

WILD PANIC IN COTTON.

Announcement of Failure Brings Rush of Selling Orders.

EXTENT OF LOSSES NOT KNOWN.

Cotton Declined \$13 a Bale and Prices of All Securities Fell in Sympathy.

David J. Sully, the cotton operator, who has for 15 months been the biggest figure in the cotton markets of the world and who has "buffed" cotton from seven cents a pound to over 17, announced his inability to make good his engagements on the New York Cotton exchange Friday. Within a few months cotton fell nearly \$13 a bale from the highest figures of the day.

All previous records of stock prices are eclipsed by the mad frenzy following the tidings of the failure. In the memory of many brokers corners in spot and futures have been smashed, but no scene has ever been witnessed in the history of the "change like the mad turmoil accompanying the collapse of Daniel J. Sully & Co.

For a few moments after Superintendent King read the announcement, which was at 2:05 o'clock, there was an ominous quiet. Brokers stood as if stunned by the news that the king had fallen. Then as if by a single impulse, a mighty shout went up from the pits. They had fought Sully and his bull clique for months, and the tidings of surrender after he had poured cotton from seven cents a pound to over 17 cents brought every man in them, each of whom at one time or another had been under the mighty lever.

Hats filled the air, to fall where they would and be trampled to a shapeless pulp, in the mad stampede from the pit. Cots were torn from brokers in their mad effort to unload their holdings and chairs were dashed into the circle, to emphasize some wild broker's offer to sell. Soon the news reached the stock, produce and coffee exchanges, and declines followed in nearly all securities.

In the 30 minutes of panic following the announcement of the failure it is estimated that 750,000 bales of cotton were traded in. Of this, upward of 500,000 bales represented forced liquidation, or the selling out of a man whose margin was wiped out. The loss falling upon this element in the slump of 25¢ a pound alone amounts to over \$1,000,000.

PENSIONS FOR MAIL CLERKS.

Penrose's Bill Aims to Protect Those Employed on Railroads.

A plan for pensioning railway mail clerks has been advised by Senator Penrose and is embodied in a bill presented in the Senate. A fund will be accumulated by deducting 1 per cent a month from the salary of the clerks and from fines imposed on them by the department for neglect of their duties, infractions of discipline or for other reasons. This fund will be controlled by the postmaster general and will be disbursed under his direction.

The bill provides that clerks who have served 20 years in the railway mail service and have been incapacitated by reason of such service, because of ill-health or by accident, or who have attained the age of 65 years, shall be eligible for retirement at full pay. No clerk so retired shall receive more than \$1,000 a year, all salary payable to him in excess of that amount being turned into the pension fund. One per cent of all pensions shall also be deducted for the benefit of the general fund.

It is understood this bill has the approval of the postoffice department and was in part prepared by the department.

COURT HOUSE DYNAMITED.

Attempt to Demolish Building Failed to Have Much Effect.

An attempt was made to wreck the Court House at St. Marys, W. Va., by dynamite. The last prisoner had been released and Jailer D. L. Stine moved into a dwelling several squares away.

The dynamiters forced open the north door. In the southeast corner of the jail the ceiling they placed a stick of dynamite and attached a fuse which led to the corridor. The explosion occurred about 11 o'clock at night, and although Policeman Riggs was on the spot within five minutes he found no trace of the perpetrators.

Windows were shattered, the ceiling torn loose and the floor of the court room raised in that corner a foot. Some think it was done by someone who had once been confined in the jail. Others suggest that the deed was committed by parties who are in favor of a new Court House. Two years ago the County Commissioners caused to be recorded in their minute book the fact that the building was unsafe and also passed an order providing for the erection of a new building, going so far as to pay about \$2,000 for an architect's plans, but have since done nothing.

Assurances that Americans residing in Seoul are in no danger is contained in a letter just received by the Chicago Women's Presbyterian Board of Missions, from Miss Eva H. Field, a missionary, stationed in the Korean capital.

