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THE TIMES, FOUNDED 1856. THE DISPATCH, FOUNDED 1850. WHOLE NUMBER 16,486. RICHMOND VA., SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 1904. PRICE FIVE CENTS.

SUMMARY OF THE DAY'S NEWS

The Weather.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 27.—Forecast for Sunday and Monday:

Virginia—Partly cloudy and warmer Sunday; Monday fair and somewhat colder; fresh to brisk south winds, shifting to west and northwest.

North Carolina—Partly cloudy and warmer Sunday; Monday fair; fresh to brisk east to south winds.

With snow, sunshine and clouds the thermometer lingered around the freezing point yesterday. The melting of the snow made walking very disagreeable.

STATE OF THE THERMOMETER.

9 A. M.	28
12 M.	33
3 P. M.	35
6 P. M.	34
9 P. M.	33
12 midnight	32
Average	32½

Highest temperature yesterday	35
Lowest temperature yesterday	19
Mean temperature yesterday	27
Normal temperature for February	37
Departure from normal temperature	10
Precipitation during past 24 hours	T

MINIATURE ALMANAC.

		February 28, 1904.	
Sun rises	6:44	HIGH TIDE.	
Sun sets	6:01	Morning	2:08
Moon sets	4:40	Evening	2:34
		February 29, 1904.	
Sun rises	6:44	HIGH TIDE.	
Sun sets	6:01	Morning	3:50
Moon sets	5:28	Evening	3:28

Richmond.

Results of the "Who is Who?" contest, which has attracted so much attention, announced to-day——House Committee reports favorably the Anderson bill for the enlargement and repair of the Capitol building, and it is almost certain to go through——Henrico citizens hold enthusiastic meeting in behalf of good roads——Corner-stone of the new Beth Ahaba Synagogue to be laid next Friday with impressive ceremonies——Richmond citizen born in leap year who, though fifty-two years old, will to-morrow celebrate his twelfth anniversary——Senate adopts report in favor of sitting member in the Keen-Turner senatorial contest; House engrosses Boaz amendment eliminating the jail penalty for violating the Sunday liquor law——Little likelihood that the session of the General Assembly will be extended——Caton-Churchman bill for taxing rolling stock of railroads reported adversely, recommitted and is considered dead——Real estate men expect renewed activity with opening of good weather——Reports to Colonel Anderson show that no Richmond soldiers were drinking at Roanoke——Elaborate preparations for the meeting here this week of the State Y. M. C. A. Convention——Work of the visiting nurses——Fine meeting of Richmond Post, T. P. A.——Commissioner Matthews, of the Lewis and Clarke Exposition, expresses the belief that Virginia will be represented——Irregularities of Joseph H. Shepherd reported to have been nearly $40,000——Detective goes to Chicago to bring Theron C. Brown here——Republican factions here more bitter since Friday night's meeting——Death of Mr. Arthur Dudley Brown——Negro Ferris denies having confessed to the murder of Policeman Austin——Boys at Laurel Reformatory enjoy a feast——Opinion expressed that the Wabash system is back of the projected railway to deep water. MANCHESTER——Temperance crusade starts in Manchester at Stockton Street Church——Boys arrested for jumping on moving engines and cars——Judge Clopton has case of Bradly vs. Southside Land Company under consideration——Council to meet in special session this week.

Virginia.

The Norfolk ferry steamer Norfolk-on-the-Roads burned early this morning——A verdict of six thousan dollars awarded——The Goochland Republicans declare for party reorganization; Williamsburg delegates go uninstructed——Given superhuman strength by the agony of flames Henry Dillard breaks through a furnace wall at Dendron——Recruit station at Burkeville for the artillery at Fort Monroe——New rifle range ordered at the Norfolk naval station——Farmers' Institute has successful session in Winchester——Double-header freight wreck on Norfolk and Western at Bassett's, Henry county, Va.; engineer and two firemen killed and others injured——Farmers in meeting at Farmville decide to reduce the tobacco crop——The legislative committee entertained at Staunton——Large dry goods and clothing store burned in Alexandria——A house owned by Congressman Swanson at Chatham destroyed by fire——Judge Portlock appoints the officers for Princess Anne Circuit Court——Freight depot burned at Parksley Va.——Large damage verdict in Fluvanna, in which Senator Martin was counsel——Charlottesville defeats Staunton in basket-ball match.

