PENINSULA MATTERS

RELATED IN A BRIEF, CONCISE MANNER.

Michigan Had Several Days on the Maine
—State Bank Commissioner Just Dead
—League of Republican Clubs Meet
—Michigan Press Association.

Michigan Men in the Maine Disaster.

Elmer Meilstrup, George Mattison and Howard Hawkins of West Bay City were aboard the warship Maine at the time of her destruction. The young men enlisted last fall. Word has been received from the navy department that the body of Elmer Meilstrup had been recovered. The parents are grief-stricken over their boy's fate. They were opposed to his enlistment, but finally consented. The mother is prostrated. The young man had become tired of life on the battleship and was making an effort to secure his release.

Howard E. Hawkins is among the dead, but his body has not been recovered yet, while George Mattison was one of the few sailors whose lives were saved.

George Fox, son of Dr. George Fox, of Grand Rapids, was a lamplighter on the ill-fated Maine, but was among those rescued.

Richard Andrews, a Detroit boy, had been recently transferred for service on the Maine, but two days after the disaster it was learned that he had arrived at Key West too late to board the Maine before she sailed for Havana and he was taken aboard the Texas, thus possibly escaping death.

Letters received by the parents of Elmer Mellstrup and Howard H. Hawkins, at Bay City, state that the bottom of the harbor is covered with torpedoes and that the Maine lies right under the guns of Moro castle. Meilstrup thought that if Spain did not desire to let the Maine out, she could hold the boat in the harbor by means of the torpedoes. He would not be surprised if she should be blown up any day, and because of the torpedoes the Maine could not leave the harbor nor move about without the consent and direction of Spain. Picket boats, he said, were out all night watching the Maine. Spanish sailors claim they could do up the Maine in an hour, but young Meilstrup thought the Maine could whip the whole outfit in three hours.

Death of Bank Commissioner Just.

Josiah E. Just, state bank commissioner, died at his home in Ionia of heart disease.

Mr. Just was born December 20, 1817, in Ionia county. He attended the common schools until 12 years old, after which time he only had opportunity to attend school during the winter, the rest of his time being devoted to farm work. His first banking experience was in the First National bank of Lowell, where he was employed as clerk three years. In 1870 he entered the banking house of S. W. Webber & Co. at Muir, as cashier, and in 1873 filled the same position at Lyons until 1873 when he returned to Muir as cashier until the Muir bank was merged into the name of Webber, Just & Co. In 1878, he being associated with Mr. Webber for 21 years. Mr. Just moved to Ionia in 1887 and organized the Ionia County Savings bank, of which he was cashier up to the time of his appointment as state bank commissioner in February, 1897, by Gov. Pingree.

Mr. Just was married in 1873 to Ella V. Fox, of Muir, and she, with one daughter 12 years old, survives him. Deceased sang for 11 years in the M. E. church choir at Ionia. He was a past chancellor of the Knights of Pythias, and in politics was a Republican.

State League of Republican Clubs.

The annual convention of the Michigan League of Republican clubs, held at Detroit, was not very largely attended and was not of particular interest. Resolutions were adopted congratulating the country on the return of prosperity; reaffirming the financial plank of the St. Louis platform; expressing confidence in President McKinley's intention and ability to handle the Cuban matter satisfactorily; expressing profound sorrow at the appalling Maine disaster; favoring the annexation of Hawaii; favoring equal and just taxation, and the enactment and enforcement of just laws.

Officers were elected without a struggle as follows: President, Grant Fellows, of Hudson; vice-president, Wm. A. Hurd, of Detroit; secretary, Edgar J. Adams, of Grand Rapids; treasurer, Frank W. Wait (re-elected), of Sturgis. The selection of delegates to the national league meeting at Omaha, June 14-16 resulted in naming the officers of the league, and delegates from each district were chosen to represent the state.

Brotherhood of St. Andrew.

The Michigan Brotherhood of St. Andrew met in its fourth annual convention at Bay City. Rev. Thomas W. MacLean, rector of Trinity church, delivered a very cordial address of welcome. Two days were spent in conferences and listening to addresses on matters pertaining to the work of the Brotherhood.

The car barns of the Menominee Electric Light & Street Railway Co. were totally destroyed by fire together with contents, entailing a loss of $25,000, partly covered by insurance. The fire broke out during the blizzard and nearly every car was destroyed.

