

## FRANK JAMES FALKS.

### GIVES HIS OPINION ON TRAIN ROBBERY.

What Must be Done to Prevent It—Armed Guards Should be Carried So as to Command the Vital Point, Between the Engine and Express Car.

St. Louis, Apr. 4.—Bloodhounds will be placed on the trail of the Frisco train robbers. The booty is officially stated to be \$1233. So far \$499 has been recovered. Frank James, a brother of the famous bandit, Jesse James, when asked his opinion of the robbery, finally said:

"When a man engages in the train robbing business he is badly in need of money, and will take desperate chances to secure it. All the talk about some men having no sense of fear, and especially when they are making a raid on a train, is all nonsense. I have been in some pinches and there were times when I realized fear, but there was nothing to do but to fight my way out.

"I am opposed to train robbery, and the only way it will ever be stopped is to have armed guards on each train. Two or three would be sufficient, but they should be well armed and be enclosed in a steel cage of some kind. The cars should have portholes so the guards could command a view of the outside. One point in particular they should keep in view, and that is the space between the engine and the express car. This point should be watched for a number of reasons. First, because robbers could uncouple the express car from the rest of the train and with the engine pull it several miles down the track and with dynamite blow everything up. The second and main reason is that the robbers would be aware of the guard's presence in the car and if they could get to the couplings of the car all they would have to do would be to pull the engine away from the train a short distance, reverse the lever and come back against the train with such a force that the express car would be demolished and the guards killed. Until these ideas are carried out the robbers will continue to think that train robbery is a science.

"The Sleeper Hill job was done by men who knew their business; but as I am not in that business, and never have been, I don't care to discuss it further. This however, I will say, the times when I was credited with having been in certain train robberies I was miles away from the scene hauling logs."

#### The Ministry Denies.

Madrid, Apr. 4.—A rumor is in circulation here to the effect that the United States would send a squadron to Barcelona if Spain continued her naval preparations against Cuba. The rumor is so persistent that the following foreign ministerial denial has been issued:

"The ministry emphatically deny that there is any foundation for the rumor that international difficulties have arisen which impede the sending of a squadron to Cuba, or the arming of trans-Atlantic vessels as cruisers."

It is said that two of these ships will start immediately with their full armament.

The return of General Pando is generally considered to be due to a disagreement with General Weyler.

#### Departing Insane.

Chicago, Apr. 4.—Andrew Jansen was yesterday sent to the insane asylum at Dunning. When his case was called in the insane court he told Judge Carter he had been sent to Chicago by the authorities of the Minnesota state insane asylum. He further said that he was not the only patient deported from the Minnesota institution. He declared there were three others with him when he started, but that they left the train before it reached Chicago. One got off just before the train passed the Wisconsin state line into Illinois and he did not know what had become of the others.

Jansen said he was much opposed to leaving the Minnesota asylum, because he was far from being cured, but he was compelled to leave by the keepers.

#### A Waco Assignment.

Waco, Texas, April 4.—E. W. Mitchell, a prominent jeweler, made an assignment for the benefit of creditors without preference to Herbert Little.

The liabilities are \$4000, with assets about the same.

#### The Nile Campaign.

New York, April 4.—A special to the Herald from Cairo, says: The demand for war news here is so great that every evening there are fresh stories of attacks up the Nile. The movement of the troops at this point has about ceased, though recruiting and forced enlistment goes on very vigorously. The officers of the Connaught rangers have been given a farewell dinner in expectation of an early forward movement.

Your correspondent has interviewed the Knedive. He said he took great interest in this upper Nile expedition, though he was sorry that it was so suddenly forced upon Egypt that due preparations could not be made. He regretted that his military education had not been concluded when he was called to succeed his father. His highness thought that there were now over ten thousand Egyptian and English troops between Assouan and Akashch. He asked about the Japanese army and navy and showed a deep interest in all that was told him.

When something was said about Soudanese troops being offered by English he expressed great confidence in them. His highness will shortly go to the Alexandria resort for the summer.

The discussion in the commons on Lord Cromer's attitude towards the Dongola expedition can be easily answered from here. From the outset the British representative has disapproved of the movement. He did not advise it and his opinion was not sought. He believes that the revenues of Egypt should be used for relieving and improving the country and not in reconquering territory not needed at present. He fears that all his past financial labor will be lost. He is, however, giving the expedition his hearty support now that it has been entered upon.

