

BILL TAYLOR HANGED PLUNGED THROUGH THE DEATH TRAP.

He Ascends the Scaffold With Steady Step and Meets His Fate Without Flinching—A Letter to the Public—Condemned Man Declares Himself Innocent.

CARROLLTON, Mo., May 7.—Bill Taylor, the murderer of the Meeks family, whose hanging was set for 11 o'clock this morning, was visited at 9 o'clock this morning by his attorneys, Colonel Hale, Virginia Conkling, Russell Kneisley and Ralph Lutzer. He again thanked them for their tireless work in his behalf. Taylor asked Mr. Conkling if there could be no hope for a respite at the last moment. The lawyer said there could not.

"Well, if I had thirty days more I would never be hanged," said Bill. "They are hanging an innocent man."

GIVES A STATEMENT TO THE PUBLIC. As the lawyers took leave of Bill, he handed Colonel Hale a letter marked "To the Public."

"That's my last and only statement," he said.

It reads: "I have only this statement to make. I ought not to suffer as I am compelled to do. Prejudice and perjury convicted me.

"By this conviction my lonely wife is to be left a widow, my babies are made orphans in a cold world, my brothers to mourn and friends to weep. You hasten my gray haired father and mother to their graves.

"The mobs and that element have hounded me to the grave. I had at least hoped to live till the good people realized the injustice done me, but I am prepared to meet my God, and I now wing my way to the great unknown. There I believe every one is properly judged.

"I hope my friends will all meet me in heaven. I believe I am going there.

"Good bye all.—W. F. Taylor."

The doomed man came out of the side door of the jail through good Mrs. Cummings' kitchen. Taylor, carrying a crucifix, walked between Sheriff Allen and Stanley. Father Kennedy followed, chanting. Taylor's step was steady. His eyes were set straight to the front. He had told the sheriff just before leaving his cell that he did not wish to say anything to the crowd from the scaffold.

Taylor mounted the steps with slight assistance and stood in the middle of the trap. His face was rigid, not a tremor shook his frame. The women knelt at the foot of the steps, still praying.

J. B. Ross of Kansas City, adjusted the straps about his ankles. Sheriff Allen pulled the rope tight about Taylor's neck. He never winced. Deputy Cummings adjusted the black cap and Sheriff Allen drew his handkerchief from his pocket.

Sheriff Stanley pulled the trap at 10:47, and Bill Taylor shot through the trap to death. His neck was broken. Not a muscle quivered.

Old Mrs. Meeks, who stood near the scaffold, almost fainted. Her moaning could be heard all over the stocks.

LIFE GONE IN THIRTEEN MINUTES.

Exactly 13 minutes and 13 seconds elapsed between Bill Taylor's plunge through the trap and the last beat of his pulse. The body hung, turning from side to side in the tender spring creeds, exactly seventeen minutes, before Sheriff Allen released the rope. The crowd, still holding hats in hand, pushed and struggled to see the dead man's face. When the black cap and rope were removed the face that was disclosed averaged the struggling men.

"Why, he looks as peaceful as if he fell to sleep," were the exclamations. Sure enough the dead man's face was supremely peaceful. The eyes were closed. The seam of the fatal rope did not show. A purple tinge showing through the skin was the only trace of a sudden death.

The sheriff and doctors signed the certificates required by law across the coffin. Still the hats remained off. Then the pall-bearers took up their burden and marched out into the street in the face of a mass of people which now seemed to number 5,000. Captain Black called "Attention, company, shoulder arms," and a squad of Company A fell in before and behind the little cortege. At first the sight was received with murmurs; then jeers and laughter and clapping eddied through the throng. The troops pushed their way through the jostling mass of humanity, men, women, children and babes in arms. A vortex of struggling men streamed behind. The doors of the undertakers fell to and the multitude went to dinner. Many of the crowd which remained behind in the stockade still had their hats in their hands while they cut silvers from the gallowas as mementoes.

GERMANS AGAINST WOMEN

Open Talk of a Split in the Methodist Sect if Fair Delegates Win.

