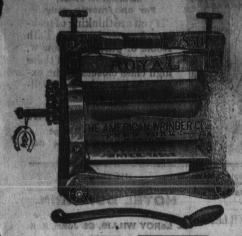
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FREDERICTON.

FREDERICTON, Feb. 24.—A party of fifteen men trom the Newcastle field battery, under command of Colonel Maltby, are to fire the salute at the opening of the legislature on Thursday next. They will bring with them two twelve pounder guns. The guard of honor to the lieutenant governor will be turnished from No. 4 Co., R. R. C. I., whose band will also turn out. The parlament buildings are now being put in readiness for the opening. The black draperies throughout the building will remain in place during the session.

W. E. Stavert of St. John, manager of the Bank of New Brunswick, was in the city yesterday. It seems to be the general opinion here that the Bank of New Brunswick under the new management will soon establish brunches throughout the province.

UNCONSTITUIONAL.

The subject is specifically assigned to the dominion by the B. N. A. act. TIRED OF JAIL LIFE.

TOPEKA, Kans., Feb. 24.—Mrs. Carrie Ma lion, tiring of Jail life, has written Judg Hasen a letter, demanding release. "I want you to quit your fooling," ab writes, "and let me out of here. If yo writes, "and let me out of here. If yo had been to miss my engagements I wo led! like a missisering angel anto, you. It is cause me to mass my engagements. Won't feel like a ministering angel unto you. It is a time for you to recover yourself before the devil, your master, makes a clean sweep with you into bell.

"You know you are persecuting one of God's children, who loves you for Jesus' sake. Let me out that I may go about my business of saving such poor devils as you. Write or come to see me right off.

Judge Hazen has ignored the letter, placing it in the waste basket with dozens or others received on the subject from different parts of the country. Some of the letters threaten the judge.

MAUD GONNE IN BOSTON.

TROOPER HARRIS DEAD.

THE DELUGE.

Rev. Dr. Wright Has Been Investigating in Asia

And as a Result Says the Biblical Account of the Flood is Entirely Credible.

NEW YORK, Feb. 25.—Letters have been received here from the Revi Dr. George Frederick Wright, the authority on the glacial period and biblical geology, telling of the results of his search in Asia for evidences that the deluge covered the whole earth. Dr. Wright secured a leave of absence from Oberlin, Ohio, university and sailed for Jaran early last year. He went

"I have travelled 12,000 miles in Asia to find evidences of the glacial period and have found none. There was no general glaciation of Eastern and Central Asia, as there was of America and Europe. But I have found indisputable evidence of an extensive submergence of the land extending to the base of Mount Arrart, and that this submergence took place subsequent to the appearance of man on the earth. The Russian geologists have recently found remains of man deep down in the deposits connected with this period of submergence. The one point of certainty is that since man's appearance there has been a period of instability in the earth's crust in northern and Central Asia, which shows that the biblical account is an entirely credible story."

the oblicat sector."

The debate over the deluge question has been waged for 300 years, and Prof. Wright's investigations will probably re-open it with energy.

AN INTERNATIONAL BANK.

NEW YORK, Feb. 25.—It is learned that prominent capitalists have about completed the plans for the establishment of an international bank, which will be of value to exporters. The promoters have secured a charter, which, it is believed, will cover all the business they propose to do. The bank will probably be ready to begin operations within six weeks. Its capital stock will be \$2,000,000 and its surplus will be \$5,000,000. Branches will be established in all parts of South and Central America. An effort is being made to enlist the support of leading exporters in all the manufacturing ofties in the country, in order that the bank may be a national as well as an international institution. NEW YORK, Feb. 25.—It is learned

A GIGANTIC TRUST.

NEW YORK, Peb. 24.—The Herald tomorrow will say: J. P. Morgan has just completed the project by which another and the greatest consolidation of capital is added to the notable list another and the greatest consolidation of capital is added to the notable list of the last ten years. An official announcement may be expected today (all announcement may be expected today (all announcement may be expected today) from the office of J. P. Morsgan & Co. to the Foteral Steel Co., the American Steel Hop Co., and the American Steel Co. are to be combined in one concern, which is to issue its stocking return for theirs, the valuation having been determined upon, the assets and the earning power of the respective corporations, it is understood, will be called the United States Consolidated Steel Co. It will have a total capitation of the Statute books and the earning power of the respective corporations thus merged. This may combination, it is understood, will be called the United States consolidated Steel Co. It will have a total capitation of the consolidated Steel Co. It will have a total capitation of the consolidated Steel Co. It will have a total capitation of the consolidated Steel Co. It will have a total capitation of the consolidated Steel Co. It will have a total capitation of the consolidated Steel Co. It will have a total capitation of the consolidated Steel Co. It will have a total capitation of the consolidated Steel Co. It will have a total capitation of the consolidated Steel Co. It will have a total capitation of the consolidated Steel Co. It will have a total capitation of the consolidated Steel Co. It will have a total capitation of the consolidated Steel Co. It will have a total capitation of the consolidated Steel Co. It will have a total capitation of the consolidated Steel Co. It will have a total capitation of the consolidated Steel Co. It will have a total capitation of the consolidation of the consolidati

The provision is made that the cor-poration shall not own a railroad in the state of New Jersey. The incor-porators are Charles C. Cluff, William J. Curtiss and Charles MacVeagh.

