

THE RED CLOUD CHIEF.

A. C. NOSMER, Publisher.

RED CLOUD, - - NERRASKA

CURRENT COMMENT.

A LETTER from Havana to a Cuban in New Orleans states that the Governor of Cardenas is confined in Moro Castle for having failed to prevent the landing of Aguero.

PREPARATIONS are being made to put on a line of ocean steamers between Victoria, B. C., and China and Japan upon the completion of the Canadian Pacific Railway.

THE latest novelty in dentistry is teeth-shaping, or denatulation, as it is called. By means of a liquid application the teeth are softened and pressed into desirable shape.

R. C. DAVEY, of New Orleans, wanted a city office and State Senatorship, but feared the people would beat him. He had his brother nominated for Senator, and by printing his own initials on the tickets was actually elected to both offices without anyone's knowing it.

DURING the year 1883, 1,167 persons were killed and 4,187 injured by railroad accidents in Great Britain and Ireland. Of those killed 125 were passengers, and 554 employees, 78 persons were killed at crossings, and 354 "trespassers," including suicides, were killed.

THERE is a project on foot to drain the Okefenokee swamp in Georgia. The lands are said to be very rich, and the swamp is interspersed with a number of high and dry islands, some of which are fine oak and hickory hummocks. There will be big money in the project for the party who may procure the swamp from the State.

THE seal which has been seen so many times in Henderson harbor, N. Y., has at last succumbed to the skill of the fishermen. When taken to Watertown it was found to weigh over one hundred pounds, measured four feet, and was of a gray color, spotted with a lighter hue. Seals, although a rarity, are sometimes seen in Lake Ontario.

A NOVEL decision was recently rendered by a justice at St. Mary's, Md. A cow was purchased on condition of safe delivery. The vendor succeeded in getting the cow to the fence of the vendee, but in getting her within the inclosure she fell when half way over the gap and died. Suit was brought to recover the value of the cow and judgment rendered for one-half of the beast.

A FRENCHMAN, Mons. V. de Fonville, has offered English railway companies a novel suggestion for detecting the presence of infernal machines in baggage. All baggage received should be laid flat on wooden tables supported by iron feet, but not nailed to them, when the slightest noise made by clockwork on any of the parcels would become audible if a microphone were placed on each table.

THE Russian Mennonites in North Dakota build houses of four rooms, all cornering together in the center. Right there they put up a great brick oven, with thick walls. From the furnace door to the back yard is a passage-way. Every morning, noon and night they lug a bag of straw in from the stack and burn it in the furnace. The thick brick walls become red hot and stay so for hours, warming every room in the house.

THE officers of the British bark St. Lawrence, at Philadelphia, from Demerara, report a remarkable experience during the voyage. When about five hundred miles off Cape Hatteras the air suddenly became very dense, and great difficulty was experienced in breathing. A strong odor of burning pine timber was also perceptible. The misty mass is described of light bluish tint, forming a zone extending from the horizon toward the zenith about fifteen degrees. Within the radius of a mile the water was inky black.

THE United States Government has sold large quantities of swamp land to individuals which properly belongs to the State of Mississippi. Commissioner Ream, for the Government, and Swamp Land Agent Cameron, for the State, are engaged in locating the land thus sold, with a view of indemnifying the State for the same. They are taking depositions, and where proper proof is established the Government will pay to the State the same funds as received by it for the lands. Many acres of land will revert to the State.

It is claimed by certain old residents that Beauford, S. C., is one of the oldest towns in the country in point of settlement. Jean Ribault, commissioned by the great Admiral Coligny in 1560 to found a colony of Huguenots in America, having landed there, or near there, in 1562, to be followed two years later by Laudonniere with three ships and a large company. Scarcely had the little colony reared its homes than the Spaniards followed and slaughtered them, and more than a hundred years elapsed before a permanent settlement was made. The old Episcopal church, built in 1724, is one of the relics of this latter settlement.

THE WORLD'S DOINGS

A Summary of the Daily News.

PROCEEDINGS OF CONGRESS.