CLEVELAND, Ohio, May 7.—The German delegates to the Methodist general conference are leading the opposition to the admission of women. Some of them have said that if the four women who have been elected delegates to the conference are admitted, all the German lay members of the church will secede. They have issued a strong protest, and some of the prominent ministers recognize the fact that the opposition threatens the unity of the church.

Waithall for President.

JACKSON, Miss., May 7.—The Democratic state convention declared for free silver, and instructed its delegation to vote for no man for President or vice President who is not fully and unequivocally in favor of that principle. A resolution instructing the delegates for Senator Waithall for President was adopted.

A Headless Corpse Near Hays City.

HAYS CITY, April 30.—A headless body of a man was found in the hills twelve miles northeast of Hays City. The sheriff and coroner are holding an inquest.

REFORMERS ONLY TOOLS.

Evidence that High British Officials Backed the Raid.

PRETORIA, May 7.—Barriers of influence are gathering from all sides and begging the government to totally abolish the sentence imposed upon Hammond, Rhodes, Phillips, Farrar and the other so-called reformers. What influence this will have upon President Kruger and his advisers remains to be seen, though it is currently reported that the executive court has decided to impose a sentence of five years' penal servitude and banishment for life upon the four leaders. To justify such severe treatment, it is said, the executive council refers to the records of the trial.

Telegrams were put in evidence which, from a cipher key found in Dr. Jameson's baggage when he was made prisoner by the Boers after the fight at Drenkop, proved beyond doubt, it was claimed, the complicity of the British South Africa company with the Johannesburg reform leaders and Dr. Jameson's raid. The company, it is alleged, opened a credit of \$2,000,000 in the name of Colonel Francis Rhodes in Johannesburg, to be used to organize the raid, and sent a message asserting that the Times of London had a cable dispatch from Cape Town saying that to delay the Jameson affair would be imprudent.

It is also claimed that the Transvaal government is in possession of additional documents, not produced at the trial, which compromise notable personages and officers in South Africa and elsewhere. It has been proved that telegrams in great numbers were exchanged between the four reform leaders and Cecil Rhodes, then premier of Cape Colony, and Rutherford Harris, secretary of the British Chartered South Africa Company at Capetown, and Dr. Jameson, when the latter was at Pretoria.

A press representative was allowed to visit the prisoners last evening. He found the three Englishmen well, but Hammond's health is causing considerable anxiety to his friends. His sentence caused a reaction after the great nervous strain he had been under for so long, but to-day he is said to be as well as possible under the circumstances. He may be allowed to procure better food and other comforts. The four are confined in a small room and are treated with consideration. In view of the bad state of Hammond's health every possible influence is being brought to bear on President Kruger in his behalf.

Mrs. Kruger, wife of the president, has sent messages of sympathy to the families of the condemned men.

CONTEMPT DEFINED.

Senator Hill Presents a New Measure to Cover All Possible Cases.

WASHINGTON, May 7.—Senator Hill from the committee on judiciary today submitted a report upon the bill in relation to contempt of United States courts, presenting a new bill as the result of the committee's deliberations. It defines direct contempts to be those committed during the sitting of a court or a judge in chambers in its or his presence, all other contempts being indirect. It provides for the immediate and summary punishment of direct contempt without written accusation. The provision for the punishment of contempt committed not in the court's presence, as in the Debs case, is as follows: "That upon the return of an officer or a process or an affidavit duly filed showing any person guilty of indirect contempt, a writ of attachment or other lawful process may issue and such person be arrested and brought before the court; and thereupon a written accusation, setting forth succinctly and clearly the facts alleged to constitute such contempt shall be filed and the accused required to answer the same by an order fixing the time and place of hearing and the court may on proper showing extend the time so as to give the accused a reasonable opportunity to purge himself of such contempt. After the answer, or in case of refusal to answer, the court may proceed to hear the accusation upon such testimony as may be produced. If the accused answer, the trial shall proceed upon the testimony produced as in criminal cases, and he shall be confronted with the witnesses against him, but such trial shall be by the court, or in its discretion upon application by the accused, a trial by jury may be held as in any criminal case. If found guilty, judgment shall be entered accordingly, prescribing the punishment."

The bill allows appeal to the Supreme court.

Mrs. Booth-Tucker Seriously Ill.