In the matter of separating the grades of the railroad crossings at Detroit, Railroad Commissioner Wessellius announces that he will make a personal examination of the crossings, but will not assume to exercise any function of the state crossing board unless the law clearly gives him power to do so.

New Michigan postmasters: Houghton, R. B. Lang; Manistique, Elmer N. Orr; St. Clair, H. A. Hopkins; Charlotte, Wm. M. Beckman; Freeport, George E. Hilton; Hart, Charles A. Gurney; White Pigeon, Fred C. Hotchin; Penn, Cass county, John E. Squires; Rogers City, Presque Isle county, Fred. D. Larke; Waspel, St. Joseph county, Mrs. Juliet Knox.

The snowplow of the Detroit & Mackinaw railroad was ditched at Pinconning. Jas. Bolen, Geo. Vaughn, Ed Ruell and James Teer of East Tawas and Edward Musolf from Tawas City, are badly injured.

Michigan Press Association.

The annual meeting of the Michigan Press association was held in the Hotel Cadillac at Detroit. As the association is to hold its literary meeting in Muskegon this summer there was little business transacted in addition to the election of officers. An invitation from the Canadian Pacific road to take the editors and their families to the Pacific coast was accepted and the executive committee was instructed to make arrangements. The treasurer's report showed a balance of $465 on hand.

Officers elected: President, H. R. Pattengill, of Lansing Timely Topics; vice president, B. J. Lowrey, of Howard City Record; secretary, H. C. Blackman, of Hillsdale Democrat; treasurer, E. D. Conger, of Grand Rapids Herald.

MICHIGAN NEWS ITEMS.

The state board of pardons had depicted the applications of 14 convicts for pardons.

A veinof coal 42 inches thick was struck near the bay shore seven miles north of Bay City.

A St. Joseph colony will be started in Washington state. Several families will go there soon.

Bay City officials who had their salaries cut 20 per cent last spring have had them restored.

A. E. Ewarts, a Clarkston farmer, was injured in a runaway accident and died of his injuries.

Business men of Addison and the farmers of the vicinity will co-operate to build a creamery.

H. M. Charlesworth, aged 60, was found cut to pieces on the C. & G. T. railroad tracks near Flint.

John Atkinson, a Bay City fireman, fell from a second story building at a fire and was severely injured.

Chas. Steadman, an Owosso saloonkeeper, died from injuries received by being thrown from a sleigh.

The property of an Onekama man is advertised for sale for delinquent taxes to the amount of eight cents.

Saginaw Christian Endeavorers expect from 1,200 to 1,400 visitors at the state convention in their city.

Capt. and Mrs. W. P. Spalding, of Sault Ste. Marie, celebrated their golden wedding anniversary.

Burglars secured $750 in cash and notes by blowing open the safe in Hoyt & Clark's grocery store at Lansing.

Patrick Farnum, a farmer near Shepherd, shot a large eagle which measured 7 feet 4 inches from tip to tip.

James Webb, aged 17, of Vassar, was killed by logs rolling upon him, near Trout Lake, in the upper peninsula.

Coal will be prospected for all along the Rifle river in Arenac county. Several veins have already been found.

Arden Aldrich, a jockey employed by Jesse DeLong, was fatally injured by being thrown from a horse at Niles.

Senate Ferguson dropped dead while trying to start a balky horse at Hanover. He was subject to heart disease.

John Rickle, aged 75; Joseph Haywood, aged 75; Mrs. Lalond, aged 90, three Bay City pioneers, all passed away in one day.

The physicians of Berrien county have formed an organization with Dr. John Bell as president, to fight against fake doctors.

Bertha J. Kurth, of Three Rivers, is in jail at Laporte, Ind., charged with complicity in the murder of a man named McClellan.

A cow owned by Levi Davis, of Deckerville, gave birth to three calves on one day. This makes six calves for this cow in three years.

There is a project to connect the independent telephone systems of Grand Rapids and Saginaw, by way of Howard City, Edmore and Alma.

Wm. McPherson, an F. & P. M. employe, while climbing down from a box car at Saginaw, was thrown under the wheels and lost his right arm.

Physicians have examined David Seeley, the old man under arrest at Kalamazoo for having so many wives, and pronounce him perfectly sane.