Salooneer Held for Death. The appellate court at Springfield, Ill., holds that saloon men are liable for the death of their patrons who die while under the influence of liquor sold them by the defendants. The case was that of Kate Algood, who was awarded \$2000 damages against William Botwinis, a saloon man of that city, for the death of her husband, George Algood, who had been drinking in the saloon of Botwinis, and who, while on his way home in an intoxicated condition, fell from his buggy and received fatal injuries.

PROGRESS OF THE WAR.

Repeated Attacks on Port Arthur, Skirmish in Korea.

More attacks on Port Arthur are reported from Yingkow. In telling of one he says occurred on Saturday the correspondent declares the Japanese ships got the exact range of the fortifications and poured in such a shower of shells that 300 Russians were killed or wounded. He says the forts made a feeble response.

Another report of an engagement on Sunday says a Russian cruiser was hit. Meanwhile Tokyo is disturbed over a report that the Russian ships have started to join the Vladivostok squadron. The Japanese believe that if the Russian admiral had made such a move Admiral Togo will catch him and force a decisive action at sea.

There has been some skirmishing in Northern Korea. Chinese revive the report that a Japanese force is at Fengwangcheng in Manchuria, 50 miles north of the Yalu, and that an engagement has occurred there.

Japan has recalled the newspaper correspondent from Northern Korea, indicating that some secret move is to be undertaken.

The Chinese Board of Foreign Affairs has received a Chinese official telegram, reporting an encounter between the Russians and Japanese at Puchungang, Manchuria, last Thursday, resulting in favor of the Japanese. The story is discredited by military experts.

Fortification Bill Passed.

The Senate passed the fortification appropriation bill after a three hours discussion of the amendment authorizing the purchase of an experimental torpedo boat and the provision for the purchase of sites for defense works in the Hawaiian Islands. The torpedo boat provision was stubbornly fought but the amendment suggested by the Committee on Appropriations was retained. The Hawaiian provision, which had been eliminated by the committee, was restored, and the sum increased from \$200,000, as fixed by the House, to \$526,100.

Japanese Story Contradicted.

From the highest official quarter the Associated Press has received information that there is absolutely no foundation for the rumors persistently sent out from Tokyo that the Russians are abandoning Port Arthur. "It is the worst news," said the official. "Nothing has occurred there to warrant such reports. The Japanese fleet has not been seen for 48 hours. The motive of the government at Tokyo in spreading this story is probably to influence public feeling in Japan for the purpose of creating enthusiasm while a war loan is being floated."

Russia Floats Big Loan.

The Cologne "Gazette" publishes a dispatch from St. Petersburg stating that the Russian government had succeeded in floating a war loan of \$200,000,000. International financiers, the names of whom are kept a secret, have agreed to advance the money to Russia, to be repaid when the war ends. The loan will take the form of consolidated stock. The money will be given to the Russian government when the present resources become exhausted. The funds Russia has at hand will last a considerable time.

Statehood Bill Completed.

The statehood problem was taken up by the subcommittee of the house committee on territories, recently appointed to draft statehood bills for Arizona and New Mexico, and Oklahoma and the Indian territory. The bill making a state of the first two named was practically completed. The difficulty of adjusting the taxation and other questions with regard to the admission of Oklahoma and the Indian territory as a state are next to be taken up.

Boys Expelled From College.

Twelve students at Grove City, (Pa.) college were expelled for disobedience of the rules prohibiting students from forming or belonging to any fraternal order in the school. The information was undoubtedly furnished by some member of the society. The president of the Amalgamated Association of Iron, Steel and Tin Workers has been the subject of frequent conferences between the management and a committee of the men.

Wage Reduction Accepted.

Employees of the Aetna-Standard plant of the American Sheet Steel company decided to accept the reduction proposed by officials and five mills will resume operations. The reduction of 10 per cent in the scale of the Amalgamated Association of Iron, Steel and Tin Workers has been the subject of frequent conferences between the management and a committee of the men.

Balfour Defeated.

Premier Balfour's Government was defeated in the House of Commons by the combined Liberal and National vote. This reverse was due to the prohibition by Mr. Wyndham, Chief Secretary for Ireland, on the teaching of Gaelic in the junior grades of the Irish National schools.

Lithographer's Strike.