SAN FRANCISCO, May 7.—Mrs. Booth-Tucker is very ill and it is now doubtful whether she will be able to keep her engagements in California and Oregon. While in India she had the Asiatic cholera and, although recovery seemed complete at the time, she has been a sufferer annually from the effects of the disease. Her physical ailments, united to the great nervous strain she has been under since her arrival in this country, the loss of her child and the defection of her brother from the army, have caused a complete breakdown.

The Eureka, Kan., Deadlock Broken.

EUREKA, Kan., April 30.—The deadlock in the Republican judicial convention was broken this morning on the 29th ballot, T. L. Davis of this city being nominated. The ballot stood 14 for Davis and 11 for Scott on the 29th ballot. A caucus was held and Judge Aiken withdrew from the race. Butler county then gave 7 votes to Davis and 2 to Scott.

A New Pest Appears at Nevada, Mo.

NEVADA, Mo., May 7.—A new pest made its appearance here yesterday in the form of millions of small green worms. They appeared to spring out of the ground, and in an hour many trees were denuded of their foliage. They attack all kinds of trees, maple, elm, fruit and ash, with equal voracity.

Two Hundred Persons Drowned.

SHANGHAI, May 7.—A collision occurred at Woosung Thursday morning between the steamers New Chwang and On Wo. The latter sank, and over 200 persons, mostly Chinese, were drowned.

Sound Money Won in Michigan.

DETROIT, Mich., May 7.—Sound money won a complete victory when the Michigan Democratic State convention adjourned shortly after 8 o'clock last night. On the questions which were closely contested this victory was accomplished by the narrow margin of 59 majority, out of a total of some 800 votes.

American Mechanics Lose by Fire.

PHILADELPHIA, May 7.—The six-story brick building of the Junior Order United American Mechanics was entirely destroyed by fire last night. Loss about \$10,000.

CRIPPLE CREEK IN ASHES.

The Famous Mining Camp Wiped Out of Existence—Fourteen Killed.

CRIPPLE CREEK, Colo., May 7.—Last Saturday's horrors were repeated threefold in the destruction by a second fire yesterday afternoon. To an increase in the amount of property destroyed on Saturday, the fire of yesterday adds the loss of life, and leaves from 4,000 to 6,000 people homeless in a city of desolation, with no homes to offer and no food to supply the daily wants. Now, indeed, is Cripple Creek in ashes.

The business portion of the city left standing is less than would cover a city block. The residence section is confined to what were formerly the suburbs on the placers east and west of the old town, to the northeast, and a portion of Capitol Hill, on the south.

When an alarm of fire sounded from the Portland hotel at 1:30 o'clock it was quickly responded to. Almost instantaneously the building was blazing from a dozen places. In front, streams of water were turned on quickly, and the firemen fought feebly for a few moments in an attempt to put out the fire.

Buildings in advance of the fire were blown up in a futile attempt to check its speed. All about the burning blocks the streets were jammed. Charges of fifty pounds and more of powder were put in. The explosion three times high into the air and its falling felled men right and left.

When the smoke cleared away, the streets were covered with men unable to rise. Others rushed to the assistance. Before the unfortunates could be dragged back the second charge went off and half a dozen other men were added to the list. The crowd surged forward and all were taken away as the flames began to consume the building. Dr. Liggett and Dr. Crane, of Pike's Peak hospital, took charge of the injured.

The sight was one to make the crowd that gathered turn sick at heart. With such headway as the fire had gained it looked impossible to save the town. The wind was blowing almost due north, and in its track lay the heart of the business section. All water turned on the flames had no appreciable effect. The firemen were unable to make the least impression upon the Portland, which in a very few minutes was a mass of flames. To the north, across Meyers avenue, was the big furniture establishment of the Booth company, to the east of the four-story brick Masonic hall block. The alarm, the arrival of the hose carts and the work of cleaning out the booth concern were almost instantaneous.