Wallace Walters, a young farmer a mile from Clarkston, attempted suicide and is now in a dangerous condition. Ill health made him despondent.

Chas. Montgomery, aged 21, of Port Huron, was one of the crew of the Clara Nevada., which went down on the Alaskan coast without a soul being saved.

Jacob Dingmán, a retired farmer living in Fowlerville, was kicked in the stomach by his horse while visiting at his son's farm, and died in half an hour.

Mrs. John Lane, who lives south of St. Joseph, claims she is heir to a fortune of $300,000 deposited in the bank of England 100 years ago by her grandfather.

Mrs. John Gregg, of Sanford, stooped down to pick up some wood and knocked down a loaded musket. The charge shattered her leg so that it had to be amputated, and she died from the shock.

James Hackett, a boy tramp, dropped dead on the street at Mason from excessive cigarette smoking. He was given a decent burial, his poor mother arriving in time for the funeral after selling part of her furniture to pay for transportation from Chicago.

Miss Gertrude Robinson, school commissioner of Branch county, charges districts with maintaining extremely filthy school houses and said the average school stove is covered with the rust, dirt and dust of years. She said "verily, all the heathen do not reside in foreign countries."

George Voice, of Northport, has procured government patents to portions of Traverse City land several farms in the vicinity. The owners acquired title from Indians, who gave quitclaims, but it is now claimed the Indians gave no valid ownership. Expensive litigation is expected.

Dr. George Fox, of Grand Rapids, received a letter from his son George, who was on board the Maine when she blew up, and was injured in the explosion. The letter is in a feminine hand and is subscribed signed by Mrs. Sylvester Scovel indicates that the wife of the famous newspaper correspondent wrote it for him. It is dated Tampa, Fla., and says he is recovering nicely from his wounds.

Major Casey, a resident of North Escanaba, while walking on the Chicago & Northwestern railroad tracks was struck by an engine and received injuries from which he died an hour later.

Gov. Pingree has notified the Typographical union that hereafter he will have the union label attached to all printed matter pertaining to the executive office.

Forty years ago Anton Grandjean, of Saginaw, lost a deed to his property which not recorded. He recently found it and has sent it to the register of deeds' office.

Peter White, of Marquette, while on a visit at Washington urged the government to take control of the Mackinac island reservation and locate a garrison there.

Fred Smith, a farmhand, went on a hunting expedition near Mt. Morris and failed to return. He was found in a shanty, nearly dead and with one leg badly frozen.

Mrs. Wm. H. Phillips committed suicide at Grand Rapids by taking poison. She was 40 years old, had no children and the cause of her action was trouble with her husband.

Rev. B. S. Taylor, aged 78, who for over 10 years has been librarian of Albion college, is dead. He leaves three sons, one of whom is Prof. F. M. Taylor, of the U. of M.

Dr. David Eugene Smith, of the chair of mathematics of the state Normal school at Ypsilanti, has been elected principal of the Brockport, N. Y., Normal school at $3,000.

A syndicate of Alpena capitalists will try and close a contract with Pennsylvania coal companies to operate a mine at Stony Point, where a six-foot vein of hard coal has been found.

Wheeler & Co., of Bay City, have consented to arbitrate their troubles with the riveters, and will allow the men to go to work pending the decision, without signing any agreement.

The livery barn of Thos. Cheetam was almost destroyed by fire at Flint. The horses were rescued, but a quantity of feed and personal property was destroyed. The loss is over $2,000.

Bert Hellenthal, aged 45, of Zeeland, died as a result of taking carbolic acid, said to have been administered by a physician doctor by mistake. Sheriff Vanry has papers to serve on the doctor.

The Belt Toltic, Ridge and Knolton mines in Ontonagon county have been purchased by copper capitalists and will be reopened in the spring. The Ridge was secured on tax title claims.

Ex-Gov. Luce, of Branch county, has been holding his wheat crop until he could get a certain price. Recently he sold three carloads, about 1,800 bushels, and the price advanced one cent the next day.

The body of Mrs. Catherine Lenz, an aged widow who lived alone in Hamtramck township a short distance from Detroit, was found under the rails of a fence in a field near her home. Murder is suspected.

Little Mary Wolford, after a short illness, died of heart failure at Ithaca. Before death she was bled and nine quarts of blood were taken from her veins. She baffled the physicians and death resulted.

