THE STOCK MARKET WAS DEMORALIZED.

Steel Stocks Go Down With a Rush at the Opening.

RAILWAYS SUFFER IN MOVEMENT.

The Violence of the Decline Invited Some Buying From Bargain Hunters, and Insiders Offered Support by Buying, But Huge Blocks Had to Be Taken in Continuous Strings--Brokers Kept Busy.

New York (Special).—Monday the stock market was wild and demoralized as a result of the declaration of a strike in the mills of three of the subsidiary companies of the United States Steel Corporation. Coming on top of this was the fact of the unrelieved drouth in the corn belt.

The opening rush to sell was urgent and made wide openings on a descending scale in the United States Steel stocks. Twenty thousand shares of the common had to be taken simultaneously at the opening at 38 to 37½, compared with 41½ on Saturday, and 8000 shares of the preferred carried the price down from 91½ on Saturday to 87½ and 86½. Owing to the vigorous support of insiders, these were the low prices on the slump, and both stocks rallied feverishly, the preferred several points.

In the railroad list the Grangers and Pacifics were most acutely affected, as for some time past, Union Pacific leading with a drop of 5 points. There were losses between 4 and 5 points in St. Paul, Atchison common and preferred, Texas and Pacific and Missouri Pacific. In Pennsylvania, New York Central, Baltimore and Ohio, Erie, Rock Island, Southern Pacific, Iowa Central preferred, Amalgamated Copper and Sugar there were losses of 3 or over. Lackawana fell 6¾ and Colorado Fuel 4½.

The violence of the decline invited some buying from bargain hunters, and insiders offered support by buying, but huge blocks had to be taken in continuous strings, individual transactions running to 5000 shares. Nevertheless there were rallies of 1 to 2 points in the general list and of 2¾ in United States Steel preferred. This seemed to check the fright and somewhat lightened the load of offerings, but prices kept yielding in spots.

In the afternoon there was a general rally, and the closing showed prices near the top for the day, the losses in almost all issues, except United States Steel, having been recovered.

VOLCANO DESTROYS LIFE AND PROPERTY

Over Seven Hundred People Perish During An Eruption of Klost.

Tacoma, Wash. (Special).—Oriental advices give details of terrible devastation and loss of life caused by the eruption of Klost Volcano, in northern Java, last month. Torrents of lava and red-hot mud flowed amid showers of ashes and stones. Seven hundred natives and about a dozen Europeans perished and scores of coffee estates were destroyed. For fifty miles around the volcano the country is strewn with corpses.

The European manager of a large estate had a race for life with the lava. Accompanied by his wife, two children and a nurse he attempted to keep ahead of the flow of liquid fire, but the lava overtook the carriage and the nurse and children perished, the parents escaping by jumping into a clump of bamboo trees by the roadside.

KILLED BY A MANIAC.

Traveler Meets a Tragic Fate While a Passenger on a Train.

Rawlings, Wyo. (Special).—A man named Rogers was shot to death by Ned Hadley Copeland, on the Union Pacific train No. 6. Copeland was traveling from Stockton, Cal., to Council Bluffs, Ia.

When at a point three miles east of Wamsutter he walked into the car where Rogers was sitting and at once began shooting at him, saying: "There, take that." He shot three times, the bullets entering Rogers breast and he died instantly. Copeland was arrested and is now in jail here.

When asked what caused him to kill Rogers, he said: "He had me hypnotized and I had to do it."

Copeland is undoubtedly out of his mind. As the killing took place in Sweet Water county, Copeland will be taken to Green River and turned over to the authorities there.

Boers Capture a Gun.

London (By Cable).—A dispatch from Lord Kitchener, dated at Pretoria, says the Boers attacked a constabulary at Houtkop, in the Transvaal, July 11, capturing a 7-pound gun. He also says the Boers were eventually driven off. The British loss is given as three men killed and seven wounded. A noisy scene in the House of Commons arose from a question as to whether the British wounded were left in the hands of the Boers at Vlakfontein. Lord Stanley, financial secretary of the war office, declared the war office had no information on the subject.

The First on Record.

Boston (Special).—A petition in bankruptcy was filed by Stephen M. Marshall, secretary of the Tenth Congressional Republican District Committee of 1898. The debts of the committee are shown to amount to about $800. This is the first time since the establishment of the new bankruptcy law that a campaign committee's debts have found their way into a bankruptcy court.

Porto Rican Postmaster Arrested.

