

TWELFTH YEAR.

THE ART OF SELF-DEFENSE.

Tommy Brady Discourses on Star Route Methods of Money Making

And Denounces Walsh and Rerdell as Liars of Large Dimensions.

The Hungry Horde of Pension Sharks that Prey Upon Cripples.

How they Operate, Their Fees and the Amount of Business Done.

A Huge Land Suit in the Supreme Court—General Capital News.

STAR ROUTE TRIAL.

WASHINGTON, March 14.—Thomas J. Brady, ex assistant postmaster general, was on the stand to-day. His testimony was confined to a general denial of the story of Walsh, which Brady says was false from beginning to end; in short a lie made of whole cloth.

Judge Wyle decided the offer of evidence by Turner was not competent. Defense excepted.

On motion of Davidge the statements made by Rerdell to MacVeagh and James were struck from the record, the prosecution offering no objection.

Brady testified he was appointed second assistant postmaster general in July, 1876, and retired in April, 1881; first met Walsh in New Orleans in 1875 or 1876; never had any conversation with Walsh since he was sworn to by him at any time or place in the world, or anything resembling it. Witness never held any preliminary notes or carried them as described by Walsh.

"Walsh's statement is a lie made out of whole cloth," said witness, "with scarcely a word of truth in it from beginning to end; had had a conversation with James about the Rawlins-White River route but the date was a month later than that given by James; he very seldom came into witness's office; Rerdell's whole statement about the books was a lie made out of whole cloth; Rerdell never told him about books to be shown the committee, nor did witness know of the existence of any such books, witness said he met Dorsey at his request at Willard's hotel; witness had been chairman of the Indiana state committee and was supposed to know something of the state, therefore he had been called upon to advise Dorsey. They repaired to Chamberlain's. Boeler came in and a few glasses of wine were drunk and witness left. The conversation was entirely political. Star routes and mail matters were not mentioned; witness had no knowledge of the statements spoken of by Rerdell with the 'J. E. B. 33 per cent' column; witness has known J. E. B. for years; he was one of the oldest and best contractors in the service of the department; met Miner at the letting of contracts in '78; never saw John Dorsey before the first trial began; had known Stephen Dorsey for some years; knew nothing of the manner of preparing affidavits filed in the office; never heard of any change being made in the office or being filed out in blank until the first trial; the petitions were considered mainly because they were endorsed by members of congress; he attached more importance to them than the reports of special agents and inspectors. Witness described the method pursued by him in calculating the allowance for expedition. Colonel was born in England and wanted all the service it could get and deserved more than it got. Representatives were there every day. 'I generally had a mattress every day in my office,' said witness; 'members of congress and others coming around to urge increase and expedition. Toller and Balfour were especially persistent. We thought we were doing a good thing for the country. We thought so then and we think so now.' Witness urgently denied he ever received any compensation for increasing the service. He had tried what is known as the 'Jewellian policy' of spending all the money appropriated for inland transportation on railroad towns, which policy gave money to vast numbers. He believed the star route service was entitled to a share and it became an especial interest to him. Postmaster General Key, when he assumed the office, investigated the charges of extravagance made against witness and told witness he had done right. Thereafter, when in doubt about a matter, he went to Key, and the latter was more liberal than him self. It was one of Judge Key's hobbies to run the mail to every county seat and they did it. They doubled up the service in the Southern and Middle States. Witness described the method pursued in the department in making fines and deductions. During an absence of the postmaster general he made a sweeping remission of fines on all contracts in the yellow fever district and with the exception of that period he never failed to impose fines; never received any money or combined with any of the defendants to defraud the government. Together they began to be persecuted. Witness did not like Senator Dorsey much. They were never friendly. Since that time he had come to know and like him. Witness said Delegate Exider strongly urged expediting the Vermilion route, and he believed General Miles was the first person to urge the establishment of the Tongue river route. Witness said the contractors had blindly bid to put the ser-

vice at a lower figure than done; the only way to get the service at all was to expedite the route. Twenty-five dollars a mile was only a fair rate of pay for such services. At this point court adjourned.

PENSION SHARKS.

SADLY DISAPPOINTED.

WASHINGTON, March 14.—The pension claim agents expected to reap a heavy harvest from the act passed by the late congress, under which the pensions of soldiers who had lost one hand or foot were raised from \$18 to \$24 per month, and of those who had lost one arm at or above the elbow or a leg at or above the knee from \$24 to \$30 a month. Before the ink was dry on the enrolled bill, thousands of circulars had been scattered through the country by enterprising agents calling attention to the new act and asking for any business that might flow out of it. The fee which a claim agent is permitted to charge for prosecuting a pension claim is ten dollars, and the agents took it for granted that an increase of pension under the act alluded to constituted a new and separate case, on which they could collect a fee.