It is reported that the 19th regiment U. S. Infantry now at Detroit and Ft. Brady will be transferred to Washington barracks to relieve the Fourth artillery. It is one of the finest posts in the United States.

The dead body of Chas. A. Molsberry, an old man, was found in his room where he lived alone at Niles. From indications he had been dead about three days, and ratshad begun to gnaw his body. The cause of death is thought to be heart failure.

The second annual ball and reception to the governor by the Grand Rapids battalion M. N. G. was a great social success. The governor was present, and, escorted by Maj. Abbey, of Kalamazoo, and the captains of the local companies led the grand march.

The large flouring mill of E. Rutan & Co. at Belding burned to the ground. It was one of the best equipped mills in western Michigan, with a capacity of 500 barrels per day. The loss will reach $25,000, as the mill was full of stored grain. Two cars of flour on the track ready for shipment were also consumed.

There was a rear-end collision on the C., M. & St. P. tracks at Carney's spur, six miles south of Iron Mountain. A way freight crashed into a logging train which was switching. Twenty cars and an engine were wrecked, and Conductor Anderson, of Iron Mountain, and Brakeman John Tews, of Green Bay, Wis., were killed.

Joseph Lapeer, aged 16, who lived with his parents near Cumber, was fatally wounded while sitting by a stove. A double-barreled shotgun fell from the wall in an adjoining room and both barrels were discharged through the partition, one charge entering the boy's body. Joseph is the second boy accidentally shot in this family.

The latest snow storm seems to have been general all over the state and was the heaviest Michigan had experienced in many years. In the towns street car service was practically stopped and country roads were impassable. The railroads gave up the attempt to get trains through on time and thought it great luck to get through at all. In some places snow drifted from 10 to 20 feet deep.

The attendance at the annual Michigan banquet at Detroit was quite large and the speeches particularly enjoyable. Senator Burrows acted as toastmaster; Gov. Pingree took opportunity to roast trusts and monopolies; Senator Fairbanks paid the Republican party a glowing eulogy; Senator Davis, of Minnesota, spoke upon Cuba, Hawaii and other interesting subjects and advised patience and conservatism in passing judgement as to the cause of Maine disaster; W. F. Whitney, of Nebraska, said that the Republicans would win again in 1900.

Gaylord Catholics are about to erect a fine stone church.

The Cuban autonomist government has confirmed the appointment of Senor Manuel Rafael Angulo as delegate of the colonial government at Washington. There is a commercial treaty, according to instructions, which he will receive from Senor Montoro and Senor Rodriguez, colonial secretaries of the treasury, and of commerce respectively.

Masked burglars entered the home of Newton Baldwin, near Selma, beat the farmer's two aged wife into insensibility and attempted to kill him. They escaped after securing $40 in cash and several certificates of deposit.

AN INVESTIGATION

OF THE CAUSE OF THE MAINE CATASTROPHE

Is In Progress at Havana and Will be Thorough—Uncle Sam Preparing to Demand Satisfaction if There is any Evidence of Spanish Treachery.

Havana: Officers of the Maine state that the explosion was in the central magazine and that the Maine was raised out of the water and then went partially to pieces. All but the surgeon were in the ward room at the moment of the explosion. Then came the stupendous shock. All the officers below rushed on deck, but could get no further forward than the middle of the superstructure on deck. Only a pitiable few of the 350 blue jackets ever got from below. The water rushed over them and many were stunned and drowned. The officers on deck narrowly escaped. In the junior officers' mess all had to clamber out through water and wreckage waist deep. All agree that a double explosion occurred.

Washington: Secretary Long, when asked whether he had reason to suspect that the disaster was the work of an enemy, replied: "I do not. In that I am influenced by the fact that Capt. Sigsbee has not yet reported to the navy department on this question. He is evidently waiting to write a full report. So long as he does not express himself I certainly cannot. I should think from the indications, however, that the explosion explodet. How that came about I do not undertake to say. No more other warship will be sent to Havana."

Public men expressed their opinions with reserve when approached for interviews, but everywhere there was a demand for an investigation and full details in the light of which the horror may be better viewed. Secretary Long undoubtedly summarized the general opinion of the majority of naval experts in finding it impossible just now to state the cause of the destruction of the Maine. There are a great number of theories, but most of them are of a character that make it easy to prove or upset by a single investigation by a diver. Secretary Long has taken immediate steps to make an investigation.

