

THE NATIONAL CAPITAL.

Organization of the Florida Canal Company With Some Tall Statements In It.

Thirty Millions Ought and Three Years Time Needed for the Work.

Condition of the Supreme Court Docket and Its Rapid Increase of Cases.

The Government Decides to Suppress the Encroachment of Public Lands.

The Star Route Opening Controversy for Violation of Other Matters.

THE FLORIDA CANAL.

WASHINGTON, May 9.—The Florida Ship Canal company effected an organization at the stockholders' meeting in this city by the election of Governor John Brown, of Tennessee, as president; Hon. Wm. Windom, vice president; George O. Graham, secretary; S. T. Meyer, treasurer; and General Charles P. Stone chief engineer, with the following directors: John O. Brown, Wm. Windom, Governor Dan F. Butler, Senator Wm. Mahone, Townsend Cox, Governor Wm. E. O. Cameron, S. T. Meyer, M. Jacobs, J. P. Jones. It was announced that \$10,000,000 had been subscribed to the capital stock of the company. General Stone will place a corps of engineers in the field without delay, and the work is expected to be under contract by the first of September. It is estimated that the canal will cost \$30,000,000, and will be completed in three years. The proposed route will leave St. Johns river about twenty miles above Jacksonville, thence in direct line as nearly as possible to the Swanee river on the Gulf of Mexico, making a tidal water canal less than 100 miles in length and deep enough to flow the largest ocean steamer from the ocean to the gulf.

THE COURT DOCKET.

WASHINGTON, May 9.—The number of cases finally disposed of and tried on from the docket of the United States supreme court during the term just ended is 197. As compared with last term this is a decrease of twelve in the number of cases disposed of. The number of cases awaiting action of the court continues year by year to increase. At the end of the term of 1879 there were left undispensed of 731 cases; at the end of the October term of 1880 the number had increased to 837, and at the end of this term had reached 871. All but fourteen of the cases argued and submitted this term have been decided. Among those which the court still has under consideration are the still rights cases, the Morner colony land case from Texas, and the case of the county of San Mateo against the Southern Pacific railroad company.

THE STAR ROUTE TRIAL.

WASHINGTON, May 9.—It was decided by the defense last night to go on with the argument in the star route trial, this morning Wilson began the closing argument for the defense, to be followed by Carpenter, Williams, Henkle, Davidge, Gaudier and Ingersoll. In the order named Wilson began by saying some malicious newspaper paragraphs, referring to the opening arguments, was mean enough to say there was nothing on earth to which it could be compared except the case of Vesuvius. If length of speech makes lawyers famous the two gentlemen who had preceded should be immortal. The testimony in this case has been scandalously misrepresented and perverted. Why has the government failed to call John H. Mitchell to prove his name was on that memorandum and that he had received money from Dreyfus? They had wanted Dreyfus with their neglect in that matter, yet when the defense called Balfour, the court refused to allow him to say anything in answer to Balfour's charges and had said the matter had nothing to do with the case.

CAPITOL NOTES.

WASHINGTON, May 9.—The special committee appointed to investigate the alleged frauds in the custom service at San Francisco in connection with the importation of Hawaiian sugar, had an interview with Secretary Folger to-day and received their final instructions from him. The committee leave for San Francisco in a few days.

THE PRESIDENT'S COMMISSIONERS.

The president designated John J. Knox, comptroller of currency, to act as the commissioner of Internal Revenue ten days from the 10th inst. The term of Deputy Commissioner Rogers as acting commissioner will expire to-morrow. He would not legally be designated to act for a longer period, but was designated by the president upon the recommendation of Secretary Folger.

THE TRUST SOCIETY.

At the 10th annual meeting of the American Trust society to-day the reported receipts during the year was \$100,000; expenditures \$280,000.

THE NORTHERN PACIFIC.

The president accepted "another city site section of the Northern Pacific railroad in Montana. This section, recently completed, extends from the 250th to the 600th mile of road west of the Missouri river.

THE WORLD IN NEW HANDS.

Joe Pulitzer Takes the Lever and William Henry Retires.

The Price Paid for the Leading Democratic Organ.

Special Dispatch to The Bee.

NEW YORK, May 9.—Mr. William Henry Pulitzer, president of the Pease Publishing company, completed to-day the transfer of the entire property of the World newspaper to Mr. Joseph Pulitzer, of the St. Louis Post-Dispatch. Mr. Pulitzer will announce this in The World to-morrow morning and the first number of The World under the editorial charge of Mr. Pulitzer will be issued on Friday morning. It will continue democratic.