In the Senate, on the 28th, Mr. Cullom, from the Committee on Railroads, reported the original bill to establish a commission to regulate interstate commerce. Mr. Cullom stated that the bill was intended as a substitute for several bills relating to the same subject heretofore introduced. The other bills were indefinitely postponed, and the bill reported. The Chair placed before the Senate unfinished business of Friday, being a bill to establish a bureau of animal industry and extricate contagious cattle diseases. The question was upon the motion of Mr. McPherson to recommend the bill to the Committee on Agriculture, lost: yeas, 13; nays, 23. At the conclusion of a long debate, Mr. Plumb wanted to secure unanimous consent that debate on the bill should close at three o'clock to-morrow, and a vote be reached, but this was not agreed to. A joint resolution was passed in the House for the appointment of William B. Franklin, John C. Black and T. W. Hyde to fill the vacancies in the Board of Managers of the National Home for Disabled Volunteers. The bill passed for the sale of a portion of the Fort Hayes military reservation in Kansas. At the evening session the Tariff bill was under discussion, but the attendance was quite limited.

In the Senate, on the 29th, Mr. Morrill, from the Committee on Finance, reported favorably the joint resolution appropriating \$25,000 to defray the expenses connected with the approaching completion and dedication of the Washington monument. A bill to provide for the sale of the Fort Lincoln Reservation in Nebraska and Kansas was read a third time, and after a short debate, passed. The Chair laid before the Senate unfinished business of the day before, it being the Pleuro-pneumonia bill. After debate the bill passed. The Chair laid before the Senate the next special order, it being the Shipping bill reported by Mr. Frye from the Committee on Commerce. Adjourned. In the House, Mr. Lamb called for the joint resolution directing the President to bring to the attention of the Government of Venezuela the claims of J. R. Wheeler, citizen of the United States, for indemnity for gross outrages and tortures inflicted upon him by an officer of that government, and to enforce in such a manner as may be deemed best for an immediate settlement of the claim. The House adjourned. Mr. Forney, from the Committee on Appropriations, reported the Army Appropriation bill from the committee. The bill was very few members present at the night session of the House. After a short speech by Mr. Winans, of Wisconsin, on the Tariff bill, the House adjourned.

In the Senate, on the 30th, the joint resolution relating to the Washington Monument dedication ceremonies was passed. It appropriates \$200,000 to defray the expenses connected with the dedication. The following bills were read: To authorize the Oregon Pacific Railroad Company to construct one or more bridges across the Willamette River, between the mouth of navigation of the river in Oregon. To account and ratify the agreement with the confederate tribes of the Flatland and Indian Bend Dorries Indians, to fence a portion of their reservation in Montana, required for the use of the Northern Pacific Railroad. The Chair laid before the Senate the bill to remove certain burdens on the American merchant marine and encourage American shipping carrying trade. After debate, Mr. Dawes, from the Committee on Appropriations, reported the Indian Appropriation bill, and gave notice that at an early opportunity he would call it up. Pending the debate on the Shipping bill, the Senate adjourned. In the House, on motion of Mr. Rosecrans, a joint resolution was passed authorizing the Secretary of War to loan tents, etc., to the soldiers' reunions and grant commendation for moral purposes on proper application. The morning hour being dispensed with, the House went into committee on the Tariff bill. After debate the committee rose. Mr. Rogers, of Arkansas, from the Committee on Post-offices and Post-roads, reported to secure telegraphic correspondence; placed on the House calendar. At the evening session, Messrs. Wadsworth, of New York, reported on the Tariff bill.

THE Senate, on the 1st, considered the bill introduced by Mr. Inalls and reported favorably from the Committee on Military Affairs to release members of the original Fitz John Porter court-martial from the custody of secrecy so far as relates to the votes of members. Mr. Logan said Congress had no right to release Mr. Porter, and that the Government of the United States should not do so. Mr. Inalls said that the bill was intended to release the members of the court-martial from the custody of secrecy so far as relates to the votes of members. Mr. Logan said Congress had no right to release Mr. Porter, and that the Government of the United States should not do so. Mr. Inalls said that the bill was intended to release the members of the court-martial from the custody of secrecy so far as relates to the votes of members.