The effort of the government officers to remain calm in the face of the shocking disaster was made by a great mystery was apparent and a number of naval officers volunteered theories in support of the accident hypothesis, all of which in the absence of any facts on which to base a reasonable opinion were decidedly unsatisfying.

As for the Maine herself, notwithstanding discouraging reports as to her condition, the navy department will make the effort to raise her. While this is required by every creditable sentiment, they say that they are bound to remove the hull from the harbor in any case and it may be as easy or easier to raise her as it would be to destroy the hull and machinery by the use of divers and dynamite.

Every confidence is felt at the navy department in the commander of the Maine, but not until it is really established otherwise there is every disposition to charge the accident, if accident it was that destroyed the Maine, to some cause beyond the usual range of human discretion.

Key West: It is known from reliable sources that the Spanish government is under the impression that the warship Maine was blown up by a floating torpedo, and that he has communicated his impressions to Washington, asking at the same time that the naval department should send naval engineers and mechanics to investigate the explosion. The steamship Olivette arrived at Key West with 62 survivors of the Maine. Of the number 20 are wounded; 10 seriously and one fatally. The officers were, as a rule, reticent and say that the cause of the explosion could only be ascertained by divers, but many of the sailors were outspoken in their declaration of believe that the explosion was a deep laid plot of the Spaniards.

It is well known that there has been a very bitter feeling among the Spaniards in Cuba against the Maine, Alejas' own paper, the Heraldo, has repeatedly stated that the presence of the Maine was a menace to peace, and it was to the same editor of this paper, it will be remembered, that De Lome wrote his famous letter insulting President McKinley. At a bull fight in Havana the Spaniards openly insulted men from the Maine, and the feeling against them had gradually grown to be very bitter.

Washington: The government has settled back into a waiting attitude in respect to the terrible marine disaster in Havana harbor. The great shock caused by the news has given way to a calmer and more judicial state of mind. The naval officials are now resigned to await the result of an inquiry by a court named by the navy department; as follows: Capt. Samson, commander of the battleship Iowa, now at the Tortugas, president of the court; Capt. Chadwick, commander of the New York, at Key West; Lieut.-Com. Schroeder, executive officer of the Massachusetts, now at Tortugas; Lieut.-Com. Marix, executive officer of the Vermont, formerly on the Maine.

Washington: Consul-General Lee telegraphs: "Profound Sorrow expressed by government and municipal authorities, consuls of foreign nations, organized bodies of all sorts and citizens generally. Flags at half-mast on governor-general's palace, on shipping in harbor and city. Business suspended, theaters closed. Officers' quarters being in force and seaman's forward, where explosion took place, accounts for greater proportional loss of sailors. Officers Merritt and Jenkins still missing and undoubtedly lost. Hope our people will repress excitement and calmly await decision."

Washington: The navy officers cannot agree upon any theory to account for the destruction of the Maine. Perhaps a majority are inclined to the belief that the explosion was purely accidental, another considerable number feel that a torpedo was exploded under the vessel. Another theory is that some infernal machine was smuggled aboard the ship and set off. In the present lack of knowledge as to the condition of the wreck all theories are uncertain. An examination of the hull of the Maine by divers will demonstrate in short order whether or not a torpedo had been used.

Developments of the Maine Disaster.

Naval experts and engineers are unanimously in favor of raising and rebuilding the Maine. They say the plan is entirely feasible, and that she is shattered more than they at present believe. Secretary Long coincides with their views, but adds that if the warship proves to be absolutely useless a new Maine, finer and faster, will be built.

The Spanish authorities at Havana requested of Consul-General Lee that they be permitted to join with our own people in making an investigation into the cause of the disaster to the Maine. Gen. Lee forwarded the request to Washington where it was discussed by President McKinley, Secretary Long and Assistant Secretary of State Day, and the conclusion was reached, and Gen. Lee was so notified, that while this government is willing to afford the Spanish authorities all reasonable facilities for conducting an investigation, yet it is thought that the full inquiry shall be made by her own commissioners. The request of the Spanish government, therefore, was respectfully declined. Capt. Sigsbee will be recognized as the one to direct operations and send down the government divers for such inspection as he sees proper to make.

