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BUT ONE WAY TO SETTLE IT

THE CONFLICT OVER CONVICT MINERS IN TENNESSEE.

NO LASTING PEACE POSSIBLE UNTIL THE PRISON-LEASE SYSTEM IS ABOLISHED—HOW MR. PLATT'S COMPANY MANAGES TO BIND THE STATE IN SPITE OF THE PEOPLE.

NASHVILLE, Tenn., Aug. 14.—The trouble that the East Tennessee Coal and Iron Company, of which Thomas C. Platt is President, is having at Tracy City is but a continuation of the trouble which began in the mines of the Cumberland Range a year or so ago on account of the opposition of the miners to the employment of convict labor. At that time the trouble was at Coal Creek and Oliver Springs.

It was at the former place that the "free men of the mountains," as the denizens term themselves, gathered 5,000 strong, armed with rifles and shotguns, and overpowered a company of militia under Col. Granville Sevier and forced it to board a coal train and depart. The miners then opened the stockades to let the convicts out, and applied the torch to the prison pens. This was in Anderson County, and the Sheriff fled, leaving his bailiwick in the hands of the mob.

By tact the penitentiary officials managed to hold a majority of the released convicts, but scores of them fled to the mountains and many of them have never been recaptured.

Gov. Buchanan hastened to Knoxville, the most convenient point, with all of the available State Militia, numbering about 600, and for a time a conflict was imminent between the militia and the miners. After a week of parleying a truce was patched up, with the understanding that the Governor would call the Legislature in extra session, and have the obnoxious convict-lease law repealed. The Governor probably knew that this could not be done, or if he did not the Legislature lost little time in informing him that it did not lie within its powers to revoke a contract made by a former Legislature. The only thing gained by the extra session was the passage of an act enabling the Governor to call out the militia, and making a liberal appropriation to sustain it.

Upon the adjournment of the Legislature the trouble broke out afresh, and the consequence has been that several companies of militia have been kept at Coal Creek Camp ever since. The cost to the State has been enormous, and the injury done to the development of that rich mineral section by preventing the influx of foreign capital is incalculable.

The convict camp at Tracy City mines is the largest in the State, but the trouble Saturday was the first that has occurred there between the authorities and the free miners.

The explanation of this is that when the general revolt of last year reigned all along the mountains the Tracy mines were being run on half time, while now they are only running on half time. The output of the mines there in July, 1891, was 36,238 tons, while for July, 1892, it was only 28,615 tons. In other words, the free miners have been shut out, while the convicts have been kept busy.

There are thousands of people in the mountain region of Tennessee who have no other means of earning a living for themselves and families except by working in the coal and iron mines. The country is sterile, and one can travel for miles and not see as much as a whole acre of ground in cultivation. There are but few free mines in that section. The Tennessee Coal and Iron Company, in fact, owns and controls the mines, for, what they do not own, they have leased. The company is the lessee of the State Penitentiary, and has been for a number of years. Within a dozen years there have there been fewer than from 1,400 to 1,600 convicts at its command. The company pays, or rather agreed to pay, the State $100,000 annually for the service of the convicts, and the present lease has about four more years to run.

The opposition of the miners to the employment of convicts in the mines is concurred in by nine-tenths of the people of the State, so far as the lease system is concerned. Of course, they do not countenance acts of violence and the putting of the law at defiance. But however much the people of all classes and parties are opposed to the lease system, so far they have not been able to have it abolished. It seems to be a matter of impossibility to elect a Legislature that does not readily succumb to the "arguments" of the powerful lobby which Mr. Thomas C. Platt's iron-ribbed corporation always has at its command whenever a Legislature is in session, and no Governor of the State so far has hesitated to sign a new lease at the expiration of the old one.

The excuse for their action given for this by legislators and Executives is that the State is in debt and cannot afford to keep the prison population within the penitentiary walls, and that the $100,000 clear profit is needed to help pay the interest on the State debt.

The fact is, the penitentiary proper cannot accommodate more than 700 persons. It was built over half a century ago, and is void of every modern prison improvement, is one of the most horrible prisons to be found on the continent. The convicts do not hesitate to say that they prefer to go to the coal mines and run the risk of being shot by the guards or lashed with the cat-o'-nine-tails, as they are on the slightest provocation, rather than sleep within the damp and insect-infested walls of the main prison. In the camp stockades they can at least breathe pure, fresh air at night, which is shut out from them when once they are locked in the narrow-grated cells of the penitentiary.

It is not difficult to see, therefore, why it is that this powerful corporation has at its command the brawn, the muscle, and the lives of 1,300 slaves of State. The profits made from the sweat and blood of these felonious slaves are immense.

An investigation by a special committee of the last General Assembly into the condition and treatment of the leased convicts in the mines brought to light a horrible state of affairs in many of them. It developed that in the main the guards employed were taken from the most vicious class of the community, and ex-convicts and scores of convicts who were made to strip before the committee showed gashes and scars on their bodies from severe lashings by the guards. In the hospital at every camp there were a dozen or more sick from exposure or disabled by the severity of the lashings or clubbings of the guards.