MEMORIAL TO VICTORIA.

NEW YORK, Feb. 25.—The Victoria memorial monument, says the Tribune's London correspondent, is headed by Archbishop Temple, Lord Salisbury and Lord Rosebery, and will be organized on broad lines, so as to include all classes in the United Kingdow and India, Australia, Canada and other self-governing colonies. The American society in London has taken measures for joining in the movement and enabling Americans everywhere to express their appreciation for the character of the queen.

THE RIO DE JANEIRO WRECK.

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 25.—No more bodies of victima of the Rio De Janeiro wreck have been found, and it is not expected that any will rise to the surface before next Thursday or Friday. At the spot where the vessel is supposed to lie the water is 36 fathoms deep, which is said to be twice the depth at which divers can work. It is thought by expert wreckers that the bodies of those who went down with the ship will never be recovered.

TORONTO, Feb. 24.—An old man in Elizabeth township. Renfrew county, 4s reported sick with analizox by Dr. Bryce of the provincial health board. He lately received a paper from a friend in a smallpox intested district in Texas, and efter reading it was taken iii.

THE NEW STAR.

Is Now the Brightest Member of the Constellation Perseus.

LICK OBSPRVATORY, Calif., Feb 5.—The following is furnished by Pro-essor W. W. Campbell, astronimical leaster.

25.—The following is furnished by Professor W. W. Campbell, astronimical director.

"Our first opoprtunity for securing observations of Anderson's new star, discovered in Edinburgh on the Ilst, occurred Sunday forencon. The star was easily found in full sunlight with a twelve inch telescope. At 11 a. m. it was fully half a magnitude brighter than the first magnitude star Capella, with which it was compared. At 7 p. m. it was fully half a magnitude fainter than Capella, a decline of a whole magnitude. Its brightness continued to decrease throughout the evening. Its accurate position as observed by Prof. Tucker is right ascension 3 hours 34 minutes 28 seconds and declination 43 degrees 33 minutes and 54 seconds.

"The atar has been observed with the Mills spectoroscope. Its spectrum is peculiar in that it contains no trace of either bright are dark lines in the blue and violet. Its light appears to be strictly continuous, though a few extremely broad bands exist. This is very unusual in a case of a new star. "This new star can be seen by all in the constellation Perseus, of which it is now the brightest member."

SOUTH AFRICA.

LONDON, Feb. 24.—The war office has received the following despatch from Lord Kitchener:

"MIDDLEBURG, Transvaal, Feb. 24.—French reports from Piet Retief, Feb. 22, that the result of the columns sweeping the country east is that the Boers are retreating in scattered and disorganized parties, to the number of some flye thousand, in front of him.

"Amsterdam and Piet Retief have been occupied and troops are protecting the Swazi frontier. French will push on, but is much hampered by the continuous heavy rains.

"Summary of total losses inflicted upon the enemy up to Feb. 16: 292 Boers known to have been killed and wounded in action, 56 taken prisoners, 183 surrendered. One fifteen pounder gun, 462 rifles, 160,000 rounds of ammunition, 2,500 horses, 70 mules, 2,530 trek oxen, 18,700 cattle, 55,400 sheep and 1,000 wagons and carts captured.

"Our casualties: Five officers and 41 men killed, and four officers and 10s men wounded. I regret to say that Major Howard, a very gallant officer of the Canadian scouts, was killed Feb. 17.

"Plumer reports that Col. Owen captured."

"Plumer reports that Col. Owen cap-tured De Wet's 15-pounder and pom-pom Feb. 23, as well as 53 prisoners and a quantity of ammunition. We-had no assumities. Enemy in full re-treat and dispersing, being vigorously

treat and dispersing, being vigorously pursued.

"Gen. De Wet's attempt to invade Cape Colony has, completely failed."

CAPE TOWN, Feb. 24.—Col. Plumer engaged Gen. De Wet yesterday near Disselfontein, on the south bank of the Orange River, capturing a gun and a pom-pom and taking fifty prisoners. The Boers were scattered and are being pursued by Col. Plumer.

It is reported that Gen. De Wet escaped to the opposite bank in a boat, and is now fleeing with a handful of followers. It is reported from a Boer source at Zeerust that Gen. Delarey has been captured.

CHICAGO, Feb. 25.—A special to the Chronicle from Terre Haute, Ind.,

Chronicle from Terre Haute, Ind., says:

Four Russian coal miners will be put on trial today for the murder of two fellow-Russians last election days. None of the accused or eye witnesses can speak English. What little information has been obtained from them through an interpreter indicates that they have no conception of the proceedings in a court of justice, and that they did not comprehend in the least the election of a president of the United States when it was sought to have them cast votes last November. On election day a local party railier named Hobbert persuaded Anton Kataugh and Stanley Marshall (a name assumed after coming to this country), to go with him to the house of Enoch Gomolinski to persuade him and his three boarders to go to the poils. Holbert says he left before the fighting began. The two Russians who went to Gomolinski's house were killed, it is said, with a mining pick and a singletree, with which they had been armed when they called to induce their courtymen to go to the poils.

