RANGE OF THERMOMETER.

Yesterday's range of the thermometer was as follows: 9 A. M., 81; 12 M., 89; 3 P. M., 90; 6 P. M., 88; 9 P. M., 80; 12 M., 76. Average, 84.

The Times.

WEATHER FORECAST.

Virginia—Showers Saturday, partly cloudy and cooler Sunday; variable winds becoming northwesterly.

North and South Carolina—Showers Saturday, probably fair and cooler Sunday; southerly winds, becoming northeasterly.

VOL. 14. NO. 126. RICHMOND, VA. SATURDAY, JULY 8, 1899. PRICE TWO CENTS.

DEATH IN MOST HORRIBLE FORM

Mrs. Dickins, of Washington, Burned to Crisp.

VAPOR OF GASOLINE

She Was Using Ignited from a Plumber's Blow Furnace.

WIFE OF CAPT. F. W. DICKIN'S.

Well-Known in Naval Circles—She, Herself, Was Widely Known and Popular in Washington—The Explosion of the Gasoline Was Terrible and Two Plumbers Badly Hurt

WASHINGTON, July 7.—Official and unofficial Washington alike were shocked to-day by the tragic death from an explosion of gasoline at her home, just west of the British Embassy, of Mrs. Marguerite Dickins, one of the best known women in social, literary and charitable circles in Washington, and wife of Captain Francis W. Dickins, of the navy, who received the first official news of the blowing up of the battleship Maine in Havana harbor.

The accident had many distressing features and came as a fearful blow to Captain Dickins, who was suddenly summoned home from the Navy Department to find his wife dead and the upper part of his house a wreck.

The Dickins residence is a handsome three-story brick building on Nineteenth street, directly back of the British Embassy, and within a few steps of Dupont Circle.

SEVERE SHOCKS.

The first intimation of the fire was a low rumble at 9:6 A. M., followed by several violent shocks, which blew out the entire third story of the residence. The quiet neighborhood was imediately thrown into the wildest confusion as engines, ambulances and a large crowd assembled.

The firemen made their way to the third story, and in the extreme confusion and among debris littering the front room found the blackened corpse of a woman. Several streams of water were required to check the fire.

From details of the accident as learned from those who were in the house at the time, it appears that Joseph Vaughan, a plumber, and his assistants were putting on a gutter to the rear of the third-story roof. Having completed the job, they descended by means of a ladder to the third story. Vaughn carried in his hand a lighted mellter pot. As he descended he detected the strong fumes of gasoline, and through the open door to the front room caught a glimpse of a woman sprinkling some liquid on the floor with the evident purpose of preparing to cleanse it. He gave a warning to his partner that gasoline was being used and that there was danger from the fire-pot, but at this instant a terrific explosion occurred, literally enveloping the entire third story in a mass of flames.

EXPLOSION KILLED HER.

Those outside the building say there were successive explosions, and that the last of them was so sharp and violent that they must have come from solvenly cartridges or other explosives. Mrs. Dickins' death was undoubtedly caused by the explosion, and it is not believed she suffered any from the flames which succeeded.

The rescuers were led to the spot by Plumber Vaughan, who was himself badly burned about the face and arms. He received these burns in an heroic effort to rescue Mrs. Dickins. He and his assistant had entered the room in which Mrs. Dickins sat cleaning some rugs, when the explosion happened. The two men were thrown down by the explosion. As soon as they found their feet, Vaughan seized Mrs. Dickins and attempted to drag her from the room. The flames were, however, so fierce that he was compelled to drop her and flee for his own life. He thinks that she was then dead.

The explosion was of such force that it rent the stone steps in front of the house. The plumbers say that considerable quantities of the gasoline had apparently been spilled upon the floor.

The most sorrowful scene occurred in connection with the recovery and identification of Mrs. Dickins' body. In the midst of the excitement the first report was that the blackened body in the upper story was that of the wife of a distinguished admiral of the navy. He was summoned from his home nearby and not only detected the mistake, but also gave the first definite information that Mrs. Dickins was the one so horribly burned.

A HUSBAND'S AGONY.

Word was sent to the Navy Department, where Captain Dickins is next to Admiral Crowninshield at the head of the Bureau of Navigation. The exact character of the catastrophe was not made known to him, but he was taken hurriedly to the Dickins residence in a carriage.

Arriving there, the scene of desolation and the ominous faces of the firemen and officers apprised him of what might be expected. He almost fainted as he was helped from the carriage up the stone entrance steps. Going inside he identified the body as that of his wife.

