

THE RED CLOUD CHIEF

A. C. NOSMER, Publisher.

RED CLOUD, - - NEBRASKA.

CURRENT COMMENT.

EIGHT men working in the Orrendorf coal mine at Morris, Ill., recently heard a rush of water; guessing what had happened, they hurried to the shaft and were raised just as the mine filled. The water came from an abandoned shaft.

A St. Louis merchant recently received a letter from a country customer who already owed him one hundred dollars the following cool request: "I would be obliged if you would kindly invest for me the amount of my indebtedness in May oats."

The Massachusetts Historical Society is preparing to bring out a volume of Judge Samuel Sewall's letters. Many of these are preserved, for the Puritan magistrate was one of the most systematic and methodical of men, and retained copies of most of the epistles he wrote.

An ingenious thief at Temple, Tex., recently stole three shoes, all belonging to the left foot, which a merchant had displayed in his store window. The right-hand mates to the stolen shoes were then put in the same window, and a short time after they were also stolen.

In a local photograph gallery at Springfield, Ill., an original photograph of Abraham Lincoln and his two secretaries, John G. Nicolay and John Hay, taken just before he started for Washington to occupy the Presidential chair is on exhibition. It is believed that other copies are in existence.

An improbable story comes from Idaho. It is said that a horse-thief was shot by his captors, and that when they found the reward offered for his body was too small to divide, they cut his head off, put it in a jack-pot and played poker for it, the winner taking the head in and receiving the reward for himself.

In a suit for damages against the New York Elevated Railroad, General Manager Hain said the passing of the trains was beneficial to the residents along the line of road, inasmuch as fresh air was thereby sucked into the houses. Mr. Hain also said he would like to have an elevated railroad in front of his house in midsummer.

A competent entomologist has been engaged in exterminating the tree destroyers in Central Park, New York. There have been found not less than three hundred and ten varieties of predatory insects, and over three thousand trees affected. Thirteen bushels of cocoons and eggs were taken from the trees at the first going over.

A new system for handling excess baggage has been adopted by the Chicago & Northwestern and Milwaukee & St. Paul. It will be known as the C. O. D. system, and takes the place of the way-bill excess-baggage system, which is now in use. The advantage is that it will obviate much of the delay heretofore experienced in checking baggage and making cash collections at the starting point, and delay (if any) will be transferred to the point of destination of baggage, where there is obviously more time to collect the excess charges.

The average number of men employed upon the railroads of the United States is 418,957, distributed as follows: General officers, 3,375; general office clerks, 8,655; station men, 63,380; other trainmen, 48,254; machinists, 22,766; carpenters, 23,202; other shopmen, 43,746; trackmen, 122,489; all other employees, 51,694. The aggregate average salary is \$41.12 a month, the highest being paid by the Central Pacific, \$63.21 per month, and the lowest by the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy, \$32 per month.

SAMUEL H. HOUSE was recently buried at Galesburg, Ill. He went from the Iowa Penitentiary to Eureka Springs, Ark., where he made the acquaintance of a Mr. Montgomery, an old gentleman, from whom he obtained \$847 by loans. House gave Montgomery notes on one of the wealthiest men of Galesburg, Ill., and when he fell sick and died, Montgomery brought his remains to Galesburg and paid the funeral expenses. On applying for payment of his notes, Montgomery found that he had been swindled by House even to the hour of his death.

THOMAS L. THOMPSON was recently sentenced to death at Fort Smith, Ark., for the murder of James O'Holander in September last. The men were unmarried and lived in a cabin by themselves. When O'Holander was missing, Thompson made inquiries of neighbors as to what had become of him. A man who was hired to fill up a dry well "smelt something," which brought a few inquisitive people around. To these persons Thompson said a dead hog was down the well, but on removing a few ashes from the bottom, the body of O'Holander was discovered with his head crushed in and a knife sticking in his heart. The reason for the murder was because Thompson coveted the few personal effects of his victim.

THE WORLD'S DOINGS

A Summary of the Daily News.

PROCEEDINGS OF CONGRESS.