British military men here express contempt for the attitude of France towards the British expedition up the Nile.

The dervishes are gathering in strength for offensive action and at the war office this afternoon the opinion was frequently expressed that the situation at the front is growing serious. There is a feeling that the advancing column is entirely adequate.

#### Humor Denied.

Washington, Apr. 4.—Secretary Lamont when asked today concerning the published statement that he had in his possession a letter from President Cleveland declining to be again a candidate for the presidency, and urging the democratic party to stand for sound money and its previous position on the tariff question, said that the statement was absolutely untrue. Secretary Lamont added: "I never heard of such a letter."

From another and unquestionably excellent source of information it is learned that the published statement is absolutely without foundation, and that no such letter has been written by the president.

The fact that President Cleveland had fully decided not to be a candidate for re-nomination, and that Secretary Carlisle would go before the Chicago convention as an aspirant for the democratic nomination, on a sound money platform, was announced exclusively by the Associated Press a few weeks ago, but the matter has not yet gone beyond the lines then indicated.

#### Tried to Wreck It.

Kansas City, Mo., Apr. 4.—An attempt was made last night to wreck the Chicago and Alton passenger train which leaves here shortly after 8 o'clock for St. Louis and Chicago.

Just out of Grain Valley, twenty-five miles east of here, the engineer saw an obstruction on the track. He stopped his train quickly, but not in time to avoid the derailing of his locomotive.

A pile of ties had been laid across the track and the rails loosened, and the stopping of the train quickly was all that prevented a serious accident.

Believing that a train robbery had been planned guards were at once put out, but the train was not molested. It was over an hour before the wreck could be cleared.

It is thought here that robbers had calculated on a bad wreck and that it was their purpose to loot the train during the confusion which would have followed. Six weeks ago a similar attempt was made in the same vicinity.

#### Is Still Governor.

Phoenix, Ariz., Apr. 4.—L. C. Hughes says he still considers himself governor of Arizona, and challenges any official acts of Secretary Bruce as acting governor until time for the confirmation of Colonel Franklin as his successor.

## ROCHEFORT'S VIEWS.

### TWO THINGS ENGLAND WILL NEVER DO.

The Tight Lattice Island Will Never Consent to Solid Connection With the European Mainland—Nor Will She Evacuate Egypt—Reasons Given.

Paris, Apr. 3.—The European edition of the Herald this morning prints the following signed statement from M. Henri Rochefort:

"There are two things to which England will never consent—the construction of a bridge over the channel and the evacuation of Egypt.

"Mr. Cavendish-Bentinck, a member of Her Britannic Majesty's private council, once said to me in London: 'We are perfectly willing to allow engineers to study the means of linking Great Britain with the continent of Europe, but the strait, which we call our 'silver streak,' is our defense and we shall never allow it to be bridged.'

"Much the same holds good with regard to Egypt. The English will let the powers continue to protest against the continual delays in evacuation, but they are daily growing more determined not to quit.

"Her majesty's government professes for the diplomacy of Europe, particularly for the diplomacy of France, an intense disdain. It believes perhaps with good reason, that it is equal to the task of paying off all the Talleyrands and all the Matternichs of the old world, and it is in this thorough confidence in itself that it finds its chief strength. This the British government, for that matter, has just proved by inducing the commissioners of the Egyptian debt—those of France and Russia excepted—to authorize a payment which is nothing but a loan in disguise out of the seventy million of francs of the reserve debt.

"During the last two years of my exile I was the witness of excessive work, the object of which was the improvement of the fleet of the United Kingdom. The most unimportant contention served as a pretext for the building of war vessels. In reality England was aware that the insufficient reasons alleged for the maintenance of her troops in Egypt would not long pass muster, and was making preparations for a possible exit, to which, indeed, in my opinion, she has quite made up her mind, notwithstanding Prince Bismark's insulting prediction that England will astonish the world by her cowardice.

"The expedition to Dongola, perchance to Saouk, was invented only in order to justify a refusal to withdraw from Egypt the army which Lord Salisbury on the contrary has decided upon re-inforcing. He is not a little pugnacious by character. He will evoke the spectre of the Soudanese invasion in the event of a defeat comparable to that of 1874, when of the 10,000 men under General Hicks none returned to tell the story of the disaster. He will rack his imagination to invent grounds acceptable or not for the everlasting prolongation of the British occupation, but whatever happens, whatever response he receives, or whatever objections may be made he will not evacuate Egypt.