The enormous profit to the company from this labor was also brought out by the committee. It was shown that the average daily cost of keeping a convict was 28 cents, and that the task for a convict was to mine five tons of coal a day in soft veins and three and a half in hard veins. The company sells this coal at from $2.50 to $3.50 per ton, according to quality.

The fare given the convicts is of the plainest, cheapest, and roughest kind. The convicts, of course, are worked in the richest veins, where they can produce most, and the free miners are assigned to points that have to be developed.

Free laborers say that their average earnings per day in good veins were not more than $2.50. They are paid in checks. At every camp or mine the company has a general merchandise store, and the currency used in the main is the company's checks, which are little round brass pieces running from 25 cents to $1. When the coal is weighed the laborer receives checks, and when he goes to the company store he makes his purchases with those checks.

It is seldom that a "free store" is allowed at one of the company's mines, so that the laborer is at the company's mercy for every thing he buys. Nothing is sold cheap.

The Legislature undertook to break the check system up, but with poor success.

The situation as it now stands indicates a continued period of unrest for the company and the probable forced withdrawal of the convicts from all of the mines, or a period of riot and bloodshed between the free miners and the State authorities. In the meantime the company refuses to pay one dollar of its contract price to the State, and has filed already enough counter-claims by reason of the interruption of operations last Summer to offset the blood money due the State for several years.

The situation is an interesting one, and the conflict is "on to stay" until the barbarous leasing of convicts by the State is abolished.

There is an air of suppressed excitement today at Tracy City, and since the descent upon the stockade Saturday morning by the miners, the firing of the structure, and the expulsion of the 390 convicts the miners are in possession of the field. Neither the State nor county authorities have yet taken any step in the direction of arresting the leaders or their followers.

Many of the miners are armed, and they meet all incoming trains, and as soon as any one who is not known makes his appearance, he is closely questioned, and unless satisfactory answers are given he is ordered to leave at once. They have been expecting a visit from the State Militia, but none have been sent, as there is now nothing for them to protect. The miners have posted pickets along the country roads, and every precaution is taken to guard against a surprise.

E. B. Wade, State Superintendent of Prisons, who arrived in Nashville at midnight last night, proceeded at once to the residence of Gov. Buchanan, with whom he had a lengthy conference. The serious situation was reviewed and plans for action were discussed. Other officials were in consultation with the Chief Executive to-day, but what, if anything, was decided cannot be learned. Warden Blevins reported that three of the escaped convicts were caught to-day and will be taken to the prison at Inman. The one who was wounded during the break between Sewanee and Monteagle is in a serious condition. Wilson, the man who was killed, had been a convict for several years, and was regarded as a desperate man.

Being asked to-day what would be done, Gov. Buchanan said it was the duty of the county authorities to take into custody the men who had burned the stockade and removed the convicts from the mines. Bench warrants could be issued for their arrest, and the Sheriff had authority to see that the warrants were served. Whether this would be done or not he could not say.

The Governor has not heard anything more as to the situation at Coal Creek and Inman. That there is ground for fears as to the safety of the Inman stockade seems to be pretty well established. There is a strong guard there, but if the miners should be able to get them at a disadvantage they might make short work of the stockade and send the 275 convicts at work there back to this city as was done at Tracy City. It is believed, however, that the more conservative of the leaders will exert themselves to the utmost to preserve peace. Inman is an iron mine, and white miners have never made an effort to wrest it from the convicts.

Mr. Platt was seen at the Oriental Hotel, Coney Island, yesterday, and was asked in relation to the Tennessee mine troubles. He seemed annoyed when the subject was broached.

"I know nothing," he said, "except what is published in to-day's papers. I have received a dispatch, briefly stating the facts, from the Secretary of the Tennessee Coal and Iron Company, but it contains no additional information.

"We have a contract with the State of Tennessee for all the convict labor in the State, at the rate of $100,000 per year, and we'd just as soon as not the convicts quit working. We could sue the State and get our money."

For several hours during the afternoon Mr. Platt was in earnest consultation with a person said to be the Vice President of the Tennessee Coal and Iron Company. This official refused to give his name, and was as touchy as Mr. Platt had been when the subject was broached. He refused to discuss the troubles.

ENGLISH INVESTORS SUSPICIOUS.

AN EXPERT SEEKING THE CAUSE OF DIMINISHED OR STOPPED DIVIDENDS.

DENVER, Col., Aug. 14.—Some of the mine managers of Colorado within a short time will be called upon by the English investors whose interests they are supposed to represent to give an accounting of their stewardship. The plain, unpolished fact of the matter is that an investigation into the affairs of the companies in which they have money invested is being pushed by a number of the large English companies operating in Colorado.