North Carolina.

The Stanell brothers sent on for murder of W. T. Harrison at Wilson——Luther Veasey instantly killed by a revolving belt at Durham; his brother's misunderstanding caused his death——Judge Simonton agrees to come to Raleigh to hear motion to vacate railroad receivership——Adjutant-General and Governor recommend to War Department number of North Carolina officers to attend military schools——Mysterious shooting being considered at Melton.

General.

Stock market is nearly stagnant, but net result of day's dealing is that small losses rule——Contradictory reports of latest fight at Port Arthur are about all that is added to the war news from the Far East; Russians confess that they are mystified by the persistency of the attacks on Port Arthur and are ignorant of whether the Japs intend to land near Port Arthur or at some other point; there is no confirmation of the landing of Japanese troops at Possiet Bay——Capitol of Wisconsin is destroyed by fire——Pension bills are passed by the House in some numbers——President is invited to attend the launching of the Virginia at Newport News on April 5th——One man killed in collision on the Seaboard Air Line Railway——Jack Munroe beats Sharkey in six-round fight in Philadelphia——Gunners on battleship Wisconsin break record in marksmanship, making nine bull's eyes out of ten shots in ten minutes——Governor Vardeman goes with militia to Batesville to protect life of negro prisoner——Russian newspaper makes bitter attack on United States for laying of cable to Japan——Reunion of United Confederate Veterans will be changed from September to June——T. S. Lloyd accepts position with the Rock Island Road——Democrats institute filibuster against the bill requiring the use of American vessels for the shipment of government supplies.

DOES NOT WANT REGULARS ON THE ISTHMUS YET

(By Associated Press.)

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 27.—Admiral Walker, who will be president of the new Panama Canal Commission, does not approve of the immediate use of United States regular troops on the Isthmus. He has told the President that three or four hundred marines will serve all present needs in that quarter. As the Navy Department can furnish this number of marines, the Third Infantry may not be sent to the Isthmus.

PRESIDENT DECIDES TO APPOINT MR. HARROD

(By Associated Press.)

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 27.—The President has decided to appoint Benjamin M. Harrod, of New Orleans, a member of the Isthmian Canal Commission. This completes the commission and the names of the members will be sent to the Senate Monday. The President went thoroughly into the charges against Mr. Harrod and satisfied himself there was nothing in them.

MUNROE WINS FROM SHARKEY

Long-Armed Sailor Beaten in Six-Round Bout.

BATTLE WHOLLY IN MUNROE'S FAVOR

Sharkey's Eyes Badly Swollen From Vicious Right and Left Swings.

MUNROE'S BLOWS STRAIGHT FROM SHOULDER

General Opinion Seems to be That Jeffries Will Now be Called Upon to Defend the Championship—Munroe's Blows Were of Greatest Strength.

(By Associated Press.)

PHILADELPHIA, PA., Feb. 27.—Jack Munroe outfought Tom Sharkey in their six-round bout at the Second Regiment Armory, in this city, to-night. Munroe stepped from the ring without a mark, while both of Sharkey's eyes were badly swollen from vicious right and left swings of the Butte miner. In only one round, the first, did Shirkey have any advantage over Munroe. After this the battle was almost wholly in Munroe's favor. When Munroe began to find the sailor's stomach, Sharkey became wild and nearly all of his leads went round Munroe's neck. In the fifth round Munroe had his antagonist in trouble and again in the sixth round Sharkey was in great stress. The blows, which Munroe landed on Sharkey's stomach went straight from the shoulder, and were hard enough to have knocked out almost any fighter. The general opinion seems to be that Jeffries will now be called upon to defend the championship against Munroe.

