WASHINGTON.

Marked Improvement in the Receipts of Internal Revenue.

Bank Examiner Meigs' Report on the Condition of the Freedmen's Bank.

The French Postal Treaty—The Consular and Diplomatic Service.

THE FREEDMEN'S BANK.

Special Telegram to the Inter-Ocean.]

WASHINGTON, April 24.—The Secretary of the Treasury sent to the House to-day the report of Bank Examiner Meigs upon the condition of the Freedman's Bank and its branches in various cities of the North and South. The liabilities of this institution, including those of the branches, are $3,338,896, and its resources, $3,121,008, of which $106,500 are bad and doubtful debts, showing a deficiency of $217,886. In other words, the depositors are secured to the extent of about 93 cents on the dollar. There is a discrepancy in amounts due depositors between deposits and the general ledger of about $40,000, but the examiner thinks this the result of carelessness in carrying the accounts forward and opening different accounts. The by-laws were so amended on Jan. 1 of the present year as to allow depositors only such interest as the profits of the institution warranted, and the examiner says if depositors will exercise reasonable forbearance for six or twelve months under this regulation it will give the institution time to recuperate from the misfortunes of the past, and add largely to the safety of depositors. The examiner expresses hope Congress will still continue to foster an institution which has done so much good, and can still do much. The examination of the Washington or main branch shows a discrepancy of over $45,000 between the amounts reported due depositors and examiners figures, and this the examiner attributes to gross carelessness in keeping the books. Many were duplicated, many transferred and not crossed off. Deposits and drafts made by dealers have remained unposted for several months, and the examiner finds it impossible to prove the books of the bank without checking back all entries to the time the bank started, or by calling in all pass books. Either would occupy several months, but one or the other ought to be undertaken. In some instances debits have been posted as credits and in others credits as debits. There has been no improvement in the branch book-keeping, the differences being twice as great as last year. The examiner presents lists of losses made and securities taken. Among them are the following: $144,164 on auditor's certificates, and District bonds of face value of $163,000; $50,000 to Hallet Kilbourne and John O. Evans on mortgage bonds of the Maryland Mining and Manufacturing Company; $75,000 to the Atchison branch of the Union Pacific Railway by contract for proceeds of sales of land in Kansas; $5,000 on bond of the International Steamship Company, no interest paid; $3,000 to Representative Purman on $10,000 stock in the American Seal Lock Company; $33,000 to General Howard, Vice President, and Henry D. Cooke, Treasurer Young Men's Christian Association; $28,500 to the Washington Club; $75,000 to the Howard University, and numerous sums ranging from $2,000 to $12,000, on which no interest was paid. The examiner recommends the closing of the non-sustaining branches, and compelling the managers to exercise more care in the character of the securities accepted for loans.

THE TRANSIT OF VENUS.

The parties which have been organizing here for the national expeditions to observe the transit of Venus have nearly perfected their preparations. The instruments, which are mainly of a new design, a few photographic methods excepted, were constructed under the superintendence of Professor Harkness, of the Observatory, and have been found to work admirably. They have been in use constantly of late in field observatories, and were designed and constructed by the same gentleman for this expedition. Those engaged in the work are confident that with the new instruments placed at their disposal, the result obtained by the United States will prove among the most valuable reached by any of the great nations moving in the same matter. The photographic experiments necessary in order to insure the success of that important department are now in progress under Dr. Henry Draper, of New York, and promise excellent results. The new steamer Swatora is being rapidly fitted out at the Brooklyn Navy Yards for the expedition.

A LEAF FROM THE BUTLER RECORD.

A case is now pending before the House Committee on War Claims of some considerable interest to General Butler. A loyal man named Shannon owned a steamboat named the W. Burton. This was seized by order of General Butler while he was in command at New Orleans. The owner tried long to have it released, but without avail. He was then approached by a partner of General Butler's brother in the manner set forth in the following affidavit, which forms a part of the additional evidence taken in the case:

STATE OF LOUISIANA, Parish of Louisiani.

On this 16th day of July, A. D. 1866, before me, Selim Wagner, a notary public, duly commissioned and sworn in and far the parish and State aforesaid, personally appeared Dr. Benjamin F. Smith, residing at No. 170 Canal street, situate in the city of New Orleans, to me well known, and being first duly and solemnly sworn, deposes, and says: He resided in the city of New Orleans in the year 1862; that during a part of that year he was partner in speculations with A. J. Butler, in New Orleans; that some time between the 15th and 21st of June, 1862, by direction of Colonel Jonas A. French, then Provost Marshal General of the State of Louisiana, and A. J. Butler, he called there several times upon D. W. Shannon, at his residence, No. 242 Camp street, for the purpose of negotiating a purchase of the steamboat W. Burton; that he was authorized by said French and Butler to offer Shannon $12,000 in gold for said boat. This offer was made at each of the three several times of calling, and each time refused by the said Shannon, he alleging the Burton cost him $25,000. The said Burton was at the time of these offers in the possession of the United States, and was to be purchased subject to that seizure. He told Shannon he would never get possession of the Shannon, and he had better take the $12,000 than nothing; that deponent was interested with said French and Butler to the extent of one-third interest, and that deponent understood in case of the purchase being made General Benjamin F. Butler would release the said boat from seizure. BENJAMIN F. SMITH, 170 Canal street.