The English investors have noted for a long time the peculiar fact that, whereas the mines were steadily producing large quantities of ore and their managers were living in ease and luxury, the dividends declared from the operations of the properties were either entirely lacking or were extremely slender. They marveled at this, but accepted the explanation of the mine managers that the working expenses were very high and silver very low, but now this does not go. Even the report of the "mining engineer," sent over to investigate the properties on behalf of his English constituency, and who often, for the first time in his life, was under ground, has lost its ancient virtue and calming influence on the fears of those at home, and he, too, is asked to stand from under.

The cold, unromantic assistance of figures has been invoked and an expert accountant sent to take hold of the books. He is here, and when the wheat of reality is screened from the chaff of vaporizing excuse and procrastinations in the payment of dividends, something interesting may be looked for to come to the door of Room 411 in the Ernest Cramer Building, within the last few weeks, has appeared the name Ernest J. Hart." Mr. Hart is from England, and will be remembered as the man who five years ago placed the properties of the Denver Brewing Company and the Windsor Hotel in England. He is a comparatively young man, but is old in investment experience, and has at his command an immense amount of English investment capital.

Two of the companies he represents are the City of London Contract Corporation, with a capital of $5,000,000, and the London and Colonial Finance Association, with the same capitalization. Mr. Hart was seen yesterday in regard to the matter. He admitted that he was here in the interest of the English companies mentioned, and that thorough investigation into their affairs was being made by him. He is being assisted by Attorneys Wolcott and Valle of this city.

The discoveries already made have pretty well established the fact that a deficiency of 25 per cent is taking out the bullion returns by the time the cash finds its way over to England.

"I do not want to brand any one with intent to defraud, at this stage of the game, but as things are now going there will soon something fall like a bomb on the heads of the mine managers," said Mr. Hart.

Information was denied the reporter as to what properties underlay the scrutiny, but it was learned that some of the mines involved are situated at Leadville, Asper, and in San Juan County. The amount represented with their capitalization is over $50,000,000.

FLAMES IN A REFORMATORY.

TWO BUILDINGS BURNED—A PANIC AMONG THE BOY INMATES.

HUNTINGDON, Penn., Aug. 14.—At 6 o'clock this evening flames were discovered issuing from the new south wing of the brush factory at the Huntingdon Reformatory, and in less than an hour this building, together with the adjoining three-story building used as a carpenter's shop, was entirely destroyed. The entire reformatory, containing 450 inmates, was for a time at the mercy of the flames, owing to the fact that the reservoir was entirely empty. The Huntingdon Fire Department, after a mile run with their apparatus, which obtained water from the Juniata River, succeeded in subduing the flames, which had then communicated with the west wing of the main buildings.

The brush factory was operated by the Consolidated Manufacturing Company of Philadelphia, whose loss on stock and machinery will reach $20,000. The insurance on the stock is $7,000. One hundred and twenty boys were employed in the brush factory. The destroyed buildings were 200 by 50 feet, each being three stories high. They are a total loss, which will aggregate $20,000; insurance, $10,000.

The fire is believed to have been the work of some of the inmates of the institution. Two months ago similar attempts were made to destroy the same building. No fire was ever used in the building, and it is thought that one of the inmates, who were doing light repairs in the factory to-day, maliciously dropped a match among the material.

During the fire the 450 inmates of the reformatory kept up a constant yelling that drowned the cries of the firemen. For a time after the fire started there was a perfect pandemonium among the excited boys.

Big Crowds at Bar Harbor.

BAR HARBOR, Me., Aug. 14.—This place is filled with visitors, and many prominent people who have desired to come here within the past few days have been obliged either to postpone the trip or give it up entirely, because such quarters as they desired were not to be had. Those willing to put up with more modest quarters have taken rooms in cottages adjoining the hotels.

Boatloads by the dozen went out to the war ships to-day. Secretary Tracy, on board the Dolphin, entertained special guests, among whom were Assistant Secretary Soley and Mrs. Soley and Senator and Mrs. Hale. To-night Mr. Tracy is dining, as usual, on shore. Mr. Tracy may buy a place here before he leaves.

Society people are having a gay time. Last night there was a crush at Kebo Valley. Nearly all the naval officers were present, including Capts. Banker, Schroeder, White, and Bronson, most of the Lieutenants, and, of course, the Admiral.

Agent Tingle Gone Wrong.

COLUMBUS, Ohio, Aug. 14.—J. R. Tingle, agent for the Fidelity and Casualty Company of New-York, with an office at 118 North High Street, is under arrest on the charge of forgery. Tingle made out a small check on the Commercial National Bank of this city in the name of John O'Connor and the check was indorsed in blank. He passed the check on Curley Bennett, a saloon keeper, who presented it and found it worthless.

Tingle is single and lives with his mother at 534 Boone Street, east side.

Looking for Men for Homestead.

NEWARK, N. J., Aug. 14.—An agent of the Carnegie Company is in this city looking for steel workers to take the place of the strikers at Homestead and other mills. He advertises in local papers for help, for a dozen men, and requests those who reply to call on him at his hotel. It is said that he has met with no success.