Washington (Special).—A cablegram received at the Postoffice Department from San Juan announces the arrest on July 10 of Ricardo Navarez Rivera, assistant postmaster at Mameyes, Porto Rico, for embezzling letters containing valuable inclosures.

Desperate Struggle in Courtroom.

Upper Sandusky, Ohio (Special).—During the progress of the Johnson murder trial here Willis Miller, the defendant, attacked Guard Grundtisch, of the county jail, who had just given testimony, which Miller characterized as perjury. A brother and sister of Miller joined in the attack on Grundtisch and a desperate struggle ensued. A general fight followed and the courtroom was turned into a bedlam. A number of women fainted and others screamed in terror. When they tried to leave the room they were trampled on by the excited mob.

SUMMARY OF THE NEWS.

Domestic.

The 4500 employees of the National Tube Company at McKeesport were given an increase in wages of 10 per cent. The men in these mills are not organized. It was reported in Cleveland, Ohio, that the steel strike is directly due to an effort of the Carnegie Company to run its plant half union and half non-union for this year, and then to make all the mills non-union.

Evidence was introduced in Parkersburg, W. Va., in the Ellis Glenn case to the effect that the prisoner passed as H. T. Terry, the mysterious third party in the case, and that while in Paducah, Ky., she drank whisky and gambled.

Philadelphia politicians are protesting against the contractor for the new filter beds employing colored labor from the vicinity of Baltimore and Alexandria, Va., when there are plenty of men in Philadelphia who want jobs.

Workmen in the Reading Railroad shops continue on strike, their number increasing, notwithstanding the statement of the company's officials that they will be paid as well as the shopmen on other roads.

A resolution to provide an anti-lynching law was introduced in the Virginia Constitutional Convention, as was also a proposition to allow the prosecution to appeal in criminal cases.

Mabel Strong, who ran away from Cleveland to New York with Charles Wildrick, who was sent to the penitentiary for fraud, died in St. Luke's Hospital in New York.

Joseph H. Shepherd, the embezzling clerk in the auditor's office in Richmond, Va., got another year on two additional charges of larceny, to which he pleaded guilty.

It is officially denied that Governor Tyler, of Virginia, has pardoned Wm. Bignal, who is in the penitentiary for killing John McAllister in Newport News.

Mrs. Ada R. Bowen, of Winchester, Va., and William Walter Griffith, of Washington, eloped to Rockville, Md., where they were married.

Charles Nordhoff, the well-known newspaper correspondent and writer, died in San Francisco.

The picker boys at the Colbert Colliery, in Shomakin, Pa., went on a strike.

Wm. H. Forest was drowned in the Elizabeth river at Atlantic City, Va.

Victoria Furnace, at Goshen, W. Va., has gone into blast.

Judge Speer, of the United States Circuit Court in Georgia, has decided that $40,000 of the $50,000 realized from the sale of the Spanish steamer Adula should be distributed among Captain McCalla and the officers and men of the Marblehead.

Pierre Lorillard by his will left Rancocas stock farm, valued at $150,000, to Mrs. Lillian Allien, who was his friend for 15 years. To his wife, from whom he was estranged, he left an annuity of $50,000.

Dan R. Hanna, the Senator's son, secured a writ of habeas corpus against his wife in New York for his children, but she locked herself in her cabin on the Campania and got away without being served.

The strike of the 2700 employees of the Reading Iron Company is ended, the company agreeing to pay the same scale of wages as was paid in August, 1899, which was the "boom" period of iron prices.

A resolution was introduced in the Virginia Constitutional Convention protesting against the grandfather clause in restricting suffrage as tending to create a voting aristocracy.

Peter Gruber, of Rochester, N. Y., was bitten and nearly killed by his pet rattlesnake.

The attorneys for Mrs. Botkin are preparing to take her case to the Supreme Court.

Emigration from Germany during the first six months of this year aggregated 112,068.

Wm. J. Scott died at his home on the Potomac, near Shepherdstown, W. Va.

The annual meeting of the Universal Peace Union began in Zanesville.

Foreign.

Ambassador White has informed a Berlin editor that he will return to the United States in September, but whether he will return to Germany as ambassador depends upon various considerations.

At a meeting of the trustees of the Carnegie Educational Fund in Edinburgh a letter was read announcing that he had signed the deed placing $10,000,000 at the disposal of the trustees.