"This is my firm conviction, based upon numerous conversations I had on the subject with several members of the house of commons and particularly Irish members, who being opposed to the English policy, had no reason to conceal its undercurrents from me.

"The English papers are pleased to state that the death of the Mahdi caused disruption among the fanatics who made of him a new prophet. That is, I believe, a serious error in which cross-channel chauvinism will be wrong to take stock.

"The question our diplomats are vainly endeavoring to solve will perhaps be settled by the Soudanese, and if Egypt is ever to be evacuated by the English it will be battled waged before the walls of Dongola, or before Saouk, that will determine the evacuation question. Henri Rochefort."

#### Cubans at Work.

New York, April 3.—News was received at the Cuban headquarters in this city that a large expedition is being formed in the vicinity of Key West, Fla., for the insurgents. It is said that large quantities of arms and ammunition have been smuggled out of Key West on the schooners Dollie and Pearl. The schooner Martha, owned by J. F. Horr, ex-collector of customs, has left Biscayne with a full cargo of arms to be transferred to some schooner.

## TEXAS NEWS NOTES.

Denison is still growing.  
Paris wants a beef packery.  
At Houston 9121 votes registered.  
At Dallas 7867 voters registered.  
Whitewright is improving some.  
The Dallas Semi-centennial scheme is progressing satisfactorily.

The blood hound idea is quite popular with Texas sheriffs.

The business houses and residences of Greenville are being numbered.

Greenville is to have an electric street railroad.

Gainesville now has a board of trade.

The Black-and-Tan Republicans split at Austin.

Waxahatche wants the Presbyterian seminary.

Young wheat looks promising in North Texas.

Smallpox at Center and Temba, in Shelby county.

Gainesville has a magnificent and bountiful water supply.

Sherman is a growing city and will soon have a sewer system.

The State Epworth League will meet at San Antonio on April 15.

The ladies of Victoria will give a floral carnival on April 21st.

Measles are prevalent at Sabinal and the public schools has closed.

Austin county authorities have contracted for a new jail to cost \$19,870.

The farmers are behind with their work in many counties—too much rain.

The comptroller has registered a \$10,000 issue of DeWitt county courthouse bonds.

Another vein of the lignite coal has been discovered near Rockdale, Milam county.

Duval county has paid \$1290 interest due April 10 on bonds held by the school fund.

The school at Cuero has been dismissed in order that the building might be repaired.

Grimes county has just paid \$716 interest due April 10, on bonds held by the school fund.

Martin McGrath, under nine years sentence at Fort Worth, escaped from jail the other night.

During the months of January and February 41,810 dozen eggs were shipped from Lampasas.

Edna, the county cite of Jackson county, is growing and the improvements are substantial.

Whitewright and Greenville will soon be connected by telephone as well as by rail and telegraph.

Elsa Haywood, living near Detroit, Red River county, shot himself through the head recently.

Mulkey and Hines are holding a meeting at Mineola. They enter and offer prayer in the saloons.

At Temple recently D. W. Moore sold a one-half interest in the Moore & Childress cattle for \$16,000 cash.

At New Boston Lizzie Casteel, a young negress, received a life sentence in the penitentiary for infanticide.

At Galveston, Norman J. Doty and Annie L. Doty, of Houston, have filed suit in the civil district court against George W. and Martha Schaper and R. T. and Stuart Wheeler of this city, claiming damages in the sum of \$100,000. Defendants caused the indictment and arrest of plaintiffs last July on a charge of having embezzled a horse.

Capt. Charles Davis, collector of customs for the El Paso district, denies that there is any Texas fever among the cattle in that section of Texas and the state of Chihuahua. But says that "black leg" is killing a number of the fattest cows, as it does every spring when grass begins to sprout. Hereafter all cattle shipped out of Mexico will pass through El Paso.

Workmen while repairing a wall in a building at Brenham the other day, unearthed something of a mystery in the garret. The place had apparently been used as a sleeping apartment by some person. There was a pipe and tobacco, cigar stumps, a pad of paper, lead pencils and some other articles scattered about, but the astonishing thing found was an ingeniously made ladder constructed of iron and wood. There was a hook at the top, showing that the ladder was intended for climbing.