In fifteen minutes from the time the alarm sounded flames were showing from the cornice of the Booth establishment. The fire had spread to the west on Meyers avenue, taking the Glencairn cafe restaurant, adjoining the Portland. Cartridges in the Wright hardware store in the Portland block were firing a fusillade and Meyers avenue was a furnace. To fight the fire from that point was beyond human power. To the west of the Booth building the immense lumber stock in the El Paso yards was catching and the firemen had the block bounded by First and Second, Bennett and Meyers, for a field.

George Griffith's head was blown nearly off and he died in half an hour. The others, while seriously hurt, may all recover. All the principal buildings are in ruins and nothing is left of the town proper except the railroad stations and a few scattered houses. The fire raged fiercely all the afternoon, and only died out for lack of fuel on which to feed.

The origin of the fire appears to have been purely accidental, although the general belief is that it was incendiary. There has been talk crediting Saturday's fire to such origin, and this one coming so close upon it gives rise to suspicion. The facts appear to discredit the suspicion.

PETERS PRAISES MORRILL.

The Business Record of the Kansas Governor Lauded.

TOPEKA, Kan., May 7.—Ex-Congressman S. R. Peters this forenoon gave the newspapers the following statement declaring his loyalty to Governor Morrill's candidacy for re-nomination:

"The administration of which Governor Morrill is the head has been a business record equaled by few, if any, of the prior State administrations. Personally, I have been in favor of Governor Morrill's re-nomination, and have supported his candidacy, and shall continue to do so, and use my influence to secure for him and the other members of the administration the endorsement which I think they deserve."

Spain in Danger of Famine.

MADRID, May 7.—A meeting of the cabinet was held yesterday to consider the serious condition in Spain due to drought which has almost destroyed the cereal crops. It was decided to enter upon the organization of relief work. Unless there is rain before the middle of May the loss from drought will amount to \$150,000,000. The cabinet is considering the advisability of abolishing the duties on foreign grain.

Five Shots by an Actor.

HARTFORD, Conn., April 30.—Edward K. Bethel, a member of the "Hoodman Blind" company now playing at the Grand opera house, Boston, attempted to shoot his wife, a member of the William H. Crane company, now playing in this city, at the Hotel Heubain, late this afternoon. Five shot were fired, but none of them took effect.

Europe's Labor Day Quiet.

LONDON, May 7.—Labor day seems to be passing as quietly as usual here. The only incident out of the usual run was a gathering of Socialists in Hyde Park, but the attendance was small there was nothing more than the disorder natural to large assemblies.

Mr. Gresham's Last Resting Place.

WASHINGTON, May 7.—Arrangements have been made for the removal of the body of ex-Secretary Gresham from its present resting place in Oakwood cemetery, Chicago, to Arlington cemetery, this city.

SHAH OF PERSIA DEAD.

ASSASSINATED WHILE IN THE SHRINE.

Died Almost Instantly From a Shot Fired by a Fanatic—The Bullet Pierced the Heart of the Oriental Ruler—Sketch of the Dead Monarch's Career.

LONDON, May 7.—The shah of Persia was assassinated by a fanatic this afternoon just as he was about to enter the inner court of the shrine of Shah Abdul Azim, six miles north of Teheran.

The assassin used a revolver and the first bullet proved the fatal one, passing through the heart. The physician attached to the German legation was sent for in haste but before he arrived the shah was dead.

In order to prevent public excitement from becoming too high, the first report sent out was that the shah was only slightly wounded, but an hour later it was officially announced that the wound had proved fatal almost instantly.

Immediately after the shah was shot he was carried to his carriage and conveyed to the palace in Teheran. There he was attended by Dr. Tholpagan, his chief physician, and other physicians were hastily sent for. But in spite of their efforts his majesty expired soon after his arrival at the palace, or at about 4 o'clock this afternoon.

The assassin, who was promptly arrested, is said to be a sayid from Kerman or from the province of that name. It is believed the murderer has accomplices.

The heir apparent, Muzaffer-ed-Din, was immediately advised of the assassination of his father and will leave Teheran, where he was sojourning, for Teheran as soon as possible.

THE SHAH'S CAREER.

Shah Nasred-Din was born in 1829 and succeeded his father, Muhammed Shah, in 1848, being the fourth monarch of the dynasty of the Kajars. He was proclaimed heir to the throne some years prior to his accession, but was absent at Teheran when his father died and had to fight his rights.