THE PENSION OFFICE, HOWEVER, STRUCK THIS SCHEME A FATAL BLOW BY ANNOUNCING THAT THE INCREASE OF PENSION WAS A PART OF THE ORIGINAL CASE AND THAT THE INTERVENTION OF AN ATTORNEY WOULD NOT BE RECOGNIZED AS GIVING HIM A RIGHT TO AN ADDITIONAL FEE.

IN EXPLAINING THIS MATTER COMMISSIONER DADLEY SAID THAT THE INCREASE COULD BE OBTAINED ONLY BY GRANTING INFORMATION AS TO DISABILITY ALREADY ON FILE AND PROVEN TO THE SATISFACTION OF THE OFFICE; OTHERWISE THE PENSIONER COULD NOT BE DRAWING THE PRESENT RATE OF BOUNTY. ALL THAT NEED BE DONE WAS TO FILL OUT A SIMPLE BLANK BY WHICH THE IDENTITY OF THE PENSIONER WAS ESTABLISHED. THE INTERVENTION OF CLAIM AGENTS WAS NOT NECESSARY AND WOULD NOT BE PERMITTED.

THERE WAS NOTHING TO CAUSE DELAY, AND HE HOPED TO HAVE THE CHANGES MADE VERY SOON. THE CLAIM AGENTS NATURALLY FEEL SORE OVER THIS DECISION AND DO NOT ADMIT THAT IT SHUTS THEM OUT FROM THIS BRANCH OF THE BUSINESS. THEY SAY THAT IF A PENSIONER WRITES TO THEM AND ASKS THEM TO PERSONALLY

AND ATTEND TO IT, THEY CAN TAKE ANY AMOUNT NOT IN EXCESS OF \$10 AS ALLOWED BY LAW. IT IS A QUESTION, HOWEVER, IF ANY OF THEM WILL ATTEMPT TO DO THIS FROM FEAR THAT SUCH ACTION WOULD RESULT IN THEIR BEING DEBARRED FROM PRACTICE, AS THERE IS NONE TOO ORDINAL A FEELING BETWEEN THE OFFICE AND THE AGENTS. THE OFFICE REGARDS OR AFFECTS TO REGARD THE CLAIM AGENT AS THE ESSENCE OF ALL THAT IS UNSCRUPULOUS AND VIOLENCE. THE FACT IS, THAT AT THE BEST A CLAIM AGENT CAN EXPEDITE A CASE, AND THAT GENERALLY SPEAKING THE PENSIONER IS NUISANCED OUT OF A \$10 FEE ON THE ONE HAND WHILE HIS CASE IS OTHER SHAMEFULLY NEGLECTED ON THE OTHER. THE CLAIM AGENTS ASSERT THAT MUCH OF THIS INDIGNATION ON THE PART OF THE OFFICE IS ASSUMED FOR POLITICAL CAPITAL, AND THAT IN REALITY THE OFFICE IS VERY GLAD TO HAVE THE HELP OF THE AGENTS IN SETTLING THESE CLAIMS. MANY OF THEM INVOLVE AN ENORMOUS AMOUNT OF DETAIL, MUCH OF WHICH IS DONE BY THE CLERKS OF THE AGENT AND PAID FOR OUT OF HIS \$10 FEE, WHICH WOULD COST THE GOVERNMENT MANY TIMES THAT AMOUNT IN SALARIES, TO HIGH PRICED AND INCOMPETENT CLERKS. IT IS, BY THE WAY, A COMMENTARY ON THE WAY THE GOVERNMENT DOES BUSINESS.

THE SAME WORK FOR WHICH THE GOVERNMENT CLERKS ARE PAID \$30 TO \$200 A MONTH FOR DOING, IS PERFORMED IN THE PRIVATE OFFICES FOR FROM \$25 TO \$30 OR \$40 PER MONTH. THE PUBLIC GENERALLY HAS NO CONCEPTION OF THE ENORMOUS PROPORTIONS OF THIS PENSION BUSINESS. THE APPROPRIATION FOR PENSIONS THIS YEAR EXCEEDS THAT FOR THE ARMY AND NAVY, AND ALL THOSE DISBURSED IN THE CIVIL SERVICE WHICH COME UNDER THE LEGISLATIVE, EXECUTIVE AND JUDICIAL APPROPRIATION BILL. OF THE TOTAL NUMBER OF CASES, ABOUT 200,000 IT IS ESTIMATED, ARE IN THE HANDS OF PRIVATE AGENTS. SOME OF THESE MEN SEEM TO DESERVE ALL THE HARD THINGS WHICH THE OFFICE SAYS AGAINST THEM. OTHERS ARE HONEST MEN, DOING A LEGITIMATE BUSINESS. TWO OR THREE OF THE AGENTS HAVE GOT THE START OF THE OTHERS, AND HAVE TAKEN THE CREAM OF THE BUSINESS, BUT THERE IS EVEN A PROFIT IN THE SKINNED MILK, AND

COMPETITION IS FEROCIOUS.