For a short time it appeared that the Spanish were likely to attempt to prevent any work on the wreck of the Maine other than they should direct, but a cable dispatch put a stop to that recognized resulted in the Spanish acknowledging that the wreck of the Maine is extra-territorial and a part of the sovereign soil of the United States. This decision promises to establish an important precedent in international law.

Associated Press correspondents claim to observe great preparations for war in the manning of various portions of our modern system of coast defense at this time, but the war department says it is the carrying out of plans which have been maturing for two or three years. It is also alleged by the correspondents that the U. S. infantry forces at Fort Sheridan (Chicago), Fort Leavenworth and Fort Riley (Kansas) have been armed and equipped more promptly and actively than for early summer's notice. A new 20-knot torpedo boat has just been launched at Herreshoff's yards, Bristol, R. I., all completed. Extra large forces of marines have been sent to the Norfolk navy yards to put into commission two or three fighting ships there for early service. Secretary of War Alger is said to be hurrying troops to the forts about New York City.

Read Admiral Thos. A. Selfridge has just returned from a two years' absence in Europe and was met at the steamer by a telegram ordering him to report at the Brooklyn navy yard at once.

The first report from Capt. Sigsbee as to the work of the divers about the wreck of the Maine was as follows: "Only most experienced wrecking diver can do effective work on the Maine. In the upper works can use service divers. First investigation shows parts of the Maine, especially the superstructure and connections, are one confused mass of metal."

Divers recovered the cipher code book, the log of the Maine, many official and private papers, the silver service of the Maine, and considerable other salvage.

Another brief telegram from Capt. Sigsbee read: "Havana — Bache." Which meant that the coast survey steamer has arrived at Havana with the diving apparatus sent from the North Atlantic squadron. Another dispatch announces the arrival of the lighthship tender Mangrove with the court of inquiry and additional divers and apparatus. The court promptly began its investigations, but the regulations under which the proceedings take place absolutely precludes the conveyance by any member of the court or the court as a body to any person, even the secretary of the navy, of any facts developed during the progress of the inquiry, unless the action of the department was necessary upon some development to further the investigation.

Gladstone Goes Home to Die.

London: It is said that Mr. Gladstone is coming home to die. An eye-witness who saw his departure from the Riviera and his arrival at Calais reports a striking change in the old statesman's appearance. Arrangements had been made at Calais to carry his chair from the train to the packet, but Mr. Gladstone was determined to walk the distance, 30 yards, and was carefully assisted down the steps, enveloped in coats and rugs. Heavily leaning on the arms of two gentlemen, he slowly tottered to the hotel.

Miss Frances E. Willard Dead.

Miss Frances E. Willard, president of the Woman's Christian Temperance union of the world, died at the Hotel Imperial, New York City.

Miss Frances E. Willard, was founder of the World's W. C. T. U., and for many years was president of the National W. C. T. U. She was born Sept. 28, 1839, at Churchville, N. Y.

The final step in the program of the sale of the Kansas Pacific railroad was taken at Topeka, Kas., when the entire line from Kansas City to Denver was sold under the foreclosure decree for $8,000,000 it being bid in by Alvin W. Krech for $8,000,000 on behalf of the reorganization committee.

London: It is asserted on good authority that the Royal Niger Co. has been instructed after trying all peaceable means to compel the retirement of the French from British territory by force. The sultanate of Sokoto is a feudatory of the company and it was recently placed under British protection. The situation is extremely grave. Great Britain's forces in the protectorate district number between 5,000 and 6,000 men under British officers.

President McKinley was the Washington day orator of the annual celebration given by the University of Pennsylvania.

The government has been collecting information as to the strength of the militia in the United States and also the number of men who would be available for service in case of an emergency. The returns from the states are interesting in view of the prospect of trouble with Spain. The total militia force of the United States and the territories, as shown by the returns, is 114,948, and the total number of men available for military service is 10,301,339.

The largest daily mortality reported in the National Military home at Dayton for many years was seven on Feb. 18.

DOINGS OF CONGRESS.

A Paragraphic Chronicle of the Acts of the Nation's Lawmakers.

The House interstate and foreign commerce committee gave a hearing to advocates of the establishment of a department of commerce. A statement was presented which declared that other departments were established by the demands and exigencies of the business of the government and that the time had arrived when another department should be created. The commercial interests could be greatly benefited by a seat at the cabinet table and it would be a relief to other departments.