It was announced in the British House of Commons that landing sites for the new Pacific cable had been selected at Queensland, New Zealand, Norfolk Island and Vancouver.

The British captured Commandant Scheeper's laager at Camdeboo, securing a quantity of ammunition and stores, but Scheeper and the majority of his men escaped.

Reports from Carthagena, Colombia, tell of a mutiny among the soldiers, in which the mutineers attacked the guard and seven were killed and several wounded.

The Bryant and May shareholders in special meeting in London adopted the plan of consolidation with the Diamond Match Company.

The military commanders at Tientsin have directed the provisional government to destroy the Taku forts.

M. Santos-Dumont, the Brazilian aeronaut, failed to win the prize offered by Henry Deutsch for a manageable balloon. He navigated the airship to the Eiffel Tower in Paris, making extraordinary speed, but on the return trip the motor did not work properly and the balloon descended into a tree.

Disagreements between Lord Milner and Lord Kitchener and increasing public dissatisfaction in England over the conduct of the war in South Africa, will, it is reported, lead to Kitchener being succeeded in the command of the British forces in South Africa by Gen. Sir Bondon Pl[illegible]

Financial.

The output of gold from the Rand district in South Africa was 19,779 ounces as compared with 7478 ounces in May.

England imported goods from the United States to the value of $740,000,000 last year and is by far our best customer.

The Suez Canal in May, 1901, yielded a transit revenue of $1,824,000, as compared with $1,582,000 in May, 1900. In last May 343 ships passed through the canal. For the first five months of this year the transit revenue aggregated $7,340,490 from a total of 1588 vessels.

THE BULLET HIT THE WRONG MAN.

And Germany Demands an Indemnity From Uncle Sam.

AMERICAN KNOCKED OUT BY GERMAN

An Episode in Pekin That Has Given Rise to a Claim by the German Government Against the United States--German Officer, Disregarded a Challenge and Knocked Down the Sentry.

Washington (Special).—The last mail from the East brought a detailed newspaper account of the shooting affray at Pekin which has resulted in a German claim against the United States. The account, which appears in a Japanese newspaper, states that an American sentry had been posted at the western extremity of Legation street, close to where the new American legation is building. That portion of Legation street was being newly macadamized and rolled. A barricade had been put up and Major Robertson had posted a sentry on the spot to warn persons not to ride over the newly made road, pedestrians only being allowed to traverse it. A German officer came riding along, knocked down both the sentry and the barricade, and galloped across the forbidden route. The sentry scrambled to his feet and sent a shot after the officer, but missed, and the bullet lodged in the leg of a German sentry standing on duty half way down the street. The newspaper says that the American was sentenced to one month's imprisonment and fined a month's pay, "presumably for hitting the wrong man."

It is now apparent from mail reports which have just reached the State Department from China that it was solely through the moderation and humanity exercised by the United States representatives at Pekin by the President's direction in the early negotiations for a settlement of the Boxer trouble that a number of innocent lives were not sacrificed. These reports show that a more sober and painstaking inquiry has developed the fact that some of the Chinese officials supposed to have been connected with the Boxer outrages, whose capital punishment was demanded by the foreign ministers, have been proved to be entirely innocent of the charges made against them. In many other cases proof has been adduced that the offenses with which the Chinese officials were charged were not nearly so grave as was supposed at first by the foreign representatives in Pekin.

CORN CROP SITUATION.

Drought and Heat Destroying Millions of Bushels.

Chicago (Special).—Advices to Board of Trade and grain commission houses are that the drought in the Southwest is unbroken. It is said the damage outside of Kansas and Missouri is comparatively slight, but that unless there is relief within 10 days the corn-crop situation will approach a calamity.

A message from Topeka, Kan., declared the prospects are for a crop of only 50,000,000 bushels of corn, although last year's crop was 163,000,000 and that of the previous year 217,000,000 bushels. The loss on hay and potatoes is also great—second only to the loss on corn. It is estimated that the farmers of Kansas and Missouri already have sustained losses reaching $50,000,000. It was but natural that hundreds of reports, of which the above are fair samples, should have been reflected in the course of prices on the Board of Trade.

A Pet Frog Explodes.

Albany, Mo. (Special).—An accident, in which three children, a pet frog and some dynamite figured, resulted in one death and the serious injury of two persons. The three children of George McCurry, a contractor, found some dynamite in the cellar of their home, and thinking it was putty, fed it to their pet frog. A large toolchest afterward fell on the frog and exploded the dynamite. A chisel, driven by the explosion, pierced the temple of the younger child and killed it. Another child and Mrs. McCurry, who was in the kitchen above, were seriously hurt.

