern representatives to strike from the bill the appropriation of \$50,000 for the pay of internal revenue reformers, which is particularly obnoxious to people in the "moonshine" districts, but was unsuccessful.

EIGHTY-NINTH DAY.

Senator George, of Mississippi, delivered the second installment of his speech against the claims of M. T. Anderson to the vacant seat in the Senate from the State of Delaware. He spoke for over three and a half hours, and promises to continue his remarks to-morrow.

Another Cuban joint resolution was launched by Mr. Call, of Florida. It recites the way by preamble the continual violation of the usages and rules of war by the Spaniards in Cuba and directs that an adequate naval force be immediately sent to protect United States or other property, and that if necessary, it threatens forcible intervention. In case of a recurrence of murder, outrage or putting to death prisoners of war, the joint resolution was laid on the table temporarily.

The Postoffice Appropriation bill was all disposed of by the exception of the amendment providing additional compensation for carrying the mails between San Francisco and New Zealand and New South Wales.

A bill was introduced by Mr. Butler, Postmaster of North Carolina, and referred to the Finance committee, providing that payment of notes, bills, checks, etc., shall be in legal tender money, irrespective of any stipulation in the contract. He explained that his object was to stop gold mortgages and gold notes. It did not attract continuing contracts.

SIXTIETH DAY.

The postoffice appropriation bill brought out a lively debate in the Senate to-day. The propriety of abolishing the country post-offices and absorbing them as branches of the greater cities was discussed. After a heated dispute over a bill for another bridge across the Mississippi at St. Louis, which was passed, Chairman Pickler of the pensions committee, insisted on the regular order, as this was a private day, saying that Cuba was not to be after about 30 days had been passed in something more than an hour. Mr. Erdman made a novel point of order, demanding, after a bill had been ordered engrossed, that a copy of the engrossed bill be produced. As this could not be done the bill was laid over.

COLD WATER POLITICIANS.

They Have Big Delegations and a Fight for President.

Arrangements for entertaining the National Prohibition convention in Pittsburg, are being completed. The expense fund, while still \$2,000 short of the amount desired, is growing rapidly. The last contribution was one of \$500 made by the local traction companies.

Chairman H. L. Castle has received from seven States replies to the circular letter sent by him to the various State chairmen some days ago. The Massachusetts delegation will be 200 strong, Ohio will send 144 delegates and 100 alternates, Kansas nearly as many, Pennsylvania 178 delegates, more than any other state; Connecticut, Delaware, Maine and Colorado will send complete delegations and large numbers of visitors.

Joshua Levering, of Maryland, and ex-Lieut. Gov. Metcalf, of Rhode Island, are the leading candidates for the Presidential nomination, representing the "narrow gauge" faction of the party. The principal "broad gauge" candidates are C. E. Bentley, of Nebraska, and E. S. Thorndike, of Ohio. Col. George W. Bain, of Kentucky, who is independent of both factions is being strongly urged for the nomination.

STEEL POOL.

A Combination of the Principal Steel Companies in the United States.

Twenty Bessemer steel companies, representing \$100,000,000 of capital, and producing half the world's output have formed an organization at the Hotel Waldorf, in New York.

The price of steel billets was placed at \$20 a ton. Last week they sold at \$17 and \$18. A pooling agreement was reached by which the output is to be apportioned among the members of the organization, probably on the basis of last year's output.

Among those present at the conference were President John G. Leishman, of the Carnegie steel company, Pittsburg; President George T. Oliver, of the Harnsworth steel company, Pittsburg; Willis L. King, general manager of the Jones & Laughlins, company, Pittsburg; J. D. Stackhouse, of the Cambria Iron company, Johnstown, Pa.; Tom L. Johnson, of the Johnson steel company of Cleveland; Cleveland Rolling Mill company; Cleveland; Otto Steel company, Cleveland; Ohio Steel company, Youngstown; Bellaire Steel company, Bellaire, O.; Shenango Valley steel company, New Castle; Wheeling Steel and Iron company.

An association was formed with Maj. Brent, of the Pennsylvania steel company as president, and William G. Rice, of the Shenango Valley company, vice president.

Illinois Banking Law.

The Supreme Court of Illinois has handed down a decision which has carried consternation into every banking institution in the state. The decision announces that if a bank fails and deposits have been received within 30 days of date of suspension, the officers of that bank are liable to criminal prosecution. No matter what the circumstances, no matter what the causes of suspension may have been, the law says a crime has been committed, for which the punishment shall be fine or imprisonment or both. No contention of absence of fraudulent intent, no manner of plea in extenuation can have any standing court.