

THE WATERS ARE RECEDING

Encouraging News From the Mississippi Delta.

CROPS MAY YET BE HARVESTED

Indications Are the Flood Will Disappear by May 1—The Government Agents Aiding the Sufferers.

Memphis, April 13.—The water in the Mississippi delta is slowly receding. Reports received tonight from the overflowed country are most encouraging. The day has been an ideal one, and every planter in the delta is in better spirits.

At Greenville the river, as well as the backwater surrounding the town, is stationary tonight. Everything is in readiness for the receipt and distribution of provisions from the government, and as soon as the army officers arrive the work will be actively entered into.

At Lulu, Miss., a decided improvement is noted. There is still some suffering in the back country, but it is being alleviated by the planters, and today a representative of the government arrived and will assist the destitute at once.

The Yazoo & Mississippi Valley railroad has been busy all day with pile-drivers replacing washouts. The road will probably have trains running into Lulu and Clarksdale on Thursday.

It is now believed the water will disappear by May 1, and, if this proves true, a fair crop can be made.

The river is falling at Memphis tonight. At Vicksburg and all points south a steady rise is noted.

DURRANT SENTENCED.

The Prisoner Taken to San Quentin to Remain Until His Execution.

San Francisco, April 13.—Theodore Durrant was this afternoon taken to San Quentin prison, there to be confined until his execution, which was fixed by the court today for June 11. This is the second time Durrant has been sentenced to death for the same crime, and he received this judgment, like the other, with calm indifference. His attorney, after the sentence had been pronounced, made several further attempts to secure delay for his client, but Judge Bahrs, who pronounced sentence, was not impressed with the logic of Durrant's attorney, and declined to modify his sentence in any way. The murderer's attorney moved successively to strike from the sentence the allusion to Durrant's confinement in San Quentin, then filed a notice of appeal from the order and asked for a certificate of probable cause, and finally asked for a stay of execution for four hours, that the application for a writ of probable cause might be taken to the supreme court. All these motions were denied. When taken to the ferry en route for the prison, Durrant's nerve broke down at the sight of the crowds, who rejoiced in his passing to the shadow of the gallows after so many and protracted delays. He murdered Blanche Lamont over two years ago, and was arrested a week after committing the crime.

FORTY LIVES LOST.

Perished in the Swollen Streams of South Dakota, Iowa and Nebraska.

Sioux City, Ia., April 13.—Forty lives at least have been lost in the floods in South Dakota, Iowa and Nebraska. Two persons are known to be lost on the Floyd, three have been drowned on the Big Sioux, two on the Missouri and two on the Coon river, all in the immediate vicinity. Similar cases are being reported daily from points farther away and a sharp watch is kept by the authorities for floaters in the Missouri.

Many people are missing, of whose death their friends have no positive information. Most of them have probably been carried down the Missouri, and their bodies probably will never be recovered.

The bodies of two more victims were brought into Sioux City last evening. Danford Magee and Harry Flavill, who were drowned while attempting to ford the Elkhorn, in Nebraska. There has been a general fall in all streams in the locality.

Shot in the Eye by a Child.

San Francisco, April 13.—Joseph Hertz, aged 54, was accidentally shot in the right eye tonight by Tossie Neuberger, a 9-year-old girl. While Hertz was repairing a boy's parlor rifle, Tossie Neuberger, who lives in his house, seized the weapon and asked Hertz to "play soldier." After marching around the room, the child raised the weapon to her shoulder and pulled the trigger, the bullet entering Hertz's right eye and lodging in the brain. Realizing what she had done, the frightened child ran to her mother and informed her of the occurrence. The latter at once visited Hertz's room and found the occupant lying on the floor. Hertz was removed to the receiving hospital. He is believed to be fatally injured.

Panthers when taken very young make very docile and affectionate pets.

Weyler Refused Lee's Request.

New York, April 13.—A Herald special from Havana says: General Weyler replies to General Lee that he cannot grant permission to Mrs. Marriott to go beyond the lines to secure the body of Mr. Crosby, of the Chicago Record. Mr. Marriott went a week ago to the Spanish lines nearest the scene of Crosby's death. Weyler says he would like to oblige in the matter, but is not willing to assume the responsibility of protecting Marriott where he cannot do so.

A TRIPLE MURDER.