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MIGRATION OF CROWS.

Special Agent Milburn, of the Indian office, will leave Washington to-morrow for the Crow Indian reservation in Montana, where he will cooperate with the resident agent in making arrangements for the Big Horn and Little Big Horn, in compliance with the act of congress.

A SERIOUS EVIL.

The commissioner of the general land office received complaints from the postoffice department that cattle herders in Nebraska have recently enclosed with a fence for grazing purposes a large tract of public land and thereby cut off an important mail route. The case is being investigated and it is thought the interior department that the measures about to be taken will result in breaking up this unlawful practice of fencing public lands, a practice which has lately grown to be a serious evil.

WASHINGTON, May 9.—The attention of Secretary Lincoln having been called to the report that Crook would be in danger of a court martial for crossing the Mexican border Lincoln said: "It is perfectly absurd. I have not the slightest idea that Crook did anything not in accordance with the agreement between Mexico and this government, because he (Crook) said in his dispatches that he would not."

FOREIGN.

BERLIN'S DEFEAT NOT DECEITFUL.

BERLIN, May 9.—Bismarck's defeat in the Reichstag on the question of the budget cannot be considered as decisive. The commission to which the budget was referred contains a small majority of Tories and clericals, who will probably propose a second reading after the Waterloo recess. The bill cannot pass, however, before the winter session. The result is directly opposed to the wishes of the emperor, as expressed in his recent message. During the heated debates in the Reichstag the emperor's name was freely mentioned. It is generally regretted that the emperor should have seemed unafraid by throwing his personal influence into the scale of political arguments.

THE STORM IN CHICAGO.

CHICAGO, May 9.—About 7 o'clock this evening a heavy wind and rain storm, accompanied by blinding flashes of lightning, broke over the city. At this hour (10:30) the wind has about ceased, but it is still raining and lightning heavily. Advice to the manager of the Western Union telegraph is to be to effect that the storm is general, extending from 300 to 400 miles in every direction, and much trouble is experienced on account of electric interference with the wires. Many of them are disabled, more or less, including seven or eight between this city and New York. At one time there was but one wire to St. Louis and to Omaha, none to Kansas City, and a number of smaller towns in the northwest. In the city the telephone has been ringing all evening.

FATAL SHOOTING AFFAIR.

NEW ORLEANS, May 9.—At the ferry landing, in Bossier Parish, opposite here, D C Hutchinson, a cattle dealer, deliberately went to the scene of Joe Belcher, this evening, and shot a young man named Lyon, who was standing on the front gallery. Lyon was Belcher's clerk. Two balls entered Lyon's left breast. After being shot, Lyon stepped into the store, seized a double barreled shotgun, and fired on Hutchinson, who was running, striking him in the thigh. Lyon then fell on the gallery and died. The cause of the trouble is unknown.

THE BEATMEN COMBINE.

OTTAWA, May 9.—American boat captains and owners formed an association, and resolved that all boats load in turn as placed on the lists of arrivals; that all captains of boats being offered \$4.00 to New York and \$3.75 to Albany, shall refer such offer to the first boat on the list; that should any captain of a boat, after having signed the list, leave the ranks and load contrary to the by-laws, the president is empowered to publish his name in all the leading papers on the route, and stigmatize him as a man of no honor, and one in whom no dependence can be placed.

DISCOVERY OF STOLEN LACES.

CHICAGO, May 8.—A short time ago the firm of Charles Gossage & Co. discovered one of their clerks, W. L. Johnston, stealing from them after he had disappeared, leaving an unpaid board bill, for which a trunk was held. The firm of Carson, Parle & Co., successors of Gossage, discovered the fact and the trunk was broken open to-day. It contained \$3,000 worth of stolen silks and laces. The amount of Johnston's pecuniations are not known.

Water Stock Listed.

NEW YORK, May 9.—The government committee of the Stock Exchange listed \$6,632,000 New York Central debt certificates, extended 5 per cent; \$8,809,000 Union Pacific trust bonds; \$13,060,000 New York, Susquehanna & Western, common stock; \$5,000,000 preferred; \$25,000,000 first mortgage and \$600,000 debenture bonds.

A Warning to Parents.