The late Shah's first notable act was the suppression of a rebellion in Khorasan and his next the extermination of the sect of the Babis by sword and fire.

In 1852 England declared war against Persia on account of the latter's sympathy with Russia in the Crimean war and also by reason of the capture of Herat a year earlier. After a short campaign under the conduct of Sir James Outram on the part of the English, the Persians were defeated and Herat evacuated. Since that time the relations between England and Persia have been friendly and the shah's disposition of the same character, as his recent visit to England would indicate. Nasred-Din had even previously visited Queen Victoria in an amicable spirit and had toured extensively on the continent as well.

In 1872 the Indo-European telegraph line from London through Teheran and on into India was opened and the same year a settlement of the frontier difficulties between Persia and Khat was effected by Sir E. Goldsmid and the Seistan mission.

Nasred-Din was successful in most of his wars, but it is upon the record of his civil acts that his reputation must rest. He is universally conceded to have been an humane and intelligent ruler.

The new shah will be the eldest son of the deceased, Muzaffer-ed-Din. It is interesting to note that it is within the power of the Persian monarchs to alter or overrule the existing law of succession and to leave in disregard the claims of the natural heir or any other member of the family.

ONLY TWO BATTLESHIPS.

The Senate Agrees to Mr. Gorman's Amendment in Economy's Interest.

WASHINGTON, May 7.—Mr. Sherman secured the passage of a bill in the Senate to-day appropriating \$75,000 for the expenses of the Bering sea commission, soon to meet at San Francisco.

The naval appropriation bill was then taken up, the question being on Mr. Gorman's amendment, reducing the number of battleships from four, as reported, to two. Without further speeches a ye and nay vote was then taken, resulting in the adoption of the Gorman amendment—31 to 27—as follows:

Yeas—Republicans, Baker, Gallinger, Nelson, Pettigrew, Pritchard, Sherman, Warren, Wilson and Wolcott; Democrats, Bates, Geary, Harshbarger, Clifton, George, Gorman, Hill, Jones, of Arkansas, Mills, Mitchell of Wisconsin, Pusey, Ruzick, Turpie, Vest, Vilas, Walthall and White; Populists, Allen, Kpie, Peffer, Butler.

Nays—Republicans, Brown, Cannon, Carter, Clark, Davis, Frye, Hoar, Hawley, Lodge, McBride, McMillin, Mandle, Mitchell of Oregon, Perkins, Platt, Quay, Sewell, Shoop, Spire, Teller; Democrats, Bacon, Blaine, Daniel, Faulkner, Gibson, Irby; Populists, Stewart.

Mr. Allen of Nebraska followed with an amendment striking out all battleships which was defeated—13 to 44.

Bill Dooin Indicted for Three Murders.

PERRY, Okla., May 7.—Bill Dooin was indicted at Stillwater late last evening for the murder of Deputy United States Marshal Life Shadley, Ingalls, forty miles east of here, September 1, 1895. There are from twenty to forty charges hanging over Dooin.

Confidential Men of Chicago Packers Do Not Want to Give Testimony.

CHICAGO, May 7.—The confidential men of many Chicago packers have fled from this country. They do not want to sit in the witness chair and tell a federal judge what they know about violations of the anti-trust and railway laws.

Uncle Sam has been vigorous in laying plans for a prosecution of many of the Chicago packers. Evidence has been gathered, and it will be given to the federal grand jury, which meets in a few days.

Cotton Pest in Texas.

GEORGETOWN, Tex., May 7.—Reports from Kennedy and Runge, in the southwestern portion of the state, say the Mexican weevil is playing havoc with the cotton, and that in some instances whole fields have been abandoned.

Switzerland's Exposition Opened.

GENEVA, May 7.—The national exhibition was opened to-day by Vice President Deucher in the presence of the diplomatic officials, members of the diplomatic corps, many foreign visitors and a large attendance of people.

ILLINOIS IS FOR M'KINLEY.

Delegates-at-Large Instructed for the Buckeye Statesman.

SPRINGFIELD, Ill., May 7.—William McKinley, of Ohio, is the choice of the Republicans of Illinois for president of the United States. He was so declared at the Republican state convention here yesterday. He was not only declared the choice, but the overwhelming choice, of the people of this state who believe in the principles of the Republican party.