The body of Mrs. Dickins was borne to the next house, where a surgeon of the navy resides. The suddenness and fatal effects of the fire are somewhat similar to those attending the fatality at the residence of Secretary Tracy some years ago, which was not far from the scene of the present horror.

BOTH WELL KNOWN.

Captain Dickins is one of the best known officers connected with the Navy Department, and he was brought into prominence at the time the Maine was blown up at Havana.

He was then acting chief of the Navigation Bureau, and it fell to his lot to receive the first dispatch from Captain Sigsbee giving information of that appalling disaster. Throughout the days following that momentous event Captain Dickins was the recipient of the official messages bringing the details of that disaster.

Mrs. Dickins was an authoress of some note, one of her best known books being "Around the World in a Man of War." She was also a frequent contributor to magazines.

LAWYERS ADJOURN.

WARM SPRINGS, GA., July 7.—The Georgia Bar Association adjourned sine die this afternoon after electing Hon. J. R. Lamar, of Augusta, Ga., president, and listening to an address by Hon. W. L. Wilson, president of the Washington and Lee University, of Virginia. President Wilson took as his subject the increasing difficulties of democratic government as they have developed and are developing in the experience of the American people.

TRIAL OF PILKINTON.

It Will Probably Take Place Early in August.

Col. W. F. Wickham, counsel for W. G. Pilkinton, had an interview with his client in the city jail yesterday afternoon. The Colonel will visit Powhatan Courthouse to-day.

No additional counsel has been employed by Mr. Pilkinton, nor has any one been engaged to assist Judge Watkins in the prosecution.

The next term of Powhatan County Court will be held on the first Monday in August. A grand jury will at that time investigate the Pilkinton case. Should he be indicted it is probable that his trial will take place at that term.

Some gentlemen still insist that eyewitnesses to the shooting other than those who testified at the inquest will give a new version of the affair, but they decline to give the names of these who will offer such testimony.

CUBANS IN RICHMOND.

Two Wealthy Planters Here—They Praise Gen. Lee.

Messrs. J. M. Quintero and J. F. Dominquez, from the Province of Pinar del Rio, Cuba, are at Ford's Hotel. They are here on a pleasure trip.

These gentlemen are wealthy tobacconists. They will visit Washington, Philadelphia, New York, Chicago and other cities while in this country.

Mr. Dominquez told a Times reporter that business on the island is improving rapidly and the people are settling down to work. He says there is a strong and growing sentiment in favor of annexation to the United States.

Asked about General Lee, he said: "He is mighty popular—far more so than General Brooke. Our people have the greatest confidence in him. Whenever he appears on the streets the people crowd about and cheer him. In fact, he is fairly idolized by the Cubans."

The Cuban visitors will go this morning to see the statue of General R. E. Lee.

GOV. TYLER TO RUN?

Information in Norfolk That He Will Oppose Senator Martin.

NORFOLK, VA., July 7.—The Virginian-Pilot will say to-morow that Governor J. Hoge Tyler will soon become a candidate to succeed Hon. Thomas S. Martin in the United States Senate. This information is derived from a close personal and political friend of the Governor, and is, undoubtedly, correct.

Governor Tyler, in deference to the wishes of free silver advocates, and the promoters of the May Conference, it is said, will become a candidate, but will not engage in any unseemly scramble for the office.

OLD DOMINION'S LUCK.

Breaks Down and Has to Be Towed in Port by Fellow Steamer.

NEW YORK, July 7.—The Old Dominion Steamship Company's side-wheeler, Old Dominion, from Richmond and Norfolk, broke down on her passage north and was taken in tow by the steamer Jefferson, of the same line, bound from New York and Norfolk, and brought to this port. The Old Dominion broke her centre pin when just northeast of the light ship at one o'clock yesterday afternoon. During the night the south bound steamer Jefferson of the Old Dominion line hove in sight and on signal passed a line to the disabled steamer and towed her to the Sandy Hook light ship where she was taken in charge by tugs. The Jefferson resumed her voyage south. The Old Dominion had several passengers.

At the office of the line it was stated it was expected that the Old Dominion would be in service again within a week.

WALKER'S SIDE OF THE CASE HEARD

He Testified That He Thought Hamilton Was Drawing a Pistol and His Life Was in Danger.

BRISTOL, TENN., July 7.—Special.—The defence in the trial of ex-Congressman James A. Walker concluded its testimony at noon to-day, having introduced only two witnesses, including the defendant.