A NOOSE FOR A VILLAIN

NARROW ESCAPE FROM A LYNCHING IN MASSACHUSETTS.

A TRAMP CAUGHT WHILE ATTEMPTING AN ASSAULT—EXCITED MEN PUT A ROPE AROUND HIS NECK—A WOMAN TRIES TO KILL HIM—LODGED SAFELY IN JAIL.

SPRINGFIELD, Aug. 14.—But for the coolheadedness of two men, the town of Hadley would have been the scene of a lynching yesterday, the cause being the attempt of a tramp to assault a young woman. A lynching in the State of Massachusetts would have been an unprecedented occurrence.

Miss Louisa Pelliserre, who works at Belding's Mills, in Northampton, was walking home from her work early in the afternoon. As she was going along on what is called the old Belchertown stage road, about a mile from the Connecticut River Bridge, the fellow pounced upon her. She screamed and fought vigorously.

A. S. Willard, whose place is nearly half a mile from this spot, heard the screams, and heard the woman cry:

"For God's sake, save me! Murder!"

With his hired man, he rushed through the cornfield, guided by the sounds. Their dogs preceded them and evidently frightened the man, for he left the woman and ran through the fields toward the railroad tracks. A team happening along about that time, Willard jumped in, and they drove in one direction, while his man, Joseph O'Donnell, went in another to head the villain off. On the railroad his feet got caught in the cattle guard and he was made a prisoner.

Three men took him back to Hadley Centre and tried to find Deputy Sheriff Bell, but he was out of town, as was the constable. Willard then said he would take him to Northampton if the woman could identify him. He was led to the house of John McGrath, where the girl was taken after her struggle. Though prostrated from the excitement, she said at once:

"That's the man!"

By this time a score of excited men had gathered about the house and the cry of "String him up!" went round. One man got a rope and it was quickly put around his throat. The fellow was in deadly terror, for the men meant to hang him and he knew it.

They started for a tree, and were about to pull him up when Mr. Willard and Mr. McGrath prevailed upon the excited crowd to let him be taken to the jail.

At the last moment sullenly stepped back, Mrs. McGrath rushed from the house with a hatchet raised in her hand, shouting that she would brain the villain. Her husband ran to the man's rescue and took the weapon from her. The prisoner was then quickly driven to Northampton and locked up.

There are evidences that he is the man wanted for attempting the young girl on Belchertown July 4. He is about the size, has the brown face and stubby beard, but is not dressed as that man was. He says his name is James McDonald, that he is thirty-two, and a native of Portsmouth, N. H. He says he has been on a tramp for several weeks, and that he has been to Belchertown and Granby, but came from Holyoke and South Deerfield yesterday. Officer Mangan will have his picture taken to-morrow, and will then see if he can be identified by the Belchertown and Granby people.

Miss Pilliserre is about twenty years old, and the daughter of George Pilliserre, who works at Holyoke, but lives at Hadley. She is of a nervous temperament and is prostrated by the shock. Her clothes were torn to shreds by the roadside, but she fought vigorously and successfully resisted the man until help came. He will be up for trial to-morrow.

BELIEVE MISS BORDEN INNOCENT.

THE GIRL CHARGED WITH MURDER FINDING MANY SUPPORTERS.

FALL RIVER, Mass., Aug. 14.—Neither Medical Examiner Dolan nor City Marshal Hilliard has heard anything from Prof. Wood, who is analyzing the stomachs of the murdered Bordens and comparing the spots of blood on the axe and carpet. The police to-day have been engaged in chasing down clues and testing statements made in many letters sent to the Marshal. It is Lizzie Borden's case, the case that is now attracting the whole attention of the police.

The story Almer Coggeshall told the authorities about his having heard cries from the Borden household the morning of the murder amounts to nothing. The police have spent some time running down the statement made again that suspicious characters were seen going to or from New-Bedford, but without success. The City Marshal has a strange collection of letters from all parts of the country suggesting ways and means to locate the murderer, many of them coming from "cranks."

Although Miss Borden is under arrest, charged with perhaps the most heinous crime committed in recent years, she is finding supporters and friends in two quite unexpected places. The police authorities think that much of the strongest evidence will have to be given before Attorney Jenkins will consent to an order for holding his client until November. It is an open secret in police circles that the State officers believe that Miss Borden was insane at the time of the murder if she committed them. It is well known in this city that Judge Blaisdell and District Attorney Knowlton were prejudiced in Miss Borden's favor, and they must have had the strongest possible reasons for ordering her arrest.

The Brooklyn Cooperage Burned.

NEW-ORLEANS, Aug. 14.—The Brooklyn Cooperage was destroyed by fire to-day. The building occupied the entire square bounded by Erato, Thalia, New Levee, and Water Streets. It was brick and four stories high, erected only four years ago, and cost, with its equipments, more than $300,000. The fire began in the third story of the building and was in progress half an hour before the department began work upon it. Notwithstanding the fact that the building was fitted with automatic and acid sprinklers, the fire could not be controlled. Every floor was crowded with inflammable material, and in the course of two hours nothing remained but a smoking mass of bricks.