Fight by Rounds.

First round—Sharkey led and missed. Munroe larded a left blow on Sharkey's ribs, and the latter felt through the ropes, but did not land on the floor. They sparred for an opening, and on a rush together Munroe slipped and fell to the floor. Sharkey missed a left swing and Munroe missed a right. Munroe drove left to Sharkey's nose and right to stomach, and got away without a return. Sharkey missed a left swing and then landed a right to Munroe's jaw, sending him to the floor. This was Sharkey's round.

Round 2—Sharkey landed viciously over Munroe's stomach, and the men came together. Munroe tried right for Sharkey's head, but missed. Sharkey landed a light left on Munroe's stomach and then slipped to the floor. Monroe landed hard right on Sharkey's stomach, and repeated it a moment later.

Round 3—Sharkey led with swing to the left and missed. Munroe landed hard right on stomach. Sharkey rushed, but Munroe met him with hard right on the wind. Munroe staggered Sharkey with straight left to chin. Sharkey rushed in, but Munroe met him with right to wind. Sharkey was wild. Munroe missed left for head, but landed hard right to the wind.

Round 4—Munroe landed right to Sharkey's wind and latter clinched. Sharkey missed a right to stomach, and Munroe drove left to sailor's wind. Sharkey landed a right on Munroe's stomach and the men clinched. Munroe landed a light left to Sharkey's face and right to stomach. Munroe landed another left on Sharkey's face, and the latter slipped to floor. Munroe landed hard right on Sharkey's stomach and the latter looked pained. There was a sickening expression on his face. The men were clinched at the bell.

ROUND FIVE.

Round 5—Sharkey missed a right swing and the men clinched. They came together and Munroe landed a left on Sharkey's wind. Monroe landed a vicious right on Sharkey's eye, drawing the blood. A moment later Munroe landed a hard left on stomach, forcing Sharkey to clinch. Sharkey tried right on stomach, but missed, and Munroe missed a left, aimed at the same point. The men were sparring when the gong sounded.

Round 6—The men rushed to a clinch, Munroe landed a right to Sharkey's stomach and Sharkey's left went round Munroe's neck. Munroe drove a hard right to Sharkey's wind and pushed his head back with a left. Monroe landed hard left on Sharkey's jaw, and the latter looked worried. Sharkey landed a right on Munroe's wind, and the latter opened Sharkey's eye with a vicious left. Sharkey was holding on. He was groggy and held on to save himself. Munroe landed hard right on Sharkey's stomach and the latter landed a light left on Munroe's head, the latter slipping to the floor. Sharkey led, but missed, and Munroe landed a hard left on Sharkey's wind. The men were sparring as the gong sounded.