H. H. Hamilton was put on the stand to testify to threats against the defendant, which he stated he had overheard on one occasion without being apprised of who the parties making the threats were.

HIS LIFE THREATENED.

General Walker detailed the difficulty leading to the shooting as he remembered it. According to his testimony, he understood Hamilton to have threatened his life and was of the impression that Hamilton was fumbling about his pocket for a pistol with which to carry his threat into execution. With this impression, the General says, he drew a derringer and fired upon Hamilton.

Within two seconds after General Walker shot Hamilton he heard another shot and felt the ball enter his body, but did not see who fired it. Turning, he saw George R. Davis, a stenographer, drawing his pistol and saw Davis fire the second shot, which entered the witness' body.

WHY HE WAS ARMED.

General Walker gave as his reason for being armed on the night of the difficulty that he had been repeatedly warned by at least twenty persons that his life was in danger and that he ought to arm himself. The General was permitted to name the parties who, he said, were nearly always attending upon the contest proceedings and who, he had been told, were armed and prepared to do him bodily harm.

It was brought out on cross-examination that most of the parties named as having been probable conspirators were not in attendance on the night of the difficulty. Among those whom General Walker named as having warned him of danger were ex-Congressman Fulkerson and Captain J. H. Wood, now a part of his counsel.

REBUTTAL EVIDENCE.

In the afternoon the prosecution introduced witnesses in rebuttal. Mr. Hamilton was one of these witnesses. He denied the threats attributed to him in the testimony of Attorney Burson; denied he had threatened the life of General Walker on the night of the shooting, and also that he made a demonstration as though reaching for a pistol.

The Court gave the counsel time to prepare instructions, and these were argued to-night. The case will be argued to-morrow and it is probable a verdict will be reached by night.

THE MARRIAGE NOT AT WELDON

Impossible to Have Occured as Alleged.

NO LICENSE TO ELLIS.

His Statement is Looked On as Being Wholly Improbable.

THE MARRIAGE AT THE HOTEL,

Which Has Been Spoken of as Theirs, Was of Another Couple—Several Richmond People Were in Weldon the Night the Marriage is Alleged to Have Taken Place.

WELDON, N. C., July 7.—Special.—N. L. Shaw is entirely mistaken about having witnessed the marriage of J. C. Ellis and Lizzie M. Allen here on the 26th of November, 1896, and that the age of the bride was commented on. The couple he alludes to was married in due form, having procured a license and the ceremony was performed by Rev. P. N. Stanback. The young girl was a Miss Werlenbaker, or something similar, and was only fifteen years of age but they had procured the license and the minister thought it best to perform the ceremony.

MISTAKEN CASE.

Mr. Shaw was not here on November 26, 1896, as the hotel register shows, nor was he registered near that date. Mr. Scott, of Richmond, a travelling salesman for the Owens and Minor Drug Company was here a day or so ago, and said he remembered the marriage of the couple, but when I searched the hotel register, where Mr. Scott says he registered, his name fails to appear anywhere near the date of November 26, 1896. He was just mistaken as to dates and witnessed the marriage of some other couple.

RICHMOND PEOPLE.

The following Richmond people were registered here on the 26th November, 1896: L. S. Young, James S. Blair, Geo. A. Smith, and P. P. Murray. These gentlemen were all in the hotel the night of the 26th, and if such a marriage had taken place some of them would surely recall it.

Ellis' story regarding the marriage is looked upon as wholly improbable. No such marriage as he relates could have taken place in Weldon.

DEEP MYSTERY.

There is still some deep mystery, and only Ellis and Lizzie M. Allen can throw any light upon it. Their statements do not at all agree, and they are surely either mistaken or are withholding the real facts of their having lived together as husband and wife from the public. Perhaps there will be some startling revelations before the investigation ceases. It is clearly established that no marriage took place here, or in Halifax county.

WHAT ELLIS SAYS.

He Asks Suspension of Judgment. Charges Against His Wife.

Jarrad C. Ellis has written a statement for the press in which he says:

"For days I have been suffering in silence the unjust abuse heaped upon me by the newspapers on account of the great sorrow that has come to my wife. I would not for my right arm say one word that would injure her in the trial of her case, but I ask the public to suspend judgment as to my responsibility for the unfortunate affair."

Ellis is quoted as saying that he knew nothing of the trouble in which his wife is involved until last Friday night when he returned from Roanoke Rapids, suffering with fever contracted while at work there.