Sworn to and subscribed before me on the day and year herein first written. S. WOZNER, Notary Public.

Mr. Shannon's claim for $52,000 was first rejected upon mistaken charges of disloyalty, and has now been referred with additional evidence to the Committee on War Claims.

THE FRENCH POSTAL TREATY.

The terms of the French postal treaty with the United States have been finally agreed upon, and will be signed on Saturday or on Monday and the rates made known. These are much less than those charged on letters and newspapers under the treaty closed. Mails will also be transmitted across French territory at rates regarded as satisfactory by our authorities.

SECRETARY RICHARDSON.

Secretary Richardson will leave for New England this evening, to be absent a number of days.

WHISKY TRAFFIC IN OHIO.

A number of days' calculations have just been completed by the Commissioner of Internal Revenue in regard to the whisky traffic in Ohio. It appears that for the month of March of this year the amount produced was 80,000 gallons less than for the corresponding month of last year. There was, however, a falling off of only $7,000 in taxes paid, showing that the sales have been but slightly diminished, but the manufacture has fallen off considerable.

RECEIPTS OF INTERNAL REVENUE.

Calculations at the same office in regard to the entire amount of internal revenue tax collected, show that the receipts of the last few weeks from all sources of internal revenue have exceeded those of the corresponding period of last year, and that if the present rate continues through the month the receipts of this April will exceed those of last April by $500,000.

CONSULAR AND DIPLOMATIC SERVICE.

To the Western Associated Press.]

WASHINGTON, April 24.—Secretary Fish was before the House Appropriation Committee to-day in explanation of estimates for appropriations for the consular and diplomatic service. Judge Orth, Chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee, was also present, and explained the prospective effect of sundry provisions of the bill to reorganize the consular system recently reported from his committee and now awaiting action by the House.

MAIL CONTRACTS.

The Attorney General has decided that when a mail contractor fails to fulfill his contract a new contract cannot be made without readvertisement. Also, to render a mail contract valid, a complete schedule of the route should be embraced in the advertisement.

NOMINATIONS.

The President sent the following nominations to the Senate to-day:

Registers of Land offices—Herman Sylver, Denver, Col., and Keyes Danforth, Arkansas Valley Land District, Colorado.

Receivers of Land Offices—L. L. Mitchell, Arkansas Valley Land District of Colorado.

Arran Huddleston, agent for the Indians of the Kaw Agency, Kansas.

JURY LISTS IN UTAH.

The House Judiciary Committee to-day decided to report, as an amendment to Mr. Poland's bill, provisions requiring the Governor of Utah to appoint a commission who shall have the making up of jury lists. These lists shall be composed of citizens of the United States who have resided at least one year in the Territory, and from these lists all jurors shall be drawn in open court.

UNITED STATES COURT STENOGRAPHER.

The committee also agreed to report a bill authorizing each Circuit and each District Court in the United States to appoint an official stenographer, at a salary of $8 per day.

CUSTOMS RECEIPTS.

The receipts from customs for the week ending the 18th inst., were as follows:

New York	$2,292,476	Baltimore	$116,119
Boston	339,579	Philadelphia	120,999

THE HOWARD COURT OF INQUIRY.

In the Howard Court of Inquiry, the government rested its case to-day, closing with the examination of Assistant Adjutant General Vincent. General Howard commences his defense Monday, and expects to occupy a week.

CONFIRMATION.

The Senate confirmed the nomination of Joseph Reno as Collector of Internal Revenue for the Second District of Kentucky.

CONGRESSIONAL.

SENATE.

To the Western Associated Press.]

WASHINGTON, April 24.—The Senate proceeded to the consideration of bills on the calendar, and the following were passed:

The Senate bill amendatory of the act to provide internal revenue to support the government, to pay interest on the public debt, and for other purposes, approved June 30, 1864. It provides that no legal document or paper required by law to be stamped, which was made, signed, or issued in the Northern States prior to the 1st of July, 1865, shall be deemed or held as invalid, or of no effect, by reason of the failure to impose thereon the required stamp.

The Chair laid before the Senate a communication from the Secretary of War, inclosing the draft of a bill in regard to the jurisdiction of courts-martial. Referred.