THE AGENTS ARE VERY IMPATIENT FOR THE LIST OF PENSIONERS TO BE PUBLISHED, AS IT WILL SUPPLY THEM WITH A DIRECTORY OF SOLDIERS' NAMES, WHICH WILL BE OF THE GREATEST SERVICE. THE PENSION OFFICE IS VERY WELL AWARE OF THIS FACT, AND ON THAT ACCOUNT WILL DELAY THE PUBLICATION OF THE LIST AS LONG AS POSSIBLE, AND WILL THEN TRY TO KEEP THE COPIES OUT OF THE HANDS OF THE AGENTS. THERE IS ANOTHER REASON FOR BELIEVING THAT THE LIST WILL BE SUPPLIED TO THEM. IT IS AN UNDENIABLE FACT THAT ONLY ONE-FIFTH OF THOSE MAKING UP THE CLASSES ELIGIBLE TO BECOME PENSIONERS HAVE THIS FAR MADE APPLICATION. THE PENSION AGENTS ARE SCOURING THE COUNTRY BY EVERY CONCEIVABLE MEANS OF INQUIRY TO PERSUADE THEM TO TRY THEIR LUCK. THEY SAY IT ONLY COSTS TEN DOLLARS, WHICH MAY BE PAID IN SMALL INSTALLMENTS, AND THAT THE PENSION LAWS ARE SO LIBERAL NOW THAT ALMOST ANY ONE WHO, AFTER A LAPSE OF FIFTEEN OR EIGHTEEN YEARS, FINDS HIMSELF SERIOUSLY DISABLED CAN MAKE OUT A PLEASANT CASE. THESE SOLICITATIONS ARE THROWN AWAY. ONE AGENT SAID TO-DAY THAT ONE OF THE MOST SURPRISING FEATURES OF THE WHOLE BUSINESS TO HIM WAS THE NUMBER OF ORIGINAL CASES CONSTANTLY COMING IN TO HIM. ONE WOULD THINK, HE SAID, THAT BY THE TIME THE BULK OF THE BUSINESS WOULD BE IN THE REOPENING OF ABANDONED AND REJECTED CASES, AND IN APPLICATION FOR AN INCREASE OF PENSION, BUT AS A MATTER OF FACT THE MAJORITY OF THE CASES WHICH CAME INTO HIM WERE ORIGINAL APPLICATIONS FOR PENSIONS.

CAPITOL NOTES.

THE DETENTION OF A SHIP.

WASHINGTON, March 14.—General Foot, late consul at Valparaiso, who

was sent by the state department to Aspinwall to investigate the circumstances attending the detention of the American ship, Mary C. Conroy, has submitted a report. He found the trouble grew out of a misunderstanding between the captain of the ship and the American consul, which led to a law suit, pending settlement of which the ship was detained.

THE MALAGASY ENVOYS

on taking leave of the president to-day, expressed profound appreciation of the reception they received in this country. The president replied it had given him a great pleasure to meet them and expressed the hope that their visit might lead to closer relations between the two governments and to mutual advantage.

THE MATTER OF MONEY.

Attorney Secretary of the Treasury French says he does not think the present state of the public treasury would justify the anticipation of interest on called bonds which will mature on May 1st; also, he would not issue another bond call unless specially directed by Secretary Folger.

A HUGE LAND SUIT.

The case of Wm. C. Walsh, commissioner of the general land office of the state of Texas, against Wm. Preston, argument in which was concluded in the supreme court of the United States to-day, is a suit which involves title to nearly 3,000 square miles of land within the limits of what is known as "Mercer's colony," situated in the state of Texas between the present city of Dallas and the Indian territory, along the head waters of the Red river. The present plaintiff, who represents a joint stock company known as the "Texas association," claims lands in controversy under a contract made in 1844 between the republic of Texas and one Fenton Mercer, and he seeks to restrain the land commission from issuing certificates for these lands as if they were part of the public domain, and thus invading the rights and clouding the title of the "Texas association." The land commissioner, on the other hand, maintains he is acting in the line of his official powers for the reason that the lands have been reannexed by competent authority to the public domain, and, are, therefore, under his exclusive jurisdiction and control. He appeals from the decision of the court below. One of the grounds for appeal is that the colonization contract of 1844 was void for unconstitutionality and for fraud on the part of the president, Sam Houston, in making it.