An Indian Chief Killed Three White Miners.

Mojave, Cal., April 14.—News of a triple murder committed Friday night at Panamint, a mining camp 120 miles east of Mojave, by an old Indian chief known as Panamint Tom, reached here today. His victims were William Langdon, of Tulare; Jules Goldsmith, of San Francisco, and Frank Reed, residence unknown. The men had had trouble with the Indian over the transfer of some mining property, in which the Indian fancied he had been cheated. On Friday evening, shortly after dusk Panamint Tom, in the manner peculiar to his race, sneaked unawares upon his victims, shooting all three of them before they had an opportunity to defend themselves. Langdon was instantly killed, but as Goldsmith and Reed were only mortally wounded, the Indian clubbed them to death with his gun. He left the scene on foot, closely pursued by several miners, bent upon lynching the murderer, and after a hard run of fifteen miles he surrendered himself to Frank Montgomery, of Los Angeles, into whose camp he ran for safety. If the murderer is not lynched he will be brought to Mojave.

A BURGLAR'S SUICIDE.

Killed Himself After Shooting a Spokane Police Officer.

Spokane, April 14.—Police Officer McPhee lies in a critical condition, with a bullet wound in his neck. The dead body of the man who shot the officer lies in the city morgue. McPhee had the man under arrest and was taking him to the station, when the prisoner sprang back and fired a revolver at the officer. The ball struck McPhee in the jaw, went through the neck and lodged near the vertebrae.

The man who did the shooting was Arthur Chappelle, of Dayton, Wash., where he has a wife and five children. He was wanted for burglary. After shooting McPhee he ran through the city several blocks and concealed himself in an outhouse. He was pursued by Deputy Sheriff Ferguson and a crowd of angry citizens.

As the deputy pulled the door open a shot was fired inside, and the officer thinking he was being fired upon shot at the man inside. Chappelle fell to the floor and was dead in a moment. It was then seen that he had shot himself through the head. Ferguson's bullet passed through the burglar's arm and made a flesh wound in his side.

ANOTHER BRYAN MURDER.

Evidence of a Foul Crime Found in Illinois.

Mount Vernon, Ill., April 14.—Boys passing through some woodland five miles northwest of the city, today, found a woman's head lying near the public road leading from Mount Vernon to Richview. They reported the discovery, and a party was organized for a search for the body. It was found 200 yards from the spot where the head lay, with the flesh stripped from the bones, both the trunk and head being so badly decomposed as to render recognition impossible. The testimony of the inquest went to prove that the body was that of a woman who was in that locality in November. She refused to divulge her name, but said her home was in Carmi, Ill., and that she was going to St. Louis. The theory is that another Peral Bryan murder has been committed. It is said a suspected party left the country about the date of the woman's disappearance.

The Senate Adjourned.

Washington, April 14.—The senate met at noon for the first time since the death of ex-Senator Voorhees, who until recently was a conspicuous member of the body. The opening prayer of Rev. Dr. Milburn, the blind chaplain, made an eloquent reference to Voorhees' brilliant talents, impassioned ardor, kindling eloquence, genuine patriotism and the unselfish dedication of his great powers to every cause human and divine which enlisted his support. Immediately following the prayer Senator Gorman, of Maryland, moved that as a mark of respect to their late associate the senate adjourn, adding that many senators desired to attend the funeral. The motion prevailed, and at 12:05 the senate adjourned.

Ohio Town Has a Sliding Mountain.

East Liverpool, O., April 13.—An avalanche has started near here. An entire hill is moving, and at three points near here the street railway system is blocked. Two big dwellings near Wellsville are doomed, and the Pennsylvania tracks were moved by the pressure of the hill. The undermining of the hill for the Wellsville road has left no protection and the entire face of the hill is slipping, from summit to base, including a small forest and tons of rock. The Wellsville road has dropped from sight in two places and the expected avalanche will bury the Pennsylvania tracks and the street-car line and will endanger the big sewer pipe works.

Fighting in Uruguay.

New York, April 14.—A Herald dispatch from Montevideo says. It is reported that a serious engagement has occurred between the federal troops under Colonel Casalia and the insurgents near Minas. The federals are said to have been defeated. The insurgents have captured the town of Sarandi del Yi.

Relief Work in Tennessee.