The cooperage was an auxiliary to the American Sugar Refinery Company and was owned by the New-York Sugar Trust and insured for $300,000. Some risks had been placed in the hands of W. N. Bailey, who, it is said, distributed them among the local companies; others were placed in New-York companies by W. E. Love of Brooklyn. The insurance on the stock could not be definitely learned.

Graves Brothers in a Duel.

ATLANTIC CITY, N. J., Aug. 14.—It is reported in this city to-night that a duel was fought today at Woodstown, Salem County, between John Graves and William Graves. The men are brothers, and, it is said, fought the duel over a young woman with whom both were in love.

The Graves boys, it is said, have kept away from each other for some time. To-day, however, they met suddenly, face to face, in the main street at Woodstown, and, after a few hot words, decided to settle the quarrel between them for the possession of the girl by fighting a duel.

The weapons used were pistols. Both men are said to have been wounded.

A Bayonet for the Striker.

HOMESTEAD, Penn., Aug. 14.—A drunken citizen named Samuel Rogers was bayoneted by a guard last night. He attempted to pass a guard on sentry duty. The sentry belonged to the Fifteenth Regiment, and was on provost guard duty. Rogers came up and wanted to pass into the lines. He was challenged, but disregarding the notification tried to pass on.

The sentry immediately shoved his bayonet into the leg of the man, who fell to the ground. He received a painful but not serious injury. He was arrested and taken to camp.

The affair created much excitement, as Rogers is a striker.

Is Dr. A. Newton a Suicide?

NEW-HAVEN, Conn., Aug. 14.—Dr. A. Newton, a Meriden dentist, has disappeared, and it is feared that he has committed suicide. He is between seventy and seventy-five years old, and had been in business in Hartford for thirty or forty years before going to Meriden. His wife and daughter are in Providence at present. He has a brother in Windsor Locks. Dr. Newton has been heard to remark that when his money was gone he would commit suicide. He always carried a pistol. He was last seen about 4 o'clock Friday afternoon.

A MODEL REVENUE CUTTER.

PLANS OF THE VESSEL WHICH WILL REPLACE THE EWING.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 14.—The Secretary of the Treasury will soon advertise for proposals for the construction of a new revenue cutter for service on the Baltimore station to replace the old Ewing. This is the first vessel designed for the cutter service since the superintendence of designing and constructing vessels was turned over to officers of that service, and great care has been taken with her.

Special attention has been given to making of her a vessel that would be useful in time of war, and she will be a miniature naval vessel. Her displacement will be 412 tons at the mean load line. She will be 170 feet 8 inches long over all, and 160 feet on the water line. Her breadth will be, molded, 27 feet; extreme, 27 feet 1½ inches. Her hold will be 13 feet 5 inches deep, and her normal draught, with fifty tons of coal on board, will be 6 feet 6 inches. The hull is to be of iron and will be divided into a number of water-tight compartments to add to the safety of the vessel in case of collision.

She will ordinarily carry a crew of forty men and eight officers, but she is to be provided with accommodations for sixty men, so that the complement can be increased to that number if it is desired. In drawing up the plans every provision has been made for the comfort of the officers and crew. In addition to the Captain's cabin there will be a wardroom, with eight staterooms for officers opening off it. The cabin and the wardroom will be finished in hard woods, and each stateroom will be provided with a marble-topped washstand, supplied with hot and cold water, and electric call bells will be fitted throughout all the officers' quarters.

She will carry a battery of six-pounder Hotchkiss rapid-fire guns, and her armory will be well stocked with small arms. She will have the rig of a two-masted schooner. She will have twin screws, driven by two engines, placed in a common water-tight compartment. The engines will be of the vertical, inverted-cylinder, direct-acting, triple-expansion type, the same that has been adopted by Engineer in Chief Melville for all naval vessels recently constructed. Each engine will have a high-pressure cylinder 11¾ inches in diameter, an intermediate cylinder 16½ inches in diameter, and a low-pressure cylinder 26½ inches in diameter, the stroke of all the pistons being 24 inches.

The collective indicated horse power of propelling, air-pump, and circulating-pump engines will be about 800, when the propellers are making 175 revolutions per minute, and the speed of the vessel will be about 14 knots per hour. The main valves will be of the piston type for the high-pressure and intermediate-pressure cylinders, and slide valves for the low-pressure cylinders—all worked by Stephenson link motions, with double-bar links. The piston rods and connecting rods will be forged of mild open-hearth steel, and the shafting will be of best forged scrap iron. The condenser will have a cooling surface of at least 1,333 square feet, and there will be a combined air and circulating pump. The propellers will be of cast iron. There will be one double-ended horizontal tubular boiler placed in a water-tight compartment. Its outside diameter will be about 12 feet, and its length 16 feet 6 inches over the heads. It will be constructed for a working pressure of 160 pounds per square inch. It will have four corrugated furnace flues, 2 feet 6 inches least internal diameter, and the total heating surface will be 2,415 square feet, with 76 square feet of grate surface. There will be a steam reversing gear, an auxiliary pump, and a distilling apparatus. A Towne water-tube boiler will be provided for auxiliary purposes and for use when the main boiler is not in service.