CHICAGO, May 9.—The Inter-Ocean Palmyra, Mich., special says: Lyman Haviland and wife last night left four children alone in the house. Alice, the oldest, 12 years, fell asleep while reading. The paper caught fire, setting the house and her clothing ablaze.

A FAIR SHOWING.

The Nevada Senator Defends Himself and Family Against "Unmerited Obloquy."

A Manly Defense of His Wife.

Special to the Omaha Bee.

SAN FRANCISCO, May 9.—Senator Fair, this afternoon, said he regretted bitterly and keenly the notoriety given to a matter so exclusively concerning himself and wife, and he said: "I am the man and I am willing to bear all the odium which the public, in ignorance of the real facts, may charge upon me, but my regret is for my wife, whose name should be associated and incorporated in dispatches transmitted all over the country. Now, as always, my desire has been to do what would contribute to the happiness of my wife and children, and if I have in any way failed, God knows it has not been prompted by a desire to do so. Now, as ever, I want that which will contribute to the happiness of my family. If my wife thinks separation will contribute to her further happiness, then her mind and mine are alike. I have done nothing to merit the obloquy cast upon me. Those who best know me will tell you what my desires are in this matter. God has blessed me with wealth; I have never used it for any mean or unmanly purpose. My heart and hand have always been open to those in distress, and I am to those who seek or require my help. I repeat that in this matter with my wife, which has been made so public, I have nothing to say further than that it pains me to see her name and mine associated with such dastardly and vindictive dispatches that have gone forth to the world. I am the man in the wrong, and in these relations I will shield her name every point in my power."

Doings in Chicago Courts.

CHICAGO, May 9.—In the trial of Jerry Dunn, for the murder of the pugilist E. H. Smith, jury had been accepted by both sides at 1 o'clock.

After two days the attorneys in the Jero Dunn murder trial succeeded in securing a full panel of jurors before adjournment this afternoon. The jury is considered above the average in intelligence and standing in the community. The opening arguments will be made to-morrow and the taking of testimony begins.

Shall Moses Come East?

WASHINGTON, May 9.—Secretaries Lincoln and Teller have been considering the case of Chief Moses, of the Nez Perce Indian tribe, who has been deposed to be troublesome because of an executive order issued some time since cutting off a portion of the Nez Perce reservation in Idaho. Moses held his complaint before the war department positively refusing to enter into negotiations with the agents of the interior department. He desired to come to Washington to talk the matter over and Secretaries Lincoln and Teller are considering the advisability of bringing him here.

Lexington Races.

LEXINGTON, May 9.—The Kentucky association began the extra spring meeting to-day. Weather mild, track good, attendance large. Only three of the four races were contested, Anglia having a walk over for the one mile, all ages.

Showered by Lightning.

Mr. Frank Arnold, city salesman for the firm of Paxton & Gallagher, was one of the unfortunate ones in Monday morning's storm. The lightning struck his house where he lives, on Twelfth and Pierce, entirely crushing in the whole south end, sending timbers, shingles and siding for a distance of twenty rods. Mr. Arnold was badly shocked, but is recovering. Frank was out in the city and knew nothing of it for several hours. When the report reached him that his wife and little boy had been killed by lightning, you may imagine his joy in hurrying home to find them all right. The house, which was newly built this year, was badly damaged, but was repaired. Mr. Sturgis promptly answered the call, and men are at work repairing. Frank is very thankful it was no worse.

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LITTLE ROCK, Ark., May 9.—The Gazette's Clarksville special says: The jury in the case of Jim Herndon, one of the Little Rock and Fort Smith railway train robbers who murdered Conductor John Cain, has just returned a verdict of murder in the first degree, after being out thirty

AN ELEVATED COLLISION.

Special Dispatch to The Bee.

NEW YORK, May 9.—A bad collision occurred to-day on the Third Avenue elevated railroad, between an extra and the regular train, at Smith station, between Sixty-ninth and Seventieth streets. The trains came together with great force and the crash brought the occupants of neighboring houses to the doors and windows. Fireman James R. Herring was sitting on the right hand side of the cab. The collision forced the tender of the engine into the cab and through it almost up to the boiler. Herring was caught and held against the boiler. One of his legs was broken, the other badly bruised and he was seriously burned and scalded about the lower part of the body and legs. The water tank on the engine burst and the scalding water poured down in a flood upon the horses of one of the surface cars. The forward platform of the first car and the cylinder head of the engine blown out. The passengers were badly shaken. The engines were almost knocked into the street. A force of men with levers and ropes pulled the engines apart. The engine of the regular train is almost a complete wreck. The tender and cab are smashed into kindling wood, and it was a long time before the injured crewman could be removed, so close was the tender jammed against the boiler.