Ten thousand lithographers throughout the country will be out of work tomorrow as a result of the failure to agree on a plan of arbitration to be operative for one year.

Killed by Explosion.

Three persons were killed and eight others injured by an explosion of toy pistol caps, which completely demolished the two-story brick manufacturing plant of the Chicago Toy Novelty Company, Western avenue and West Eighteenth street. The known dead are Harry Jordan, foreman, blown through second story window; Alexander J. Wilski, 14 years old, blown through window; Joseph Bendowsky, 14 years old, burned to death. Others may have perished. The cause of the explosion is unknown.

A NEW PENSION RULING

Bureau Fixes the Age Limit for Civil War Veterans.

A NEW SCHEDULE IS ORDERED.

Men of Service Who Are 62 Years Old Are Considered One-Half Disabled.

Commissioner of Pensions Ware, with the approval of Secretary Hitchcock has promulgated the most important pension ruling that has been issued in a long time. The order follows:

Ordered, in the adjudication of pension claims under said act of June 27, 1890, as amended, it shall be taken and considered as an evidential fact if the contrary does not appear, and if all other legal requirements are properly met, that when a claimant has passed the age of 62 years he is disabled one-half in ability to perform manual labor and is entitled to be rated at \$5 per month; after 65 years, at \$8 per month; after 68 years, at \$10 per month; and after 70 years, \$12 per month.

Allowance at higher rates, not exceeding \$12 per month, will continue to be made as heretofore, where disabilities other than age show a condition of inability to perform manual labor.

This order shall take effect April 13, 1904, and shall not be deemed retroactive. The former rules of the office fixing the minimum and maximum at 65 years and 75 years respectively are hereby modified as above.

The order itself is prefaced by a preamble which, after citing the laws, says the pension bureau has established with reasonable certainty the average nature and extent of the infirmity of old age; that 39 years after the Mexican war, congress, in 1837, placed on the pension roll all Mexican war soldiers who were over 62 years old.

Commissioner Ware, just before leaving for a trip south for his health, spoke as follows regarding the order, which he said, would save both the old soldiers and the government a great deal of money and time.

GERMANS WANT SANTO DOMINGO

Efforts to Secure Control of That Revolutionary Island.

Advices from Santo Domingo indicate Germany is at work to gain a preponderant influence in that republic as will give her a reasonable excuse to exercise a protectorate over the country if not to make it a German colony.

The recent arrival there of the nephew of the late President Heurieux whose assassination preceded the revolutions, is connected with Germany's designs. M. Heurieux, it is stated has been exiled and the hint comes that the cause of his exile is the suspicion that he is really acting in the interest of Germany.

One of the plans attributed to Germany is the purchase from Spain of a debt of over \$21,000,000. This debt was contracted by Spain in 1823 when a treaty was signed in which Spain recognized the independence of Santo Domingo and the latter recognized the above indebtedness which has never been paid. It is asserted at a much later date Spain freed the island from this liability with the condition that the debt should be paid in the event of its annexation to some foreign power.

Spain should transfer this debt to Germany and the latter power should insist on its validity, it would make Germany the heaviest creditor of the island. Should she try to collect the debt the only settlement possible would be the giving to Germany of Santo Domingo territory.

It is believed in Santo Domingo, according to the advices received here, that unless the United States soon undertakes the pacification of the republic, Germany will step in and undertake the task.

AGAINST THE STRIKE.

Returns Show Coal Diggers Are Favorable to Reduction.

At the national headquarters of the United Mine Workers of America they are positive the scale has been accepted and there will be no strike.

Of the 100,000 miners in the states voting it is estimated that 135,000 voted, and of these 85,500 voted for the scale and 46,500 voted against it and in favor of a strike. Maryland did not vote, not being sure it was entitled to vote. West Virginia reports are meager, and no estimate is made.

Indiana cast 10,000 votes, a majority of 2 to 1 for the scale; Illinois cast 20,000 votes with a majority of 2 to 1 against the scale and in favor of a strike. Pennsylvania cast 50,000 votes with a majority of 2 to 1 for the scale. Kentucky had a small vote, with 3 to 1 for the scale. Iowa cast 10,000 votes, with a majority for a strike. Michigan cast a small vote for the scale. Ohio cast 35,000 votes, with four to one for the scale.