This vessel will be the handsomest and fastest revenue cutter in the service.

REBUKE FOR SENATOR HIGGINS.

SOME CANDIDATES OF HIS RING DEFEATED AT THE PRIMARIES.

WILMINGTON, Del., Aug. 14.—The ring of Federal office holders who have been manipulating local politics here in the interest of Senator Higgins received a severe rebuke at the Republican primaries throughout New-Castle County yesterday. The primaries were held for the purpose of nominating candidates for county offices, and, as usual, the ring had its candidates for all the positions to be filled. A wholesale victory was looked for, but the result was a crushing disappointment, and, while some candidates favored by the office-holding clique were successful, the chief exponent of ring Republican politics met with an overwhelming defeat.

The nomination in which most interest centred was that for County Controller, and the Higgins machine candidate was Deputy United States Marshal George M. D. Watson. There were two other contestants in the field—Henry C. Conrad and Levy Court Commissioner John W. Jolls, and while the machine leaders felt reasonably sure of a clear majority for Watson, they were absolutely certain of a plurality, with the opposition divided. But the Higgins brand upon a candidate for party honors is not so potential as it was prior to the Minneapolis Convention, when Senator Higgins's influence was such as to strain the friendly relations that up to that time had prevailed between him and President Harrison. Even before that interesting event there was great hostility to the machine.

How this feeling has since intensified was shown yesterday when the Republican voters centred upon Henry C. Conrad and gave him over 3,600 votes in the county while Watson, the Higgins ring candidate, received only about 1,700 votes. It was a square knock-out for the Senator and his friends.

Joseph E. Martin, the ring nominee for County Treasurer, was successful by a plurality of about 700. Martin was personally popular in the rural districts, and the opposition divided between two candidates. To these circumstances alone his victory is due, as he was in a minority of 300 or 400 in the total vote. Three candidates for County Commissioner were also chosen, only one of whom is a pronounced Higgins man.

During the primaries, delegates to the Republican State Convention, which will be held in Dover on Tuesday next, were also elected, but there were no contests on this part of the ticket. Thus far, despite the fact that a candidate for Representative in Congress is to be nominated, very little interest in the State Convention has been expressed. The aspirants for the Congressional nomination are the Rev. J. S. Willis of Milford, J. Frank Burton of Georgetown, and Dan Layton, Senator Higgins's bosom friend and political side partner, besides a half dozen others of lesser calibre. No one seems to know or care particularly who will be the nominee.

LIEUT. MACDONALD SAVED A LIFE.

GALLANT RESCUE OF A MAN WHO HAD TUMBLED OFF A FERRY BOAT.

Lieut. G. H. Macdonald, a United States Army officer stationed on Governors Island, was the means of rescuing a man from drowning on Saturday morning. The Government tug Atlantic was making her last trip from New-York to the island when her passengers were startled by the cry of "Man overboard!" coming from the ferryboat Montauk, which was crossing to her Brooklyn pier.

The Atlantic was stopped, and her crew peered into the water for some trace of the person who had fallen overboard. A faint cry from over the stern was heard, and without a moment's hesitation Lieut. Macdonald, who was standing near the after rail, plunged overboard to the rescue.

The man was sinking for the last time when the swimmer reached him. A life buoy was thrown from the Atlantic, which Lieut. Macdonald caught and placed around his waist. Buoyed by this he clung to the half-drowned man until assistance reached him from the Government tug. Both men were completely exhausted when taken on board.

At the Old Slip Police Station the man who had been rescued gave his name as Frederick Fritch, of 69 Bowery. He admitted that he had been drinking, and said that he must have fallen asleep against the railing of the boat and tumbled overboard. He was given a night's lodging, and released yesterday morning.

Lieut. Macdonald is a graduate of the class of '83. He was appointed from Illinois and bears an excellent record for gallantry.

Three of a Family Drowned.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., Aug. 14.—David Murray, wife and daughter, and a child named Forbes were all drowned in Palmer's River, Warren, this afternoon, by the upsetting of a boat. The father of the child, Freeman Forbes, and wife and another occupant were saved. All the bodies except the child's were recovered this afternoon.

Farm Hands Greatly Needed.

ST. PAUL, Minn., Aug. 14.—The five-dollar rate for harvest hands from this city to any point in Minnesota and the Dakotas has been extended, and the Milwaukee road especially is making great effort to supply the demand of the farmers for help in gathering their harvests. Several thousand men are still needed.

STRIKERS GROW LAWLESS

PROPERTY BURNED AND WORKMEN ATTACKED AT BUFFALO.

MOBS OF SWITCHMEN OR THEIR SYMPATHIZERS DERAIL A PASSENGER TRAIN AND A CREW IS ORDERED AWAY—YARDMEN SERIOUSLY ASSAULTED—THE STRIKE SPREADING.