He claims to have been married in Weldon, N. C., in November, 1898, by a man at the station-house, who charged a fee of $5. He alleges infidelity on the part of his wife.

Ellis is quoted as saying when he came back to Richmond to be mustered out his wife was stopping at No. 319 north Eleventh street, and that he also went there to board, then alleging the discovery of duplicity on her part.

At the number given it was stated that Mrs. Ellis first came to the house about ten days before the Third Virginia Regiment left Camp Lee for Camp Alger, and that she was brought there by Ellis. She remained until the command went to Camp Alger and then left. She did not come back again until just before the regiment was mustered out, and Ellis then came also.

During the first visit, it was said, Mrs. Ellis tried to induce her husband not to go into the service. A day or two before the regiment left Richmond she went home and brought the baby to this city.

Mrs. Ellis' conduct is described as having been quiet and lady-like. She stayed very close in her room, rarely leaving it.

On the other hand Mrs. Ellis admits grave indiscretion in encouraging a former sweetheart to write to her, letters, which were found by her husband, but denies that there was any wrong conduct on her part. She says also he found the letters November 7th and did not leave her until December 12th, when he left without explanation.

Mrs. Osborne, of Burkeville, and Mr. Banks Clements, sister and brother-in-law of Mrs. Ellis, are in the city.

THE VOLUNTEER OFFICERS.

Must Have Served in the Late War with Good Records.

WASHINGTON, July 7.—The President to-day brought before the Cabinet the plan for officering the provisional army. The decision to appoint the colonels and lieutenant colonels of the volunteer regiments from among the regular army of those who served during the Spanish, and volunteers from among those who served in the volunteer army with credit, was heartily approved by the members of the Cabinet. The records of the volunteer officers are to be carefully looked to in the selection of officers below the rank of lieutenant colonel.

It was stated at the War Department to-day, that almost every officer who served in the volunteer army during the war with Spain and who has been honorably mustered out, has again offered his service to meet the needs of the Philippine campaign.

Altogether no less than 10,000 applications for commissions in the new volunteer army now forming have been received at the War Department and have been placed on the files. Yesterday alone the applications numbered 480.

NO CONSOLIDATION.

Report of Consolidation of the Southern and L. & N. Denied.

ATLANTA, GA., July 7.—The Constitution to-morrow will say: The rumor that the Southern and the Louisville and Nashville are to be consolidated, is regarded as absurd by railway men. The two systems are working in harmony, but no one who understands their relations gives the slightest credence to the report that they are to be merged. The rumor that the consolidation of the two great systems would occur was an inference drawn from the rumor that Mr. Culp expected to go with the Louisville and Nashville. Even if that were true, the inference would be ridiculous. Railway men laugh at the whole matter.

DIED IN BALTIMORE.

Mr. P. H. Dalton, of Danville, Succumbs to Congestion of the Brain.

BALTIMORE, MD., July 7.—P. H. Dalton, of Danville, Va., died about 6 o'clock last evening at Ganzehorn's City Hotel. Dr. Alexander Hill, 238 north Calvert street, who was called in early in the day to attend Mr. Dalton, said that death was caused by congestion of the brain. Mr. Dalton, accompanied by a friend, Mr. A. H. Galloway, of Winston, N. C., arrived in Baltimore by boat early yesterday morning. They came from Norfolk and Mr. Dalton was sick when he reached the hotel. He was unmarried, about thirty years of age and a druggist of Danville. Mr. Dalton was a member of the order of Elks and the local lodge had the body prepared for burial.

SOUTHERN STEEL.

Fifteen Thousand Tons of Billets Sold in the Pittsburg District.

CINCINNATI, O., July 7.—The Enquirer says: Matthew, Ady & Co., of Cincinnati, have concluded a contract with the Tennessee Coal and Iron Railway Company for the delivery of 15,000 tons of steel billets in the Pittsburg district. The first delivery will be of 5,000 tons in September, to be followed by a like quantity in October and November. The company's mills are nearly completed at Birmingham and this contract will absorb its first output.

MILAN'S ASSAILANT.

Was a Fireman and is Thought to Have Been Hired for the Deed.

BELGRADE, July 7.—The man who attempted to assassinate former King Milan here yesterday, firing four shots from a revolver at him, and wounding him slightly in the back, is a fireman employed by the municipality. It is supposed he was hired by an enemy of Milan.

Admiral Cervera Acquitted.