Railroad Regulation of Rates.

NEW YORK, May 9.—The trunk line representatives adopted a plan for percentage proposed at the meeting yesterday. The changes are not extensive and the new schedule of percentages which the western roads will receive does not differ materially from that in operation the first six months. After the afternoon session the subject of differential fares was discussed, and it was decided to make no change in fare from seaboard cities. The question of differential fare in the territory west of Chicago and St. Louis occupied the greater part of the session. The plan contemplates the establishment of additional differential fare to points along the Missouri valley, and including Cheyenne, Omaha, Council Bluffs, etc., and for these it will be necessary to establish a new system of rates. It is thought several days will be occupied in arranging these matters. The changes agreed upon to-day were made without opposition.

The Storm in Chicago.

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Fatal Shooting Affair.

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Discovery of Stolen Laces.

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The Governor Petitioned to Declare Martial Law.

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KANSAS CITY, Mo., May 9.—For the past ten days a remarkable and startling state of affairs has existed at Dodge City, Kansas, and all mention thereof has been kept quiet. Several prominent Kansas City attorneys left to-day for Topeka to petition the governor to place the town under martial law. The difficulty is the culmination of a long standing feud between two elements of that place, Dodge City has long enjoyed the reputation of being a hard place. It is the headquarters of the cowboys and cattle men of the vicinity. At the head of one faction is a gambler named Webster, who aspires to be the Boss Tweed of Dodge City, and has his man named Harter, the favored candidate for mayor. A number of the latter's friends have been ordered to leave town and the correspondents of the newspapers notified they must not send telegrams. A body of armed men watched the arrival of each train to see there was no interference. A lawyer from Larned named Short, sent to defend some prisoners, was met by the vigilants, who leveled a gun at his head and told him not to stop. Next morning five gamblers were put on the westward bound train and Short left for Kansas City, where he now is.

The Sprague Estate.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., May 9.—In the supreme court to-day several cases against the A. and W. Sprague Manufacturing company on trust mortgage notes were tried. Governor Butler appeared for the defense. The court overruled his objection and the jury gave verdicts for the plaintiffs in one case for \$109,156 and in another for \$60.

Trouble in Ecuador.

GAYAQUIL, May 9.—National affairs in Ecuador are critical. Business is suspended in Gayaquil and the streets held by armed troops. Cable communication has not been interfered with, as both parties recognize the importance of not molesting an American company.

Texas Wool Clip.

ST. LOUIS, May 9.—Reports from Texas say sheep shearing is about completed and that the total clip of the state is much lighter this year than last.

A Bride Giver in Jail.

NEWARK, N. J., May 9.—Ex-speaker of the assembly, John Egan, of Elizabeth, was lodged in the county jail last night, having been arrested on an indictment of the grand jury charging him with an attempt to bribe Assemblyman Armitage, of this city, during the session of the New Jersey legislature.

The Tobacco Business.

PETERSBURG, Va., May 9.—During the past week 800,000 pounds of tobacco were shipped from Petersburg, while the exports of tobacco was about 63,000 pounds; total revenue collections \$66,704.

Fires.

CHICAGO, May 9.—A special from Charlotte, Michigan, says: Grimes & Co.'s mill, at Vermontville, ten miles north of here, burned this morning, and two or three men, including the proprietor, were burned to death.

Sale of a Railroad.

ALEXANDRIA, Va., May 9.—The Washington Western railway was sold at public sale to-day for \$400,000. The purchasers were Bates & Oakes Ames and McComb interest.

Tanning Human Hide.

BOSTON, May 9.—At the Tewkesbury inquiry to-day John Bacon and two employes testified to tanning two human skins, one black and the other white.

Shipping News.

NEW YORK, May 9.—Arrived—Canada, from Havre.

The Storm in Down County.

PLUM CREEK, Neb., May 8.—The west part of this county was visited by a heavy wind storm this afternoon. The home of Mr. H. B. Miller, ten miles north of Cedar, is reported blown down, and he and all his family seriously injured. A doctor was called from this place by telegram from Cedar, to set a broken limb for Mr. Miller.

A Murderer Hung.

ST. JOHNS, N. B., May 9.—Wm. Hughes (colored), found guilty on his own confession of murdering his wife, was hung this morning.

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