Pat Crowe in Africa.

St. Joseph, Mo. (Special).—State Senator A. W. Brewster received a draft for $250, sent to him by "Pat" Crowe from Johannesburg, South Africa, to pay an attorney fee Crowe had been owing a number of years. Crowe's name has been connected by allegation with the kidnapping in Omaha of a young son of Edward Cudahy, the packer, who paid a ransom of $25,000 in gold to recover his boy. Several years ago Crowe was under arrest in St. Joseph on the charge of train robbery. The charge was finally dismissed, as the case was not a strong one.

Loose Engine and Express Collide.

Parkersburg, W. Va. (Special).—Two persons were killed outright, one fatally injured, several others were less seriously injured in a head-on collision on the Ohio River Railroad at Padens at 6.30 p. m. The Ohio Valley express, on the way from Cincinnati to Pittsburg, was run into at full speed by a loose engine southbound, and both engines were almost demolished. The baggage car of the Ohio Valley express was smashed up considerably, but none of the coaches were damaged, and none of the train left the track except the engines.

Mail Carrier's Record.

Tamaqua, (Special).—Jacob Hartman, aged 62 years, celebrated the 31st anniversary of his service as mail carrier for the Reading Company between the railway station and the postoffice. During his service he has been off duty but eleven days, four days of the time being due to sickness. Mr. Hartman makes 17 trips daily, and in the 31 years has traveled 46,000 miles in the discharge of his duty.

Explosion on an Excursion Boat.

Sunbury, Pa. (Special).—An excursion boat anchored in the Susquehanna River at the foot of Market street, this city, blew up with terrific force, killing two boys and injuring a dozen other persons, two fatally. One man is missing and may have been killed also. All of the boys killed and injured were fishing on a nearby wharf when the explosion occurred. The engineer was absent at the time, leaving the boat in charge of the pilot. When he left there was a pressure of 60 pounds in the boiler, and he says he opened the fire door.

THREE HUNDRED PUPILS KILLED.

Mission on Korean Island Attacked By Natives--Conflict Covered Ten Days.

Berlin (By Cable).—The Cologne Gazette publishes a dispatch from Seoul, Korea, dated July 6, saying that bloody conflicts, extending over a period of 10 days, have occurred on the Island of Quelpart between the Roman Catholic missionaries and their pupils and the populace of the island. Fifteen of the natives and about three hundred of the pupils are reported to have been killed during the encounters.

The governor of Quelpart, according to the dispatch, says the trouble was the fault of the pupils, and arose from their support of the tax collectors in levying illegal taxes upon the natives.

Upon hearing that two French missionaries had been killed in the island a French warship proceeded to Quelpart. Upon finding the missionaries in question alive the warship returned.

The Korean government has commissioned Huan Kian and an American court official to investigate the matter, and is sending a company of Korean infantry with them to Quelpart.

Quelpart is in the Yellow Sea, 60 miles south of Korea, to which country it is subordinate. It is a penal settlement.

GRAHAM AGAIN GOES DOWN THE RAPIDS.

Fifth Successful Voyage in the Barrel Through the Raging Niagara Current.

Niagara Falls, N. Y. (Special).—About 3000 persons saw Charlie D. Graham make his fifth successful voyage through the whirlpool rapids in a barrel Sunday afternoon. The barrel is of locust wood, oval shaped, except that it has a flat head; it is about 5 feet long, 19 inches in diameter at the foot, and 26 inches at the head. With its 100 pounds of ballast it weighs 165 pounds.

The start was made from the old Maid of the Mist landing below the falls. The barrel was caught in an eddy and circled about a little above the cantilever bridge for a quarter of an hour. The stronger current in the middle of the stream finally jerked it out of the eddy into the foaming waters of the rapids. Passing under the second bridge the barrel had a narrow escape from being dashed to pieces against the stone abutments of the bridge. The passage through the rapids was swift.

It took the barrel five minutes to reach the eddy from the starting point and 20 minutes to get out of it, but it only took three and one-half minutes to pass through the rapids and the whirlpool, a distance of about a mile. At no time during the passage through the rapids was the barrel lost sight of. It was taken from the water after it had circled about in the whirlpool for a few minutes. Graham was slightly bruised about the elbows and knees, but he was otherwise unhurt.