STEAMER BURNED AT SEWELL'S POINT

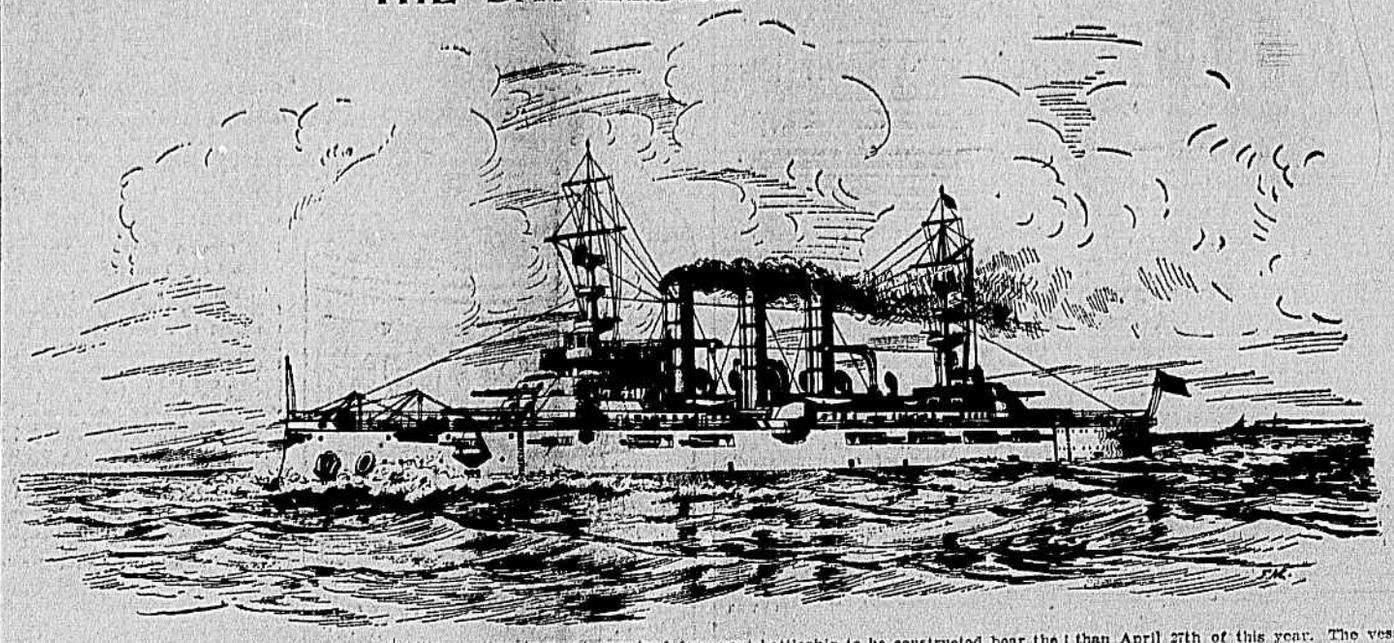
Ferry Boat Running Between Sewell's Point and Newport News Consumed.

(By Associated Press.)

NORFOLK, VA., Feb. 27.—The steel ferry steamer Norfolk-on-The-Roads, owned by the Norfolk and Atlantic Terminal Company, burned to the water's edge at her moorings at Sewell's Point early this morning. Fire was discovered shortly after midnight, and could not be checked by the steamer Piney Beach, of the same road, which played one stream on the burning craft.

The Norfolk-on-The-Roads ran between Sewell's Point and Newport News. She recently returned from Baltimore, where she had been rebuilt, having previously burned at the same moorings. Loss cannot be estimated at present.

THE BATTLESHIP VIRGINIA.



The finest battleship in the United States navy will bear the name Virginia, and the Old Dominion may feel justly proud when this magnificent engine of destruction takes her place among the greatest fighting machines of the nations. This splendid ship is to be launched at Newport News on April 5th, and will be one of the most formidable vessels in the world when she is completed. She is to be a seagoing coast line battleship, and of a type that is regarded by naval authorities as the strongest conceived for hard knocks at the hands of an enemy, and of a type, also, which is believed to be the most effective in dealing blows to an adversary.

The Virginia was given the name at the solicitation of the Colonial Dames of Virginia, who thought it was greatly to be desired that the mother of States should have her name borne by a vessel of the American navy. A delegation of the Dames waited on President McKinley and presented their request that the next battleship to be constructed bear the name of Virginia, and the President at once fell in with the idea and promised that the very next battleship which the government built should be called for the Old Dominion.

The contract for the construction of the Virginia by the Newport News Shipbuilding and Dry Dock Company was signed February 15, 1901. The vessel was to have been completed in three years, but an extension of time was granted whereby it could be completed not later than April 27th of this year. The vessel will be launched twenty-three days ahead of time. The keel of the Virginia was laid May 21, 1902; stem in position, February 18, 1903; sternpost in position, March 18, 1903; to be launched, April 5, 1904.

The Virginia is to be of 14,948 tons. She is to have two military masts. She is twin-screw, vertical triple expansion, Niclausse engines. Her mean draft will be twenty-three feet nine inches. Length on the loadwater line, 435 feet. Extreme breadth, 76 feet 2 1-2 inches.