Information from Port Arthur by letter puts the number of Russian soldiers in the garrison there at 2,500 men.

Reward for Indiana.

A deed of heroic proportions will receive Government recognition if Senator Quay can induce the Senate to insert an item of \$3,400 in the Indian appropriation bill. This sum he wants distributed, in equal shares, to 17 Sioux who, in 1852, rescued Mrs. Julia Wright and Mrs. Emma Deely and her six children from a band of White Lodge Sioux, which had made captives of them during the Indian outbreak.

WHOLE CREW DROWNED.

Lieutenant and Ten Men Lose Lives in Collision.

The British submarine boat No. A1 was run down and sunk off the Nab Lightship by a Donal Currie Maer and 11 persons were drowned, including Lieut. Mansergh, the senior officer engaged in submarine work. The liner struck on and reported that she had struck a torpedo.

At the time she was struck the vessel was off the lightship engaged in manuevering and was lying in seven fathoms of water waiting the approach of a battleship.

The boat was one of the newest of the fleet of submarine vessels and was built from the latest models, but she had always been a bad diver. She was inspected recently by both King Edward and the prince of Wales.

INDIANS SICK AND DYING.

War Department Takes Measures To Relieve Native Alaskans.

Representations have been made to the War Department authorities that the Copper River Indians in Alaska are sick and dying from lack of nourishment.

Assistant Secretary Oliver, of the War Department telegraphed to General Funston, commanding the Department of the Columbia, to do anything he can for the Indians in the interests of humanity. The only military post in the Copper River region is a small post at Copper Center, used by men of the Signal Corps, who have supplies sufficient only for their own subsistence.

REFUSED SAFETY.

Government's Offer to Remove Missionaries' Families Rejected.

The state department was informed by Minister Allen at Seoul that the missionaries in the neighborhood of Pyongyang have refused to send their women and children toward the Cincinnati, where they could be taken to places of safety.

The state department has felt therefore obliged to impress upon the missionary representatives in this country that in case of actual hostilities it cannot undertake to employ the United States army and navy in expeditions into the interior of the country which is the scene of war.

Although missionaries continue to pay no attention to the warning given by the United States government they will have to take their chances with other civilians.

SAW JAP SHIPS FIRST.

Russian Fleet Put Back to Port Arthur for Safety.

The report that the Port Arthur fleet had attempted a dash for Vladivostok after the engagement of March 11 is confirmed, but, after sighting the Japanese fleet reconnoitering on the 13th, it returned to port.

Capt. Troubridge, British naval attaché at Tokyo, witnessed the bombardment of Port Arthur of March 19 and praises Japanese marksmanship. Nearly every shell hit the forts, or damaged houses in the town. The fire of the Russians shells was short. Viceroy Alexieff reports the capture of a Japanese detachment.

NEWS NOTES.

Joseph Nolan, aged 23, was shot and killed by an unknown assassin in a St. Louis saloon.

Three fast torpedo boat destroyers and the cruiser Kaguri are nearing completion at the dockyard in Nikolaijev.

Minister Powell cables the state department from San Domingo that Spanish arms have fallen into the hands of the insurgents.

The President sent to the Senate the nomination of Henry W. Stenmark, of Ohio, to be Secretary of the United States legation at Lisbon, Portugal.

The Westinghouse interests have secured the most important contract ever let for the "electrication" of British docks. The work will involve an expenditure of \$350,000.

At Menominee, Mich., William Warren caused the death of George Stalkin by striking him with his fist, causing concussion of the brain. Warren was arrested on a charge of murder.

Judge Littlejohn, at Americus, Ga., ordered soldiers to Preston, Ga., to protect Henry Morgan and Sidney Harrell, both whites, from lynching. They are under arrest on a charge of attempting to burn the town.

The statistical abstract of the United States for 1903, issued by the Department of Commerce and Labor, shows that the exports of domestic products from this country exceed those of any other country in the world.