Memphis, Tenn., April 14.—This morning Lieutenant Rowan, in company with Captain Fitch, left the city aboard the steamer Itaska. Helena is the objective point. Captain Fitch will make another inspection of levees, while Lieutenant Rowan will aid in a proper distribution of supplies purchased with a part of the government appropriation.

THE SPECIAL ENVOYS.

Commissioners to the Monetary Conference Appointed.

Washington, April 14.—The president tonight announced the appointment of Senator Edward O. Wolcott, of Colorado; Hon. Charles J. Payne, of Boston, and ex-Vice-President Adlai E. Stevenson as commissioners to an international monetary conference. The appointments are made under the act approved March 3, last, for the promotion of an international agreement for bimetalism, and the appointments do not require confirmation by the senate. It has been generally conceded that Senator Wolcott would have been a member of the commission. He has been an active leader in the movement for a monetary agreement, and is widely known as an advocate of the silver cause. His trip to Europe last summer was generally conceded to be at least semi-official, as the representative of the new administration. His tour extended over several months, and embraced the leading European capitals.

Ex-Vice-President Stevenson, the Democratic member of the commission, though generally known as an advocate of bimetalism, was a staunch supporter of Mr. Bryan and the Chicago platform. He and Senator Wolcott, however, are said to be in accord on the financial question.

General Charles J. Payne, who may be termed the minority member, is a Republican, and was a McKinley man. He is one of the most prominent business men of Massachusetts, and is said to be a deep student on the financial question. While he is classed as a supporter of bimetalism, based on international agreement, he is regarded as allied with the sound-money faction. He is a graduate of Harvard, being a member of the class of '53. General Payne is largely identified with railroads and other corporations, being a director of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy road, and other large concerns, and a director of the Boston Institute of Technology. He was an intimate friend and associate of Professor Walker, the financial authority.

It is not known when the commission will meet and organize. When organized, however, it is believed Senator Wolcott will be made president. It is believed the commissioners will not go abroad before May 1, at which time the new ambassadors will be at their posts and render the special envoys the assistance necessary in the consummation of their mission.

TWO MILLS TOO MUCH.

Special Tax Levy of the City of Portland Is Illegal.

Salem, April 14.—Opinions were handed down by the supreme court today, as follows:

H. W. Corbett et al., appellants, vs. the City of Portland et al., respondents, reversed. Opinion by Bean, J.

Suit was brought in this case to restrain the collection of a special tax, levied by the city of Portland for the payment of interest charges on its bonded and other indebtedness. It was set out in the complaint that, on June 30, 1895, the Portland city council, by ordinance, levied a tax of 8 mills for general municipal purposes, and on the same day, by another ordinance, an additional tax of 2 mills, for the payment of interest on bonded and other indebtedness of the city. For this latter ordinance plaintiff held there was no warrant of law. The complaint alleged by the act of incorporation, the levy of taxes for general and municipal purposes shall not exceed in any one year 8 mills, and out of the sum realized therefor and other revenues of the city it must pay the interest charges and all other general and municipal expenses. It was further alleged that prior to commencement of the suit, plaintiffs paid, or tendered and offered to pay, the full amount of the 8-mill tax, and that defendant Sears, sheriff of Multnomah county, threatens and will, unless restrained, attempt by levy and sale to collect the remaining 2 mills.

The defendants' contention was that the 2-mill tax was not without authority of law and alleged that without it it would be impossible to successfully conduct the affairs of the city, it being the opinion of the mayor and council that both taxes were indispensable to meet the public exigencies.

An injunction restraining the collection was granted, which, on trial in the lower court, was dismissed and an appeal was taken.

Levee Has Given Way.

Memphis, April 14.—The mighty sweep of the waters south of Vicksburg has at last had its effect upon the lower levees, and tonight a telegram from Tallulah, La., reports that the levee which protected Davis island has given way, and that the island will in all probability be flooded. Twenty-five hundred people inhabit Davis island, which consists of about 1,000 acres of land. The place is situated in Warren county, Miss.

Through the upper delta, the flood situation shows little change since last reports. The work of government relief has been actively inaugurated. Many people are being fed and housed at Greenville, Rosedale, Helena, Friar's Point and other points along the river. The relief steamer is now plying up the St. Francis river with food and forage for man and beast.