In the Senate, on the 25th, Mr. Logan, from the Committee on Judiciary, reported the original resolutions, which were agreed to relating to railroad lands, one calling on the Secretary of the Interior to inform the Senate whether any railroad companies mentioned in the act of May 7, 1874, had failed to comply with the act, in what respects they had failed, and whether they subsequently complied, and, further, whether such companies had paid dividends, and to what amounts and what steps, if any, have been taken to enforce the provisions of said act. The banking bill was taken up and passed by a vote of 41 to 12. A bill was introduced to authorize the construction of additional steel vessels for the navy. In the House, on motion of Mr. Poland, of New York, a resolution was adopted directing the Judiciary Committee to inquire whether the act of the legislature of Pennsylvania to provide for the levy of tax on property of railroad companies does not conflict with the act of Congress, and to report thereon. A resolution was introduced by Mr. McComas, of New York, providing a constitutional amendment providing that no State shall be precluded, by granting the charter of incorporation, from taxing the capital stock of such corporation. After other business, the Pleuro-pneumonia bill was taken up in Committee of the Whole. The bill was read by sections and amendments were offered, and the committee arose and the House adjourned.

In the Senate, on the 26th, Mr. Sewell reported favorably the House bill for the relief of Fitz John Porter. Mr. Wilson reported favorably a bill to prohibit mailing newspapers containing lottery advertisements, and Mr. Allison offered a resolution directed to the Secretary of the Navy to furnish the Senate information respecting the ship canal of the isthmus of Panama. The Chair laid before the Senate the bill to authorize the construction of additional steel vessels for the navy. The House reported to the committee of the whole on the Pleuro-pneumonia bill. Mr. Hopkins offered an amendment providing that the appointment of a physician shall be with the consent of the State Legislature. Rejected. A resolution from the Senate was submitted thinking Great Britain for the Arctic steamer Albatross.

In the Senate, on the 27th, Mr. Dawes, from the Committee on Indian Affairs, reported favorably the bill for the allotment of lands in severalty to the Indians on the Tamtila Reservation in Oregon. Mr. Van Wyck offered a resolution for the inquiry to whether the Western Union had formed a combination with the Baltimore & Ohio Telegraph company. The bill was taken up and the committee of the whole on the bill extending the time for the completion of railroads west of the Mississippi River to which grant of public lands has been made, which in good faith are prosecuting the work of construction, without forfeiture of such grants. The Senate resumed consideration of the bill providing new cruisers for the navy, and after debate adjourned. In the House a resolution was introduced to amend the act of the Treasury as to the extent of the funds in the Treasury. The House went into committee of the whole, Mr. Cox, of New York, in the chair, and the bill was read by sections and amendments were offered, and the committee rose and reported it to the House.

In the Senate, on the 28th, Mr. Ingalls introduced a bill to remove the injunction of secrecy from the court martial that tried General Fitz John Porter, in order that members may give the details of the trial and testify to the case if called upon. The Senate resumed consideration of the bill to authorize the construction of additional steel vessels for the navy, and after debate adjourned. In the House, Mr. Denton, of Ohio, introduced a bill to amend the act of the Treasury as to the extent of the funds in the Treasury. The House went into committee of the whole, Mr. Cox, of New York, in the chair, and the bill was read by sections and amendments were offered, and the committee rose and reported it to the House.

POLITICAL AND PERSONAL.
A St. Petersburg dispatch says Minister Hunt is dying.
GENERAL WIMPFFEN, who was in command of the French army at Sedan, when it surrendered to the German in 1870, is dead.
The Earl of Euston is figuring in London as applying for a divorce from his wife, who was formerly a prostitute.
A very exciting and unfortunate controversy occurred in the Senate recently, between Senators Butler and Vest. It grew out of a discussion on the pending Naval bill. Senator Butler, whether intentionally or not, cast upon Senator Vest what the latter thought unjustifiable reflections. Senator Vest resented it, and in language vigorous and pointed. At one time a personal encounter appeared imminent.
The remains of General Ord arrived from Havana, and will be taken to Washington.
PRINCE BISMARCK denied that Germany has any idea to annex Holland; that the Empire had already too many refractory elements to assimilate.
The remains of General Ord have been interred at Oak Hill Cemetery, Washington.