Also, a letter from the Treasurer of the United States, transmitting his accounts with the Postoffice Department. Referred,

Mr. Edmunds, from the Judiciary Committee, reported without amendment the same bill passed by the Senate last session for the creation of a court for the adjudication and disposition of certain moneys received into the Treasury under an award made by the Tribunal of Arbitration constituted by virtue of the first article of the treaty concluded at Washington May 8, 1871, between the United States of America and the Queen of Great Britain. Placed on the calendar.

On motion of Mr. Sargent, the vote by which the House bill to amend the twenty-fifth section of the coinage act of 1873 was indefinitely postponed a few days ago was reconsidered, and the bill placed on the calendar.

The morning hour having expired, the Senate resumed consideration of the Louisiana bill, and Mr. Merrimon concluded his argument commenced yesterday. He said the Republican party had accomplished its work, and was now on the decline. He would not say what party would succeed it, but the day of that party was over.

Mr. Davis, of West Virginia—Amen. [Laughter.]

Mr. Merrimon, resuming, argued that McEnery was legally elected Governor of Louisiana. The Returning Board which undertook to count Kellogg in never had any lawful existence whatever. He said McEnery, being the lawful Governor of the State, had the right to take the State House and disperse the mob which assembled there, and he should have done so when that mob was taking possession of the State House.

Mr. Edmunds introduced by request a bill to provide for a commission upon the subject of postal telegraph. Referred.

Mr. Windom presented the report of the Committee on Transportation Routes, and made a lengthy speech in explanation and advocacy thereof.

Mr. Sherman moved that 1,000 extra copies of the report be printed. Referred.

Mr. Morrill, of Maine, called up the House bill to render available certain balances of unexpended appropriations for the payment of bounty and prize money to colored soldiers and sailors. Passed.

The Senate went into executive session, and soon after adjourned until Monday.

HOUSE.

The motion by Mr. O'Brien to strike out the paragraph for a Bureau of Education gave rise to a long discussion, in the course of which Mr. Beck alluded to the finance bill and its veto, declaring that the Comptroller of the Currency had misled the President in regard to the $4,000,000 of national currency authorized but not issued, by stating that it was not taken, and leaving the impression that it was not called for, which was untrue, and all this in order that the $25,000,000 which was to be redistributed, when the whole amount authorized was taken up, might not be called for but might be left with the Eastern banks. He (Beck) did not charge the President with falsehood in the matter, but the President had imposed upon the country inadvertently. He had admitted using language which led people to infer that this $4,000,000 had not been taken up because it was not wanted. That was one reason why he (Beck) objected to swelling up the bureaus that could not be relied upon to give correct information.

After further discussion, the motion to strike out the paragraph for a Bureau of Education was withdrawn.

The Speaker laid before the House a message from the President, transmitting copies of all the orders and correspondence in relation to the troubles in Arkansas, in answer to a resolution of the House. Referred.

Mr. Swann, from the Committee on Appropriations, reports the consular and diplomatic appropriation bill. Referred. This bill appropriates $3,347,304, including $150,000 for the survey of the boundary between the United States and the British possessions, from the Lake of the Woods to the summit of the Rocky Mountains; also, including $1,929,819 to pay the claims of the British subjects allowed by the joint committee.

The House then went into committee of the whole, with Mr. Woodford in the chair, on the legislative, executive, and judiciary appropriation bill.

The usual annual discussion over appropriations for the Agricultural Department occupied several hours, and covered a familiar range of subjects, such as worthlessness, or local inappropriateness of seeds furnished; supplying to the Northwest of such seeds as would grow only in the valley of the lower Mississippi, and sending down there Pennsylvania rye and Berks oats. In the course of the discussion, which was generally of an amusing and discursive character, Mr. Ward asserted that some of the departments were making use of official postage stamps to circulate the speeches of members, and on being pressed for specifications, he named the Comptroller of the Currency as one official who had thus circulated speeches of several members of the Committee on Banking and Currency. He denounced it as favoritism, partiality, wrong, and almost as a crime.

Mr. Randall stated that the subject matter had been informally called to the attention of the Banking Committee. The abuse consisted in the Comptroller of the Currency sending out speeches of some members of the Banking Committee to various banks and persons, but the Comptroller had stated as a justification that the postage was no greater with the speech than it would have been on correspondence without it.

A Member—The speech must have been very light. [Laughter].

Mr. Ward—The practice would involve favoritism.

Mr. Randall—I believe that the speeches of most of the members of the Banking Committee were sent out in that way.

Mr. Merriam—None of mine were.

Mr. Randall—I believe it was the fault of the Comptroller of the Currency (Mr. Knox) and I think, with the gentleman from Illinois (Ward), that the thing is all wrong. But that is not the first step in that direction, for enormous quantities of seeds are sometimes sent out in the same way through the Agricultural Department.

Mr Cobb (of Kansas), offered an amendment fixing the postage on agricultural reports at ten cents, but on the objection of Mr. Willard, of Vermont, it was ruled out out of order.