Bad Fire at St. Louis.

St. Louis, April 14.—A five-story building on Main street and Park avenue, occupied by the St. Louis Refrigerator & Wooden Gutter Manufacturing Company, was partially destroyed by fire this forenoon. The loss is \$60,000. Two firemen and a boy were injured by falling walls, but not fatally hurt.

The men who design war maps have experienced a slight dash of the return of prosperity.

OF IMPORTANCE TO THE COAST

President of Great Northern Writes of Asiatic Trade.

NEW MARKET FOR OUR WHEAT

Hill Says That He Is Building Up Trade in the Orient and Suggests That Tariff Duties Be Reasonable.

Washington, April 12.—James J. Hill, president of the Great Northern railroad, and also interested largely in transportation to the Orient, has written a letter to a Western senator in which he points out the possibilities of trade in China and Japan, and suggests that tariff duties be so adjusted as not to prevent trade with the countries across the Pacific.

President Hill says: "The Asiatic trade of the greatest importance to this country, and particularly to such portions of it as are interested in raising wheat. A year ago last fall wheat sold for from 18 to 22 cents per bushel in the Palouse country, south of Spokane, and this year it has sold for from 65 to 70 cents. About three years ago I sent an agent to China and Japan to investigate thoroughly what steps could be taken to introduce the general use of wheat and flour in those countries, as against their own rice, and found it simply a matter of price. I then took up the consideration of building steamers for that trade, designed to carry cargoes of flour and grain at low rates. I found that we could build the ships, but, owing to the sailors' union fixing the wages of sailors at \$20 a month, and engineers and other ship employees at about twice the wages paid by European steamers, it was impossible for us to compete with the English, German, Italian and Scandinavian ships on the Pacific. After the war with China, the Japanese used a large amount of their war indemnity for a subsidy to their merchant marine, and we opened negotiations with the General Steamship Company, of Japan, which is owned by leading men of the empire. We found their subsidy was about equal to the cost of their coal and the wages of their sailors. They pay their sailors \$5 a month Mexican, or \$2.50 in gold, enabling them to hire twelve good sailors for the wages of one American sailor. After some protracted and difficult negotiations, we concluded a contract with them for a line of steamers between Chinese and Japanese ports and Seattle, on condition that they would carry flour from Puget sound to Asiatic ports at \$3 a ton, against from \$7 to \$8 a ton formerly charged from West coast ports in the United States. The low rates fixed the rate for all lines between the Pacific coast and Asia, and has resulted in carrying out about 28,000,000 bushels, or its equivalent in flour, from the last crop. There is left about 5,000,000 bushels between now and their harvest.

"Thus you will see we have been able to find new months which have never before used wheaten bread, to take the entire California, Oregon and Washington wheat crop out of the European markets. This will reduce the amount going to Europe about 20 per cent, and is three times the quantity shipped to Europe from Argentina during the past year. The price of wheat this year, as compared with last is 20 to 25 cents higher, and I think it may be said that from 15 to 18 cents of this rise is clearly due to the withdrawal of the Pacific wheat from the European markets. I see in this morning's reports a telegram that European ships are loading with barley, rye and merchandise from San Francisco for Europe, after waiting months for cargoes of wheat, and that no more wheat will go to Europe from the Pacific coast.

"The only way we could bring about this reduction in the transportation of flour to Asia was by diverting the tea and matting business, which has heretofore gone mainly on English ships, from Asia direct to New York, and carrying these commodities to the Pacific coast, by a low rate, and transportation inland by rail, to distribute the commodities to points between Minnesota and New York.

"I have given you the facts, so you will understand the situation and be able to see that, unless these ships can bring their main cargoes of merchandise to the Pacific ports at rates that will compensate them for the traffic, the business must go as heretofore, to New York, and the rates on flour to Asiatic ports will be again at the old figure, or at an advance of about 50 cents a barrel, which would, in my judgment, destroy the business that has just been built up with that country. The province of Amoy alone, which is near the coast, contains over 80,000,000 people, and at 20 pounds of flour per capita per annum, would consume the product of 40,000,000 bushels of wheat. The large districts of Tientsin and Shanghai, both within easy reach of the sea, would consume about as much more as soon as the trade could be fully opened. It is not outside the range of possibility to say that we could ship wheat at Devil's Lake or points west, as long as the demand for flour continues to grow as it has for the past six months."