THIEVES CLEAN OUT DELEGATES.

Epworth Leaguers Stranded in Colorado--Pickpockets Make a Good Haul.

Glenwood Springs, Col. (Special).—The thoroughly organized gang of pickpockets operating at Colorado Springs is responsible for a party of about twenty Epworth Leaguers becoming stranded here. Men and women alike have been robbed, not only of every cent they had with them, but of railroad tickets as well, and unless the railroads will issue tickets back home on their proof of having purchased and paid for rides to San Francisco and back, they will be compelled to ask aid from the county authorities.

In at least ten cases thieves even secured their victims' trunks on stolen baggage checks.

Among those robbed are Dr. J. H. Wilson, wife and daughter, and Mrs. H. R. Horrington, of Dover, Del. Dr. Wilson's wallet, containing tickets for the party, drafts on San Francisco banks and baggage checks, being stolen in the crush at the depot in Colorado Springs.

Major S. K. Hooper, general passenger agent of the Denver and Rio Grande Railroad, authorized the Glenwood Springs agent to furnish passes to Ogden to stranded passengers who desired to continue their journey west.

Masked Man Shot and Killed.

Pottsville, Pa. (Special).—Four masked men entered the hotel of Peter Hoke at Yorkville, near here, and encountered the proprietor and two guests, Michael Ritzel and George A. Wachter. During the fight that followed one of the robbers was shot and killed, and Mr. Hoke was wounded in the leg. The three remaining burglars made their escape. The dead man has not been identified.

Exonerates Admiral Mello.

Rio Janeiro (By Cable).—The Brazilian Chamber of Deputies received the report of a special committee appointed to consider the case of Rear-Admiral Mello, who was arrested last April on a charge of monarchial plotting and who then appealed to the Chamber. The report declares that the accusations against the officer are without foundation. It is considered certain that the Chamber will unanimously confirm the committee's conclusion.

New Device for Torpedo Boats.

Washington (Special.)—Orders went forward from the Naval Bureau of Ordnance directing that all the torpedo boats in the Navy, built or building, shall be equipped with a new electrical device for sending the torpedoes on their journey through the water. By the new equipment an officer in the pilot-house can send the tubes overboard by the touch of a button.

Two Men Blown to Pieces.

Denver, Col. (Special).—A dynamite magazine near the Grant smelter exploded. Two Italians were killed and several hurt. Fragments of the victims were strewn over the prairie for hundreds of yards. Windows in the Union Stock Yards Bank, a quarter of a mile away, were shattered. The damage is estimated at $5000.

His Life Was a Failure.

Crawfordsville, Ind. (Special).—Ex-Judge James H. Sellars, former member of the legislature, and once candidate for the Democratic nomination for governor, killed himself in his law office by taking morphine. He left a letter saying his life was a failure, and that his debts were large.

United States Consul Dead.

St. Petersburg (By Cable).—Jos Rawiez, who has been United States consul at Warsaw since 1875, died here Saturday.

LABOR WILL FIGHT THE STEEL TRUST.

Association Have Matters Well in Hand and Strike Now in Full Swing.

MANY THOUSAND MEN AFFECTED.

Failure of the Officials of the Companies and the Officers of the Amalgamated Association to Reach an Agreement After Many Conferences--Seventy-five Thousand Men Directly and Thousands More Indirectly Affected.

Pittsburg (Special).—By throwing idle two of the largest non-union steel-hoop plants in the country, the Amalgamated Association of Iron, Steel and Tin Workers made a powerful assault on the Steel Trust and practically won the opening battle in the great industrial strike for union recognition.

In obedience to the call of President T. J. Shaffer every Amalgamated Association man employed by the American Sheet Steel, Hoop and Tinplate Companies refused to go to work. Over 30,000 union men struck. Their action threw idle about as many others employed in the mills and who were dependent on the Amalgamated men, or skilled hands, being at work.

Secretary John Williams, of the Amalgamated Association, said the number of men idle is over 70,000. This estimate, it is declared, is too high. The number of men striking and thrown idle is conservatively estimated at 60,000. They are scattered over Western Pennsylvania, Maryland, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois and Michigan.

The places where the men quit are:

Maryland—Cumberland.

Pennsylvania—Pittsburg, Allegheny, Johnstown, Canonsburg, McKeesport, Ellwood, New Castle, New Kensington, Vandergrift, Apollo, Hyde Park, Leechburg, Saltsburg, Scottsdale, Greenville, Charon and Carnegie.

