

The News Condensed.

Important Intelligence From All Parts.

CONGRESSIONAL.

Proceedings of the Second Session.

The Fifty-third congress commenced its second session on the 3d. In the senate after organization and listening to the president's message several resolutions were offered...

THE TACOMA (Wash.) national bank closed its doors with liabilities of \$212,000. In his message to congress the president argues for free coal and iron, adoption of the "Baltimore plan" for a more elastic currency and removal of the differential duty on sugar.

MISS JOSEPHINE BRAND, of Lawrenceburg, Ind., was robbed of \$10,500 on the streets of Cincinnati. PAUL FERRACHER, a German boy of Guthrie, O. T., has invented a railroad tie for which he has been offered \$50,000.

ROSS KEYSON, his wife and their 3-year-old daughter were fatally burned by gasoline at their home near Lowell, Mich. THE Exchange bank at Goodland, Kan., closed its doors with liabilities of over \$30,000.

FIRE in the Texas panhandle swept northwesterly and southeasterly until about 25,000 square miles of land were burned over. PERSONAL AND POLITICAL. LEON ABBETT, four times elected governor of New Jersey, died at his residence in Jersey City from diabetes, aged 58 years.

ODEN BOWIE, ex-governor of Maryland and a prominent figure in war times, died at his home in Bowie. EX-CONGRESSMAN DANIEL W. CONNELLY died at his home in Scranton, Pa., after a brief illness.

JOHN GARY EVANS was inaugurated governor of South Carolina. KOLB, who claims to be governor of Alabama, issued an address to his followers in which he urges them to refuse the payment of taxes.

DAVID JOYCE, the Clinton (Ia.) lumber king, died in Minneapolis from paralysis, aged 69 years. By the official compilation of the vote in Illinois Wulff, for treasurer, is shown to have a plurality of 133,427.

THE GAVEL FALLS.

Opening of the Short Session of the Fifty-Third Congress.

Crisp Calls the Lower House to Order—The President's Message Received—Vice President Stevenson Calls to Order the Senate. WASHINGTON, Dec. 5.—The opening of the second session of the Fifty-third congress made the capitol building a center of interest Monday.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 5.—The opening of the second session of the Fifty-third congress made the capitol building a center of interest Monday. At just the hour of noon Speaker Crisp entered and the fall of his gavel was the signal that congress was in session.

Prayer was offered by Rev. Bagby, chaplain of the house. The roll call developed the presence of 216 members. Several members elected to fill vacancies caused by death or resignation were sworn in.

Upon motion of Mr. Wilson (dem., W. Va.) a committee, consisting of himself, Mr. Holman and Mr. Reed, was appointed to join a similar committee from the senate and inform the president that a quorum of both houses was present and congress was ready to receive any communication he desired to make.

At 12:30 the house took a recess until 1 p. m., to await the president's message. House Hears the Message. It was 1:37 before the rotund figure and solemn face of Maj. Pruden, the president's assistant secretary, appeared as evidence that the annual message had arrived.

The reading of the president's message was concluded at 3:15 p. m. The death of Mr. M. B. Wright, of Pennsylvania, was announced, and the house thereupon, at 3:18 p. m., adjourned.

Proceedings in the Senate. Promptly at 12 o'clock Vice President Stevenson called the senate to order and Chaplain Milburn, in eloquent terms, offered the opening prayer.

Mr. Harris (dem., Tenn.) offered the customary resolution asking that a committee be named for the notification of the president that the senate was in session and ready to receive such communications as he might wish to make.

At the close of the second recess a report was made by Mr. Harris, from the committee to wait on the president, and immediately thereafter Mr. Pruden, one of the president's secretaries, delivered the president's annual message, which was thereupon read by Mr. Cox, secretary of the senate.

NO CHANGE IN TRADE.

Temporary Activity Caused by Holiday Traffic—Future Hopeful.

NEW YORK, Dec. 8.—R. G. Dun & Co.'s weekly review of trade says: "It is difficult to detect any change in current business. Prospects for business after January 1 are quite generally considered more hopeful in some branches. There are larger orders and the west-bound shipments of merchandise are larger.

The expected government report on feeding of wheat to cattle and hogs has scarcely influenced the market. It is doubted whether the estimate is more reliable than the estimate of yield of wheat and cotton, which are not regarded seriously.

"Cotton has fallen again to 5 1/2 cents, very close to the lowest point for many years, and actual receipts from plantations are larger to date than in 1891, when the crop was over 1,000,000 bales. Scarcely a cotton gin is in operation as yet of more than an average consumption.

"The iron industry seems to have distinctly brighter prospects at Chicago, where pig iron is firm and bar iron in larger demand. Orders for freight cars. But Bessemer iron has sold at \$19.25 at Pittsburgh, steel rails have been reduced to \$22 there, and wire rods and nails are weaker.

"Heavy sales of shoes during the past two months at prices said to be 5 to 7 1/2 cents lower than recent prices of leather warrant, cause a general effort for an advance, and some jobbers have conceded 2 1/2 cents on women's grain and but shoes; but others protest that no advance is possible and cut down or withdraw their orders.