Mr. Lawrence offered an amendment requiring the Commissioner of Agriculture to obtain and publish statistics as to the production of wool, animal food, etc., but it was also ruled out of order.

After the paragraphs relating to the Agricultural Department were disposed of without any notable changes, and when the appropriations for the judiciary came under consideration, Mr. Duell moved an amendment fixing the salary of the district judges in California, Maine, Massachusetts, Connecticut, New York, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Maryland, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Missouri, Louisiana, and Rhode Island at $5,000 and in all other districts at $4,000. After discussion, the amendment was rejected.

Mr. Garfield, Chairman of the Appropriation Committee, moved to insert an item of $1,000,000 to pay the judgments of the Court of Claims. He remarked that the estimates were for $2,000,000, while the amount appropriated for the current year was only $400,000. He stated that the aggregate of pending cases before the Court was about $4,000,000, and the calculation was that $1,000,000 would pay for all the judgments, but, as the proposition was an important one, he would not ask action on it till to-morrow.

The committee then, after disposing of fourteen pages of the bill, and leaving only six pages undisposed of, rose.

Mr. Myers introduced a bill to repeal the second section of the act of the 6th of July, 1872, which reduces the duties on certain imported articles 10 per cent. Referred.

The House then adjourned.

Ocean Steamship News.

NEW YORK, April 24.—Arrived, the steamships Anglia and California, from Glasgow.

LONDON, April 24.—The steamship Silesia, from New York for Hamburg, is aground in the Elbe, and is reported to be in a dangerous position.

NEW YORK, April 24.—Arrived, the steamer Calabria, from Liverpool.

CASUALTIES.

Three Persons Killed and Several Wounded by the Falling of a House in Brooklyn—Other Fatalities.

NEW YORK, April 24.—The *Evening Post* states that a three-story frame house in Stockton street, Brooklyn, fell this morning, while being raised, burying some seven or eight workmen. At 10 o'clock four had been taken out, believed to be dying, and two could be seen in the ruins, supposed to be dead.

LATER—Two men were killed outright—Osborn, the boss builder, and Burns, the boss plumber. Two were fatally injured and five severely hurt. A boy employed in the building at the time is missing, and it is believed his body is buried in the ruins.

Louisa Mackay, the daughter of very wealthy parents, residing in this city, was drowned last evening at the New Jersey Central Railway pier, by falling into the dock while attempting to leap on board of a ferry-boat that had just started on a trip to this city.

Special Telegram to the Inter-Ocean.]

DAVENPORT, Iowa, April 24.—At noon to-day a little negro girl, 5 years of age, was terribly burned in Rock Island. Her father and mother, named Ham, work on the Northern Line boats, and she was in charge of another negro family. During their absence her clothing caught fire from the stove, and was completely burned off her body. Dr. C. S. Plummer was called, but nothing could be done farther than temporarily relieving her sufferings. The wounds will undoubtedly prove fatal.

NORWICH, Conn., April 24.—The Norwich and Worcester steamboat train to Boston ran off the track near Norwich last night, and three cars were smashed and burned. The baggage-master was badly hurt and burned. One passenger was seriously injured, and another was fatally burned. The accident occurred on the old part of the line near Allyn's Point, and, it is said, was caused by a broken rail.

MILWAUKEE, Wis., April 24.—Dick Hamilton, a switchman on the St. Paul road, was killed this afternoon by a locomotive. He was caught on the cow-catcher, and literally broken in two.

Special Telegram to the Inter-Ocean.]

MADISON, Wis., April 24.—A very severe accident happened to J. Y. Smith, an old resident of this city, to-day. His horse kicked him, and broke his leg below the knee. The limb was so badly bruised that the bones protruded through the flesh.

Special Telegram to the Inter-Ocean.]

RICHMOND, Ind., April 24.—The saw-mill owned by Jessup, at Washington, in this county, was torn to fragments to-day, by the explosion of the boiler. John Alexander, fireman, was instantly killed. Mr. Jessup and both his sons were slightly injured.

FIRES.

Several Large Conflagrations in Different Parts of the Country.

Special Telegram to the Inter-Ocean.]

LAFAYETTE, Ind., April 24.—At Frankfort, Ind., at an early hour this morning, a fire broke out which proved to be a very disastrous one, destroying Givens & Baum's livery stable and twenty-one horses, a small dwelling and a hotel. It is supposed to have been the work of an incendiary. Loss between $20,000 and $30,000.

Special Telegram to the Inter-Ocean.]

DUBUQUE, Iowa, April 24.—A fire this afternoon destroyed the residence of C. Messerknecht with most of its contents, and $135 in currency.

Special Telegram to the Inter-Ocean.]

CLEVELAND, Ohio, April 24.—A special to the *Herald* states that William Hart's dry goods, and W. F. Watkins' hardware store in Grafton were burned this morning. Loss near $15,000; insured.

