

## VICTORY FOR THE MONITOR

**HEAVY PROJECTILES HURLED AT TURRET PLATE OF FLORIDA—OFFICERS ARE JUBILANT MORE THAN SATISFIED WITH RESULT OF TEST ON TURRET PLATE OF THE MONITOR FLORIDA—"WOULD BE FIGHTING YET," SAYS ADMIRAL.**

Old Point Comfort, Va., May 28.—The biggest naval gun, the heaviest projectile and the highest explosive known, combined with close range and deadly aim, yesterday were allowed to work full havoc on the turret plate of the monitor Florida. The result is declared to be a victory for the turret construction, and this notwithstanding the 11-inch hardened steel plate was blackened, broken, the seams of the turret sprung and the rivets and screws loosened and twisted.

**Worked With Perfect Ease.**  
It was not five minutes after the terrible impact that the finely balanced mechanism of the turret was being worked with perfect ease and the 12-inch gun on the left side was trained at will. Inside the turret where stand the gunners and crew the havoc was much less apparent than from the outside. Examinations showed that of the many delicately adjusted instruments for fire control, sighting and operating the turret, few if any were out of working order.

"If this had happened in battle, the Florida would be fighting yet," said one of the rear admirals with enthusiasm.  
Then followed a futile attempt to destroy the newly designed fighting mast erected on the stern of the Florida. After five shots from the Arkansas guns had gone ripping through it the mast still stood firm.

"Fort shots would not bring it down, and no enemy would waste ammunition and time shooting at it," was the expert comment. It was predicted that all new battleships will be equipped with battle masts of this design.

The story of the "shooting up" of the Florida by the Arkansas, however, is not contained in this technical statement of results. It was an event in which the keen edge of expectation was not dulled by the realization. Rear admirals and brigadier generals together with their juniors, scurried under protected decks and then popped up again as quickly to look for the damage done by the boom and roar they had felt and heard. Every naval bureau was represented, likewise the ordnance and artillery of the army.

**In Hampton Roads.**  
The scene of the real war demonstration was at Hampton Roads, already made famous by naval events, the latest being the spectacular departure of the Atlantic battleship fleet on its long journey around the world, which was reviewed by President Roosevelt.

The Florida, which has been in the hands of experts for some time, presented the appearance of a resigned martyr. She lays with her nose pointing out through the Virginia Capes, near Thimble Shoal Light and about four miles from Old Point Comfort. She had steam up and a large American flag floated astern. Back of the bridges on the upper structure there hung the weekly wash of several jacksies.

Just 342 yards on the inside of the Florida lay her sister ship, the Arkansas. The distance looked cruelly close.

"This is such a test as would never occur in actual warfare," remarked a rear admiral as the big party of officers boarded the Arkansas. "The aim will be perfect; the distance is so close that the impact will be at its full velocity, and the part of the Florida to be hit is the weakest."

Everybody went aboard the Arkansas, and attention was directed to a strip of canvas held between two staffs on the turret of the Florida. "We are going to shoot a twelve-inch projectile through that target to get the range," was the announcement.

**The Shot Goes True.**  
There was just the suggestion of a ground swell coming in through the Capes, and it was an hour and a quarter before Lieutenant Walter M. Falconer, in charge of the big guns, got his aim. There was a crash, a roar the monitor kicked back into the water and sprang up again, and when the canvas target came into view it had a hole through its lower half. Then the turret of the Florida was slowly swung around so that the guns and those of the Arkansas looked squarely at each other. At 10:42 the "big noise" came, two crashes so close together that it sounded like one. The 12-inch projectile had hit its target. It was a crash, a flash, and a cloud of yellow smoke quietly drifting away over the top of the Florida. What was left was a big, black wound. Just to the right of the right hand gun there was what looked like a hole.