The Senate committee on equal suffrage granted a hearing to a large delegation of ladies from the National Woman Suffrage association in convention at Washington. The House committee also accorded the delegation a hearing. Miss Susan B. Anthony, the president of the association, made a strong plea.

The day following the Maine disaster the House adopted the following resolution, offered by Rep. Boutelle, of Maine: Resolved, That the House of Representatives has learned with profound sorrow of the fearful calamity which has caused the destruction of the United States battleship Maine, and appalling loss of more than 250 lives and the wounding of many others of the gallant defenders of our flag, and that the House expresses its sympathy for the injured and its sincere condolences with the families of those who have lost their lives in the service of the nation.

After four days of consideration the House passed the bankruptcy bill reported by the committee on judiciary as a substitute for the Nelson bill passed by the Senate at the extra session last summer. The bill is known as the Henderson bill and contains both voluntary and involuntary features. It is considered less drastic than the measure passed by the last House.

The bill to increase the U. S. artillery force by two regiments passed the Senate by a vote of 52 to 4.

The bill passed the House to pay Newberry college, a Lutheran institution in South Carolina, $15,000 for damages done by troops during the war.

The Senate so amended the bill for the taking of the twelfth and subsequent censuses as to place the work under the secretary of the interior.

A resolution offered by Mr. Allen, of Nebraska, directing the committee on naval affairs to make an investigation of the disaster to the battleship Maine was adopted by the Senate without debate. The House joint resolution appropriating $200,000 for the relief and benefit of the sufferers by the recent disaster.

A sweeping reduction of over $8,000,000 from the amount carried by the current law is made in the sundry civil appropriation bill reported to the House. The aggregate appropriation carried by the bill is $49,893,804. The total is $13,234,541 less than the regular and supplemental official estimates made for the fiscal year 1899 and $8,861,800 less than the appropriations made for the current fiscal year. A reduction of $5,367,899 is made in the appropriation for river and harbor work and this greatly affects Michigan.

John Bull Talks War Now.

The situation in East Africa is reported to be rapidly assuming one to both France and England. Young officers command both forces, and a collision is probable at any time unless England yields ground. This it is said, she is not likely to do, as a budget for $250,000 for the support of West African forces is likely to be passed early next week. On the other hand, M. Hanotaux, the French minister of foreign affairs, is in a trying and peculiar position, as the coming elections face him and the slightest sign of yielding on his part would mean utter defeat at the polls. The freedom of commerce, and not the acquisition of property, is said to be the real bone of contention.

Fenton's cheese factory will move to Grand Blanc.

THE MARKETS.

LIVE STOCK.

	New York—	Cattle.	Sheep	Lambs	Hogs
Best grades		$4 00@4 25	$4 90	@5 25	$4 60
Lower grades		3 00@3 75	4 00	5 50	4 40
	Chicago—				
Best grades		4 75@5 15	4 40	5 60	4 10
Lower grades		3 00@4 60	3 00	4 50	3 90
	Detroit—				
Best grades		4 40@4 60	4 40	5 60	4 10
Lower grades		2 50@4 25	3 00	4 50	3 90
	Buffalo—				
Best grades		4 00@4 30	4 85	5 80	4 20
Lower grades		2 50@3 75	3 50	4 75	4 10
	Cleveland—				
Best grades		3 90@4 25	4 20	5 25	4 15
Lower grades		2 50@3 75	3 00	4 00	4 00
	Cincinnati—				
Best grades		4 30@4 60	4 40	5 60	4 05
Lower grades		2 80@4 25	3 00	4 50	3 85
	Pittsburg—				
Best grades		4 50@4 80	4 85	5 85	4 20
Lower grades		3 00@4 40	3 75	4 75	4 00

GRAIN, ETC.

	Wheat.	Corn.	Oats.
	No 2 red	No 2 mix	No 2 white
New York	1 06@1 06¾	37-37¾	31@31¾
Chicago	1 04@1 04	29@29¼	26@26¼
Detroit	99	36¾	31-31¼
Toledo	98@ 99¼	34@34¾	27@27½
Cincinnati	99½	31	28@28¼
Cleveland	96½ 96¾	30@30	27 27
Pittsburg	99 99	31-32	28-28¼
Buffalo	98-98½	32 32	28 28

Detroit—May 1 cash, 98.30 per ton. Potatoes, 50c per bu. Live Poultry, turkeys, 10c per lb; chickens, 6½c; ducks, 7½c. Eggs, strictly fresh, 1 c per doz. Butter, dairy, 15c per lb; creamery, 2 c.