MISCELLANEOUS.
EXCITEMENT ran high in Hot Springs, Ark. The citizens ordered certain of the parties concerned in the late riot to leave town. The sheriff wanted them as witnesses and organized a posse. Both parties were armed and there were fears of a collision.
NEAR Sun Prairie, Wis., Lena Spaight, aged fifteen, was outraged by two young men, brothers, named Peckham. She suffered terrible injuries.
YELLOW CALF, the Canadian Indian, who recently revolted, has surrendered.
MEASLES have decimated the Zuni Indians in New Mexico.
At Ozark, Mo., William Magill was sentenced to fifty years imprisonment for the murder of Milum Dunlap.
LYDIA J. ROBERTS has won her suit for \$62,850 against the Stuyvesant Trust Company, of New York, being the amount of property the Trust Company allowed to be seized and sold under a search warrant while on deposit.
The British army has left Trinitat for the purpose of attacking Teb. There is anxiety at Cairo as to the result.
An application has been received at the Post-office Department at Washington for the appointment of Miss Lizzie Nutt as postmistress of Uniontown, Pa. She is a sister of young Nutt, recently acquitted at Pittsburgh on the charge of murdering Duke.

An inflated state of feeling exists among the lower class of Mexicans on both sides

of the Rio Grande against Americans, consequent upon recent extradition proceedings. Robert Halcane, of Rio Grande City, is the last one supposed to have been murdered because of his unpopularity with the aboriginal class of Mexicans.
REPRESENTATIVE BREWER was directed by the House Committee on Manufactures to report favorably his bill to impose a fine of not more than one hundred dollars or punishment by imprisonment for three months, on any person interfering in any way with a commercial traveler selling goods by sample.
LIEUTENANT G. B. HARBER, who has just returned from Siberia after a search for Chipp and party, of the Jeanette crew, has been tendered a reception by the citizens of Youngstown, O.

JAMES O'BRIEN, one of the men arrested for the murder of William Pugh on the night of the 19th inst., at Philadelphia, confessed that William Casey, another of the prisoners, struck the fatal blow.
A FIRE broke out on the third floor of a frame building occupied by Cornelius Van Riper, his wife and three children, and N. Connelly, New York. Van Riper and the three children were suffocated and burned to death. His wife jumped from a third story window and was instantly killed. The damage to the building is slight.

EXCEPTIONS to the Master's report in the case of J. N. Lusk et al., against the Pittsburgh & Western Railroad Company and others, were argued before Judge Stow, at Pittsburgh, Pa. A quarter of a million dollars is involved, the Master decreeing that the defendants pay plaintiffs that sum for depriving them by fraud of their rights in the New Castle & Lake Erie Railroad. The decision is reversed.
The widow of John Brown, of Harper's Ferry, is dead.
M. T. POLK, the defaulting State Treasurer of Tennessee, is dead.

A STEAM pipe burst at St. Patrick's Church, St. Louis, the other evening. Fully one thousand persons were assembled. A panic ensued, and a wild rush was made for the doors. Only one person was seriously injured, a lady who had fainted being badly trampled on.
A SPECIAL from Franklyn, La., says: W. Moore, colored, was hanged for the murder of Lee Arman, a Chinaman, last spring. After Moore had been hanging about half a minute it was discovered that the rope was too long and the feet of the culprit rested on the floor. He was raised to the platform, the rope shortened and the trap again sprung. He died of strangulation.

BUSINESS failures for the past week, reported by R. G. Dunn & Co.: United States, 193; Canada, 42; against 216 the previous week.
A BRIDGE on the Grand Trunk Railway near Montreal gave way while a freight train was passing over it, precipitating eleven cars loaded with general merchandise into the bed of the river, seven of them being masked into splinters.
PASSENGERS from Northern Mexico confirm the existence of the so-called yellow fever at Mazatlan and Manzanillo, and say it is worse than last fall.