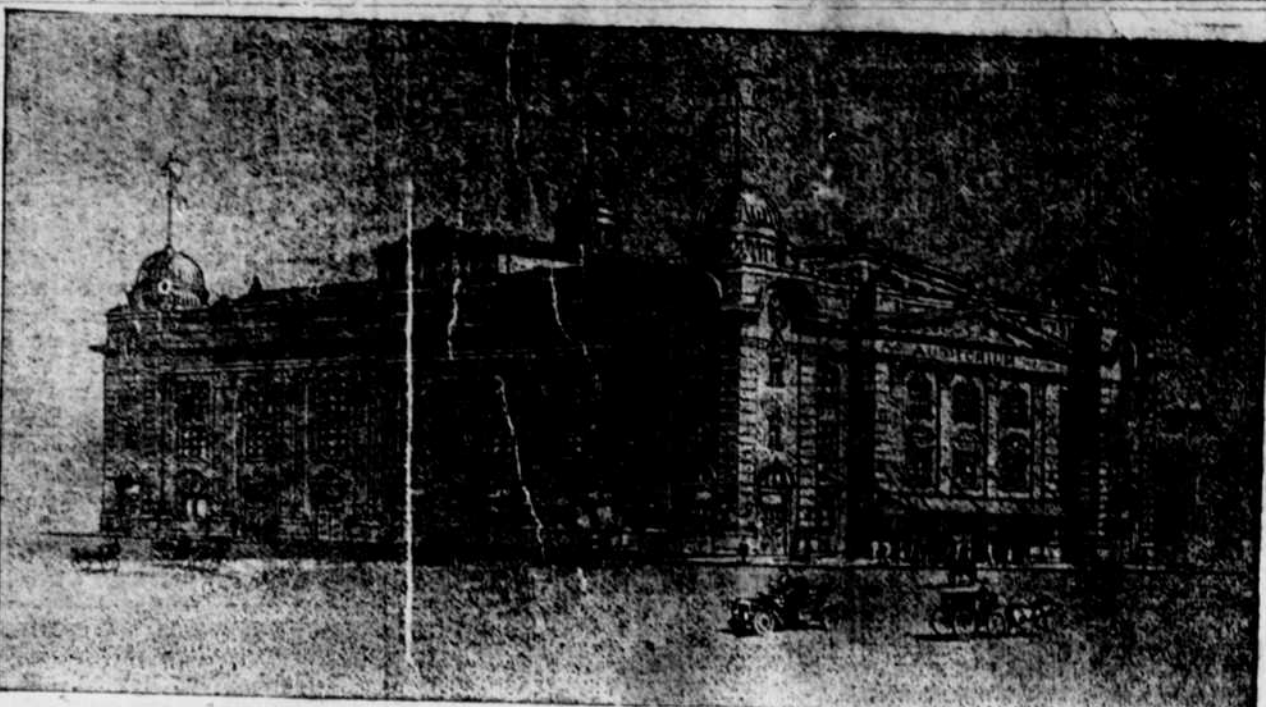
The officers went to the Florida at once, but before they got there their crew of twenty or thirty "jackies," detailed from the receiving ship Franklin, and officered by Commander John G. Quimby, commanding Lieutenant Joseph K. Taussig, and a gunner, had come up from the hold and were looking over the damage. The plate had been broken.

**Inspect the Damage.**  
Officers entered the turret at once and its mechanism was operated, the turret being swung completely around each way, the left hand gun trained. The right hand gun, being the "crippled" gun, of course could not be trained, besides the broken plate had wedged against it. This, the officers said, would not have prevented the gun being fired, although it would have interfered with the sighting.

But the turret bore the evidences of a fight. The paint along the seams had disappeared, many of the seams were sprung, bolts were loosened and slivers of the plate lay around. A board dummy on the inside was intact, and the opinion of the officers was that even with the terrific impact, the gunners in the turret would not have been injured. The mechanism in the turret bore no outward evidence of damage, and the belief was expressed that a test would find it in working order.

When the test was concluded, Rear Admiral Mason shouted the order to cease firing. The Arkansas was ordered back to the Norfolk navy yard and the Florida was taken there to be fitted with a specially built bulkhead in to which a whitehead torpedo is to be fired within ten days, to demonstrate whether or not bulkheads of the new type may not profitably be used to protect the hull of the ship.

Rev. T. S. Johnson left this morning for a few days' visit to friends in the eastern part of the county.



DENVER AUDITORIUM, WHERE DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL CONVENTION WILL BE HELD IN JULY.

## DEATH OF GENERAL LEE

**COMMANDER IN CHIEF OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS ANSWERS LAST ROLL CALL.**

Vicksburg, Miss., May 28.—Gen. Stephen D. Lee, commander in chief of the United Confederate Veterans and last general of the Confederacy died here this morning after an illness of seven days. General Lee was taken ill on May 21st after a hard day's task in making speeches and welcoming Iowa and Wisconsin reunion of veterans of the G. A. R. at the National park here. He suffered a collapse and his son, Blewett Lee, general counsel of the Illinois Central railway, was summoned from Chicago. Ex-Lieut. Gov. James Harrison and his sister, relatives of the general, were at his bedside. He was 75 years old. Lieut. Gen. W. L. Cabell, of Dallas, Tex., is senior among the division commanders of the Confederate veterans, the others being General Irvine Walker, of South Carolina, and General Clement A. Evans, of Georgia. General Cabell is next in line for commander in chief.