MADRID, July 7.—Admiral Cervera and the other commanders of the Spanish fleet destroyed in the battle of Santiago, whose conduct has been the subject of inquiry by special court-martial, were to-day acquitted and formally liberated.

Another Colonel.

WASHINGTON, July 7.—Captain Brereton, of the Twenty-fourth Infantry, who distinguished himself during the Santiago campaign, is to be appointed to the colonelcy of one of the volunteer regiments.

BRYAN GUEST AT A DOLLAR DINNER.

In Response to the Toast Democracy, He Discusses Present Political Issues.

COLUMBUS, O., July 7.—About one thousand people attended the dollar dinner given by the Young Men's Democratic Club of Columbus in the Auditorium to-night. It was the largest banquet which the local Democracy has had since that given in honor of the seventy-seventh birthday of the late Allen G. Thurman in the same hall ten years ago. The affair was strictly democratic in its simplicity—all classes being represented. The chief guest was Colonel William Jennings Bryan. The entrance of Colonel Bryan was greeted by an outburst of applause, which lasted until after he had become seated.

Hon. Christopher T. Callahan, of Massachusetts, was the first speaker, responding to the toast, "The Issues."

He dwelt particularly upon imperialism, trusts and free silver as the leading issues in 1900.

Judge Tarvin, of Kentucky, responded to the toast, "Party and Principle."

WAS DEMOCRATIC.

When Colonel Bryan was introduced there was another outburst of applause that continued for several minutes. When quiet had been restored Colonel Bryan lauched upon a discussion of the issues of the day, in response to the toast, "Democracy."

Mr. Bryan said in part: "The Chicago platform applied Jeffersonian principles to the questions then before the country. Every plank in that platform was a Democratic plank, and not one plank should be taken from the platform without injury to the party's chances of success. Some times we hear a suggestion that the silver plank should be dropped or amended, but as a rule those who threaten to get off the platform are really the persons who were never on the platform. Those who aided in the adoption of the Chicago platform are still true to its principles, and a multitude of those who were opposed to its adoption have been converted to it within the last three years.

"The money question is neither dead nor sleeping.

THE TRUST QUESTION.

"The trust question is not a new one, and yet it has grown in interest and importance because the trusts have grown in number. Attorney General Griggs is reported as saying: 'If anything is done to control the trusts it must be done by the States.' No one who has examined this subject will believe that State legislation is sufficient. The Federal government must deal with the trust as soon as its pernicious influences extends beyond the limits of the State in which it is organized.

"The Republican party, through its administration could extinguish its trusts if it desired to do so. It is powerless to deal with the question because it mortgaged itself to the trusts to obtain the money necessary to carry the last elections. When the methods employed in the last election are understood no one need wonder that the Attorney General is undisturbed by the watering of stocks, the discharge of travelling men and the extortion practiced on the consumer."

The latter half of Mr. Bryan's speech was devoted to imperialism.

Hon. George Fred Williams, of Massachusetts, was the last speaker, his toast being "The Eastern Democrats."

ISSUES OF THE NEXT CAMPAIGN

A Strong Sentiment for Eliminating Silver.

THE FIGHT SHOULD BE

On Old Lines of Tariff Reform With Anti-Trust Plank.

AS TO THE CHIARMANSHIP.

It is Not Thought in Washington That Mr. Martin Would Accept, Although a Move is on Foot to Displace Senator Jones—The Recent Reports are Discredited.

WASHINGTON, July 7.—Special.—Prominent Democrats who are in this city when seen to-day regarding the report which has been recently published that an organized effort will be made to oust Senator James K. Jones as chairman of the Democratic National Committee and elect Senator Martin as his sucessor, say that there is but little foundation for the report. It is admitted, however, that steps will be taken to displace Senator Jones. No one has as yet been considered for the position.

WOULD NOT ACCEPT.

Senator Martin has the confidence of his party and will not be objectionable to Eastern politicians, but it is not thought here that he will make the fight or that he will accept the position if tendered.

The city has been crowded with prominent Democrats for the past few days and politics has been largely discussed. The concensus of opinion seems to be that if the party wishes to succeed at the next election silver must be relegated to the background. It is argued that the fight should be made on the old lines of tariff reform, and that a broad and comprehensive plank against trusts should be inserted in the next Democratic platform.

BOUND TO WIN.

One of the most prominent Democrats in the country expressed the belief that with this platform in 1900 the party will be victorious. He said that the record of the Republican administration regarding the conduct of the war and its protection of trusts should be the Democratic line of attack in 1900, and that the silver issue should be kept quiet.