THE Red River flood is at a stand at Shreveport. For one hundred miles above and below the city the river plantations are overflowed.
The hard glove fight at Pittsburgh, Pa., between John Smith, of Colorado, and William McDonald, of Liverpool, England, for a purse of \$100, resulted in the defeat of Smith in the fourth round. The mill lasted fourteen minutes. Both men were badly punished.
The church trial of Rev. M. Spurlock, charged with falsehood, immorality and undue intimacy with Mrs. George, until recently a teacher in the Methodist Sunday School, at Geneseo, Ill., has been brought to a close. After being out fifteen minutes the committee returned a verdict of guilty. This suspends Spurlock from the ministry.

ADDITIONAL DISPATCHES.
GEORGE H. MILLS, lately convicted in Brooklyn of the murder of his wife, was sentenced to be hanged April 18.
The election for member of Congress in the Second Kansas District resulted in the return of Funston, Republican, over Riggs, Fusion, by a majority of nearly six thousand.
The Senate was not in session on the 1st. In the House the Naval bill was debated.
CATTLE in the Indian Territory are, from latest reports, in fine condition, with abundant feed.
SIX persons accused of selling pistols to boys in the Thaddeus Stevens Public School in Philadelphia have been arrested and held for trial.
The Pennsylvania Society to Protect Children from Cruelty, with headquarters in Philadelphia, has sent out agents to every large factory in every town in Pennsylvania, in an endeavor to compel factory owners to discharge children who are at labor. A circular letter sent out to five hundred factories has brought about the dismissal of two thousand children from employment.
TOWN MARSHAL W. H. H. RICHARDS, who was shot down from the streets of Cheraw, S. C., on February 23 by W. B. Cash, son of the notorious Colonel Cash, after lingering in great agony for nearly a week, died from his wounds.

THERE has been no rain for weeks in the vicinity of Brownsville, Tex., and a failure of the crops in that region is feared.
The English troops, under General Grahair, have defeated Osman Digma's forces in the Sudan and have taken Tokar.
The British lost a hundred killed and wounded, the enemy losing over a thousand. Among the wounded were Baker Pasha and Colonel Burnaby.
FRANK RANDE, the Wabash desperado and murderer, in the penitentiary at Joliet, Ill., made a terrible assault on the Warden, Captain John McDonald, with an iron bar and a knife. After a fearful struggle, Rand was shot through the head and secured. McDonald's skull is fractured, and it was thought he would die. Rand may recover.

The Treasurer of the United States has prepared a statement showing that the total coinage of standard silver dollars under the act of February 28, 1878, to March 1, 1884, was 166,125,119; held in Treasury offices and mints, 123,822,239; outstanding silver certificates, 196,247,721, leaving owned by the Treasury \$39,574,678.
The following is the reported condition of Missouri State finances: Balance in Treasury February 1, \$1,773,402.88; receipts during February, \$38,794.08; disbursements during February, \$36,789.58; balance in the Treasury, \$2,465,407.40.

SOUTHERN OUTRAGES.

A Review of the Testimony Taken by the Senate Investigating Committee—An Organized Conspiracy to Kill or Lash Republican Voters—The Situation Worse Than the Committee Expected to Find It.

A New Orleans special of February 21 to the Philadelphia Press gives the following review of the evidence taken up to that time by the Senate Committee appointed to investigate alleged political outrages in Mississippi:

In the six days' testimony which it has occupied in listening to some fifty witnesses the Mississippi investigating Committee has ascertained a state of facts worse than its members expected to find. It has been amply proven that last fall the elections were carried by the Bourbons only after a reign of terror by mobs, headed by Democratic politicians and abetted by Congressmen and State officials from the Governor down.
The testimony of the witnesses who were counted out; in others they withdrew their tickets the week before election. In Copiah, where a few brave men were at the head of the opposition, the Democrats drove the negroes to the woods by murdering some and whipping others, broke up independent meetings, patronized the county by night and by day, organized and armed mob, disregarded all the appeals of peaceable people for the punishment of these crimes, held public meetings approving the use of force, picketed the polling-places with armed men, drove away Republican officers of election, and notified their own voters to abstain from the polls.
POOR MATTHEWS' FATE.
The strongest and best testimony in the country, a man whom every witness, including Democrats and Republicans, has testified was an honorable, peaceful and wealthy man, was not only to vote, he expressed his intention of doing so, and under the leadership of the Chairman of the Democratic committee drew lots to see who should murder him at the polls. The man who was chosen was a stranger, but persisting in voting, he was unceremoniously murdered by the chosen assassin, an old personal friend.
No sooner was it done than the news was telegraphed all over the country that Matthews was killed, and the victorious Democrats were congratulated by their friends with Matthews' fate. A few weeks later the murderer is chosen City Marshal, sent a telegram to the Governor, and in a few days becomes a prominent candidate before the Legislature for the position of Commissioner of Railroads.
Some of the criminals are punished. Grand Jurors, ministers of the Gospel, Sheriffs, Mayors and practicing attorneys are silent. The best men in the community swore that, while they did not approve of these proceedings, they would not support any man of universal terrorism. They adopted a more civilized plan in Hills County, as testified to by a leading series of questions, a "muted" man named Senator Salsbury: "Over there they counted the Republicans out. Do you call that civilized?" "Yes, compared with Matthews' fate, as it was in Copiah, it was Ware's reply.
No one can doubt that there was intimidation. One man, a candidate for Secretary of State in 1880 as a Democrat, did not dare remain in the county, and he left at daybreak the next time. He had been a Democrat until two years ago, but he left that party because he thinks they mean to exterminate the negro. "I was a slave," he said, "and now I have accumulated money enough to buy 1,000 acres of land with stock, with a steam mill, but had to sell for half the assessed value and leave the county." He has taken no part in politics of late, but he does not feel safe. He has a system of negroes, and he is afraid, and he is doing the colored men to the woods, and on election day forming a cord of men with shot guns about the polls, so that many independent inspectors refuse to act and hardly any of their party voted. The murder of Matthews was telegraphed and sent to every political center, and among the Democrats, and convincing their opponents that it was no use to vote. "We are not going to vote," they said, "if we have to kill men," as testified by a dozen witnesses, was the current talk among the Republicans. The most prominent independent in the county, who expected to be butchered as an example for the rest.
Richard Ogswell, Inspector of the Election, testified that he was in the room with five Democrats. The moment he deposited his ballot in Wheeler's shot him dead. Wheeler also shot a colored man, a guard at the door. All the testimony shows that the killing was a deliberate plot. Congressmen, State and county officials, and the Mayor, carried a pistol to shoot Democrats with "I don't blame him if he did," blurted out Senator Frye. But that is all the evidence so far that is given. In the case of the colored man, a young white man, swore that he heard Wood, Democratic candidate for Congress, tell the colored man that if he would be killed by the Democrats, and so would his brother if the latter was elected Sheriff.
Henry Hodges, said, at Tallholla, when the news of the murder came: "I have known for a week it was going to be done." Walter P. Blair, a prominent Republican, testified that he heard Wood, Democratic candidate for Congress, swear that Mead, Chairman of the Democratic Committee, told him that, in accordance with agreement with a Democratic club, he had ordered a cannon fired, so that Matthews was shot; he had advised Matthews to leave, but the latter had been promised protection by Sheriff Matthews. He was accused of trying to deprive Matthews to quiet the mob, in order to have him shot. He was also accused of trying to deprive Matthews to quiet the mob, in order to have him shot. He was also accused of trying to deprive Matthews to quiet the mob, in order to have him shot.

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A TERRIBLE FATE.

and Tragedy Attending the Burning of a Ricketty Tenement-House in New York—A Family of Five Persons Lose Their Lives.

NEW YORK, Feb. 23.—Five persons in one family lost their lives in a tenement-house fire on Stanton street yesterday morning. The family of Cornelius Van Riper occupied two front rooms on the third floor of 326 Stanton street, one of two frame tenements densely crowded with poor families. Frank Weaver, a single man living in the rear rooms was aroused by smoke about four o'clock yesterday morning. He rushed out into the hallway and there found Van Riper and asked him what was the matter. "My God! my God! the house is afire!" exclaimed Van Riper, "and I must save my wife and children." Saying this, he ran into the front apartment, while the flames burst out in the hallway, only giving Weaver time to tumble down-stairs. Van Riper was never again seen alive. Moments after the flames had burst through the roof of 326 and were licking at 324.