## FOR CONGRESS

**Andrew Price Is Named in Third District—Delegates Instructed for Bryan.**

Hinton, W. Va., May 27.—Hon. Andrew Price, of Pocahontas, was yesterday afternoon nominated for congress by acclamation by the democrats of the Third district of West Virginia, assembled in convention here. The convention endorsed Bryan and instructed its delegates to vote for him in the Denver convention.

Gen. James A. Holley, of Charleston, and John D. Alderson, of Nicholas county, were named as delegates by acclamation, and A. P. Pence, of Summers, and R. L. Shelton, of Clay, were selected as alternates. Hon. George Byrne, of Charleston, in a characteristically beautiful speech, nominated Capt. John G. Lobban, of Alderson, for presidential elector. The nomination was made by acclamation amid great applause.

The convention was one of the most enthusiastic ever held in this district and good feeling prevailed throughout.

## ON AN ALIBI

**FATE OF WHITMORE HANGS—WAS HE IN JERSEY?**

New York, May 28.—Theodore S. Whitmore's alibi on which he will attempt to show that he was not in New Jersey on the night his wife, Lena, was murdered, will be presented during the trial in Jersey City today. On the alibi Whitmore's fate hangs. Lawyer Alexander Simpson declared he is in a position to prove Whitmore's whereabouts every minute from 11 o'clock Christmas night until 2 o'clock next morning.

**IN RECEIVER'S HANDS.**  
Pittsburg, Pa., May 28.—The stock brokerage firm of George W. McMullen and company, one of the oldest houses in the city, has been placed in the hands of a receiver. The Guarantee Title and Trust company of this city is named as receiver.

## REPUBLICANS ARE SCARED

**MILITARY COMPANY ORGANIZED**

Chicago, Ill., May 28.—Thomas Taggart, chairman of the Democratic national committee, in an interview here said: "We are going to have a real campaign this time. In Indiana we are in better condition than we have been since 1892. There is a feeling of funnest abroad and the Republicans are scared."

The efforts of some of our citizens to organize a local arm of the West Virginia National Guard is materializing in the organization of a strong company and now only awaits the approval of the state officials. The new company met last night and organized by electing Dr. E. W. Smith, captain; R. L. Taylor, first lieutenant, and Prof. Geo. M. Ford, second lieutenant. Dr. Smith and Mr. Taylor were both connected with the old company A, and have had several years' experience in national guard work. Dr. Smith was a member of the general staff of the state militia. Prof. Ford has had no experience, but his natural aptitude to learn will be of inestimable value. Applications from the leading young men of the city makes its success a certainty. The company will be mustered in when the adjutant general of the state, with the approval of the governor, is ready.

## IT'S OLD FARMER JENKINS

**ONE OF OUR CITIZENS BUYS A FINE BLUE GRASS FARM IN SMYTH COUNTY, VIRGINIA.**

The following news item from the Roanoke Times will be disquieting to our citizens, who know and esteem Mr. and Mrs. O. C. Jenkins, and will be very loath to see them leave the city for a life on a farm:  
Mr. O. C. Jenkins, a coal operator of West Virginia, has just purchased through Chas. A. Ball Company, the leading real estate firm of our city, the old Colonel Preston home, near Marion, Va., which contains a number of acres of the finest land in Southwest Virginia, and the finest old colonial brick residence in the state, which is built of solid brick, trimmed in blue limestone and contains fourteen beautiful rooms and is located in a beautiful grove of original growth timber; in fact, it is an ideal home in every way and Mr. Jenkins is to be congratulated on being able to secure this beautiful home.

## KILLED BY LIGHTNING

**FATALITY AT PINNACLE, NEAR BRAMWELL, TUESDAY.**

Tuesday afternoon, at Pinnacle, about one mile east of Bramwell, lightning struck a colored man by the name of Lon Carson, killing him instantly, and also stunned E. B. Smith, a white boy, who was unconscious for some time. When he regained consciousness the negro was lying dead across his body, and a Winchester rifle which the negro carried at the time he was struck was a total wreck. They were employed with an engine which runs the incline of the Tabor-Harman Lumber company, and had sought shelter under Pinnacle Rock when the storm came up. The rifle probably attracted the lightning.