ANOTHER SALOON RAIDER SHOT.

ANOTHER SALOON RAIDER SHOT.

TOPPIKA, Kas., Feb. 25.—J. W. Adams was fatally wounded during a raid on the Curtis wholesale liquor house at midmight last night. A carload of beer had been unloaded during the day, and about fifty men armed with sledges and revolvers broke open the door and smashed the cases. Adams says he was shot by a policeman. Rev. F. W. Emerson was also hurt, but not seriously.

U. S. CONGRESS.

Review of Session Now Drawing to a Close.

Nearly \$1,500,000,000 Appropriated -Some of the Important Measures Adopted.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 24.—The record of the fifty-sixth congress is now practically completed. Chief among the questions growing out of the war has been the attitude of the government toward our new insular possessions. While this question is still open to some extent, yet the present congress has passed upon one of its most important phases by enacting a law for a complete form of government for Porto Rico, legislative, executive and judicial, together with a comprehensive plan of raising revenues for the island. The status of the Phillippines has been an unfailing source of debate in both branches of congress, but with little tangible result. At the first sension Senator Spooner proposed a brief measure, confirming the president's authority to shape the affairs of the island until congress had passed finally upon the questions relating to their political status. This proposition is an amended form has now been grafted upon the army appropriation bill, although it is to be determined whether the provision will be accepted by either or both houses. Cuban legislation has been in abeyance pending the action of the constitutional convention of Cuba in framing the constitution of the island. Another important achievement in insular legislation was that of enacting a law giving Hawaii a complete form of territorial governvement in insular legislation was that of enacting a law giving Hawaii a complete form of territorial government with an insular legislation and a judiciary, a governor, chosen from Hawaii and a delegate in the house of representatives. This law, passed at the first session, has become so far effective that the second session saw the appearance of the delegate from Hawaii, Mr. Wilcox, who is the first official representative on the floor of congress from one of the island possessions of the United States. The Porto Rican commissioner, Mr. Degetau, also has been accredited to Washington under the law passed at the first session.

der the law passed at the first session.

The apropriations of the present congress will reach an unusually large figure, aggregating for the two sessions appraximately \$1,67,269,457. This is about \$110,000,000 less than the aggregate appropriations of the preceding congress, which, however, covered the period of the Spanish war, when the appropriations ran in a single year up to \$893, 231, 615. The total for the last two sessions of the present congress, as recently summarized by Chairman Cannon, of the house committee on appropriations, is as follows: Appropriations, first session, including sinking fund, \$710,150,582. Appropriations, second session, including propriations, second sess sinking fund, \$747,118,595.

sinking fund, \$747,118,595.

The act reorganizing the army and placing the military establishment on a permanent basis probably is the most important piece of general legislation enacted during the present session, and one of the most important measures placed on the statute books in recent years.

The revenue legislation of the congress has been confined to an effort to reduce the taxation imposed when the war with Spain began. The bill as it passed the house reduced revenue about \$40,000,000, the chief reductions being on beer and in the removal of the stamp taxes on bank checks, telegrams, commercial papers, life insurance policies, proprietary medicines and many other articles. In the senate an entirely new substitute was passed. This, however, retained the main features of the house bill, but materially changed the rates throughout, making reductions on tobacco in various forms and restoring the tax on bank checks. This revenue reduction measure is still in controversy between the two houses, the conference committee not having reached an agreement.

The act apportoning to the several states their representation in the house, followed as a result of the twelfth caucus. As finally enacted the total representation is fixed at 38 members, or 29 more than in the present house.

Government participation and aid in the Louislama purchase exposition seems assured during this congress. At the first session a senate amendment to the sundry civil bills pledged the government to appropriate \$5,000,000 when the St. Louis people had raised \$10,000,000. The bill is now pending and is likely to become a law, making the appropriation \$5,000,000 and providing general plans for the exposition.

Among other important general measures enacted during this congress are those giving "free homes" on the Indians and known as the "Free Homes act"; providing a system of extradition for insular possessions, under which C. F. W. Neely was extrudited to Cuba for alleged postal frauds; authorising the "aggregating" of pension disabilities and increasing to \$250 the allowance to widows in certain cases on the lines of recommendations by the G. A. and authorizing the appointment of Chas. A. Boutelle, a veteran member of congress, as captain on the retired list of the navy.

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CHOICE BONELESS (OD FISH. Nice New Stook

JAMES PATTERSON,

namely the Nicaragua Canal bill, the Shipping Subsidy bill, the Pacific Cable bill, and the Oleomargarine bill have occupied much time and have aroused great public attention, although their enactment is not probable at this late day in the session.

BRITISH ARMY EXTENSION

NEW YORK, Feb. 25.—According to the Tribune's London correspondent a great scheme of army extension is spoken of in England, and if the stories which have been widely circulated should prove to be correct much time will be occupied in its consideration. It is said that the British government proposes to increase the standing army by 150,000 men. It seems hardly crede that such a proposal will be made, however, as it would mean almost the doubling of the strength of the regular forces.