The car barn of the Chicago Union Traction Co. at Blue Island avenue and Leavitt street was destroyed by fire. About 400 summer cars stored in the building were burned. The loss is estimated at \$150,000. Crossed electric wires caused the blaze.

An effort will be made to secure an appropriation from Congress for the improvement of the Kansas river, so as to guard against a recurrence of the floods that have caused such great damage at Kansas City.

At a meeting of the congregation and trustees of the Third Presbyterian Church, of Washington, Pa., it was unanimously decided to build a new church edifice at a cost of about \$20,000. They also increased the salary of their pastor, the Rev. E. C. Little, \$200.

Although discharged only four months from the Western penitentiary after serving a sentence for arson at Valley Camp, William Forsythe of Arnold, Pa., was put in jail, charged by Mrs. William Gliby with having stolen chickens.

Miss Bessie David, aged 18 years, died at Walker, Ohio, of injuries received Sunday evening while walking on the railroad track on the way to church. She was struck by a train and had both legs broken. Her brother, aged 16 years, who was injured at the same time, may not recover.

DECISION IN MERGER CASE

Supreme Court Decides Northern Securities Company Illegal.

OPPOSED TO ANTI-TRUST LAWS.

Decree of the Minnesota Circuit Court is Upheld in Every Particular—Court Divided.

The United States Supreme court, in an opinion delivered in the merger case of the Northern Securities company vs. the United States, favored the government's contention that the merger was illegal. The opinion of the court was handed down by Justice Harlan, and it upheld the decree of the Circuit Court for the District of Minnesota in every particular. Four of the justices dissented from the five constituting the majority.

The division in the court was due to a difference of opinion as to the right of Federal control of State corporations. The majority opinion proceeded on the theory that Congress has a right under the Constitution to control interstate commerce, no matter by whom conducted, while the minority or dissenting opinion was based on the theory that in the present case the effort is to regulate the ownership of railroad stocks by State corporations and that such ownership is not interstate traffic.

Four of the nine justices dissented outright. These were Chief Justice Fuller and Justices White, Peckham and Holmes. The opinions of Justice Harlan and White were long, while those of Justices Brewer and Holmes were comparatively brief.

The case was brought by the United States against the Northern Securities Co., a corporation of New Jersey; the Great Northern Railway company, a corporation of Minnesota; the Northern Pacific Railway company, a corporation of Wisconsin; James J. Hill, a citizen of Minnesota, and William P. Clough, D. Willis James, John S. Kennedy, J. Pierpont Morgan, Robert Bacon, George F. Baker and Daniel Lamont, citizens of New York. Its general object was to enforce, as against the defendants, the provisions of the statute of July 2, 1899, commonly known as the anti-trust act and entitled "An act to protect trade and commerce against unlawful restraint and monopolies."

The effect is to sustain the contention that the Sherman anti-trust law applies to railroad combinations of the character in question.

Justice Harlan said that in the merger of the two roads the stockholders disappeared and reappeared in the Securities Co., the two thus becoming practically consolidated in a holding company, the principal object being to prevent competition.

"No scheme or device," the court says, "could certainly more effectively come within the prohibition of the anti-trust law and it is within the meaning of the act of a trust."

The contentions of the Securities Co. were reviewed, and Justice Harlan said they had full attention. He quoted the various opinions involving the trust question, saying that from them it is to be gathered that all contracts in restraint of trade, reasonable or unreasonable, are prohibited by the Sherman law, and that Congress has the power to establish such regulations as are laid down in that law. Congress had power to enact the statute.

Japanese Cruiser Damaged.

Two Russian passengers of the steamer Argon, captured by the Japanese off the coast of Korea, February 7 and taken to Sasebo, February 17, they saw the Japanese cruiser Asama being towed into that port without smokestacks, masts or bridge and her decks had been ploughed up by projectiles. The German steamer Stolberg, which brought from Vladivostok the survivors of the Japanese steamer Nakonoura, sunk by the Russians, was still at Nagasaki.

Jones & Laughlin Reopen Mine.