THE Chair laid before the Senate on the 2d a telegraphic communication from Mr. Wicker, late Collector at Key West, Fla., asking that a full investigation be made into his conduct in connection with the seizure of his official duties. Mr. Van Wyck offered a resolution, which was agreed to, calling on the secretary of the Interior for information as to what action the Senate should take in regard to the entries of public lands by the East Bay Company, organized under the laws of Great Britain, and engaged in organizing and made in the interest of Earl Dunraven. The Shipping bill was then taken up. Mr. Wadsworth reported on the amendment permitting admission to the American registry ships bought abroad, and the admission free duty of ship-building materials. Pending debate the Senate went into executive session, and when the doors reopened adjourned to Monday. The House went into committee on the Tariff bill. After debate the House took a recess at eight o'clock. At the evening session the House raised the subject of the Tariff bill, granting \$5,000 to the widow of General Francis P. Blair, as compensation for moneys expended by her husband in organizing and conducting the war, and increasing her pension to \$50 a month gave rise to a good deal of debate, but no objection. The previous question was ordered on the bill, and the House adjourned.

POLITICAL AND PERSONAL.

HON. JOHN W. KNOX received his duties as President of the National Bank of the Republic of New York.

SIR MICHAEL COSTA, composer and conductor, died of apoplexy at Brighton, England, recently, after a week's illness. He was seventy-four years of age.

GEORGE W. TRAZES, General Superintendent of the southern division of the Western Union, died in New York recently.

SENATOR WILLIAM P. KELLOGG was acquitted by the jury at Washington of the charges of bribery made against him in connection with the Star Route frauds.

BISHOP ENB, of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Covington, Ky., died recently.

MISCELLANEOUS.

THERE was a big rush at Baltimore in exporting whisky. Distillers report stock on hand very heavy, and they must either pay taxes on it and take it out of bond or export it.

GOVERNMENT ADHERES TO THE BELIEF THAT THE REVOLUTIONARY PARTY WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE OUTRAGE.

HUSSAIN PASHA telegraphed to Cairo that he was still at Berber. It was too late to retreat, as the town was completely surrounded and the garrison utterly demoralized.

OSMAN DIGNA threatens to attack Abyssinia unless King John's subjects embrace Mohammedanism.

THE National Bank of Monte de Piedad, the oldest financial institution in Mexico, closed its doors recently.

THE general conference of the Methodists at Philadelphia was largely attended. Bishop Simpson, Drs. Vernon, of Italy, Taylor, of Lexington, Ky., Trumbull, of Ohio, and Monroe, participated in the opening exercises. Bishop Bowman was made Chairman.

GOLD in large quantities has been discovered in the township of Kolar, forty miles from Kingston, Ont.

FIFTY workmen were buried by a falling wall at Whiteley's building, London, England, the other day.

TWENTY FOUR buildings at Presque Isle, Me., including the Presque Isle Hotel and post-office, burned recently. The contents of the post-office were saved. Loss, \$125,000.

IN suppressing the riotous striking laborers in the diamond fields of South Africa, the police killed and wounded several.

EXONC BROWN, colored, was executed at the Halifax Court House, Va., the other morning for wife murder.

LUPPERT'S saw mill at Williamsport, Pa., burned the other day. Loss, \$20,000.

A NEW labor organization called the Workingmen's Protective Association has been organized with headquarters at Scottsdale, Pa.

THE four hundred Italian laborers on the Schuylkill Valley Railroad, who struck for an increase of wages, have returned to work at \$1.15 a day.

A GEORGIA postmaster has sent to Washington a letter enclosing a circular requesting contributions of \$24 for campaign purposes. The circular was shown to Postmaster General Gresham, who says he will protect any postmaster who refuses the contribution called for by the circular.

THE undertakers of London demanded a premium of twenty-five guineas to reinter the State Line steamer State of Florida, overdue at that port.