There are over 2,000 miles of railways in operation in Japan.

Rebel Stronghold Captured. Cape Town, April 13.—A dispatch from Vreysburg says volunteers have captured and burned the insurgents' stronghold at Ganssepe. Lieutenant Harris is among the killed.

Wealthy Woman's Sudden Death. Chicago, April 9.—Mrs. Julia Nelson, 18 years old and the possessor of \$100,000, died suddenly in a cottage in West Erie street today. Asphyxiation by coal gas is supposed to have been the cause of death.

GOVERNMENT CROP REPORT.

Average Condition of the Wheat Crop Below Last Year's.

Washington, April 13.—The report of the department of agriculture for April makes the average condition of winter wheat 81.4, against 99.5 on December 1, 77.1 last April and 80.5 at the same date in 1895. Leading winter wheat states show as follows: Pennsylvania, 98; Ohio, 88; Michigan, 85; Indiana, 65; Illinois, 40; Missouri, 60; Kansas, 80; California, 99.

The average rye condition was 88.9, against 82.9 last year.

The condition of the soil at the time of seeding was generally favorable throughout the country, a few scattered counties reporting it too dry or too wet, so that by December 1 a crop nearly up to the standard was indicated. The falling off since December was greatest in Illinois, but was strongly shown in every neighboring state. The average of 18 per cent for the whole country is due to the sharp freezes of early winter. Snow covering was ample in the Rocky mountains states and westward, but elsewhere to the East it was scanty. There was little damage along the Atlantic slope, where the winter was mild and the favorable indications continue, no important wheat state showing a condition under 95.

The condition of winter wheat is reported below the average in Great Britain, France and Holland, because of excessive rains, but favorable in Central and Eastern Europe. In Southern Russia there has been extensive re-sowing, but the wet weather has so delayed field work in Western Europe that the spring wheat area will be greatly cut down, the shortage in France alone being 730,000 pounds.

SHE MAY BE BLOWN UP.

Steamer Yaquina With a Lot of Dynamite, on a Sandbar.

Hueneme, Cal., April 13.—The steamer Yaquina, in approaching the wharf here at 10 o'clock today, struck a sandbar, opening her seams. She began filling, and immediately settled, with only her deck above water. A line was run ashore and efforts made to beach her, but so far she has only been hauled in a short distance.

The Yaquina is loaded with 200 tons of miscellaneous freight, including ten tons of dynamite for Los Angeles. The weather is fine, but fears are felt that, should the weather become at all bad, the ponding of the ship may explode the dynamite.

At 9 P. M. the Yaquina was lying in about ten feet of water, on an almost even keel, about sixty feet west of the wharf, and 300 feet from shore. The wind from the west is freshening. At high tide and with more wind she is very apt to crash into the wharf. Some thirty tons of freight have been landed, but the work has now ceased, awaiting the arrival of the Bonita in the morning.

COLORADO BAD MAN.

A Hardened Convict Kills a Man, Wounds Two and Is Fatally Shot.

Cripple Creek, Colo., April 13.—A shooting affray occurred this morning at McElroy's hall, in Altman, Colo., in which Jack Cox instantly killed Bob Dailey and wounded Harry Minor and Sam Loshey, and was then shot fatally. After killing Dailey, Cox ran into the street, where he met Town Marshal O'Brien, at whom he fired. The marshal returned the fire, shooting Cox, who now lies at the hospital in a dying condition. The shooting grew out of a quarrel. The men had been gambling and drinking all night. Cox is a convict paroled from the penitentiary by Governor Waite. This is the first murder in the state since the legislature passed the law abolishing capital punishment.

Senator Voorhees Dead.

Washington, April 13.—Daniel Wolsey Voorhees, ex-United States senator from the state of Indiana, died at 5 o'clock this morning at his home in this city.

The senator had been in bad health for several years, and for the two years past had taken little part in the proceedings in the senate. He has been a constant sufferer from rheumatism of the heart, and his friends, therefore, had come to expect that they might hear of his death suddenly. The last reports of him, however, were that he was showing some signs of improvement, and his death, therefore, while not entirely unexpected, caused a shock.