Spanish Warship at New York.

The Spanish armored cruiser Vizcaya reached New York on the afternoon of a thirteen days' voyage from the Canary Islands. When her officers and men learned the startling news of the disaster to the American battleship Maine in Havana harbor and of the downfall of former Minister De Lome they broke into a wild uproar of talk and for a time all discipline on the great warship seemed to vanish to the winds.

The Vizcaya was received with due formalities by representatives of the United States.

Fire destroyed the fine ware plant of the Whitemore-Robinson Co. at Akron. It was caused by an explosion of gas from the kilns. The total loss will be $40,000, fully insured. The 200 skilled clay workers will be given employment at rebuilding the part that was destroyed.

The present situation indicates a prolonged session of the legislature. Up to this time little has been accomplished save the election of a U. S. senator. Although nearly two months assembled, scarcely more than a dozen measures have been finally enacted into law.

Very Painful

Could Not Move without Great Suffering—Hood's Cured.

"My shoulders and arms were very painful with rheumatism so that I could hardly move them without great suffering. I have taken four bottles of Hood's Sarsaparilla and now find myself free from rheumatism." MRS. MARY A. TUCKER, 464 Ninth St., Red Wing, Minn.

Hood's Sarsaparilla

Is the best—in fact the One True Blood Purifier.

Hood's Pills cure sick headache. 25c.

Historic Old Cradle.

Valparaiso, Ind., has a cradle yet in actual use in the home of the Rev. John F. Brandt, which is 106 years old. In this interesting nursery more than forty babies have been rocked to sleep. In it was rocked, in his infancy, Mordecai Hardesty, the first white child born in Indianapolis. The cradle came from Virginia, and was handed down to the Brandt family by the grandmother of Mrs. John F. Brandt, wife of the pastor of the Christian Tabernacle of Valparaiso. Mrs. Gerard Marshall, of Brandt's grandmother. She had raised a family of eleven, who were rocked to sleep in this cradle. Mrs. Brandt's father was one of the fourteen. He is now 80 years of age. It is a quaint old relic of the primitive days when cradles were hewn from a log. It was cut from one solid piece, except that the two rockers were mortised in and pegged on with wooden pegs. The cradle is five feet three inches in length. By reason of its continuous service, it has been worn very smooth, and its fine polish caused it to resemble ebony rather than the grained black hickory wood.

Read the Advertisements.

You will enjoy this publication much better if you will get into the habit of reading the advertisements; they will afford a most interesting study and will put you in the way of getting some excellent bargains. Our advertisers are reliable, they send what they advertise.

Remember you have not a sinew whose line of strength, if not defect, not a faculty of body, mind or soul whose law of improvement is not energy.

Mother Gray's Sweet Powders for Children

Successfully used by Mother Gray, nurse in the Children's Home in New York, Cures Feverishness, Bad Stomach, Teething Disorders, Move and regulate the Bowels and Destroy Worms. Over 30,000 testimonials. They never fail. At all druggists, 25c. Sample FREE. Address Allen S. Olmsted, LeRoy, N. Y.

The wise man talks but little, and when he does speak he deals exclusively in truth.

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Kemp's Balsam will stop the cough at once. Go to your druggist to-day and get a sample bottle free. Sold in 25 and 50 cent bottles. Do not delay, as delays are dangerous.

Falsehood has an infinity of combination, but truth has only one mode of being.

Don't Tobacco Spit and Smoke Your Life Away

To quit tobacco easily and forever, be magnetic, full of life, nerve and vigor, take No-To-Bac, the wonder-worker, that makes weak men strong. All druggists, 50c or $1. Cure guaranteed. Booklet and sample free. Address Sterling Remedy Co., Chicago or New York.

The real Christian will not shut up his Bible and quit because things fail to go as he wants them to go.

Find a man who loves God with all his heart and he will be found working for him with all his might.

The cutter is not to blame for the fit of a borrowed coat.

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CURE CONSTIPATION.

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