## THE SLOCUM REPORT

President Roosevelt Submits à Letter Commenting on the Matter

DAMAGING REVELATIONS MADE

Commission Flads the Burning of the New York Excursion Steamer and the Loss of Over 900 Lives Due Solely to Wretched Equipment and Poor Personnel of Crew.

Washington, Special.-The report of the United States commission on the investigation upon the disaster to the steamer General Slocum, appointed June 23, last, by the then Secretary of Commerce and Labor George B. Cortolyou, and consisting of Lawrence O. Murray, Assistant Secretary of Commerce and Labor; Herbert Knox Smith, deputy commissioner of corporations; Gleorge Uhler, supervising inspector weneral of the steamboat inspection service; General John M. Wilson, United States Army, retired, and Commander Cameron McR. Winslow. United States navy, was made public Sun-

In connection with the important Andings of the commissions presented in the report, President Roosevelt, to whom the report was submitted, has written a letter to Secretary Victor H. Metcalf, of the Department of Comhierce and Labor, briefly summarizing the report and directing him to carry into effect the recommendations of the commission. He also directs the Robert S. Rodie, supervising inspector of the second district steamboat inspection service, and James A. Dumont and Thomas H. Barrett, local inspectors in charge of the port of New York, be discharged from the service, the commission holding them directly responsible for the laxity of the steamboat inspection to which the Slocum disaster was directly attributed.

Commissioner Unier dissents to that portion of the report which places the responsibility on the supervision inspector of the second district, Robert S. Rodie; otherwise, he concurs with the commission. Appended to the report is a report from the Department of Justice and criminal proceedings connected with the disaster and the

THE PRESIDENTS VIEW. The President's letter to Secretary

Metcalf follows:

12, 1904.

"White House, Washington, D. C., Oct-"My Dear Sir; I have received the report of the Commission of the United States on the investigation of the Gencrai Slocum disaster and the report of the Department of Justice on October 12th, recipulating what has been done by the department of Justice in connection with the criminal proceedings taken against various individuals because of their connection with the disaster. I send you herewith both reports. Punitive action by the government can, of course, only take two forms; that of legal proceedings against those either within or without the service. It appears that the Department of Justice has already secured indictments against the master and captain of the Slocum and against the managing directors of the Knickerbocker Steamboat Company, to which company the steamer belonged, for misconduct, negligence, and insttention to duty by the captain, and for aiding and abetting therein by the managing directors. Furthermore, the Department of Justice has secured indictments against Henry Lundberg and fohn W. Fleming, the assistant inspec tors of the steamboat inspection service, who actually inspected the Sloeum, for fraud, misconduct, and inattention to duty. Lundburg had been appointed merely on pobation in the service and has been dropped. There can, of course, be no further action about Fleming until his trial has been tinished, although it does not follow that an acquittal would prevent the Department from discharging him from the service. In addition, the Department of Justice has secured the indictment of the manager and three employes of the Nonparell Cork works, of Camden, N. J., for putting upon the market compressed cork blocks for use in making life preservers, each of which blocks contained in its center a ear of iron weighing several ounces. This last offense was of so believe

a character that is is difficult to comment upon it with proper self-restraint It appears that the national legislature has never enacted a law providing in set terms for the punishment of this particular species of infamy, doubtless because it never entered the head of any man that so gross an infamy could be perpetrated. I suggest that you report this whole matter to Congress, transmitting these two reports, and at that time calling special attention the reed of imposing an adequate penalty for the making or selling of defective life-saving appliances.

REMOVAL OF DELINQUENT OF FICIALS.

"So much for what the Department of Justice has done in reference to the digaster. But in addition to the men put on trial by the Department of Jus-tice, action should be taken against those employes whose responsibility for the state of things producing the aceldest has been brought into the re-