Ohio—Piqua, Irondale, Lisbon, Cambridge, Cleveland, Niles, Martin's Ferry, Canal Dover, Canton, New Philadelphia, Wellsville, Bridgeport, Youngstown, Mingo Junction, Girard and Pomeroy.

Indiana—Anderson, Hammond, Ellwood, Atlanta, Gas City and Muncie.

Michigan—Muskegon.

Illinois—Joliet.

Reports received at Amalgamated headquarters from these places were that the men had struck and the mills were closing. Only seven plants of the three combines were in operation, one of the tinplate, two of the hoop and four of the sheet steel. These represent less than 10 per cent. of the total capacity of the three companies.

The only plant of the tinplate combine working was the one at Monessen, Pa., where there is no union organization. Delegations from both the tin and hoop mills at Monessen were at the headquarters of the Amalgamated Association, and it was learned that arrangements were made for a complete tie-up of the Monessen plants. The organization of the Monessen tinplate mill will put all the mills of the American Tinplate Company in the list of union mills. The Monessen hoop mill is considered the best equipped one owned by the combine.

FIRE PANIC IN HOTEL.

The Guests Escape in Their Nightrobes--Some of Them Sustain Injuries.

Butte, Mont. (Special).—At 2.40 a. m. a still alarm was turned in from the Butte Hotel, a four-story structure on Broadway. When the firemen reached the scene the building was enveloped in smoke, which appeared to pour from every open window. The firemen were unable to locate the blaze for some thirty minutes and the greatest confusion prevailed. A number of guests on the lower floors succeeded in groping their way down stairs in the smoke and escaping with nothing but their night clothes. Scores of others were rescued from the upper windows, where the panic-stricken guests shrieked for succor and threatened to jump to the sidewalk below.

At 4 o'clock the fire was completely under control and the hotel management state that, to the best of their knowledge all the guests and help have been accounted for.

The interior of the hotel, which for many years has been the leading hostelry of Butte, is completely gutted, and Hugh L. Wilson, the lessee of the building, estimates his loss at $20,000.

The hotel guests lost a quantity of personal effects.

Six Bathers Drowned.

Savannah, Ga. (Special).—The Hebrew Gemaihl Hasad held its annual picnic at Daufuskie Beach. Between 3 and 4 o'clock in the afternoon a number of the picnickers went into the ocean for a surf bath. A strong southeast wind was blowing and the tide was at flood. Fifty yards off shore is a shoal and between the shoal and shore is a sluice. The party was bathing on the shoal, but finding the tide getting rather high the bathers concluded to go nearer shore. Almost at once they found themselves in the sluice over their heads with mountainous waves pounding and a sweeping current running. Out of 12 who started across 6 were drowned.

Boiled Out the Bullets.

San Jose, Cal. (Special).—Boiling of the remains of Lee Wing, a murdered Chinese, to ascertain if a bullet from Lee Look's pistol had entered his body, has been completed after twenty-four hours. Fourteen large buckshot and one 44-calibre bullet were found when the mass was strained. This bullet is said to fit Look's revolver.

Washington's Law Books.

Morgantown, W. Va. (Special).—A set of Blackstone's commentaries, each volume of which contains George Washington's autograph, is owned by Henry P. Davenport, Jr., of Clay Court House. The books were undoubtedly in the library of the first President.

All Kinds of Birds' Eggs.

New York (Special).—Ex-Senator John Lewis Childs, of Floral Park, L. I., purchased of Miss Jean Bell, of Philadelphia, a collection of North American bird eggs and nests said to contain at least one specimen of every kind of egg known. Miss Bell has spent 28 years in gathering this collection. In size they range from that of the great auk, which is valued at $1800, to that of the smallest humming bird. The collection cost over $25,000 in actual cash outlay for eggs. Mr. Childs will add the collection to his own, which is very large.

LIVE NATIONAL AFFAIRS.

Exports Run Into Billions.

All former records are surpassed by the statistics of the foreign commerce of the United States for the fiscal year which came to a close on June 30.

