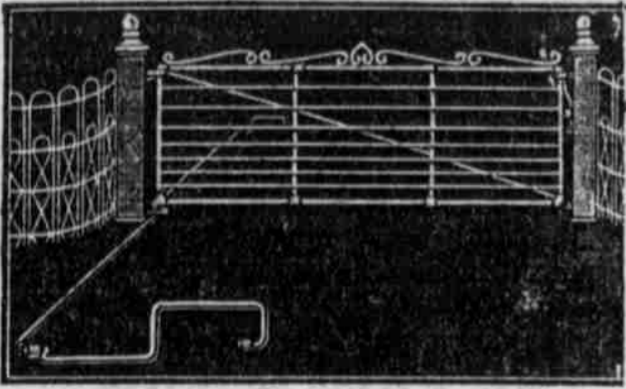


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In an opinion rendered by Justice
 Harlan the United States supreme
 court showed that there was nothing
 shown in the case of Caleb Powers
 which will warrant the federal court
 taking charge of it. The case is re-
 manded to the state courts, and Pow-
 ers will be tried for the fourth time.

In the mine disaster eighteen miles
 from Bethune, France, 1,100 lives were
 lost, bringing sorrow to 6,000 fathers,
 mothers, wives and children.

A dispatch to the St. Louis Globe-
 Democrat from Macon, Mo., follows:
 "Ray V. Denslow of this city has the
 distinction of being the youngest en-
 tered apprentice Mason in Missouri,
 probably in the United States, and,
 as far as known here, was admitted
 to the lodge under most extraordinary
 circumstances. It is a rule of the
 order that candidates shall be 21
 years old. Young Denslow was born
 March 6, 1885, at 6 o'clock a. m. Mon-
 day evening, March 5, was the regu-
 lar communication of Censor lodge
 No. 172 A. F. and A. M., to which he
 had petitioned for the degrees. At
 midnight, his petition having been re-
 ceived, he was admitted to the lodge
 and the degree conferred, being made
 an entered apprentice Mason a few
 hours before he was actually 21. Dis-
 trict Deputy Grand Lecturer S. R.
 Wood of La Plata, Mo., in speaking of
 the initiation, said that there would
 have been no violation of Masonic
 rules had the candidate received the
 degree Monday evening, the even pre-
 ceding his 21st birthday, for under
 both the Masonic and civil rulings he
 was 21 years of age twenty-four hours
 before his 21st birthday. In order to
 avoid any technicality, the lodge de-
 cided to confer the degree after mid-
 night. The case has not, to the knowl-
 edge of Mr. Wood, had a precedent.

Dr. Byron Mahoney who disappeared
 from Ladoga, Ind., in 1878 and was
 believed to have met death, has re-
 turned to his home. It is said that
 his mind is an absolute blank as far
 as the past is concerned.

Newspaper dispatches say that there
 will be an increase of 25 per cent or
 more in the price of boots and shoes,
 the increase being necessary because
 of the tariff on hides and skins.

William D. Mann, editor of "Town
 Topic" has been indicted by the New
 York grand jury on the charge of
 perjury.

District Attorney Jerome has
 brought two libel suits for \$100,000
 each against the New York American.

The statehood bill has been re-
 turned to the house, and republicans
 in conference have voted to stand by
 their original bill. The Washington
 correspondent for the Record-Herald,
 says that it is openly claimed in house

circles that there are senators who
 would be willing to compromise on
 statehood to insure the passage
 through the house of the ship subsidy
 bill.

A bitter fight is on between North
 Carolina republicans over federal pat-
 ronage. As a result of the quarrel
 Representative Blackburn has pre-
 pared charges against District Attor-
 ney Holton, and Holton has persuad-
 ed the grand jury to indict Blackburn
 for receiving compensation from con-
 stituents in cases against the govern-
 ment. It is charged that Blackburn
 accepted fees from two distillers who
 were charged with violating the laws.
 Blackburn charges that former Sena-
 tor Pritchard, who is now judge of
 the United States district court, was,
 while in the senate, guilty of the same
 offense with which he (Blackburn) is
 charged.

Senator Depew is seriously ill, and
 is not likely to return to the senate
 this session.

Standard Oil representatives now
 announce that they will not give At-
 torney General Hadley of Missouri
 any information.

The Iowa legislature has called on
 Governor Cummins to prove the
 charges he recently made to the ef-
 fect that railroad influence was used
 to defeat the primary bill before the
 legislature.

Members of the G. A. R. have en-
 tered a vigorous protest against the
 action of the house committee in re-
 ducing the compensation of govern-
 ment clerks after they have reached
 the age of 65, and ultimately closing
 the classified service to men over 70.
 Corporal Tanner, commander in chief
 of the G. A. R., says that if the age
 rule were applied to congress it would
 fall heavily upon some of the most
 distinguished members, and he adds:
 "You won't find a confederate soldier
 behind your bill."

Judge Alton B. Parker, who was the
 democratic nominee for president in
 1896, addressed a joint session of the
 Mississippi legislature at Jackson. He
 told his hearers that they must shun
 the demagogue and avoid radicalism.

Three villages were destroyed by
 the eruption of the volcano on the
 island of Savaii, of the Saoman group.

Secretary Taft has written a letter
 to the Cincinnati Republican club in
 which he declares he is against
 bossism.

Judge Charles W. Thomas of E.
 St. Louis, Ill., who was recently nom-
 inated as a candidate on the repub-
 lican ticket for the supreme court in
 the first district in Illinois, died as a
 result of an operation.

Judge Joseph W. Mercer, president
 of the First National bank at Inde-
 pendence, Mo., and at one time treas-
 urer of the state of Missouri, died at
 his home in Independence.

In the hearing before the interstate
 commerce commission at Kansas City,
 G. W. Mayer of Kansas City, general
 manager of the Standard Oil company,
 answered "I don't know" to all ques-
 tions, although he has been a man-
 ager of the company for twenty-eight
 years. Senator Cockrell slapped the
 desk with his fist and said severely:
 "I am tired and sick of this effort
 made by Standard Oil people to con-

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