THE French Government has requested Zorilla, the Spanish agitator, to leave France and avoid expulsion.

MR. E. W. PAYNE, the Medicine Lodge, Kas., banker, who was shot by the Brown gang of robbers, died from his wounds.

THE Berlin, O., flouring mill burned recently, causing a loss of \$35,000.

KEENE, the New York stock speculator, has notified the holders of privileges to present them for adjustment.

A DISPATCH from Quebec says the ship Alantide, of Drammen, Norway, was wrecked recently in a northeast gale and sleet storm, five miles north of Woodland station, Magdalen Island. She broke up immediately and nineteen lives were lost. The second mate was the only survivor.

THE Union Pacific men struck against the reduction in wages, and the order cutting down their pay was rescinded.

WHOLESALE robbery of mails from British Columbia for Europe is reported to have taken place over the Northern Pacific road.

THE Interior Department reports extensive frauds in the methods of acquiring title to public lands by certain foreign corporations.

GREAT excitement prevailed in the City of Mexico over the condition of the Monte De Piedad Bank.

DISPATCHES dated April 21 state that everything was quiet at Khartoum, and that trade was being carried on safely.

ADMIRAL HEWITT has sent back two hundred bashi bazas, as the King of Abyssinia refused to allow them to cross the frontier.

ADDITIONAL DISPATCHES.

THE Senate was not in session on the 3d. The House discussed the bill for the further restriction of Chinese immigration, which ultimately passed by 184 to 13.

ONE hundred thousand dollars damage was done at Burlington, Vt., by a severe gale recently.

BLUE MOUNTAINS, along the northern border of Berks County, Pa., were on fire in every direction. Serious danger was apprehended.

THE Quebec Provincial Treasurer reports that there has been for years an annual deficit of \$300,000 to \$500,000, and that retrenchment or an increase of revenue was necessary.

OVERY to the discovery at Moscow of a plot to assassinate the Czar, the festivities in honor of the coming of age of the Czarovitch will be held at St. Petersburg.

EMPEROR ANNA, widow of Emperor Ferdinand IV., of Austria, and aunt of the present Emperor, died recently, aged eighty years.

ANOTHER overflow was anticipated at Shreveport, La., which will be a great misfortune to the planters below, who have their cotton crop planted. The river was rising very rapidly. Heavy water was coming in from all quarters. The heaviest rains for years had fell incessantly for a week.

ASTON'S new steel yacht, Nourmahal, was launched at New York recently. It is said to be the largest pleasure vessel ever launched in America and the largest yacht afloat.

AN Independence, Ia., special says: John Duffy's house, near here, burned, and his thirteen-year-old daughter perished in the flames. Her parents were also badly burned and another child was not expected to recover.

THE conference at Paris to determine the electrical units adopted resolutions concerning the electric currents and standard of measurement of electric light and electrical units.

REPORTS regarding the fate of the Atlantic steamer State of Florida, were indefinite, but it was thought the crew and passengers, or nearly all of them, were saved.

THE New York walking match ended with Fitzgerald in the lead, his score being 610 miles. Rowell made 602, Panchot 568, Norwac 545, Herty 539, Vint 530, and Elson 520. Fitzgerald and Rowell both beat all previous six day records.

THE members of the Siamese Embassy to the United States arrived in the steamship Alaska. The native Siamese members were attired in European costume.

EXPORTS of specie since January 1 reach \$1,190,330; during last week, \$3,145,063.

A BRITISH war ship has been sent to investigate a report that a vessel had been burnt and the crew murdered by the natives of Cay Island, West Indies.

QUICK RETRIBUTION.

THE Medicine Lodge Bank Robbers and Murderers Pursued, Captured and Executed.