Shipping Stock From Arizona.

Phoenix, Ariz., April 13.—Over 200 carloads of sheep and cattle have left this valley within the past week, the Santa Fe taking out 140 carloads of sheep, or 34,000 head, billed to Chicago. These comprise the heaviest shipments ever known in Arizona. The sheep are mainly from Northern Arizona, wintered near Phoenix.

Japan's Latest Move.

Yokohama, April 13.—The government of Japan has decided to send two warships to Hawaii, stopping meanwhile at emigration. A number of rejected emigrants have arrived at Kobe. The press is urging the government to take a firm attitude toward the Hawaiian and American governments.

A Railway Collision.

Charlotte, N. C., April 13.—The northbound Florida special on the Southern railway and a local southbound passenger train collided at 11:15 this morning at Harrisburg, a small town about thirteen miles north of this city, killing three persons and wounding several others.

White quartz with a great deal of free gold has been struck near Hill City, in the Black Hills.

PRUNING THE

Progress of the Senate Committee on the Tariff Bill.

Washington, April 13.—The committee of the senate on finance in the preparation of a bill of presentation of the bill is a little beyond the limit set by them. They express the opinion that it may be two weeks present time before it will be reported.

The committee is making progress with the bill, and the schedules have received attention, among them being cottons. None of the more questions, however, have been of. The committee has wisely to leave the rates on sugar, hides, coal, lead, and all the other important until the simpler matters are determined. They take the position they can settle the disputes more satisfactorily after the details of the bill are thoroughly and the probable result ascertained. Many of the smaller corrections have been decided.

While no detailed information has been secured, it is understood that the committee has made a quite general reduction, but found to be a task not easily plished, because of the insistances upon having a high duty on articles in which they are. There are indeed many departments, and some of the pressing that members of the committee find themselves considerably rassed between their desire senators whose votes will be to the success of the bill and the demand reduction rather than

FIGHTING HAS BE

Greek Irregulars Crossed the and Attacked Turke

Elaseona, Macedonia, Apr. Bands of Greek brigands have Turkey at Krania, in the Gervno. Turkish troops have proceeded with them and fighting since 5 o'clock this At Turkish headquarters the looked upon as of the excitement Elhim Pasha has sent order everything in readiness for an of the Turkish army in force.

A dispatch received at Tur quarters here from Grevno fighting between Greeks and Tur tines. The Turks, following instructions of Elhim Pasha, rounded the Greek irregulars greater part of the Turkish stationed at Grevno is now a It is impossible to distinguish the invaders are supported by stantial portion of the Greek the correspondent is informed moment the Turkish officers the presence of uniforms of G lars in the ranks of the aggre him Pasha will order an adv entire Turkish army. The sit not serious.

NOT ON THE MARK

Public Lands in Washington W From Sale.

Olympia, Wash., April 13.— board of state land commission one of the most important ever issued by that body, withdraw from sale all state, school or other lands. Hence applications for purchase of the lands of the state will be rejected special deposits already returned. This does not apply purchase of timber and mate state lands, nor to such applic have prior rights under existing to purchase title lands.

The reason for this step is so that to sell now, in the present stringency, would be to lowest price ever likely to be thus defeating the objects for the several grants were made state. The commissioner of lands is ordered to lease all the possible to permanent occup improvers to the fullest extent under existing laws.

Sherman Pigeonholed B

Washington, April 12.—The resolution protesting against proceedings by the Spanish off Cuba against the captive in leader, Rivero, has reached the department, through the White Secretary Sherman, regarding merely declaratory of the sense senate, and offered in an spirit, has filed it away, and likely to carry out its suggestion lodge a protest with the Span government, particularly in view of formation he has received that is not to be shot.

Will Charter a Merchant Sh

Washington, April 12.—In of the act of congress authorizing secretary of the navy to transportations for the suffering pe India, Secretary Long has taken to procure immediately a steamer from the merchant No naval vessel is available purpose.

Drank Alcohol With Fatal Res San Diego, Cal., April 13.— sailor on the cruiser Philadelphia today, two others are in a dying tion, and several others are dan ly ill. During the night they chest of wood alcohol, and quantities, which they mist eggs and condensed milk, and

Boston, April 12.—The re foreign wool at this port this reach a total of 40,000 bales, a breaking number.