THINKS VA. WILL HELP

Lewis & Clarke Exposition Commissioner Expects This State to Aid.

HE TALKS OF TOBACCO

Believes It Will be Fine Opportunity for Virginia to Show Her Products.

Mr. W. B. Matthews, of Washington, who is the commissioner from the Lewis and Clarke Exposition, said last night he thought there was no doubt that the General Assembly would vote to make an appropriation of five thousand dollars for the purpose of having a Virginia exhibit taken from St. Louis to Portland for the Exposition in the Oregon city, which will open in April of next year. A number of the members of the Legislature have manifested great interest in the bill. The feature of the efforts which are making to secure the appropriation is the authorized pledge of Mr. Matthews that the Oregon Legislature will appropriate twice as much for an exhibit at the Jamestown Exposition as Virginia will appropriate for the Lewis and Clarke Exposition.

The Tobacco Trade.

"It is especially desirable that the tobacco growing States be represented at the Oregon Exposition," said Mr. Matthews last night. "It is a fact that the exports from this country to Europe by way of the Atlantic ports have fallen off enormously in the course of the past five years, while there has been almost a corresponding increase in our exports to oriental countries. The exports of tobacco from our Southern States to Japanese, Chinese and other ports of the Orient have nearly quadrupled in the past decade. There has never before been such an opportunity presented to the people of this country to impress upon the people of the Orient the advantages of their trading with us as will be offered by the Portland Exposition. Japan and China will send thousands of people to the Exposition, and the States which will have exhibits there will be in a position to reap rich returns. A fine exhibit of tobacco alone from Virginia will be worth many thousands of dollars to the State. I have found that the members of the Legislature from the tobacco sections of Virginia are deeply impressed with the advantages to be gained by an exhibit at the Exposition in Oregon."

Were Virginians.

The Lewis and Clarke Exposition Company is especially desirous of having Virginia represented at the big show for the reason that both Lewis and Clarke were Virginians, and Thomas Jefferson, a Virginian, was the President of the United States when the pioneers led the expedition across the continent.

The bill appropriating five thousand dollars for the transportation of the exhibit to Portland from St. Louis is now before the Finance Committee of the House of Delegates. It will probably be reported this week.

Senator Barksdale said last night that he thought there was no doubt of the eventual passage of the bill. He spoke as the representative of one of the chief tobacco counties of the State when he proceeded to dilate upon the merits of the measure. The Tidewater members of the Legislature are also strongly for the bill, in order that they may obtain from Oregon an appropriation for a fine exhibit at the Jamestown Exposition.

PLAN TO SUPPRESS YELLOW FEVER SCOURGE

(By Associated Press.)

MEXICO CITY, Feb. 27.—A comprehensive plan for suppressing and preventing yellow fever in cities and towns of northeastern Mexico has been devised by Mr. Lyega, chairman of the Superior Board of Health. The plan is to follow the course the board took last summer, and take rapid action should the fever again show itself. Mosquitoes will be thoroughly destroyed.

The board proposes to work in entire harmony with the health authorities in the United States, and the remarkable exemption of this city from typhoid fever this year is an indication of what can be done by sanitation.

BITTER ATTACK MADE ON UNITED STATES

(By Associated Press.)

ST. PETERSBURG, Feb. 27.—The Bourse Gazette to-day makes a Washington dispatch, saying the United States has undertaken to lay a submarine cable from the Philippine Islands to Japan, to prevent the latter's isolation in case the Russians cut the Shanghai cable, the subject of a bitter attack upon the government at Washington "for this new evidence of its breach of neutrality," claiming that the contention of the United States that the laying of the cable will be undertaken for the improvement of trade relations does not clear America's skirts, and inquiring "what the Americans would say if Germany had run a cable from Kiao-Chou to Port Arthur or Vladivostock?"