KANSAS CITY, May 2.—A special to the Times from Harper, Kas., says: The tragedy at Medicine Lodge yesterday, caused by the attempted robbery of the Barber County bank, had a terrible sequel last night, when the four robbers and murderers were lynched by the excited populace, who followed them from the bank immediately after the killing of Mr. Geppert, the Cashier, and mortal wounding of Mr. Payne, the President. There has been great excitement at this point since the news of the tragedy arrived by courier, and this morning a number of citizens went to Medicine Lodge to view for themselves the scene of the unfortunate and cowardly killing and to take part in the pursuit and punishment of the robbers if their assistance was needed. Long before they reached the seat of action, however, the four men who had planned the attack upon the bank, which resulted in the death of Mr. Geppert, had been tried, found guilty and executed by Judge Lynch, and the verdict of the entire southern section of Kansas is that they only received their just deserts.

THE latest particulars of the attempted robbery go to show that the affair was planned several days since at Harper, or some point east or south, and it was the work of the four men who so quickly paid the penalty of their crime. Their names are Henry Brown, at one time Marshal of Caldwell, Kas.; Ben Wheeler, ex-Assistant Marshal of the same place; John Westley, a noted cowboy, desperado and dead shot, and William Smith, by occupation a cowboy. They reached Medicine Lodge some time on Tuesday, but did not show themselves together until just before the attack. The streets during Wednesday were almost deserted in consequence of the heavy rain which had been falling since early morning. Watching their opportunity the four men approached the bank a few minutes past ten o'clock, and while two of them entered the remaining two staid outside. At the time the Cashier and President were alone. A third party who had been transacting some business, passing out as the robbers entered, Mr. Geppert looked up at the men who came into the bank, and when ordered to throw up his hands, turned and tried to reach his revolver, but was instantly killed by one of the men, supposed to have been Westley. Mr. Payne was also shot through the body and fell to the floor, and promiscuous firing ensued. The first bullet which one of the robbers fired, was seen to be a pistol shot, and cowboy yells in the bank, which was taken up by the two outside, who yelled and fired promiscuously. This quickly drew a crowd, who

with spirit, making it so hot that the robbers mounted their horses and quickly started for the Indian Territory. Instantly the citizens began arming for pursuit, first ten, then fifty and finally a hundred taking the saddle. The chase was short, however, as the pursued became convinced that flight was useless and so made a stand on the hill three miles west of the town. Here they were surrounded and a lively skirmish ensued until nearly two o'clock, when finding themselves completely surrounded and their ammunition gone the robbers held up their hands and surrendered. Upon being brought to town they were heavily ironed and placed in jail under a strong guard, but the sight of the murdered Cashier and dying President so exasperated the citizens that it was seen that a short of genuine necking the party would satisfy them. After waiting a few hours the crowd began to gather at the jail, and a demand was made for the men. This was refused by the officers, but the crowd would not be put off, and suddenly a move was made upon the jail, the guard overpowered, the doors broken open, and a wild rush made for the cells holding the trembling prisoners, who fully realized that their hour had come. Westley laid in some way concealed a revolver about his person, and as the mob approached the cell he opened fire, but was almost instantly

RIDDLED WITH BULLETS, and fell dead with a dozen bullets in his body. It was an easy matter to force the cell doors, and ropes being produced, the remaining three men were led out and nooses placed about their necks. They were then half dragged to a small grove a short distance from town and hanged to separate trees. Two of them died, but the third begged for mercy and asked that he might be shot instead of hung. His executioners had no mercy, however, and he was hung with the others. Before the lynching all of the men were recognized, and Westley was identified as a well-known desperado and one of the best shots in the State. By his resistance at the jail he met death more speedily and avoided the gallows. Before death the men admitted nothing and offered no excuse. Geppert, the cashier, was shot in the head and breast, dying instantly. Mr. Payne was shot in the left breast, just above the heart, and is reported dying. He was proprietor of the Index, and one of the wealthiest men in this section. The robbers had with them wire cutters and powder with which to blow up the safe had they obtained the chance. Not a dollar was taken from the bank, however.

A DISSIPATED HUSBAND.

Edward Thompson Feels His Miserable Existence in a Well.