Numerous mines throughout the Lake Superior region that had been idle through the winter are resuming and the situation on the ranges is far better than was expected at this time. Jones & Laughlin of Pittsburg have reopened their Lincoln mine range, which was closed since December 1. They will mine probably about the same as last year—300,000 tons.

Weds a Chambermaid.

State Senator Daniel Teweey, a well-known politician of Butte, Mont., was married to Mary Pendergast, a chambermaid, employed at his hotel, and an hour later he was named as defendant in a breach of promise damage suit for \$75,000 brought by Mrs. Elizabeth Utley, a woman of some means and good social connections.

Boston Wool Market.

The feature of the wool market the past week has been the strong demand for medium and low wools. Prices on all grades, with the exception of medium, are noticeably firm. Current quotations are as follows: Ohio and Pennsylvania XX and above, 34c and 31c; No. 1, 33c; No. 2, 32c@33c; fine unwashed, 23c@24c; one-half blood, unwashed, 25c@26c; three-eighths blood, unwashed, 25c@26c; one-fourth blood, unwashed, 25c@26c; fine washed delaine, 35c@36c; Michigan X and above nominal; No. 1, 28c@30c; No. 2, 28c@29c; fine unwashed, 21c@22c; one-fourth blood, unwashed, 25c@26c.

Coining Gold For Japan.

The San Francisco mint is making United States gold for the Japanese government, gold being sent here for exchange into money which will be used in the purchase of food and other supplies for the army and navy. The last two steamers from the Orient have each brought \$2,000,000 worth of gold bullion from Japan.

STEEL TRADE IMPROVING.

Manufacturers of Agricultural Implements Busy—Miners Action Had Good Effect

Improvement in trade and industry continues, favorable reports largely outnumbering adverse influences. The most important event of the week was the vote by bituminous coal miners to accept the proposed reduction in wages. This will probably prevent a serious struggle that would paralyze manufacturing just when it is beginning to revive.

Traffic delays are still causing complaint and the movement of exhibits to the St. Louis exposition provides a temporary feature of importance. Railway earnings thus far available for March show a decrease of only 8 per cent, as compared with last year's figures. Another week has brought no check to the progress in the iron and steel supply, nor is there any inclination to advance prices by bounds, as in the boom four years ago. This contentment will bring beneficial results if continued. All divisions of the big iron market are more active, and the level of prices tends gradually upward. The leading interest is closing its option by taking the May delivery when the option expires next month. Several large undertakings are progressing satisfactorily, providing a good market for steel and much contemplated work is becoming more tangible as the season advances. While no material increase is reported in sales of steel for railroad or structural purposes, the tone of the market is better and there is more confidence in the future. Pipe is one of the strongest features of the industry. The fuel situation is attracting attention, coke shippers being unable to secure cars. Failures this week numbered 229 in the United States, compared with 220 last year, and 21 in Canada against 22 a year ago.

Bradstreet's says: The backwardness of spring trade, generally attributed to almost interrupted bad weather, times most reports from distributive centers, but several developments of the week have been notably favorable, chief among these being the continued improvement in the iron and steel trade and the decision of the bituminous miners not to strike against proposed reduction of wages. The improvement noted in iron and steel has progressed favorably. The large buying by leading interests some weeks ago has induced freer purchasing by smaller interests. Agricultural implement manufacturers are doing the best business in years. The railroads are reported still backward in taking supplies, but late reports point to some leading systems coming into the market for steel rails. Western car works are reported actively employed and shop supplies and tools are reported to be in more active request.

RUSSIANS NEED BIG ARMY.

Reports That They Will Fall Back Until Well Reinforced.

The best Russian information obtainable admits the government's intention to fall back indefinitely until it can complete the mobilization of 300,000 troops for the purpose of assaulting and opposing the Japanese and probably 200,000 to oppose the Chinese. The same opinion asserts that Vice Admiral Makaroff will fight hard. He is determined to weaken the enemy at any cost and make the operation of the Baltic sea fleet in the Far East feasible, though it may be necessary to fight without the Pallada, Carevitch and Retzivan, which, it is admitted, cannot be fully repaired within six months.

KUBELIK MOBBED.

Crocet Broken Up by a Race Riot in Austria.