The news that the United States had assented to the extension of the Pacific cable to Japan, with the reasons therefor assigned in the dispatches from Washington, still further aggregates the popular belief that the United States is siding with Japan against Russia. The few Americans in St. Petersburg have all remarked upon the changed demeanor of their Russian friends. Formerly they were treated with the greatest cordiality, but now the Russians greet them with the question: "Is America our secret enemy, and will we have to fight her also before the war comes to an end?"

How deeply the Russians are wounded by the belief, destined, unless checked, soon to become a conviction, that America has spurned her old friend and is now playing a hostile role, is shown by this severance of personalities, of which a striking instance occurred this week in a prominent drawing-room, when the most intimate Russian friend of an American lady declined her proffered hand. Upon the lady's exclamation of astonishment, her friend burst into tears, and said she felt aggrieved at all Americans since the reported action of the commander of the United States gunboat Vicksburg at Chemulpo.

The attitude of the United States is a subject of constant discussion in even the highest circles here, where with the greatest regret the fear is expressed that teh two countries, without excuse, so far as Russia is concerned, seem to be drifting apart. The recently reported cancellation of American contracts indicates how the resentment of America's supposed hostility has invaded business affairs. Popular feeling is, of course, to be largely attributed to certain of the Russian newspapers, which have suddenly turned their batteries from Great Britain to the United States, and have seized every rumor to place the worst possible interpretation upon it.

SITUATION IN BALKANS

Certain That Sultan of Turkey Will Not Declare War.

HAS NOTHING TO GAIN

(By Associated Press.)

PARIS, Feb. 27.—An American official who for two years past has been studying the condition in the Balkans, has just arrived in Paris and to-day made an interesting statement of the situation. He said:

"I am satisfied Turkey will not declare war. She has been informed by the Powers that even if she does engage in hostilities, she will gain absolutely no result therefrom and may even suffer from a military occupation by the Powers, and that, perhaps, they may result in the separation of Macedonia from the Turkish Empire. It is true that Turkey is sending reinforcements to Macedonia, but this is due to the prospect of an outbreak of another insurrection and possible interference on the part of Bulgaria, now that

(Continued on Second Page.)

PRESIDENT ASKED TO SEE LAUNCHING

Miss Gay Montague Will Break Bottle of Champagne on Vessel's Bow.

(By Associated Press.)

WASHINGTON, Feb. 27.—C. B. Orcutt, president of the Newport News Shipbuilding and Dry Dock Company, called upon the President to-day, tendering him a cordial invitation to be present at the launching of the battleship Virginia, on April 5th.

At the request of the Secretary of the Navy, President Orcutt has invited Miss Matilda Gay Montague, daughter of the Governor of Virginia, to act as sponsor and she has consented to name the vessel.

Mr. Orcutt stated that the damage to the Newport News plant by fire of last evening was nominal, the anglesmith shop, a frame building, is the only structurel damaged, this will be speedily replaced by a brick building and the operation of the works will proceed without delay to vessels now in constructior

SENTENCE OF TWO YEARS

Those Convicted of Postal Frauds to Pay Fine of $10,000 Also.

NOTICE OF AN APPEAL

(By Associated Press.)

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 27.—August W. Machen, formerly general superintendent of the free delivery postal service; Dr. George E. Lorenz, of Toledo, O., once postmaster of that city, and Diller B. Groff, of this city, all of whom were convicted of conspiracy against the government in connection with the supply of the Groff fasteners to the Post-office Department, to-day were sentenced by Judge Pritchard to two years' imprisonment in the Moundsville, W. Va., penitentiary and a fine of $10,000 each.

The defendants immediately gave notice of appeal to the Court of Appeals, and were released on $20,000 bond each. Samuel A. Groff was not sentenced, his motion for a new trial and for arrest of judgment being allowed further consideration. The sentence imposed on Machen, Lorenz and Diller Groff is the maximum allowed under the law. The appeals to the upper court will be pressed as rapidly as possible, according to the defense, but months may elapse before the appeals can be heard.