Every effort and scheme known to politicians was brought to bear upon the delegates to induce them to name another man, but all the schemes failed. It was apparent the people whom the delegates represented wanted McKinley, and the delegates could not be induced to violate the wishes of their constituents.

That the people of this State were pleased with the choice was made evident by the 1,000 spectators and visitors who gathered from all parts of the State to attend the convention. As soon as the name of Major McKinley was mentioned in the convention there was an outburst of applause that surprised even the most ardent admirers of Major McKinley. Nearly every man, woman and child in the vast throng arose at the mention of the name of the Buckeye statesman and for nearly five minutes shouted and yelled and cheered. Hats were thrown in the air by the more enthusiastic, and for a time it seemed as if the vast crowd had gone raving mad.

The contest was between the Republicans who believed Shelby M. Cullom should be honored as the standard bearer in the presidential contest by the people of this State, on the one hand, and the Republicans who favored McKinley on the other. Arranged on the side of Senator Cullom was that organization known as the Cook county "machine," and a large number of leading politicians and statesmen of Illinois. With him were veteran politicians, who, in years gone by, have engaged in many a hard fought political contest. They had to aid them one of the most perfect political organizations that has ever been formed in this State; but all their plans went wrong.

While Senator Cullom and his backers met defeat, they met it gracefully, and at the conclusion of the convention there was not the slightest ill feeling on their part towards the victors.

A motion was made to lay the McKinley resolutions on the table, and was defeated by a vote of 503 to 312.

When the uproar following the adoption of the McKinley resolutions had ceased the following delegates-at-large were elected: R. W. Patterson, editor Chicago Tribune; William Penn Nixon, editor Inter Ocean, ex-governor R. J. Oglesby of Elkhardt, and ex-governor J. W. Pifer.

NO DOUBT OF THEIR GUILT.

All England Convinced That the Transvaal Plot Was a Deep One.

LONDON, May 7.—It would be difficult to over-estimate the sensation caused in England by the publication of the substance of the telegrams and documents in the possession of the authorities of the South African Republic.

The weight of evidence the telegrams and documents furnish against the persons to whom they were addressed and by whom they were signed of being engaged in a conspiracy to overthrow the Transvaal is admitted to be crushing. The opinion of the press very generally condemns them. But strong efforts are made to prevent a sweeping condemnation of the authorities of Cape Colony and of the British Chartered South Africa Company other than the individuals whose names are included on the documentary evidence.

A Pretoria dispatch to the Daily Telegraph gives the substance of an interview with President Kruger, in which he said that he had commuted the death sentence at once to show that after the law had been vindicated there was no vindictive personal feeling on the part of himself or the government. He believed, he said, that the government's decision would be announced before the Volksraad on Monday.

TILLMAN AGAIN.

The South Carolinian Attacks Senator Hill and the President.

WASHINGTON, May 7.—Senator Tillman of South Carolina made a speech in the Senate this afternoon savagely attacking Senator Hill and President Cleveland. He declared that Mr. Hill represented the bondholders and bankers and not the people. He predicted repudiation of bonds and interest if bond issues were carried much further, to which Mr. Hill coolly suggested: "And if you can't have that I suppose you'll have bloodshed."

Mr. Tillman declared that the President "stands as the tool of the classes" and represents only the mighty dollar. Grover Cleveland, John Sherman and John Carlisle, he declared, are "affiliates."

FLED THE COUNTRY.

Confidential Men of Chicago Packers Do Not Want to Give Testimony.

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GIVEN CATHOLIC BURIAL.

Funeral of Bill Taylor Occurs at Carrollton, Missouri.

CARROLLTON, Mo., May 7.—The funeral of Bill Taylor took place from the Catholic church here at 5 o'clock this afternoon. The body was buried in Mount St. Mary's cemetery, two miles north of town. It was Taylor's request that his body be taken to Laclede, forty miles north of here, and buried in the old Youth burying ground, where some of his relatives lie, but Mrs. Taylor sent a telegram to Father Kennedy telling him that she wished to have her husband buried by his Catholic friends. Bill's wife and mother and Mrs. George Taylor and Mrs. D. Minnis and Albert Taylor came here from Bogard. This morning and went at once to the home of Dr. Tull, who was responsible for Bill's conversion to the Catholic church and the ministrations offered by Father Kennedy.