A great crowd assembled in Stanton street, and when the cry was raised that people were still in 326 many heroic efforts were made to reach them by the stairway, but in vain. The flames and smoke defied entrance to the building by that means, and the fire-ladders had no yet arrived. Suddenly the window of the Van Riper apartment was raised, and heartrending shrieks came from it. For a moment the crowd could see nothing. Then a gust of wind cleared away the smoke from the window, and the form of a woman, clothed in her night-gown, stood like a ghost.

"Save my husband, save my children!" she screamed. "For God's sake save my babies!"
The crowd in the street moved, and sent back cries of despair. "My children are burning up!" the woman shrieked, evidently undetermined as to whether she should go back to her children or jump from the window. Another cloud of smoke obscured her for an instant and all was still. In another instant she gave a despairing shriek and jumped from the window, landing on the sidewalk on her head and shoulders. The crowd ran to her and picked her up. She gave two or three weak moans and died just as the police ambulance dashed up. She was within a week of confinement.

By this time the entire upper part of 326 was in flames, and the fire department was hard at work. Just at daybreak the fire was extinguished, and the firemen and police forced their way to the rooms of the Van Ripers. The family had evidently been half suffocated before they were aroused to find escape from an awful death cut off. The bodies were all found in different places, showing that the unfortunate family rushed wildly and blindly around the rooms in their efforts to escape. In the rear room was found the girl Jennie, with her night-dresses burned off. Her arms and hands were terribly burned. Her hands were found to her face when the body was found, showing that she had made an effort to keep the flames from her eyes and mouth.

The skin from the hands and arms of the boy Albert hung in shreds, and his left arm was raised across his face. He was found doubled up in a corner, and one side of his body was badly burned.
The little child Frankie, charred and blackened, was found near his father's body in the front room.
The face and head of Van Riper were horribly burned and the features were scarcely recognizable.
The remains of the family were gathered in blankets and conveyed by ambulance wagons to the station house, where they were laid out in a row. They were: Cornelius Van Riper, aged forty-two; Jennie Van Riper, aged ten; Albert Van Riper, aged seven; Frank Van Riper, aged two.

Later in the day the bodies were removed to the home of Mrs. Van Riper's brothers, Charles and Edwin Carpenter, from whence they will be buried on Sunday. There were sixteen other people in 326 and eighteen people in 324, all of whom escaped unhurt, but lost their outfits of clothing and household goods. Frank Weaver says that after he left Van Riper he returned and pounded at the door, but it was locked, and his shouts gained no response. The houses 324 and 326 Stanton were three-story frame dwellings, old, rickety, and dilapidated, and hardly fit for human habitation, having no means of escape from fire save two tumble-down stairways. Cornelius Van Riper was a baker, and an intelligent man, and his family was much respected by their neighbors. At one time they were comfortably well off, but business reverses made the husband and father poor, and landed his family in the miserable fire-trap that became their crematory.

MONOPOLY IN NEWS.
A Ringing Article from a Leading Newspaper Against the Proposed Measure to Copyright News Matter.
CINCINNATI, Feb. 23.—Concerning the proposition to introduce a bill in Congress to provide for the copyrighting of news matter, the *Enquirer* has the following to say editorially: "A bill is pending before the House of Representatives to copyright news items, or, in other words, to copyright daily newspapers for forty-eight hours. The bill was drawn by the General Manager of the Associated Press, and the corporation aforesaid has an attorney at Washington to press its passage. Should it become a law it will cripple every newspaper in the hands of the Associated Press. These papers largely depend upon the metropolitan dailies. So far as the *Enquirer* is concerned, the rural press is welcome to all it contains. We want no legal inhibition against any one to help himself to the good things we offer three hundred and sixty-five days in the year. The New York newspapers, or a majority of them