14 12 2

port of the commission. According to this report it appears that in addition to the two assistant inspectors who are now on trial, the supervising inspector of the second district, Mr. Rodle, and the two local inspectors of the port of New York, Messrs. Dumont and Barrett, should all three be removed for laxity and neglect in performing their duties. As regards the conduct of Mr. Rodle, Mr. Uhler dissents from the conon of the four other commission ers. I agree with the conclusion of the other four. Laxity and neglect, where the consequences may be so terrible as they have proved to be in this case, cannot be passed over, even where there has been good conduct in other respects on the part of the man impli-cated. Accordingly, the three officials ramed will be removed from the service. Moreover, you will please direct their successors in office at once to conduct a thorough examination of the entire inspection force of the port of New York, with the object of weeding out the men whom such examination shall show to be unfitted to perform the very arduous and responsible duties of their positions. The supervising inspector general has at present no idquarters force of special agents, so that it is very difficult for him to exercise any adequate and direct supervis-ion over the various local divisions of the inspection service. In each division he must rely chiefly on the fidelity and energy of the local heads, and when these fail to perform their duties they must be held accountable. He must, however, exercise as thoroughly a supervision as the means at this disposal allow. In order that I may be informed as to the exact condition of the service in all its parts, I direct you to order a searching investigation in consequence of the investigation of the commission into the conduct of the central office and of every outside subdion of the service save that in New

You will also make such changes in the regulations as are recommended by the commission, and you will therefore call a special meeting of the board of supervising inspectors for this purpose. You will also lay before the Congress a request that the law be changed in the various particulars recommended by the commission. I wish particular emphasis laid upon the proposal of the commission that there be created by a law a special body thoroughly to investigate the laws which are supposedto provide for the safety of passengers on steamboats, and especially on boats, where the prime causes of danger are the overcrowding and the flimsy and highly inflammable character of superstructures.

"Very truly yours, THEODORE ROOSEVELT. Hon. V. H. Metcalf, Secretary of Commerce and Labor."

#### Fighting Bell Weevil.

Washington, Special.-The Department of Agriculture, in a circular issued, warns planters throughout the cotton belt that in their efforts to procure an early crop of cotton to avoid damage by holl weevils they must not overlook the great prime factor in the control of the pest, the destruction of the plants in the field is stamped as the most effective method of reducing the numbers of the weevil. The circular calls for concerted action of commit here before the war commission, in taking these steps

#### Battling Hard Near Yentai.

St. Petersburg, By Cable.-General Sakharoff, telegraphing confirms the reports of the Yental, where the beights were alternately held by the Russians and Japanese.

General Danieloff, who succeeded Generals Trousseff and Ramanoff in command of the Sixth Siberian Rifles Division, was wounded in the leg, but lld not relinquish his command. es are not stated, and according to the latest advices the battle is contin-Ling today.

#### · News of the Day.

The heading and stave mill at Burkeville, Va., was partially burned.

In Campbell county a mob wrecked the tents in which Seventh-Day Adventists were holding meetings.

In Portsmouth a negro fastened his little son in his home and then set fire to the building. The boy was burned

The Ancient and Honorable Artillery of Boston are being hospitably entertnined in Norfolk.

The opening session of the October term of the United States Supreme Court was of four minutes' duration.

The Dowager Empress of China has given a sum of money for the establishment of an institution for teaching medicine, the management to be confided to the missionaries

The Mexican government has appointed Cayetano Rometo, once ambassader in Washington, to be consulgeneral at New York, succeeding Dr. Navarro. Mr. Romero is now consul at San Franciscy.

#### A Chronological Impression.

January's made for work an' February too. mes round to give de folks a chance Comes 'round to give de folks a chance to show what dey kin do.
Dar's Christmas an' Thanksgivin' day a-scatterin' through the year.
An' spring to stalt you singin' 'cause de sky is bright an' clear.
Mos' every month dat comes along some special work will show.
Exceptin' one. Dat's Augus'. Den de world moves kind o' slow.
You feels like loafin' frum de dawn until de shadows fall.
It 'pears like Augus' wasn' made foh anything at all.
It gives the o'! thermometer a second chance to climb.
It jes' slips in between de fireworks an' de reed bird time.
De sleepy days is noddin' like de brutelies of de trees.
Dat's bensin' whah de clover is invitin' of de bees.
When folks divided up de year, I rocker. of de bees,
ien folks divided up de year, I reckon
it was found
y had mo' sunshine dan dey really
needed to go 'round.
y found some extra time dat somehow
didn't lit in put,
dey rolled it up together an' made
Augus' out o' det.

Washington Star.

Washington Star.

# RUSSIANS STILL RUN

Japanese Holding Out Well in Chase After Their Army

BLOODSHED GROWS APPALLING

One of the Bloodiest Battles in His tory Still Raging South of Mukden the Russian Advance Having Been Converted Into a Stubbornly Fought Down on Both Sides.