DES MOINES, May 1.—A special gives the details of a horrible crime near Holland, Edward Thompson, a young Norwegian, went home intoxicated and tried to shoot his wife, but was prevented by his wife's sister, who succeeded in getting the revolver from him. The wife got out of doors and started for a neighbor's, when he pursued her with an axe, overtaking her, felled her to the ground, and repeated the blows four times, each blow indenting and fracturing the skull. She died in a few minutes. Her sister called for assistance, and his wife was found in a comatose state. The surgeon worked for hours extracting pieces of the skull and relieving the pressure from the brain. It is thought she has a slight chance of recovery. The search made for Thompson showed that he had plunged head foremost into a deep well, thus ending his miserable existence. He was dissipated and had made his wife's life unhappy ever since their marriage.

—A curious coincidence has been dug out of American history, showing that on October 30, 1781, the Continental Congress elected the first Secretary of War, whose name was Benjamin Lincoln. In 1881, just a century later, the present Secretary of War, Robert T. Lincoln, was appointed.—Chicago Inter Ocean.

—A fight with smugglers recently occurred on the Rio Grande banks. The officers were victorious, forcing the smugglers to flee, leaving forty barrels of merchandise and twenty horses in possession of the victors.

THE DISPUTE SETTLED.

The Kansas Board of Commissioners and the Santa Fe Railroad Come to an Understanding.

TOPEKA, May 1.—The prolonged conflict between the Board of Railroad Commissioners and the Santa Fe Company over freight rates is now being terminated in a settlement of the differences that appear to be of a satisfactory character. The company has agreed to reduce its rates on the "distance" tariff about thirty per cent, said reductions being largest on long hauls. This tariff prescribes rates on freight carried between stations within the State, and to not apply to shipments made to and from points upon the Missouri River. The Commissioners and the company have also agreed upon reductions at Great Bend and Newton. The reductions embrace rates on all classes of merchandise and the reduced rates will apply on the Company's lines in Kansas, including the branches. Under the new tariff rates on grain, flour and live stock, the rates will be lower than rates on the same articles in Iowa or Wisconsin. The reductions on coal and lumber are also quite liberal. The rates last named are then for shipments to and from Missouri River points. It is also agreed that the new local tariff will be sealed upon the new rates at Newton and Great Bend. The reduction will not apply to rates on the east end of the road. Herebefore the Commissioners have directed that those rates were already reasonable. In fact they are as low as rates for similar distances on roads in the State of Illinois. It is on the middle and western parts of the line that these new reductions will be made. The Company has indicated that it accepts the Board's interpretation of the law as regards the validity of the special rates. The Board has also on several occasions and uniformly held that the law is sufficiently flexible to permit such tariff. The new tariff has not been fully completed yet, but it is expected that the revised will go into effect in a few days. A member of the Board said: "The Board of Railroad Commissioners has been holding a conference with Mr. Goldard, of the Santa Fe Railroad, for the past week and have arrived at a satisfactory adjustment of the rates between Missouri River points and Newton and Great Bend, which are very much below their present rates when taken as a whole, and in some instances a slightly in advance of the rates heretofore fixed by the Board. The Company accepts the Commissioners' interpretation of the law in respect to special tariffs, or rates, to meet commercial necessities when the business seems to require them, but it must be understood that these rates will be special as to the commodities and not as to individuals or localities."

Postal Telegraph.