A preliminary statement prepared by the Bureau of Statistics in the Treasury Department shows that the combined value of imports and exports for the fiscal year amounted to $2,310,413,077, against $2,244,424,266 for the year ending June 30, 1900, the largest previous record. The imports for the year amounted to $822,756,533, a decrease of $17,184,651 in comparison with the imports for the previous year. The exports amounted to $1,487,656,544, an increase of $93,173,462 in comparison with the previous year, making the balance of trade for the year in favor of the United States $664,900,011, or an increase of $120,358,113 over the balance of trade for the previous year. In addition to this there was an excess of $17,901,139 in the value of silver bullion exported over the value of that metal imported.

Notwithstanding this large balance of trade in favor of the United States the figures show that the imports of gold during the year exceeded the exports of that metal by but $11,342,332. This means that the immense balance of trade between this country and the rest of the world was largely settled by other means. A certain amount of gold is carried abroad by American tourists and returning Europeans, but as most of these carry letters of credit this amount is relatively small. A large part of the balance goes to pay freight bills on American exports carried in foreign steamers, and some of it to pay interest and dividends on American securities held abroad. The small imports of gold in the face of a large balance of trade during the past year, however, is principally due to the fact that the American capitalists are now allowing much of their money to remain in Europe for investment, and the sales of bonds by foreign governments in the United States have gone far toward settling the balance of trade.

Defers Action on Cables.

Arguments were made before Secretary Root Friday by counsel of the cable and telegraph companies interested in cable communication between the United States and Cuba.

The arguments lasted over two hours, and at their conclusion Secretary Root announced that no action would be taken on the questions involved for two weeks. Meanwhile the counsel for the companies might submit additional arguments in writing. He also announced that the question of whether franchises had been fraudulently obtained could not be considered, as these points had already been passed upon by the Attorney-General.

The case heard by the Secretary was the result of complaint made by the Western Union Company that its exclusive franchise for the lines between Cuba and this country was being violated by the use of the United States and Haiti cable line working in connection with the Postal system, through which means the Postal was able to invade the Cuban field of the Western Union. The United States and Haiti company asked that the case be continued until next September, in order that additional time might be afforded in which to present testimony. It is not probable that the request will be granted, in view of the statement by Mr. Root that action would be taken in two weeks.

Mr. Root held that while the merits of the questions involved could be properly considered, he could not go behind the opinion of the Attorney-General.

Our Trade With Belgium.

The Bureau of Foreign Commerce of the State Department made public a chapter of the volume entitled "Commercial Relations for 1900," which is now in press, this extract dealing with United States trade with Belgium. According to Consul Winslow, at Liege, Belgium is a manufacturing country, having exported last year some $350,000,000 worth, and imported over $400,000,000 worth. Of the imports the United States contributed over $56,000,000 worth and received some $13,000,000 worth of the exports.

27,839 Homeseekers Registered.

Telegrams received by the Interior Department from Assistant Commissioner Richards, of the General Land Office, who is at El Reno, supervising the arrangements for opening the lands, report that everything is proceeding in an "orderly and expeditious manner." The total registrations Saturday, as officially reported, were 27,839 at both El Reno and Fort Sill. No unregistered people were at El Reno Saturday night desiring registration.

Minnesota's Glory Departing.

Secretary Long directed that the old frigate Minnesota be dropped from the navy list and sold at a price not less than $15,000. The Minnesota is probably destined to engage in the Atlantic Coast coal trade. The Minnesota was one of the few Union vessels that escaped destruction from the terrible onslaught made by the Confederate monitor Virginia when she sailed out of Norfolk to attack the Federal squadron lying in Hampton Roads.

Capital News in General.

The Carnegie and the Bethlehem Steel Companies have notified the government that they will increase the capacity of their plants to meet the demands of the government.

Secretary Root directed the War Department to accept the resignation of Capt. Putnam Bradlee Strong, who was in an escapade in San Francisco.

Mail advices from Pekin show that the American representatives saved many innocent Chinamen who were suspected of complicity in Boxer outrages.

The Secretary of the Treasury has ordered twelve new rotary Hoe presses for printing the seal on government money.

Third Assistant Secretary of State Cridler is reported to be ill.

The President made a number of navy appointments.

A statement by the Treasury Bureau of Statistics shows a large increase in the excess of exports over imports during the fiscal year that closed June 1.

The State Department is advised that the bubonic plague prevailing at the different towns of Egypt is of a virulent type.

Captain Putnam B. Strong, of the Quartermaster's Department, U. S. A., resigned, it is said, for personal reasons.

Comptroller Dawes received the preliminary report of the receiver of the Seventh National Bank of New York, which estimates that the depositors will receive 80 cents on the dollar.