The anti-were in the recent local option elections in the Holland and Rogers precincts in Bell county.

The railroad commission has approved and ordered registered by the secretary of state \$24,000 of Aransas Harbor Terminal railway bonds. This is part of the \$250,000 of bonds the commission recently authorized this road to issue.

About 800 car loads of stock cattle will be shipped from Alice, Nueces county to the Indian Territory in April.

Three insurance companies recently paid \$12,160 occupation tax for 1896. The Mutual Life Insurance company of New York paid \$12,011 of the above amount.

## THE LOUD BILL.

Full Text of the Bill to Amend Second-Class Mail Matter Law.

There is now before congress a bill to amend the postal laws which is meeting with some disfavor among publishers of country newspapers. The full text of the bill is as follows:

Be it enacted by the senate and house of representatives of the United States of America in congress assembled

That mailable matter of the second class shall embrace all newspapers and other periodical publication which are issued at stated intervals, and as frequently as four times a year, and are within the conditions named in sections three and four of this act: Provided, That nothing herein contained shall be so construed as to admit to the second class rate publications purporting to be issued periodically and to subscribers, but which are merely books or reprints of books, whether they be issued complete or in parts, whether they be bound or unbound, whether they be sold by subscription or otherwise, or whether they purport to be premiums or supplements or parts of regular newspapers or periodicals.

Sec. 2. That publications of the second class, except as provided in section twenty-five of the act of March third, eighteen hundred and seventy-nine, when sent by the publisher thereof, and from the office of publication, excluding sample copies, or when sent from a news agency to actual subscribers thereto, or to other news agents, shall be entitled to transmission through the mails at one cent a pound or fraction thereof, such postage to be prepaid, as now provided by law: Provided, nevertheless, That news agents shall not be allowed to return to news agents or publishers at the pound rate unsold periodical publications, but shall pay postage on the same at the rate of one cent for four ounces.

Sec. 3. That all periodical publications regularly issued from a known place of publication at stated intervals as frequently as four times a year, by or under the auspices of benevolent or fraternal societies, trades unions, or orders organized under the lodge system, and having a bona fide membership of not less than one thousand persons, shall be entitled to the privilege of second class mail matter: Provided, That such matter shall be originated and published to further the objects and purposes of such society or order.

Sec. 4. That the conditions upon which a publication shall be admitted to the second class are as follows:

First. It must regularly be issued at stated intervals as frequently as four times a year, bear a date of issue, and be numbered consecutively.

Second. It must be issued from a known office of publication, which shall be shown by the publication itself.

Third. It must be formed of printed paper sheets without board, cloth, leather or other substantial binding, such as distinguish printed books from preservation from periodical publications.

Fourth. It must be originated and published for the dissemination of information of a public character, or devoted to literature, the sciences, arts, or some special industry, and must have a legitimate list of subscribers who voluntarily order and pay for the same: Provided, That nothing herein contained shall be so construed as to admit to the second class rate regular publications, or any particular issue of any regular publication, designed primarily for advertising purposes, or for free circulation, or for circulation at nominal rates: And provided, That all extra numbers of second class publications sent by the publisher thereof, acting as the agent of an advertiser or purchaser, to addresses furnished by the latter, shall be subject to pay postage at the rate of one cent for every four ounces or fraction thereof: And provided further, That it shall not be permissible to mail any given article or articles, or any part or any particular number of a newspaper or periodical, segregated from the rest of the publication, except at the third class rate of postage.

Sec. 5. That publishers and others, whose publications shall be admitted as mail matter of the second class under the provisions of this act, shall be required, before depositing such mail matter in the postoffice, to separate the same into United States mail sacks or bundles by States, cities, towns and counties, as the postmaster-general may direct.

Sec. 6. That the act of congress in regard to second class mail matter approved July fifteenth, eighteen hundred and ninety-four, be, and the same is hereby, repealed.

Sec. 7. That this act shall take effect and be in force from and after July first, eighteen hundred and ninety-six.

#### Divorce.

If the relations of man and wife were such as they ought to be, divorce would be unknown. To prevent separation and divorce true love must be given a new and practical formula when the novelty subsides. Instead of ice cream and caramels, let it take the form of bread, butter and meat.—Rev. W. W. Morton.