GREEN BAY, Wis., April 24.—A fire broke out last night in Fort Howard, in the European hotel, kept by W. H. Haight, destroying that building and spreading until it destroyed five buildings. The following are the losses sustained: Haight, hotel, furniture, etc.; loss, $2,800; insured for $1,900. The building owned by J. H. Elmore; loss, $2,500; insurance, $800. The livery stable of D. Hammel & Co., unoccupied, $2,500; insurance, $1,000. The shoe shop of A. Planart, $2,500; insurance, $1,000. The saloon of A. Surmens, $700; insurance, $500. The building owned by Mr. Ans, $1,200; insurance, $500. The restaurant of Peterson & Co., $1,500; insurance, 1,000 on building; loss, $800. The saloon of Masso, $500; no insurance. The damage to the building of Aldenberg & Co. is $500; insured. The damage to A. Kalmboch's building is $200; insured. The damage to Fisk's warehouse is $400; insured.

ST. LOUIS, Mo., April 24.—A fire at Brunswick, Mo., yesterday, destroyed the drug store of Dr. J. F. Cunningham. The loss is $11,000, with no insurance. Three or four dry goods houses adjoining removed most of their goods, sustaining damages thereby amounting to about $8,000.

MONTREAL, Can., April 20.—A fire this morning at the tanneries, just outside the city limits, destroyed tenements, rendering nineteen families homeless. Loss, $15,000.

CINCINNATI, April 24.—The *Gazette's* special says a fire at Delaware this morning destroyed the building occupied by the Carlisle carriage factory, Griffith's marble works, and a grocery. Loss, $12,000.

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., April 24.—A fire at Frankfort this morning destroyed the livery stable af H. M. Baum, two business rooms, and one residence. Seventeen horses perished in the livery stable, two of which were valued at $2,500 each, owned by Captain Dawson, of Michigan. The total loss is estimated at $15,000 to $20,000, with but a small amount of insurance. The origin of the fire is unknown.

BALTIMORE, Md., April 24.—Mann's livery stable, with six horses, valued at $1,000 each, were burned today.

MONEY, BREADSTUFFS, AND PROVISIONS.

The Markets in New York and Liverpool on Yesterday.

Special Telegram to the Inter-Ocean,]

NEW YORK, April 24.—Speculation in stocks, after opening about as gloomy as it closed on yesterday, unexpectedly took an upward turn, and regained much of the decline of yesterday. Outsiders came in pretty freely to take advantage of the low prices. Money was easy, closing at 4 to 5 per cent. on call and 6 to 7 on time loans. Gold opened at 111¾, and advanced to 112⅜, closing at 112½. Two unimportant failures are reported as the result of the decline. Exchange is stronger, prime bills being quoted at $4.86½ and 4.89½ for time and sight bills.

State and Western flour is a shade lower, and business light. Spring wheat moderately active, opening 1 to 2 cents lower, and closing steadier. The export movement is aided by lower freights. Corn is quoted fully 1 cent lower. Oats are stronger.

Pork was moderately active, with future options lower. New Western mess sold for spot at $17. Bacon is quoted easier on stock. Lard opened lower and closed steadier.

LIVERPOOL MARKETS.

Special Cable Telegram to the Inter-Ocean.]

LIVERPOOL, April 24., evening.—Flour dull and 6d lower; extra State, 28s.

Wheat—Dull and 1d lower; No. 1 spring, 12s 8d; No. 2 spring, 12s 2d; winter, 12s 5d.

Corn—Dull and 6d lower; mixed Western, 38s 6d.

Beef—Dull; prime mess, 90s; India mess, 102s; extra India mess, 127s.

Prime Mess Pork—Firm at the recent advance; Eastern, 74s; Western, 65s.

Long Cut Hams—Quiet at 43s.

Shoulders—Steady at 31s 6d.

Bacon—Steady; Cumberlands, 40s; short ribs, 42s; long clear, 44s; short clear, 44s 6d.

Lard—Steady; Western, 46s 3d.

Tallow—Steady; prime city, 37s 6d.

Cheese—Unchanged; firmly held; choice American, 74s.

Spirits Turpentine—Steadier at 32s 6d.

Rosin—Common, 6s 6d; fine, 14s.

THE VETO.

The Course of Senator Morton Sustained by Indianapolis Workingmen.

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., April 24.—At the meeting of the workingmen, last night, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted.

Resolved, That we, the trades unions and workingmen of Indiana, in mass meeting assembled, thank Senator Morton and our Representatives who have so nobly supported the interests of the United States in the recent financial debates and action in Congress; and,

Resolved, That we urge that they give no consent to an adjournment of Congress until some satisfactory financial relief be granted to the industrial interests of the great West.

BOSTON, Mass., April 24.—General Butler has been interviewed on the veto. He said that he had not read the veto message, but he could not see how Grant could get around his own act of last fall, in issuing the $26,000,000 reserve. "In fact, he did not understand it, unless Grant had gone back on himself," adding, "Well, if the President will deny his own acts, let him do it."