The main armies of Russia and Japan in Manchuria continue to be engaged in a desperate struggle for supremacy south of Mukden. On both sides there have been such losses in killed and wounded as mark the contest for one of losses in killed and wounded. Already the losses at Liao Yang have been approximated and the indications are that they will be exceeded, that of the Russians up to noon of October 14 being estimated at 15,000. The Russian advance has been coaverted into a stubbornlyfought retreat. The result, according to the Russians, is still to be determined. Reports from the Russian left wing are lacking, leaving room for question if part of General Kuropatkin's army is not in worse extremity than the centre and right were at any stage of the battle On both sides the soldiers have shown the utmost tenacity and bravery and whole regiments have gone down before the fire of the enemy. In official circles in St. Petersburg there is a disposition to argue that even should General Kuropatkin be obliged to retire ber 6; and that on the other hand the Japanese powers of future resistance will have been materially weak-There is no news from Port Arthur.

#### Gloom in St. Petersburg.

St. Petersburg, By Cable.-The great feeling of concern which exists in circles in the Russian capital by no meas equals the foreboding of coming disaster pervading the general public. which is indulging in the deepest pes simism. In the absence of official news, the publec is being fed on the wildest rumors of defeat suffered by General Kuropatkin. The fact that no word regarding the battle has been officially given out only confirms the popular fear. The explanation offered that it was a holiday does not suffice to ally the apprehension.

General Kuropatkin's report of the result of the day's operations has reached Emperor Nicholas at Tasarkoe Selo, but it had not been returned journed. The Emperor himself is represented as being bitterly disappointed, and spending hours with his cabinet, studying out, with the help of military aids, the reports of the battle. The general staff, however, by no means despairs. Though admitting that the tide in the last two days has been against General Kuropatkin, the general staff says the batnot yet over, and that in any event there is no question of a rout. The depressing feature of the situation is that everyone is willing to be lieve the worst. Thus, reports from

Tokio and elsewhere, stating that the Japanese are advancing and that the Russians are falling back are accepted with faith based upon the previous Russian retreat. Naturally many reports are current as to the genesis of the forward move-ment. It is freely stated that General Kuropatkin was forced into taking the

offensive by uressure by the authorities here. This has been officially denied, and as General Kuropatkin's order to advance was given over his own signature, it seems likely that he will have to bear all the responsibility, whether the situation is of his own making or not. Friends of General Karopatkin said

the present offensive movement was inspired from St. Petersburg, as was doubtless General Stakelberg's move ment for the relief of Port Arthur, and that if Kuropatkin's star has set, others higher than he are responsible. At the same time, the supporters of General Kuropatkin argue that, whatever may be the direct outcome of past few days' fighting, it is not likely to be an bretrievable disaster to the Russian army.

Dispatches from the front give a vivid picture of the desperate character of the fighting along the whole The Rusian plainsmen n again forced to engage in hill fighting; which is little ti their liking. There have been desperate and repeated attacks upon almost inacessible positions, which leave no ques-tion of the resolution and gallantry of the Russian forces. Guns have been captured and re-captured in fierce hand-to-hand conflicts.

The latest word directly from the field of battle is the Mukden dispatch to the Associated Press, in which it is stated that 15,000 Rusians had been wounded, which, together with the day's casualities, would make the total probably exceed the figures of Liao Yang, and make the fight rank as one of the bloodlest battles in his tory.

### Medical Association Meets.

Cincinnati, O., Special, -The Missis sippi Valley Medical Association unanimously elected Bransford Lewis, St Louis, president, and H. E. Tuley, Louisville, secretary. The sessions of the association closed with the reading of papers by Shelby C. Carson, Greensboro, Ala.; Duncan Eve, Nashville, Tenn., and F. D. Kendall, Columbia,

#### TO OBSERVE ARBOR DAY

The State Superintendent of Education Has Issued an Address to the Teachers of the State.

The third Friday in November is Arbor Day, a day to be observed by the schools according to an act of the legislature. It is observed in Richland and some of the other countries by the planting of trees and shrubbery. Mr. O. B. Martin, the State superintendent of education, is very anxious for all the schools in the State to observe Arbor Retreat-Whole Regiments Mowed Day this year. The law on the subject is as follows:

"The free public schools of this State shall observe the third Friday in November of each year as Arbor Day, and en that day the school officers and teachers shall conduct such exercises and engage in the planting of such sbrubs, plants and trees as will impress on the minds of the pupils the proper value and appreciation to be placed on flowers, ornamental shrubbery and shade trees."