BUFFALO, N. Y., Aug. 14.—There is no further disguising the fact that the strike of the Erie and Lehigh Valley switchmen is a serious matter. Riot and incendiarism mark its tidal wave.

Whether it would have proved so very serious to the railroads to have 150 or 200 men leave their posts of duty without warning is not now the question. Property belonging to the railroad companies has been destroyed by incendiary fires, men engaged in the peaceful performance of their duties in the companies' service have been assaulted and sent to the hospitals, the movement of trains has been seriously interfered with, and the lives of innocent persons who were in no way connected with the strike and had not even heard of it have been endangered by the derailment of a passenger train on one of the roads. Such is the indictment up to the hour of writing.

There had been more or less trouble Saturday between the strikers and their sympathizers and the men who were doing the strikers' work, and a few desultory assaults had occurred.

Things began to put on a more serious aspect at 2 o'clock this morning, when a series of incendiary fires broke out simultaneously in the Lehigh Valley yards. Eighteen or twenty freight cars filled with wool, cotton, hay, and various other merchandise, two passenger coaches, and two watchmens' houses were burned.

The fires occurred at places where the firemen could not successfully stay the flames, on account of an absence of water, besides the difficulty of access.

The water tank adjacent to the coal trestles was smashed and an engine that was taking water there wrecked by a string of ten runaway coal cars that had been turned loose from the trestle.

Fire was first discovered in the east-bound yards, east of Dingens Street. Here a little office building and two or three freight cars were destroyed. At this time Yardmaster Mead discovered flames in two passenger coaches used for the conveyance of workmen, and turned in an alarm from William and Dingens Streets. In the yards east of Dingens Street fire raged among the cars of merchandise.

It took the hose from three carts to reach the flames from the nearest hydrant. The firemen, however, prevented the destruction of a great number of cars and the loss of perhaps hundreds of thousands of dollars' worth of property.

The cars destroyed were in the midst of a great number of other cars. The firemen uncoupled a number of cars and removed them from danger. A dozen or so cars were thrown from the Lehigh tracks, and a similar number from the Erie, by misplaced switches.

The first intimation of anything wrong was when the men employed by Mr. Mead watching the company's property set the coal cars loose and demolished the water tank. Then the fires broke out simultaneously.

Capt. Wurtz of the Eleventh Precinct put a force of a dozen officers in the yard as soon as the alarm was given. The officers were unable to find any suspicious characters.

That, briefly, is what had happened up to daylight this morning. But that was only the beginning.

The strikers or their sympathizers have pulled pins, turned switches, and driven off crews. Three men are at the hospital badly hurt. One was assaulted at 3 o'clock this morning, two others at 11 A. M., and another at 3 this afternoon. One man who was assaulted at the Western New-York and Pennsylvania crossing was on his way to the wrecker at the time and was turning a switch.

The strikers had turned switches and thrown six cars from his train before that. He was struck on the head, and when he was taken to the hospital he was completely dazed and did not know what had occurred. One of the men was assaulted at the passenger station and one at William Street.

One of the most cowardly things done was the throwing of switches under passenger train No. 17 at William Street at 7:30 o'clock to-night. Two passenger coaches were thrown from the track, but the conductor does not think anybody was hurt, though many were badly frightened.

Fifty men boarded passenger train No. 3 at 11 o'clock this morning and molested the employes, driving them off. The crew finally succeeded in getting the train to the station. The mob took possession of the Seneca Street switches three or four times during the day and drove off the signal men.

In the Lehigh yards at Cheektowaga to-night the scenes of last night were repeated.

It is intimated by the Erie officials that workmen from the East have been engaged to take the places of the strikers.

Three policemen were stationed at the landing and in the hallway leading to the offices of Superintendent Brunn and his associates to-day.

The strikers say they are determined to win the fight, and they assert the roads are losing heavily by not having men to perform the work of the strikers. They say the Erie is thoroughly demoralized on account of the strike, and that every side track on the Buffalo Division is completely blocked.

Two trains of freight cars standing on sidings in Cheektowaga, the railroad suburb of Buffalo, were burned to-night.

The Lehigh has called on the Sheriff for protection. He sent six deputies to the scene, and will swear in fifty more to-morrow morning. The police are in the yards to-night to guard property, and all the reserves are called out.

ELMIRA, N. Y., Aug. 14.—The strike of the switchmen inaugurated at Buffalo on the Erie and Lehigh Valley lines has extended to Waverly and Sayre on the Lehigh, and all freight traffic on that line is at a standstill.

A train of beef stands on an Erie siding there, the switchmen refusing to allow it to be switched to the Lehigh tracks to proceed to its destination.

The Division Superintendent of the Lehigh has telegraphed to Owego for the Sheriff to come to his aid, although the men are making no demonstration.

To-morrow it is expected that the Erie men will also go out, and then all traffic through those towns will be at a standstill.

The men are non-communicative and their future movements are unknown.