TO OUTLINE THE PLANS.

It is expected that the Democratic plans will be outlined at the meeting of the National Democratic Executive Committee at Chicago on June 20th.

New York politicians say that they will make a determined fight to induce the party to return to its former principles. They claim that this alone will carry the East.

WHEELER TO SAIL.

General Wheeler will leave for the Philippines immediately. He will take the first transport leaving San Francisco for Manila. He stated to a Times correspondent to-day that he will not resign his seat in Congress until he is assured as to what his duties will be in the Philippines.

If he does not receive a command he will return to this country in time to resume his seat in the house.

At present he is instructed to make a report to the President on the condition of affairs in the Philippines. If it is found necessary, however, he will be given a command. This will necessitate his resigning his seat in Congress.

FOR MORE LIGHT.

The Lighthouse Board is making preparations for the expenditure of the appropriation made by the last Congress for the improvement and extension of the lighthouse service.

POSTAL NOTES.

The following changes were to-day made in the fourth-class postmasters for Virginia: At Dillon's Mills, Franklin county, David Bowman, vice James O. Abshire, removed; at Levy, Louisa county, Willis S. Dunn, vice R. H. Sampsell, resigned; at Monmouth, Rockbridge county, Lizzie B. Harrison, vice William H. Harrison, resigned.

WORK OF THE FLAMES.

A Dwelling Burned in Sussex—The Apple Crop a Failure.

PETERSBURG, VA., July 7.—Special.—The dwelling house of Mr. McWest, in Sussex county, near Waverly, was destroyed by fire a few nights since. Mr. McWest lost all of his furniture and household effects. Loss, about $1,500. The fire originated in the kitchen, but from what cause is not known.

The apple crop in Sussex county and the southwest portion of Prince George county is said to be a perfect failure. One gentleman in Prince George county who has two thousand apple trees has only gathered five barrels of apples from his orchard. There are only a few peaches and pears.

There are three cases of smallpox in Prince George county, near Elms post-office, Sussex county. The patients are negroes.

Fire broke out this morning shortly after 10 o'clock in the five and ten-cent store on Sycamore street. The flames originated on an upper floor, near the skylight, supposedly from a box of hot ashes. Very little damage was done.

There will be about fifteen delegates from the Second Baptist church in this city to the B. Y. P. U. International Convention in Richmond next week and about twenty-five from West-End Baptist church.

The total amount pledged for the proposed agricultural and industrial fair to be held here next fall is about $4,280. In addition to this amount Mr. Daily, the proprietor of the Imperial Hotel, has guaranteed $1,200, which makes the total fund about $6,000. The stockholders will probably meet on the 11th instant to determine whether or not the fair will be held.

THE CASE QUASHED.

A Special Grand Jury Summoned to Indict Mr. White.

ALEXANDRIA, VA., July 7.—Special. The case of the United States vs. E. G. White, indicted for being an accessory to the burglary of the Waverly post-office, was called for trial this morning. The indictment on a technicality was quashed and a special grand jury was set at 4 o'clock to re-indict, which was done and the case will be disposed of to-morrow.

The case of C. O. Browne, indicted for forgery in a pension case, was removed to Norfolk for trial.

LAUNCHING AT NEWPORT NEWS

County Authorities After Fakirs and Unlicensed Dealers.

NEWPORT NEWS, VA., June 7.—Special.—The keel of another of the new Morgan liners has just been laid on the ways vacated June 24th, when the third of the Morgan liners, El Rio, was launched.

The name of the vessel is Proetus. She is the last of the six that were ordered at the close of the war by the Morgan and Cromwell lines to take the place of the vessels sold to the United States government as auxiliaries.

The Elizabeth City county authorities are after the irregular and artistic combination which has recently made the quiet banks of Salter's Creek echo to the sound of revelry by night and the rustling of the shell game by day. They are after the aggregation with a hot poker.

Recently, and almost in a night, there suddenly came into being in that neighborhood a peculiar population which has since hung on to outskirts of the city like death to a door-nail. There are two camps of gypsies who foretell the future and refresh your memory as to the past at so much per nerve-quiver; there is the "con" game man with the inevitable "sure thing"; there is the youth with the ebony face and the ivory smile which extends thereover as the milky way is stretched across the moonless night—he sells fish; there is the "cullud lady" with a rough deal table standing "beneath the shadow of the pines" freighted with greasy sandwiches and indestructible pies, and there is a man who disposes of liquid lightning at the rate of a nickle per flash.