Mr. Martin has issued an address to county superintendents of education and to teachers generally, in which he calls upon them to have the schools to make proper observation of the day. in his address he offers the following very timely suggestions:

"Allow me to sall your attention to the statute providing for the observance of Arbor Day. The Programme included herein is only suggestive. You can easily supplement or obbreviate it, inasmuch as this day is so near to Thanksgiving day it might be well to combine their celebration on the date est suited to your conditions. It will be an appropriate occasion to invite patrons and to take steps for permacent school improvements. As a preparation for this day, it will be profitable to have the children collect in leaf or book albums as many different kinds of leaves as possible and in addition upon Mukden his position will be to teaching them the various kinds of quite as favorable as it was when the trees that grow in South Carolina the order to advance was given on Octo- leaves may also be used for spelling or drawing lessons and an exhibit of this work will form part of your entertainment of visitors. In many sections also an exhibit of the various kinds of good might be collected and pupils might make some useful arti-cles of school or household furniture, as pointers, ink stands, rules, gavels,

book cases, shelves, brackets, etc 'However, the chief object of the legislature seems to be to teach the value of flowers, shrubbery and shade trees, There are hundreds of school houses in this State located in open fields with bleak surroundings and it is hoped that this number may be greatly diminished the calebration of Arbor day. The address to the people of the south by Southern State superintendents emphasizes this situation in the following language: 'Surely, then, the house which this sacred work of training the children of the republic for citizen-ship and social service, a work that has to do with mind and soul and body, with the moulding of character and the creation of ideals, should be a place home. not hovel:

worthy in all respects of such a workbeauty, not a place ugh ness; a place of comfort, not a place of discomfort; a place of cleanliness, not a place of uncleanliness,. About it the grass should grow green and the sun shine bright, the flowers bloom and the birds sing and the trees wave their long arms, and the children while listening to the lessons taught by men and books may receive also from the notent, silent influence of proper environment, the sweet message of peace and love and culture and beauty

We ought to take advantage of this occasion not only to make sentiment but to raise funds to improve and beautify the schools. Each child could bring a coin, a collection may be taken, or refreshments served and the proeeds used to purchase pictures, buy shrubbery, paint houses, fences, etc. It would be especially appropriate to raise money for libraries in those counties which have not secured their quota, under the library act, and even those that have 12 might anticipate next year's appropriation and get their money ready by the time the appropriation becomes available. At all events I hope that teachers and pupils will make a pleasant and profitable occasion out of Arbor day

#### White Man and Negro Killed.

Bishopville. Special. - Saturday night about 9 o'clock a riot occurred a: Lucknow, a town about eight miles north of Bishopville, between Harvey Lang, a young white man, and several negroes, and as a result Mr. Lang and one negro man named Ezekill died Sunday morning about daylight there being but a short time difference between their deaths.

#### Laurens County Schools.

Laurens. Special .- County Superintendent of Education C. F. Brooks has finished his annual report from which the following figures and statistion are taken: Total number of school districts, 64. Whole number of white schools, 70; negro, 76. Number of white teachers, male 24; female 71: colored teachers, male 31; female 7. Length of term of white schools total number of weeks, 1,817; negro, Total enrollment, 988 weeks. boys 1,499, girls, 1,817; negro, boys 2.070, girls, 2.684. Total receipts for school purposes from all sources. \$37,839.62. Total ex-

# penditures for the year, \$32,650.48.

Two Ginneries Burned.

Laurens, Special.-Two ginneries were destroyed by fire in the county Saturday morning. The first was that of Mr. W. P. Harris at Young's store ir the upper part of the county, which was burned just after midnight. The loss consisted of a complete ginning outfit, four bales of cotton, a wagon and a quantity of wood, aggregated at \$1,200, was total on which there was no insurance. The fire is thought to have been of accidental origin.