"The wool manufacture, judging from sales at the three chief markets since August 1, has been doing 2 per cent. more than last year, but 2 1/2 per cent. less than in 1892, and the average of 104 quantities of wool quoted by Coates Bros. is 13.76c, the lowest ever known, 14 per cent. lower than last year and 30 per cent. lower than in 1892.

"The liabilities in failures for the last week of November were \$2,038,407, against \$2,664,476 for the same week last year. In manufacturing liabilities, \$427,944, against \$1,675,927 last year, while trading liabilities were \$1,567,348, against \$1,208,449 last year.

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ARMENIAN OUTRAGES.

Terms Upon Which the United States Will Aid an Investigation.

CONSTANTINOPLE, Dec. 8.—The Sultan on Thursday dispatched an invitation to the president of the United States to participate through a representative in a mixed commission of the powers to visit Armenia and investigate conditions there.

After the reading of the message resolutions were offered on various subjects, including the alleged Armenian outrage, the surrender of two Japanese citizens to the Chinese authorities, and the election of United States senators by the people.

At Hull, Quebec, four men and a boy were killed and several other persons injured by an explosion of dynamite. VICTORIA VOKES, the last member of the famous Vokes family of actors and actresses, died in London.

CONSULAR reports indicate that the production of wheat in the Argentine Republic is enormous and will keep prices down. CRYSTAL has decided to send a representative direct to Japan to arrange the terms of peace.

THE United States senate was not in session on the 7th. In the house the greater portion of the session was devoted to a continuation of the discussion on the bill to amend the interstate commerce act as to permit railroad companies to pool their earnings.

FIVE men were fatally and one seriously injured at Boston, Mass., by the explosion of a dynamite cartridge. THERE were 285 business failures in the United States in the seven days ended on the 7th, against 289 the week previous and 385 in the corresponding time in 1893.

CHARLES F. HOWARD was hanged at Rawlins, Wyo., for murdering Charles Horn last New Year's eve at Dixon during a quarrel about a dissolute woman. SHELBY & SOAPER, proprietors of the Henderson (Ky.) hominy mill, failed for \$100,000.

THE official canvass of the vote in Wisconsin shows that it was 375,449, the largest ever cast in the state by 8,865 ballots. UPHAM (rep.) has a plurality for governor of 53,900, and a majority over all the other candidates of 17,056.

AMBASSADOR RUNYON states that Americans sojourning in Germany must exhibit passports in order to remain there. FERDINAND DE LESSEPS, the famous French engineer and builder of the Suez canal, died at the Lachenale, near Yvonne, in the department of L'Indre, France, aged 84 years.

OLNEY'S REPORT.

The Attorney General Tells of the Operations of His Department.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 8.—The topics—the Pullman strike, the commonwealths and the Supreme Court—claim particular attention in the annual report of Attorney General Olney. "It is not germane to this report," he says, "to consider the origin or the merits of the labor disturbance which has passed into history under the name of the 'Pullman strike.'"

The attorney general then tells how information concerning interference with the mails at various points and requests for immediate action by his department for the relief of the mail service and punishment of all engaged in its obstruction, were presented to him by the post office department.

"The strike at Chicago, so far as it involved the obstruction of United States mails and the paralysis of interstate commerce, was practically broken when the United States troops reached that city, and being broken at Chicago, was in reality broken everywhere else.

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DEADLY DYNAMITE.

Its Explosion at Various Places Causes Several Deaths.

HUNTINGTON, Ind., Dec. 8.—The second terrible dynamite explosion in less than a month happened in the Flint creek sewer here Tuesday morning. Two men were fatally injured while three others were so badly hurt they will not recover for some time.

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AIMED AT KOLB.

Bill to Punish Usurpers Introduced in the Alabama House.

MONTGOMERY, Ala., Dec. 5.—A bill was introduced in the house by Representative Knight, of Hale, which is intended to prevent all possible danger of a dual government. The bill makes it a crime punishable by fine and imprisonment for any person to take the oath of office and attempt to discharge the duties of such office without first having been declared elected thereto by the person or body having authority to so declare the result. A heavy penalty is attached.

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FOOD FOR FLAMES.

Fire Sweeps Through the Kankakee Marshes—Much Destruction.

LA PORTE, Ind., Dec. 5.—The Kankakee marshes, extending over miles of territory, are on fire and the loss to farmers will be many thousands of dollars. The flames are sweeping across La Porte and Porter counties, destroying everything in their path.

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DEATH OF A NOTED SURGEON.

Death of a Noted Surgeon.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 8.—Medical Director John Mills Browne, United States navy, retired, died at his apartments at the Portland hotel in this city Friday night. He was stricken with paralysis Wednesday morning and never rallied. Dr. Browne attained the grade of surgeon general of the navy with the relative rank of commodore, but he is best known as the surgeon of the Kearsarge in her victorious battle with the confederate ram Alabama. He wrote the account of the battle for the Century magazine's war series. He was 73 years old.

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