A New Orleans dispatch announces that nine men belonging to the ship Selma, who were blown from the Southwest Pass in small boats a week ago, were picked up by a fishing schooner in Timbalier Bay, and have arrived at New Orleans.

On Wednesday evening the capitalists of Rock Island held a mass meeting and unanimously voted to establish a new local bank. Subscriptions were made on the spot amounting to $400,000.

BEFORE THE BREEZE.

The Grand Grain Fleet for Below to Leave Port To-day.

How the Old Superstitious Dread of "Unlucky Friday" Delayed Our White-Winged Carriers in Port Yesterday.

The Amount of Grain Afloat from Chicago a Million and a Half Bushels.

From All Lake Michigan Ports Nearly Two Million Bushels.

Manitowoc advices of a late hour last night say: "Vessels arriving here report the propellers out of the Straits; that two were passed on their way up." A Milwaukee dispatch, received also at a late hour, said: "There is the best authority for stating that two or more of the boats from below will arrive here in the morning." These are the glad tidings that have been so anxiously awaited for ten days past.

THE FLEET FROM CHICAGO,

all things considered, is a very fair one. A number have already left, but the majority take their departure to-day. Everything was favorable yesterday, but, as it happened to be Friday, very few would go out, sailors, masters and owners still clinging to that

SUPERSTITION OF BAD LUCK.

Those vessels that "braved Friday" were the Kate Darley, Sunrise, Hemisphere, Albrecht, and Groton. Captain John Prindiville "has his own private opinion of men that will allow themselves to be controlled by such nonsense," and he has occasion to express it to an assemblage of owners and masters last evening. The masters, on being railed at for their fears,

DENY ANY RESPONSIBILITY

for lying over; and owners, with a shrug and an elevation of the eyebows, say: "Oh, I simply humor the captain." So it goes. That excessive reverence and fear of Friday coming out of the dark ages will doubtless hold good for all time to come among sailors, and nothing that can be said or done will rid them of it.

Following is the fleet, with the amount of grain on board:

PROPELLERS.

Prop Arabia, wheat, bu	48,000
Prop Lawrence	general cargo
Prop Montana	general cargo
Prop Cleveland	general cargo
Prop Toledo, wheat, bu	14,000
Prop Newburg, wheat, bu	82,000
Prop Owensborn, bu	30,000
Prop Cuba—	
Corn, bu	33,111
Wheat, bu	10,933
Flour, brls	1,800
Prop Collingwood, corn, bu	21,489
Prop Arizona, flour, brls	500
Prop Alaska, flour, brls	750

SAIL VESSELS—WHEAT.

	Bu.
Schr John Mott	18,162
Schr Atlanta	18,129
Schr M. L. Biggie	20,056
Schr San Jacinto	16,932
Schr Lady Dufferin	20,606
Schr John Calderhouse	31,000
Schr H. P. Baldwin	33,240
Schr American	22,881
Schr E. Mortch	19,204
Schr E. J. DeVey	19,450
Schr E. M. Davidson	21,885
Schr Millard Fillmore	18,026
Schr Colon Ellsworth	7,510
Schr Albatross	18,995
Schr Ætna	20,000
Schr A. J. Rogers	21,530
Schr J. B. Gilbur	6,083
Schr M. I. Wilcox	22,020
Schr Jennie Mullen	12,432
Schr Adelaidora	19,950

CORN.

Schr G. Glooper	22,821
Schr Emma A. Mayes	28,029
Schr Minnie Slauson	37,028
Schr Muir	22,938
Schr Clara Parker	29,006
Schr Meaford	29,694
Schooner S. Lawrence	21,600
Bark Homer	32,318
Schr Minnie Slauson	23,449
Schr Donaldson	29,618
Bark Katie Darley	26,630
Schr Bay Ste.	16,096
Schr W. Bellen	20,000
Bark Naia	20,400
Schr Johnliner	20,134
Bark Hemisphere	20,500
Bark Unada	25,313
Schr Gold Fleece	30,450
Schr D. Robbins	29,300
Schr Medler	16,836
Schr Groton	23,250
Schr H. Albrecht	14,541
Schr W. Orthwaite	46,000
Schr L. Vanvalkenburg	21,300
Schr Board Trade	28,000
Schr J. B. Gilbur	19,106
Schr Jamestown	55,041
Hubbard	16,355
Schr Evali	15,232

BARLEY.

Schr Colon Ellsworth	14,400

OATS.

	Bu.
Bark Peshtigo	38,000
Schr Oneota	35,000
Schr Sunrise	38,000

TONNAGE OVER.