WASHINGTON, May 2.—The House Committee on Post-offices and Post-roads unanimously agreed upon a bill "to secure cheaper telegraphic correspondence," and directing Representative Rogers to report it at the first opportunity. The bill is based on the Senate bill and consists of a number of provisions of that measure, with amendments to others. The provision creating the office of fourth assistant postmaster general is eliminated as are all sections of the Senate bill providing for the construction of a Government postal telegraph system in case no contract is made with a company. The portion of the Senate bill relating to rates is considerably amended. It provides: "That charges for the transmission of telegrams, excepting service and Government telegrams, shall be prepaid by telegram stamps or stamped paper and the maximum rates for telegrams of twenty words or less, exclusive of date, address and signature when the distance is 1,500 or under, shall be twenty-five cents; for every 500 miles or fraction thereof in excess of 1,500 miles, an additional rate of five cents may be charged, and between the cities of New York, Philadelphia, Boston, Baltimore and Washington, and such other points separated by short distances as may be from time to time designated by the Postmaster General, the rate shall not be more than fifteen cents day or night. Provided that no rate shall exceed fifty cents for telegrams to be transmitted by night, except as above stated. The charges for night service shall be one-half the day rates. All words shall be counted except the date, address and signature and for every five additional words, one-fifth of the additional rate may be charged." The provision relative to penalties is amended to read: "For failure or neglect to promptly and carefully transmit any message, the contracting company or companies shall be liable to the parties interested thereby in the total sum of \$100, together with the actual damages sustained by reason thereof, to be recovered by the party injured in a civil action before any court of competent jurisdiction." A provision is inserted that no contract shall be made with any company which has not one thousand miles of telegraph line in actual operation. The Postmaster General is directed to make all necessary rules and regulations for carrying out the provisions of the proposed act.

James K. Keene Falls.

NEW YORK, May 1.—The announcement of the failure of James K. Keene, the well known Wall street operator, was received by many with incredulity. It created at first a tremendous excitement among the smaller dealers and operators, who had apparently no anticipation of such a result. The effect on the market was not appreciable yesterday afternoon, as the announcement came late in the day. Very little accurate information could be gained in regard to the failure, although rumors of a most contradictory nature were circulated in great numbers. It was learned, however, that Keene has, for some time past, confined his stock operations to transactions in privileges and selling puts and calls. A large number of these contracts fell one yesterday and it was said Keene began paying them off, and after spending \$150,000 in cashing the differences resulting from the falling market, he found himself running short, and having no more money at his command, he was forced to refuse the stock tendered him. The news spread, and soon his office was besieged with customers and creditors, who fought with each other to gain entrance. His secretary, Mr. Wells, confirmed the reports of his failure to meet his engagements, and said it was owing to unfavorable speculation. He said Mr. Keene would make no statement to the public at present, but would furnish a statement at an early day to those who are interested in his affairs.

Holocaust of Horses.

KANSAS CITY, May 2.—A fire broke out last night at nine o'clock in the livery barn at 117 West Fifth street, formerly run by Soudley & Newkirk, but since the death of J. A. Soudley conducted by the surviving partner. The entire fire department responded to the alarm and found an exceedingly ugly fire with which to contend. Upon the arrival of the fire department the entire upper portion of the building was in flames, while a dense volume of smoke issued from the forward end of the building, making it exceedingly dangerous for a person to enter. After the fire was subdued, a sickening sight was presented, it being found that twenty-six horses had perished in their stalls. Loss, \$11,000.

FACTS FOR THE PEOPLE.

How the Public Lands are Appropriated by Foreign Syndicates—Public Debt Statement—Other Matters.

WASHINGTON, May 3.—Some correspondence recently passed between the Department of the Interior and Senator Plumb, chairman of the Committee on Public Lands, with reference to information called for by a resolution of March 17, last, directing the Committee on Public Lands to inquire in what manner large quantities of public lands had been transferred or possessed by foreign corporations or syndicates. What, if any, legislation was advisable to prevent such transfer or possession. On April 4 the Secretary of the Interior sent Plumb a communication from the Commissioner of the General Land Office, in which he states there were several methods by which foreign corporations and syndicates may legally acquire a title to public lands. The Secretary also transmitted the same date copies of reports from special agents showing the methods adopted for unlawful acquisition of title to public lands in the interest of foreign capitalists. Special Agent John M. James reports, in relation to thirty-eight claims in Estes Park, Col., owned by the Estes Park Company, organized under the laws of England and doing business in Colorado. William Thomas, Earl of Dunraven, appears to be one of the chief functionaries of this company. Thirty claims, the special agent found, were secured for people who were never in that part at all, the remaining eight were secured by people who made occasional visits and show improvement. In no case was the law complied with. Special Agent Wilson T. Smith reports the result of an investigation in California into the transactions of Falkner, Ball & Co., an English house. He secured complete evidence in sixteen cases, proving the entrymen took up timber land under an agreement to transfer them to the agent of a syndicate, each entryman receiving fifty dollars for his services. Further investigation was stopped by the agents of the syndicate, who surrounded the hotel with their henchmen, and no one who made entry with them was allowed to approach the special agent's room. Under date of April 20, the Secretary sent the Chairman of the Public Lands Committee a supplemental letter of inquiry, in which he stated that the Commissioner of the General Land Office and a firm of land brokers in Edinburgh, who had taken part at the introduction in the Senate of the above-mentioned resolution and desired to be informed if they would be interfered with in the possession of land already acquired. The Commissioner replied by a letter stating that in his opinion no law would be passed retro-active in its nature, the property rights of all persons being fully protected in the United States. He says, however, misapprehension may exist as to what property rights have been or may be acquired under the present State laws. He then stated in detail the methods by which public land may be legally acquired, and closes with this statement: "Possessory rights to public lands, other than as authorized by the settlement and improvement laws, are not recognized, and more possession, occupation or enclosure gives no color, right, title or claim to any larger quantity of land in the United States than the quantity authorized by said laws."