The ferocity of the race hatred between Germany and the Czechs was manifested at Linz, when an infuriated mob of Germans in revenge for the ill-treatment of Teutons in Prague stormed the hall where Kubelik was playing and compelled the violinist to seek safety in flight.

His manager was warned to cancel the concert, but refused. A mob of thousands gathered outside the hall and jeered the auditors entering. Finally the mob broke the police cordon, stormed the hall, smashed the decorations and threw missiles at Kubelik, who pluckily continued playing until his manager called for him to stop. The mayor's efforts to restore order failed and Kubelik escaped to his hotel.

WARSHIP BADLY DAMAGED.

Serious Nature of Accident to Illinois Not Divulged at First.

But for the watertight compartment of the battleship Illinois it would be resting at the bottom of the sea off Cuba. The Illinois, which is now ready to go into dry dock in the Brooklyn navy yard, was run into by the United States steamship Missouri two weeks ago, but her serious condition was kept secret.

Capt. Bradford, the commander of the Illinois, says that one of her propellers was disabled and there is an immense hole in her side below the water line. The collision occurred while the vessels were maneuvering off Cuba and the blame is said to rest on the Missouri.

Captain Ivkov, of the Manchurian Commissariat Service, has been summarily court-martialed and shot for acting as a spy in the pay of the Japanese.

Robb Will Assist Keox.

Charles H. Robb, of Vermont, attorney in the Postoffice department, has been chosen assistant attorney general to succeed H. M. Hoyt, appointed solicitor general of the department of justice. Mr. Robb was active in the prosecution of the postal cases, which led to the arrest of Beavers, Machen and other high officials in the Postoffice department.

An explosion of nitroglycerin, at Oakland, Cal., killed two laborers and crippled a third.

KEYSTONE STATE CULLINGS

KILLED FOR A DOLLAR.

Dispute Among Negro Miners Ends in Murder—Two Men Killed by Falling From a Scaffold.

Phillips Johnson, colored, 25 years old and single, was shot in a shanty at Ellsworth by Nelson Phefer, also colored, who made his escape. The men were employed at a new shaft for the Ellsworth mines. Johnson and Leroy Phefer are said to have had a dispute about a dollar which Johnson alleged Phefer owed him, when Nelson Phefer, a brother of Leroy, interfered and shot Johnson three times, twice in the breast and once in the left arm. Johnson ran to the farm house nearby, where he was cared for during the night. The only physician in Ellsworth was unable to render medical attention because of his own illness and Johnson died this morning without receiving medical attention.

Two men were killed by falling from a scaffold on the Duquesne steel works yesterday afternoon. Gustav A. Lux, aged 23, of Pearl street, McKeesport, was crushed to death instantly; Joseph Kane, aged 22, of McKeesport, died at the McKeesport hospital two hours later. The men were boiler-makers and were working about a stack, some 20 feet from the ground.

The Dauphin county court handed down an opinion signed by Judge Weiss in the case stated of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania vs. K. Hampton Moore, treasurer of Philadelphia, to determine the disposal of \$9,418.63 of license taxes collected in the city of Philadelphia during 1901, 1902 and 1903. The opinion holds in favor of the Commonwealth and City Treasurer Moore is directed to pay the taxes to the State with interest from June 30, 1903, at 2 per cent.

Louis Hippo, George Farmington, Charles Denny and Clarence Skelly of Altoona, whose ages range from 15 to 18 years, confessed to having bandaged themselves together to commit systematic robberies and to loot lofts and coops of chickens and pigeons. Officers found valuable plunder in the homes of the accused.

As a result of the discovery that \$82,000 worth of Washington borough bonds have been declared invalid, it is probable that the big demonstration planned for next Fourth of July in connection with the dedication of the new city park will have to be called off.

Sherman Flanigan, 28 years old, died at the Altoona hospital. He was found recently wandering around with both feet frozen. To save his life they were amputated, but he was unable to stand the shock. He is said to be a member of a wealthy Virginia family.

Carp by the thousand were ground to death in the breaking up of the big ice gorge on the Susquehanna river, and since the receding of the waters the dead fish are stre