Beside the vessels above given there is a fleet of thirty-five vessels in the harbor unchartered. They range from the very best class to the medium size grain carrying craft. In the present general depression what change the opening will make on the market for grain freights cannot be said, as the chances of this unchartered tonnage for

HIGHER OR LOWER RATES

of course mean more or less doubt. Only a few of these vessels go into the ore trade, however, and it should be borne in mind that there is a fleet in the Straits for Chicago and Milwaukee, and a large surplus of tonnage cannot bring any improvement. Following are the names of those unchartered: D. A. Wells, Russian, Panama, Geo. Steele, A. Foster, Peninsula, Norm, Kate Hinchman, Camden, N. Reddington, Pomeroy, Jerry Hannah, S. F. Gale, Richards, Bradley Cuyhoga, Igerine, Collingwood, Crawford, Milwaukee Belle, Osta, New Dominion, Orient, Mary Copely, Floretta, Ethan Allen, Ida Keith, Barbarian, Lucy J. Clark, Halsted, Hunter, Nichols, Bridgewater, and two others.

THE AMOUNT OF GRAIN.

The aggregate amount of grain on board the fleet is as follows:

	Bu.
Wheat	502,974
Corn	825,085
Barley	14,400
Oats	111,000
Grand total	1,453,459

Of flour there are 3,050 barrels.

Estimating the Milwaukee fleet at 300,000 bushels, that from Shelgan at 90,000 bushels, and from all other ports 100,000 buels, this will make the entire amount of grain on the first lake Michigan fleet down 1,843,459 bushels.

MILWAUKEE.

Special Telegram to the Inter-Ocean.]

MILWAUKEE, Wis., April 24.—The fleet for below entire is composed of the following vessels: Schooners Jamaica, Reuben Ind, I. G. Jenkins, Dan Lyons, Itasca, James Platt, J. Merrill, Laura Belle, Flying Mist, Red, White, and Blue; propellers Toledo and Arabia.

MANITOWOC.

Special Telegram to the Inter-Ocean.]

MANITOWOC, Wis., April 24.—No grain shipped from here for below.

SHEBOYGAN.

Special Telegram to the Inter-Ocean].

SHEBOYGAN, Wis., April 24.—The Sheboygan grain fleet loaded costs of the schooners Stampede, Lone Star, L. W. Perry, Morning Star, Charlotte Raab, and B. Parsons. Capacity, 000 bushels.

THE UPWARD BOUND FLEET.

Special Telegram to the Inter-Ocean.]

CLEVELAND, Ohio, April 24.—A large fleet of vessels will leave this port for Chicago and other points on Saturday.

Special Telegram to the Inter-Ocean.]

BUFFALO, N. Y., April 24.—The INTER-OCEAN'S advices and views concerning the Straits have had the effect of stirring things up here, and the sail fleet are putting out. Several left to-day. What is the prospect?

[The inquiry which closes the above dispatch is well answered ward in this article.—MARINE ED.]

THE DISPATCHES.

DETROIT, April 24.—Advices from the Straits report weather fair. Light south wind. Thermometer 20°. It is thought boats have got through yet.

Special Telegram to the Inter-Ocean.]

DETROIT, Mich., April 24.—We have no advices that the propellers have got through, but excellent progress was being made last accounts, and you must have a boat soon.

Special Telegram to the Inter-Ocean.]

MILWAUKEE, Wis., April 24.—It is confidently believed that the Straits are open.

ICE IN GRAND TRAVERSE BAY.

GRAND TRAVERSE, April 22.—The ice is still strong. A day or two ago a man drove his horse across the east arm of the bay. There is no water in sight.

NO ICE AT BUFFALO.

BUFFALO, N. Y., April 22.—The ice has entirely disappeared from the bay here, with the exception of a little in the southy, which is mostly out of the course of vessels and along shore. For all practical purposes the harbor and bay are clear, and the former begins to assume a deserted appearance, as the greater part of the vessels have departed. The only arrivals yesterday were schooners Skylark, in Ogdensburg, with iron ore, and the Maize, from Toledo, with corn.

ERIE CANAL.

Special Telegram to the Inter-Ocean.]

ALBANY, N. Y., April 24.—The canals open May 5.

WELLAND CANAL.

Special Telegram to the Inter-Ocean.]

PORT COLBORNE, April 24.—A large fleet are on the way from Milwaukee and Chicago.

ON LAKE SUPERIOR.

MARQUETTE, April 24.—The ice is rapidly going out and we are long for boats.

CITY BREVITIES.

Have your head taken, life size, at Melander's, No. 88 North Clark street.

Take home with you this morning a box of Dyball's home-made candies.

Several co-operative stores and distributing depots are to be established in this city by the Sovereigns of Industry.

John Calley, the box swindler, was yesterday fined $4 by Justice Boyden, and ordered to go and do so no more.

J. Shaleszeye is the euphoneous cognomen of a carpet-thief who was yesterday fined $25 by Justice Kaufmann.

Ten dollars each is what the judges and clerks of the late town election on the South Side claim. The law allows the $3.