All these do a thriving business with the laborers on the new street-car lines and the workmen coming home from the shipyard—but they operate without permission and without license.

The authorities have instituted a campaign against these institutions and will demand a proper license of those that are legitimate. Those that are not will be suppressed by the strong arm of the law.

TAKE UP THE TRACK.

Fight for Right of Way Between Norfolk & Western and Southern.

LYNCHBURG, VA., July 7.—Special.—The Norfolk and Western Railroad Company has taken up the piece of track which it laid on Blackwater street in such a way as to prevent the completion of a branch that the Southern had started to build up that street. The Norfolk and Western authorities in stating their position to the mayor and city attorney, said that when they laid the track they were in ignorance of the fact that Campbell county had condemned the land for a public highway. The railroad people added that they would take up the track from the street at once, but without prejudice to their right to contest the laying of a track on the street by any other company.

Paul Talbot, the negro who was charged with the murder of Willie Pilchups by shooting on the night of May 11th, was tried this week and acquitted.

Colonel Pettit Reassigned.

WASHINGTON, July 7.—At the suggestion of the President, there has been a change in the assignment of colonels of the new regiments. Colonel Pettit, who was yesterday assigned to the Twenty-eighth Infantry, to be organized at Camp Meade, Pennsylvania, has now been assigned to the Thirty-first Regiment, which will be organized at Fort Thomas, Ky., and will be composed of troops raised in Ohio, Kentucky, and Tennessee.

No selection has yet been made for an officer to command the Twenty-eighth Regiment.

McLean Will Accept.

WASHINGTON, July 7.—John R. McLean, questioned to-day as to whether he would be a candidate for the Ohio Democratic gubernatorial nomination, made this statement: "If the Democrats of Ohio give me the nomination, and my friends ask me to take it, I will accept." Further than this he declined to talk.

WORSHIPPED IN THE RAIN STORM

Christian Endeavorers' Tent Leaked, But They Raised Umbrellas and Defied the Torrents.

DETROIT, MICH., July 7.—The mooted question of the number of the people brought into Detroit by the Christian Endeavor Convention cropped out at the outset of to-night's meeting in Tent Endeavor, when Secretary Baer took occasion to publicly criticise the Detroit newspapers for saying that the influx of delegates from other States was not nearly as great as has been anticipated in the local committees' estimates. The secretary insisted that the Christian Endeavor tents had never been so crowded and overflowing at every one of the mass-meeting.

The address of the evening was by President John Henry Barrows, of Oberlin College. During its delivery the rain again descended, increasing until the noise on the roof almost drowned the sound of Dr. Barrows' voice, and he was compelled to desist. Umbrellas were raised all over the tent, but comparatively few left, and the crowd stayed and sung song after song, overcoming all sounds of the storm and all ideas of increasing discomfort. At length the rain decreased long enough to allow Dr. Barrows to proceed.

MANY MEETINGS.

Largely attended evangelistic services were held during the noon hour at factories, public squares and wharves throughout the city. The afternoon was given up to conferences in the large churches. At Westminster Presbyterian many gathered for special pastors' conference under the direction of Rev. Dr. Stewart, of Harrisburg, Pa.

The afternoon feature of interest for Endeavorers was a conference of district and city union officers.

Other features were conferences of junior societies' workers, of the "Floating Society" and of the "Travellers' Union."

STILL AFTER ROBERTS.

Another resolution was authorized protesting against the seating of Congressman-elect Brigham H. Roberts, of Utah.

Ashore the Second Time.

MIAMI, FLA., July 7.—The British tramp steamer Lanton of 4,000 tons, from Liverpool to Key West, which went on the rocks twenty-five miles south of Miami yesterday, got off late last night and went ashore again in the same place. An attempt will be made to float her at high tide late to-night.

MANY SUFFERERS FROM THE FLOOD

Refugees Flocking Into the Cities.

THOUSAND STARVING.

Huddled Together on a Mound Surrounded by Reptiles.

ALL TRAINS ARE SUSPENDED.

Except West Bound on the Southern Pacific—Business in the Town of Richmond Entirely Suspended and the Provisions There are Running Low.

DUKE, TEXAS, July 7.—The flood situation is more grave to-day. The river rose two feet during the night and is still rising. The life-savers from Galveston started out soon after daylight and are doing splendid work. The Galveston crews brought in sixty-eight refugees last night from the high embankment at the Santa Fe bridge over the Brazos, where the people had taken refuge.