The prosecution asked the imposition of the full penalty on each count, the adoption of which proposition, it was pointed out, would involve a total of twenty-four years' imprisonment, and a fine of $120,000. The defense characterized this as an outrageous and absurd proposition, arguing that as there had been one offense alleged in the whole indictment, the court had no power to impose penalty on more than one of the counts. Judge Pritchard stated that he was satisfied that the verdict of the jury was correct, but he did not know whether the imposition of penalty in a single count would be heavy enough.

He decided this question after recess, holding that he could impose a penalty only under one count. The prisoners then stood up for sentence. Machen was first called. When the court sentenced him Machen's eyes filled and he trembled slightly as he resumed his seat. Then he clasped his hands and sat staring ahead of him as the other two were given the same sentences.

Richmonders in New York.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)

NEW YORK, Feb. 27.—Hoffman, A. H. C. Butler; St. Denis, H. B. Gilmore and wife; Herald Square, J. Lecky, Jr.; Holland, J. D. Minor, C. Y. Carrington.

THE CAPITOL IS IN ASHES

Wisconsin's Picturesque State Building Consumed by Fire Yesterday.

LOSS NEARLY A MILLION

Will Involve the Erection of a New Capitol—Loss of Valuable Relics.

(By Associated Press.)

MADISON, WIS., Feb. 27.—Wisconsin's picturesque State Capitol is in ruins. All that remains intact from the devastating flames, which started early this morning, is the extreme north extension, the contents of which are practically ruined by water.

Jagged walls, from which every vestige of inflammable material has been eaten by the flames, alone mark what was yesterday the center of Wisconsin's executive life. The loss will be about $1,000,000, exclusive of the relics. There was little or no insurance, the State having changed from insurance in companies to a system of State insurance.

The fire involves the building of a new Capitol, a special session of the Legislature and the probable renewal of the agitation in favor of the removal of the Capitol from Madison to Milwaukee.

The origin of the fire is believed to have been a lighted gas jet in a toilet room on the second floor. The flame was close to and ignited a varnished ceiling.

The fire practically devastated every portion of the Capitol building with the exception of the northern end, which was saved, but which is in such a dilapidated condition that it will have to be torn down.

Governor Lafolette was early on the scene, and by his coolness did much to enforce order among the workers.

All the contents of the immense law library in the north end of the building were carried out, together with a large quantity of other books and papers. These were not greatly damaged. Included in the burned part of the Capitol was the Grand Army hall and all the priceless records. These were saved and are now stored in temporary quarters. During the fire Chief Charles Bernard was overcome by smoke and fell from a ladder, receiving serious injuries. He was taken to his home, where he is still unconscious.

From an original cost of $60,000 in 1837, appropriations from time to time for new additions made the cost of the State Capitol to date about $900,000.

MRS. GEORGE W. CABLE DIES IN NEW YORK

(By Associated Press.)

NEW YORK, Feb. 27.—Mrs. George W. Cable, wife of the novelist, died last night in the German Hospital here in consequence of an operation to which she submitted there some time ago.

IMPROMPTU DUEL FOUGHT IN STREET

Prominent Merchants Fight in Bainbridge, Georgia, With Fatal Result.

(By Associated Press.)

BAINBRIDGE, GA., Feb. 27.—Mercer Baggs and John Hunter, both prominent merchants, fought an impromptu duel on the street to-day with pistols. Hunter died a few minutes after the shooting. Baggs is in a hospital with a wound in the neck and another in the arm. He is seriously hurt.

There seems to have been an old quarrel between the two men. When they approached each other near the courthouse each pulled a pistol and the shooting began without preliminaries. When both had exhausted the chambers of their pistols they clinched in a death struggle and fell to the ground. Hunter died five minutes after they had been pulled apart.

REPORTS ARE VERY CONFLICTING

Japanese Report of Attempt to Block Port.

NO LOSS OF LIFE OR OF BOATS

The Vessels Were Sunk by the Crews That Manned Them.