A money-box, containing $50, was taken from a Cottage Grove car by two men, Thursday night, as it was passing Madison street.

There were twenty-nine cases on the sheet at the West Side Police Court, yesterday, none of them important. The fines amounted to $49, of which $18 was collected.

Henry Davis was arrested yesterday on a warrant sworn out by Julia Hesh, to whom he threatened to do bodily harm. Henry now occupies a cell in the Union Street Station.

North Clark street is to be raised up to standard grade and paved from the river approach to Chicago avenue, this summer. It is promised that the work will soon commence.

The alarm of fire at 9:27 was caused by the destruction of a saloon and grocery on Paulina street, near North avenue, owned and occupied by P. McCarthy. The total loss was about $1,700.

The popular pastime for mischievous boys nowadays is to tie the doors of horse cars in such a manner that ingress or egress can only be accomplished by a liberal expenditure of time and patience.

John Wright, an employe of the West Side Street Car Company, had his shoulder-blade broken yesterday afternoon while stowing away snow-plows in the barn on Western avenue.

Patrick De Wire, the much-clothed individual who was arrested Thursday evening by Officer Flynn, was yesterday brought before Justice Scully, who consigned him to the care of Mr. Felton for the next 100 days.

There was to have been a meeting of the Executive Committee of the Real Estate Dealers and Brokers' Exchange, in the office of Clarke, Layton & Co., yesterday afternoon, but for want of a quorum no business was transacted.

Agnes McCoy longed for a pair of stays, for the purchase of which she had not the requisite amount of fractional currency. She therefore stole the coveted treasure and now pines in a prison cell. To-day Justice Scully will decide her fate.

A little 3-year old boy named George H. Thirsk, whose parents reside at No. 72 Vincennes avenue, fell into a cistern yesterday while playing in the yard with some of his companions, and before assistance could be summoned was drowned.

The Masonic brotherhood intend to make a notable occasion of the laying of the corner-stone of the new government building, on the 24th of June next. To this end there will be a meeting of the principal officials of the Grand Lodge, and of the local lodges, this evening, at the American Express building, for the purpose of making arrangements for the coming event.

Yesterday the Board of Trade appointed the following gentlemen a committee to solicit subscriptions for the relief of the inundated people in Louisiana and the Southwest: George C. Walker, Howard Priestley, Asa Dow, C. J. Gilbert, and L. D. Norton.

Ald. Schaffner is proud of his new bronze Indian and dog in front of his store in the Grand Pacific Hotel. The Indian he will teach to aspire to Aldermanic honors, and he laughs at the possible attempts of the "peelers" to enforce the Mayor's proclamation on his dog.

REAL ESTATE.

Instruments Filed for Record Friday, April 24.

CITY PROPERTY.

Twenty-third st, s w cor of Portland av, n f, 25x125 ft, dated April 21; consideration, $3,100.

Thirty-second st, 140 ft w of Fox st, n f, 25x124 ft, dated April 20; consideration, $700.

Cox st, 120 ft w of Robey st, s f, 24x100 ft, dated April 20; consideration, $560.

Same as the above, dated April 13; consideration, $400.

Park av, 275 ft w of Fall st, s f, 25 ft to alley, dated April 23; consideration, $1,453.

Lot 4, in block 1 of block 23, e ½ sec 31, 39, 14, dated April 24; consideration, $500.

Elk Grove st, 240 ft n of North av, w f, 48x121 ft, dated April 13; consideration, $2,000.

West Harrison st, 192 ft e of Leavitt st, n f, 24x100 ft, dated April 23; consideration, $2,000.

Homan av, 100 ft s of West Huron st, w f, 75x125½ ft, dated April 23; consideration, $2,100.

Hinman st, 125 ft w of Lincoln st, n f, 25x126¼ ft, dated April 23; consideration, $825.

Hinman st, 100 ft w of Lincoln st, n f, 25x126¼ ft, dated April 24; consideration, $825.

West Indiana st, 24 ft w of Robey st, s f, 24x92 ft, dated April 24; consideration, $1,100.

Lincoln av, 291½ ft s e of Center st, s w f, 48x115 ft, dated April 17; consideration, $6,186.

Wood st, 241 ft s of Van Buren st, e f, 25x126 ft, dated April 23; consideration, $4,400.

Fillmore st, 278 ft w of Western av, n f, 25x124¾ ft, dated April 20; consideration, $3,000.

Washington st, 210 ft e of Western av, s f, 30x127¼ ft, with buildings, dated April 24; consideration, $4,000.

Butterfield st, 199 ft s of Thirty-first st, w f, 25x100 ft, with building, dated April 15; consideration, $3,800.

West Ohio st, 330 ft w of Homan av, s f, 330x582 ft, dated April 1; consideration, $20,000.

NORTH OF CITY LIMITS.

Lots 7 to 14, of block 3, of