The grief of Mrs. William Taylor seems almost insupportable. The mental strain to which she has been subjected caused her to break down Wednesday and she left the bed to come to the funeral to-day. She says she believes her husband was innocent and she never thought he would be hanged. Bill's mother also shows signs of deep grief. Some of them would talk to anyone except intimate friends.

Bill's body lay in a vacant room in the rear of an undertaker's establishment all last night, guarded by the employees of the place. Up to a late hour last night a crowd of people stood around the doors trying to get a glimpse of the enshroud.

Only a few persons asked permission to see the body to-day. It remained at the undertaking establishment until a few minutes before the hour set for the services at the church. Father Kennedy preached a short sermon at the church. Mrs. Taylor expressed much gratitude to Mr. Tull and his niece, Mrs. VonArb, for the interest they took in her religious welfare, and she told them that she was glad he had chosen their faith. The simplest ceremonies marked the burial. R. M. Kneisley, Ralph Lutzer, K. P. Kneen, Charles Patterson, Charles Kelly, John Collopy, Charles Gleason and Adolph Brocksmith acted as pall-bearers. The funeral was attended by only intimate friends and relatives.

The complete story of Bill Taylor's cipher code has now been disclosed. Letters written in this cipher between Bill and his wife were a means of communication between Bill, locked up in the Jackson county jail, and George, at large. Bill was thus informed of plans for his rescue and this was one of the reasons for his remarkable composure and hopefulness. However, the cipher was unraveled.

The officers discovered twice, by reading the cipher letters, the whereabouts of George Taylor, but failed to capture him, although posses of men went out, only to find the bird had flown. Furthermore, they learned of a plan to rescue Bill from the Jackson county jail on Tuesday night, April 21, and frustrated the plan.

METHODISTS IN COUNCIL.

The Cleveland Quadricennial Conference Called to Order.

CLEVELAND, Ohio, May 7.—The gravel of the venerable Bishop Bowman fell this morning at 9 o'clock, and the general quadricennial conference of the Methodist Episcopal church was opened in Central armory. Three thousand people were in the hall, and on the floor were white men and black men, delegates from Norway and Sweden and from India and Japan, and nearly every other country on the globe.

Bishop Bowman announced that the bible which will be used in the services was the one used by John Wesley in his study in England, and presented to the conference some years ago. Bishop Nindé read from this book the 103d Psalm. Bishop Vincent read the hymn, after which prayer was offered by Bishop Foster, that personal ambition might be stilled and that harmony should rule. The Rev. William Hurst of Rome, Italy, followed in a reading of the Scriptures, after which Bishop Taylor of Africa read the hymn. The Rev. Dr. Upham of Drew Theological seminary offered prayer, which closed the devotional services.

When the devotional exercises were over, Secretary Monroe began to call the roll. When the name of Lydia A. Trimble was announced a delegate was immediately on his feet with a motion that her name be omitted until a committee should determine whether her election was legal. For a moment it looked as if the fight had started, but Bishop Bowman refused to entertain the motion, as he declared the convention was not organized. The tumultuous applause which followed the ruling of the chair indicated the strength of the woman suffrage faction. As the names of the other women delegates were called no exception was taken. The conference decided to fill the vacancies from the reserves, and to adopt the rules of the last conference.

McKinley and Cahoon.

MARSHFIELD, Mo., May 7.—The Republicans of the Thirteenth congressional district endorsed McKinley for president and Cahoon for governor. Charles Parsons of St. Francois, and G. J. Root, of Wright, were elected delegates to the St. Louis convention.

A 5-Year-Old Bicyclist's Record.

FOUR WORMS, Tex., May 7.—Charles McAdams, Jr., the 5-year-old champion bicyclist, to-day made one-quarter mile in 48 1/2 seconds, lowering his former record of 48 4/5 seconds, made at Evansville, Ind., October 5, last.