Silly Stories.

NEW YORK, March 13.—The Commercial-Advertiser says: Among the silly stories published in one of the morning papers a few days since was one to the effect that the Old Dominion steamship company had been engaged in cutting rates on California passenger business. Secretary Stanford characterized the statement as absurd. He said he had investigated the matter and found that seven tickets had been sold to California passengers recently. The travelers purchasing the tickets were carried from New York to Portland by steamer, thence by rail to New Orleans, whence they pursued their journey via the Southern Pacific route. It is the general opinion of railroad men and the public that any traveler who allows himself to be transported via such circuits as those above described, should be entitled to all the out rates he can obtain.

An Important Decision.

BOSTON, March 14.—An important decision was rendered by the supreme court to-day against the Merchant's bank of this city, compelling the bank to restore to the plaintiff, a lady, securities amounting to \$40,000 which plaintiff's trustee had deposited as collateral for money advanced and which, having been lost in speculation, made necessary the sale of the securities. The court holds that stocks and bonds transferred under such circumstances, and defendant bank was fairly put on inquiry whether the trustee was not improperly dealing with the property in trust.

The Wall and Shot Makers.

PITTSBURGH, March 14.—The western mail association met in regular monthly session at noon to-day and adjourned to resume operations in the factories next Monday and after running three weeks so shut down again for two weeks more.

The National Association of Shot Manufacturers are in secret session here to-day. Delegates are present from New York, Chicago, Baltimore, Omaha and Des Moines, Iowa.

Faving Court Expenses.

CHICAGO, March 14.—John Jessrang, of St. Paul, Minn., was lynched at Glendale, Mo., a week ago, for the murder of a fellow traveler named Davidson. Jessrang had attempted to burn the body of his victim in order to conceal the crime. The night previous to the lynching Jessrang was taken from the jail by a mob and drawn up by the neck six times, in order to extract a confession from him, but he would not admit any knowledge of the crime.

Sprague for Governor.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., March 14.—The Independent state convention nominated Wm. Sprague for governor without dissent. A committee of seven was appointed to confer with any other organization, meaning the democrat, relative to making the remainder of the state ticket democratic. The convention meets next Thursday. No very prominent politicians were in the Sprague convention.

FLOODED FARMS.

The Submerged Plantations Between Memphis and Helena.

Suicide of a Woman Caused by Fright From the Overflow.

The Pastor of a Submerged Church Delivers His Sermon from the Roof.

Surrounded by Devout Worshipers in Dug-Outs—The Situation Improving Above Helena.

Special Dispatch to the Globe-Democrat.

MEMPHIS, Tenn., March 12.—Your correspondent has just returned from Helena, Ark., which city he reached late Saturday night, having left Memphis Saturday evening at 7 o'clock on the steamer Joseph H. Gray. Capt. Mar R. Cheek, of the steamer Kate Adams, had telegraphed from Arkansas City that if the weather was favorable on arriving at Helena his steamer would make a fast run from there to Memphis, leaving Helena at 5 o'clock Sunday morning. The Kate Adams arrived at Helena at 9 o'clock Saturday night, but there was a stiff breeze blowing from the north, and as there were no indications of the wind calming, Capt. Cheek pushed on to Memphis, awaiting calm weather in the near future, when he will make the run and attempt to reduce the record made by the Jas. Lee last spring, when she came from Helena to Memphis, a distance of 90 miles, in 5 hours and 23 minutes.

At Helena the levees were found secure, and there no longer exists any fears of the water flooding that city. The river there has declined three inches from the highest point reached this season, and was steadily falling. To the south and in the rear of Helena, the waters have flooded the entire country all the way down to the mouth of White river, a distance of

OVER 200 MILES,

and extending into the interior fully thirty miles. A considerable number of cattle and hogs have been drowned in that locality, and many more will be lost, as there were no means to rescue the cattle that are in the submerged district. The residents, both white and colored, have moved out to high lands, and the waters now ridg supreme. Some 600 or 700 negroes are reported in a destitute condition in that region, but will be relieved by state aid, a committee having been appointed by the Arkansas legislature to investigate their necessities. Between Helena and Memphis nothing was to be seen except water, which over everything. Houses had submerged greet the eyes along the route, with occasional stripes of levees, upon which can be seen cattle that are gaunt and will die from hunger unless feed is carried to them.