PUBLIC DEBT STATEMENT.

The following is the public debt statement for April:

4 1/2 per cents.....	\$ 250,000,000
5 per cents.....	250,000,000
6 per cents.....	250,000,000
Refunding certificates.....	29,620,000
Navy pension fund.....	4,000,000
Total interest bearing debt.....	\$1,023,620,000
Matured debt.....	12,128,000
Legal tenders.....	25,000,000
Certificates of deposit.....	15,000,000
Gold and silver certificates.....	217,000,000
Fractional currency.....	6,985,000
Total without interest.....	\$308,113,000
Total debt.....	\$1,331,733,000
Total interest.....	\$84,128,000
Cash in treasury.....	380,754,200
Debt less cash in treasury.....	1,400,978,800
Decrease during year.....	22,000,000
Decrease since June 30, 1882.....	\$7,064,732

CURRENT LIABILITIES.

Interest and unpaid.....	\$ 2,102,700
Debt on which interest has ceased.....	12,128,000
Interest thereon.....	313,600
Gold and silver certificates.....	217,000,000
U. S. notes held for redemption.....	15,000,000
Cash balance available.....	122,652,973
Total.....	\$309,754,200

AVAILABLE ASSETS.

Cash in treasury.....	\$380,754,200
Bonds issued to Pacific Railroads.....	1,228,000
Interest payable by the United States, principal outstanding.....	64,628,512
Interest accrued not yet paid.....	1,302,170
Interest paid by the United States.....	61,160,738
Interest on bonds.....	1,000,000
Transportation service.....	19,002,000
2 1/2 per cent. bonds.....	655,198
Balance of interest paid by the United States.....	42,602,700

PATENT LAW CHANGES.

The Senate Committee on Patents instructed Chairman Keene to prepare a circular letter to be addressed to persons prominently interested in patented property, and also to persons in favor of legislation for the protection of the innocent use of patented articles, asking their opinion of the provisions of House bill No. 3295, to regulate the practice in patent cases, and to recommend to the Senate, and if they are not satisfied as to what legislation, if any, is necessary. Pertaining to the matter the sub-committee of the House Committee on Commerce will make a favorable report to the full committee on the bill to regulate the exportation of articles made in imitation of patented articles. The bill provides that tin boxes, firkins or cases, when containing articles made from oleomargarine for export shall be marked "oleomargarine close" or "butterine" or "oleomargarine close." When made from a mixture of lard and dairy butter, or from a mixture of lard and milk, or cream, "lard butter" or "lard cheese," and when made from a mixture of vegetable oils with dairy butter or oleomargarine, "vegetable oil butter." The bill further provides that a manifest accurately describing such commodities shall be filed in the Custom House.

NOTES.

The United States Treasurer is now prepared to forward fractional silver coin in sums of \$500, or its multiple, at the expense of the Government.

The treasury yesterday purchased 200,000 ounces of silver for delivery to the various mints.

Papers recommending