Refugees are flocking in from all sides of the river. Four deaths by drowning are reported here in the last twenty-four hours. The dead are: Elias Dessy (colored); Mrs. Adams, an aged white woman; Mose King (colored) and a child of Henry Snow (colored).

A THOUSAND STARVING.

ST. LOUIS, MO., July 7.—A special to the Post-Dispatch from Austin, Texas, says: Governor Sayers to-day received a message from Sealy over the long-distance telephone saying that one thousand persons, who had taken refuge on a mound three miles below there, are slowly perishing for want of food. To add to the horror, the unfortunates are surrounded by poisonous reptiles. Huddled together with the human beings are several hundred of live stock. A number of those on the mound have received bites from the reptiles and are in a dying condition.

BUSINESS SUSPENDED.

RICHMOND, TEXAS, July 7.—Never in the history of Richmond were such scenes witnesses as are depicted to-day. Business is practically suspended. Many plantations are under water. All trains save those on the Southern Pacific west have been abandoned. Provisions are running low and unless something is done quickly there will be great suffering here within a few days.

It is believed there will be at the very least from 3,000 to 5,000 persons to feed from this place within a week. Stories of drowning and disasters are coming in constantly, but they cannot be verified, although it is probable that many of them are correct. The water has reached the river bridge and is dashing between the iron guy-rods under it and for the first time the railroad company has stopped all traffic over it.

QUINTANA, Tex., July 7.—Eight bodies floated down the river and lodged on the beach at Darden. Four of them were white, a woman and three children, and four were negroes.

AID FOR SUFFERERS.

NEW YORK, July 7.—The New York Mutual Life Insurance Company, through its president, Richard R. McCurdy, to-day telegraphed to Governor Sayers, of Texas, to draw upon that company for the sum of $5,000 in aid of the sufferers of the Brazos river floods.

Luna's Slayer Acquitted.

MANILA, July 7.—7:30 P. M.—The trial at Cabeutan, of the slayers of General Luna, the Filipino leader, who was assassinated by the guard of Aguinaldo's residence is ended. The accused were acquitted on the ground of self defense. The testimony showed there was a conspiracy upon the part of Luna and other officers to kill Aguinaldo and make Luna dictator.

Luna's death seems to have strengthened Aguinaldo's leadership for the time. Luna's supporters are now outwardly loyal to Aguinaldo.

Stokes' Yacht Sunk.

NEW YORK, July 7.—The steam yacht Pradivel, owned by Edward S. Stokes, formerly of the Hoffman House, was cut in two and sunk to-night in a collision with the steam wrecking lighter Hustler, of the Merritt & Chapman Wrecking Company, in North river. There were at least fifteen persons, five of whom were women, on board the yacht at the time of the collision.

Explosion Kills Three.

NEW YORK, July 7.—Three men were killed in an explosion in the Hurd Mines at Port Oram, near Dover, N. J., to-day. The men were reconstructing an old shaft when a tank of oil exploded.

SUMMARY OF TO-DAY'S NEWS.

Local.

—Midnight burglar in a young lady's room.

—Board of Public Works gives out a statement.

—Bishop C. C. Penick resigns as rector of St. Mark's church.

—Jarrad C. Ellis makes a statement.

—Cubans visiting Richmond.

—City Committee meets Tuesday night to decide date of primary.

State.

—A Danville citizen will sue the city on account of vaccination ordinance.

—J. C. Ellis' story is discredited in Weldon.

—Mr. E. G. Leigh, Jr., re-elected president of Southern Grocers' Association.

—Supreme Court will dispose of the docket by Monday.

—Reported in Norfolk that Governor Tyler will oppose Hon. Thomas S. Martin for United States Senate.

—Keel of another Morgan liner laid at Newport News.

—General Walker testifies on his own behalf in Bristol.

General.

—Mrs. Marguerite Dickins burned to death by a gasoline explosion in Washington.

—Reports from the Texas floods confirm the story of suffering.

—Democrats in Washington discredit report that Senator Martin will succeed Senator Jones.

—Dun's report shows few failures for first half of the year.

—Mr. Bryan speaks at a "dollar dinner" in Columbus.

—Scranton and Paterson dropped from Atlantic Base-Ball League.

Foreign.

—Bulgarian police have arrested the would-be assassin of King Milan.

—Admiral Cervera acquitted by the Spanish court-martial.