At Austin, Tex., a party of

of Tunica county, Miss., the waters

flooded nearly all of the country. Last

Thursday Mrs. J. H. Hanna, residing

a few miles below Austin, finding her

dwelling entirely surrounded by water,

with no means of communicating with

the people of the town, and driven to

desperation by the fact that she had

no provisions.

DELIBERATELY SUICIDED,

by taking a dose of morphine. Two

negroes, Tom Brown and Aaron Smith,

were drowned in the overflow back of

Austin, Friday, by the capsizing of a

dug out. They were trying to rescue

some cattle that were in range of be-

haved, and both were drowned. The

water had invaded nearly all the

dwellings in Austin, which has no

levee to protect it, as it was thought

to be above high water mark.

is great faith in that line of levees, and an overflow is not feared.

AT MEMPHIS.

The river here at Memphis at 7

o'clock to-night had declined 9 inches

in all, and was steadily falling. A let-

ter from Marlon, the county seat of

Crittenden county, Ark., ten miles

west of Memphis, says: "To the de-

light of the planters, the waters con-

tinued to recede, and terra firma is now

seen in many places that were flooded.

Planters are busy making the neces-

sary preparations to plant. The dam-

age to stock has been quite light, as

compared with last year's flood. The

loss of cotton has been much greater

than was expected. However, from

500 to 600 bales will cover the loss in

this county. Two men, names un-

known, both laborers, started from a

farm ten miles north of Marlon, called

Little Cypress, to go to Marlon Land-

ing in a dugout, and in trying to cross

a swift current the dugout was upset

and it overturned. Their bodies were

recovered in the woods near by

two days ago."

DESTRUCTION OF LIFE AND PROPERTY.

Special Dispatch to the Bee.

HELENA, Ark., 14.—The total de-

struction here is nine inches. The river

now marks 46 feet 2 inches. Island

64 has almost disappeared. The back-

water uniting with the overflow from

Hubbard and the old town breaks,

submerged a large region of country

between bayou and lower Big Creek, a

section never before known to be in-

undated. As these high points always

withstood the overflows, no stock was

driven out, consequently there has

been absolute annihilation of every

kind of live stock together with a

large number of deer and other game.

Two cabins, one occupied by a white,

the other by colored families, sudden-

ly disappeared from near the mouth

of the bayou during one night last

week. No tidings of the occupants

have been heard. It is supposed all

perished.

THE OBIO FLOOD RAIN.

Special Dispatch to the Bee.

Mayor Jacobs, of Louisville, ar-

rived here to-day on his return from

a trip down the river. He says the

greatest sufferers are the farmers,

many of whom are thoroughly dis-

couraged. He says on the Indiana

side of the river he saw a cheerful and

ready to begin to repair their losses,

in many instances refusing all aid, tell-

ing the committee to use it where the

need was greater. On the Kentucky

side the people are much more dis-

THE OLD WORLD.

The British Parliament Rejects Parnell's Land Bill.

DeLesseps Starts for Sahara to Convert Her Into a Lake.

Another Irish Inevitable Released From Arrest in France.

The Prohibition of American Pork Proclaimed in Germany.

A Large Variety of General News.

ENGLAND.

LONDON, March 14.—In the com-

mon to-day Parnell moved a second

reading of his amendment; the land

act. He said the agitation in Ireland

must continue to increase until the

act is amended. After a speech by

Gladstone, the second reading of the

bill was rejected by a vote of 63 yeas

to 270 noes.

Three thousand weavers in the Hud-

dersfield district struck work owing to

a disagreement with masters regard-

ing wages.

A meeting of Irish, Scotch and

English members of parliament was

held yesterday, at which it was de-

clared to form a political committee

with a view of informing public opin-

ion in regard to Irish reform. The

committee is quite an important one.

No Parnellites are connected with it.

There is a very general feeling

among persons interested in Virginia

bonds that no hasty opinion should be

formed in the absence of full details

of the judgment of the United States

supreme court and the views of the

lawyers engaged in the case.

The reasons given by Patrick Egan

for departure are considered unsatis-

factory in Dublin castle. It is be-

lieved he left because Mullett turned

informer.

FRANCE.

Special Dispatch to the Bee.

PARIS, March 14.—DeLesseps em-

arked at Marseilles to-day for Tunis,

to direct the survey in the project to

convert the Desert of Sahara into an

inland sea.

The report that Grey intended to

resign the presidency, is semi-officially

denied.

The evidence against J. H. Walsh,

arrested at Havre, is insufficient to

warrant his extradition. Walsh is

likely to accompany Byrne and wife,

Saturday, to America.