## NEW YORK MAYORALTY

**RECOUNT OF THE VOTE FAVORS HEARST.**

New York, May 28.—In the first 200 votes counted today at Quo Warranto proceedings to oust Mayor McClellan, W. R. Hearst gained thirteen votes, making 40 votes gained before three of the 1,948 boxes have been completed. At such rate Hearst's plurality, under a fair count, will run far into the thousands.

## HOT WEATHER

**NEW YORK EXPERIENCES HOTTEST MAY IN 28 YEARS.**

New York, May 28.—Today opened as the hottest May 28th in the history of the weather bureau, following the hottest May 27th in 28 years. The difference at 1 a. m. today and last year was twenty-four degrees.

## AN EMERGENCY CURRENCY LAW

**REPORT OF CONGRESS IS AGREED TO—ALL THE DEMOCRATS VOTED AGAINST MEASURE AND FOURTEEN INSURGENT REPUBLICANS VOTE WITH OPPOSITION—MORE THAN HALF FAITH CURE, DECLARES LEADER ALDRICH.**

Washington, May 28.—Interest in the proceedings in the house yesterday centered in the report of the conferees on the currency bill. After an hour's debate the report was adopted, 166 to 140, all the Democrats voting against it. Fourteen "insurgent" Republicans voted with the opposition. The debate, by unanimous consent, was fixed at one hour. After the report had been agreed to the members vanished and it was with great difficulty that a quorum could be obtained on subsequent roll calls.

After passing a bill revising the tariff laws of the Philippine islands placing agricultural machinery, implements and other articles on the free list, the house at 9:55 o'clock recessed until today at 11 a. m.

Washington, May 28.—An emergency currency law is assured. The currency question held its place yesterday as practically the only subject of consideration at both ends of the capitol, and when both houses adjourned the compromise bill which was drafted by the Republican conferees had received the sanction of the house and been presented to the senate, when it was announced that it would be taken up for consideration today, and where it will also be passed when the vote is reached.

The house had no sooner recorded its verdict in favor of the bill than it was hurried over to the senate before 5 o'clock, with the announcement of the approval of the house of representatives. The conference report was read and after the reading had been concluded, Mr. Aldrich announced that today after routine business he would move to take up the report and continue its consideration until it was disposed of.

In reply to a question by Mr. Culberson, Mr. Aldrich stated that the Democratic conferees of the senate and house had not concurred in the conference report. The opinion was expressed by Mr. Aldrich that the whole bill is more than half "faith cure," and that, he added, is just what the country needs.

It was decided to summon all absent Democratic senators to return. As the situation now appears the

time of voting and the consequent final adjournment of congress depends largely on one man, and that is Senator LaFollette. So far as they have spoken, the Democrats are inclined to permit final action after comparatively brief consideration.

## TYPHOON AT HAN KOW

**ONE THOUSAND JUNKS AND STEAMERS STRANDED AND 1,000 LIVES LOST.**

Victoria, B. C., May 28.—The steamer Shinona of the Japanese line brings news of another disaster through a typhoon at Hankow, following the freshest, which involved a loss of more than 1,000 lives with the wrecking of 1,000 junks and stranding of many steamers, including several foreign craft. The typhoon came suddenly and in a few hours reduced hundreds of boats in Kow river to splinters.

## ENLARGING OKLAHOMA

**RED RIVER CUTS NEW CHANNEL AND FIFTY THOUSAND ACRES IS SUBMERGED.**

Denison, Tex., May 28.—The Red river has made a new channel transferring many Texas farms to Oklahoma, making new bridges necessary here and elsewhere and submerging 50,000 acres of farming lands. The town of Key, east of here, was washed away and Delaware Bend is reported gone. Many houses passed here in the flood and it is believed many persons have perished. This is the greatest flood in many years and the damage will run far into the millions.

## SHAKING 'EM UP

**VIOLENT EARTHQUAKE IN ITALY.**

Rome, May 28.—A violent earthquake visited Peggio Calabria early today and it is thought that great damage has been done, although detailed news from the scene is lacking.

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Good Clothes **\$15 to \$30**


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Men's Split Straw and Braided Hats in the swellest shapes 50c to \$5.00.



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