BUFFALO, Aug. 15.—At 1 o'clock fire has again broken out in three places in the Lehigh yards. The Fire Department seem unable to quench it.

The New-York Express No. 1 (Erie) is held two miles out because it cannot pass.

New-York Express No. 4 has not been sent out for the same reason.

THE STRIKE MAY EXTEND.

The strike of the switchmen at Buffalo, in the yards of the railroads of the Reading system and of the Erie Railroad, may extend to Jersey City, as the men here are also dissatisfied. They make the same complaint of being compelled to work overtime without extra compensation.

In the yards of the Jersey Central, in Jersey City, several men said that there has been considerable grumbling among the men who were made to work from twelve to fifteen hours a day, and it would not take much to induce them to go out on strike.

At the Erie yards it was said that the railroad companies may soon have very extensive strikes on their hands if they do not settle with the men in Buffalo and elsewhere. The probabilities, however, were that a settlement would be made, as the companies knew that the Switchmen's National Aid Association was thoroughly organized all over the country, and that they would have the co-operation of the crews in the yards. Should the men decide to go out on strike they will do so suddenly and at a moment when the companies will least expect it. However, the companies will be given a reasonable time within which to settle the trouble in Buffalo.

VIRGINIA FOR CLEVELAND.

DEMOCRATS CONFIDENT OF SUCCESS—FORCE BILL FEARS AID THEM.

RICHMOND, Va., Aug. 14.—Important political work will be mapped out here to-morrow night and plans discussed which will have a vital bearing in determining which party will win Virginia's Electoral vote this year. The Democratic State Central and Executive Committees and Mahone's Republican State Committee will meet here. The next day the Farmers' State Alliance will meet in annual session in Richmond. The result of the deliberations of this body may have a potent influence on the campaign just opened in the Old Dominion.

The meeting of the two State Committees on the eve of the opening of the Alliance is not a mere coincidence. Basil B. Gordon, the head of the Democratic organization, fixed the date of the assembling of his committee some time ago. Mahone, seeing that it would be an opportune time when the farmers were in session for his leaders to be on hand, selected the same day for their meeting. Both sides will be here in easy reach of the Alliance men, not only the local but the national leaders, several of whom will attend Friday's meeting.

Chairman Gordon of the Democratic State Committee and also a member of the national party organization reached here to-day. He is in excellent spirits and is confident that the Democrats will carry the State by a good majority. Mr. Gordon thoroughly understands the political situation in this State, and knows with what he is to be confronted in this fight.

The impression is that Mahone will endeavor to remain in the background in this fight as much as possible, and let the leaders of the People's Party come to the front. It is not improbable that he may outline some such policy as this to his committee to-morrow night. As the campaign will be conducted by the General and his Executive Committee, to be chosen at this meeting, this whole question is more likely to be remitted to that body. Should Mahone be able to secure the receivership of the Richmond and Danville Railroad, which is not thought probable, he would retire from the Chairmanship. In that event it is believed that Edgar Allen, his close friend and personal legal adviser, may succeed him as the nominal head of the party.

The Democrats on this campaign will probably have the most perfect and compact organization known in many years. It is understood that the system will be comprehensive enough to cover every precinct in Virginia. The Force bill will play an important part as an issue in this fight. Many of the more conservative Republicans have expressed their purpose to support the Cleveland electoral ticket this year. Another important advantage the Democrats have in this campaign over that of 1888 is that there is little or no sentiment here favorable to protection. In the southwestern part of the State, where the Republicans gained some votes on this issue in that fight, a complete revolution has taken place.

If Mahone does not put up candidates for Congress in each of the districts, and make an aggressive fight for them, it will be impossible for him to throw the undivided support of the negroes to the People's Party ticket. The Democratic leaders here to-day, who know the whole situation and understand the combinations that will be attempted to be effected by the opposition, predict that Virginia's Electoral vote will be cast for Cleveland.

SIX MEN AFTER THE PLACE.

REPUBLICAN CANDIDATES FOR CONGRESS IN AN OHIO DISTRICT.

CLEVELAND, Ohio, Aug. 14.—The fight for the Republican nomination in the Ninth (Toledo) Congressional District is unusually bitter. Outside Cincinnati, the factional feeling is probably stronger there than anywhere else in the State, and the contest now waging has caught all the bitterness between the Sherman and Foraker contingents and intensified it.

Six candidates are mentioned for the place, and four are making an active canvass for it. Ex-Gov. James M. Ashley, who made a hopeless race against Congressman Haynes two years ago, seeks his reward now, although it is well known that he voted for Mr. Cleveland in 1884 and again in 1888. His long career in Congress, 1858-69, and his great wealth give him considerable prestige.

Charles P. Griffin, the Foraker leader in the House, is the one legislator for whom a district was fixed up who has not yet been defeated. Should he happen to win the nomination his defeat would be almost certain both because of his Foraker proclivities and his unsavory legislative record. He is making a strong fight.

Stockbroker J. C. Hamilton of Toledo