THE RUSSIANS ARE MUCH MYSTIFIED

Do Not Understand Repeated Attacks on Port Arthur and Think the Japanese May be Veiling an Attempt to Land at Another Point.

(By Associated Press.)

TOKIO, Feb. 27.—The official report of the naval officers who attempted to block the entrance to the harbor of Port Arthur on the morning of February 24th differs in some respects from the accounts already printed. From this report it appears that the Russian searchlights discovered the approach of the five Japanese steamers before they had reached the point where it was proposed to sink them and that the Russian guns disabled three of the five. Another new feature is that a portion of the crews from the sunken steamers were not picked up until the afternoon of the 24th. The report of the officers in substance is as follows:

"Five vessels intended to obstruct the entrance to Porth Arthur advanced about 4 o'clock in the morning of the 24th from the southward through the Lao Thi Shan channel toward the mouth of the port. It appears that the Ten Shin Maru, which was in the van, was steered too far to port and when she was about three miles to the southwest of shore she was shot and seriously damaged. She was run on the shoals. The other steamers which were in her wake, changed their course to the northeast and advanced, but the enemy's searchlight flashing upon them impeded their progress. The enemy's fire struck the steering gear of the Bushiu Maru, disabling her. She grounded near the Ten Shin Maru and after striking, her officers destroyed her and she sank. Next the Buyo Maru was seriously damaged by the enemy's fire. She sank before reaching the harbor entrance.

"In the meanwhile the Hokoku Maru and the Jinsen Maru had advanced with great rapidity and had reached the entrance to the harbor with considerable difficulty. The Hokoku was out on the outer side of the stranded Russian battleship Retvizan and the Jinsen Maru on the eastern side of the Retvizan. The crews of each lighted explosives to destroy the merchantmen and after giving a loud cheer, got into small boats. When they fould their vessels sinking, the crews endeavored to row to the Japanese torpedo boats, which were ready to pick them up, but the Russian searchlights lit up their path and the Russian fire became very severe. The crews in their small boats were compelled to row around under cover and they were unable to reach the torpedo boats. The sea became heavy at sunrise and the crews suffered great hardship. They finally succeeded in reaching the Japanese squadron at 3 o'clock in the afternoon of the same day."

SEVERAL ATTACKS.

Viceroy Alexieff Sends Czar Report of Port Arthur Battle.

(By Associated Press.)

ST. PETERSBURG, Feb. 27.—The Czar has received the following from Viceroy Alexieff, dated Port Arthur, February 26th:

"After the moon had set early in the morning of February 25th, the Retvizan repelled several attacks by the enemy's torpedo boats, two of which are believed to have sunk in the open sea. Our torpedo boats, under Captain-of-the-First-Rank Matuszvitch, and Captain-of-the-Second-Rank Prince Lieven, unsupported, encountered and pursued the enemy's torpedo boat flotilla. They sighted no large warships. Later in the morning of February 25th the cruisers Bayan, Diana, Askold and Novik were sent out to prevent the Japanese cruisers from pursuing a portion of our returning torpedo boat flotilla. One of our torpedo boats, which was cut off by four Japanese cruisers, sought shelter in Dove Bay, where it was subjected to a long-distance fire by the enemy. It had no casualties.

"The Japanese fleet on sighting our cruisers came in closer to the forts, which, together with our warships, opened fire at 10:50. Our cruisers, still firing, entered the harbor, which our torpedo boats had already safely reached.

"The enemy's shells for the most part fell short. One seaman was wounded, but we sustained no other casualties.

"The Japanese fleet consisted of seventeen large warships and eight torpedo boats, whereas the squadron which attempted to block the entrance to Port Arthur on the previous day had twelve torpedo boats."

THE BOTTLING FEAT

Naval Officers and Jackies Manned the Vessels.

(By Associated Press.)

TOKIO, Feb. 27.—Naval officers commanded and "jackies" manned the five steamers that were sunk at the entrance to Port Arthur. Merchant sailors volunteered for the dangerous undertaking, but their services were not accepted, as Admiral Togo decided to entrust it to