# THE DIVORCE EVI

Charged That Divorces and Saloons Are Closely Linked

BUXTON HOT APTER BISHOP POTTER

Wineton Deputy at the Episcopal Convention Attempts to Bring Up the Liquor Question in Connection With the Debate on Divorce and Yields Only to the Time Limit of the Ses-

Boston, Special.—A marked division of sentiment regarding the proposal to prevent the re-marriage of the innocent party to a divorce during the life of the former partner developed at today's session of the House of Deputies of the Episcopal General Convention. The house, sitting as a committee of the whole, discussed the issue all day, and many vehement addresses were made on both sides.

Several prominent delegates expressed the opinion that in view of the great difference of opinion the present conference would not act on the matter, but would, like its predecessor, refer the problem to the next triennial convention.

A commotion was caused by John C. Buxton, of Winston, N. C., who attempted to link the divorce evil

with the liquor question.

Mr. Buxton is the deputy who, on the opening day of the convention. attempted to read a resolution censuring Bishop Henry C. Potter, of New York, for opening the subway saloon. In his remarks he express ed the opinion that it would be better for the church to curb the liquor traffic before changing the canons on di-

Continuing, he was saying: "If, instead of a high official of the church ending his influence to the dedication of saloons-" when he was interrupted by a point of order. Mr. Buxton was admonished by the chairman. Still he attempted to make some further reference, indirectly, to the subway tavern, but was promptly called to order by the chairman. The time limit of the morning session expired before Mr. Buxton could continue.

James McConnell, of New Orleans, opposed the adoption of the new canon, in a dramatic speech. "In God's name," he declared, "how can a church legislate to take away the pain of innocence? What right has any one to change the meaning of the words in St. Matthew's Where is the man to expound away the written word of the Son of God himself?"

Rev. T. J. Beard, of Birmingham, Ala., was opposed to the adoption of the proposed canon because it compromised the church as a teacher. George Foster Peabody, of Brooklyn, thought that all additions should voted down.

The debate was put over. The House of Bishops presented the Archbisop of Canterbury with a silver loving cup. The English primate will leave the city for New York temorrow and will sail for England

on Monday. The resignation of Bishop Thomas Jamggar, of Southern Ohio, was received and accepted by the House of Bishops, and his co-adjutor. Right Rev. Boyd Vincent, becomes bishop of the diocese.

#### Wood Alcohol Kills 16.

New York, Special,-When Herman Sachs died in Roosevelt Hospital, 20 minutes after he had been admitted. another death was added to the long list of fatalities which Coroner Scholer believes were caused by the use of, wood alcohol in the whiskey sold n the saloon of Rudolph Fritsche There are now sixteen deaths on this list. Sachs was selzed with violent abdomenal pains this afternoon. Corover Scholer was notified and a hurried investigation showed that the stricken man had been drinking whis key bought at Fritche's saloon just before the police took possession of

#### Crane Succeed Hoar.

Boston, Special.-Governor John I Bates appointed former Governor W. Murray Crane, of Dalton, United States Senator to fill the unexpired term of Senator George F. Hoar, recently deceased. Mr. Crane has informed Govornor Dates that he will accept. He is one of the largest paper manufacturers in the State and has been prominent in State politics for a score of years. In 1897 he was elected Lieutenant Governor and in 1900 became Governor. which office he held for three years. Mr. Crane is a personal friend of President Roosevelt.

#### Still Fighting Stubbornly.

Mukden, By Cable. -Stubborn fighting is still in progress, this being the third day of the engagement. It is impossible at this time to say what has been accomplished. Hospital trains are continually arriving from the south. The wounded are being sent further north. A dressing station has been established on the railway platform here, where nurses and surgeons give prompt attention to the most urgent cases befor the trains proceed.

#### Apprehension at St. Petersburg.

St. Petersburg, By Cable.-It is now midnight on the battlefield below Mukden, and the failure to receive news that the Russians achieved decisive results in Wednesday's fight north of Yental, coupled with the Tokio report that Field Marshal Oyama is gaining ground, causes increased apprehension,

Gathered From Many Sources.

Through the South

Senator-elect Rayner, of Maryland,

Richmond, Va., was selected for the Episcopal General Convention of 1907 MANY WITNESSES ON THE STAND by the convention in Boston.

epened the Democratic campaign in Delaware with a vigorous speech at Wilmington.

Representatives of the Mormon Church of Utah are negotiating for the purchase of a tract of 300,000 acres of land in the State of Tabasco, Mexico.

Confederate veterans of Texas celebrated on Sunday the eighty-sixth birthday of Judge John H. Reagan, the only survivor of the Confederate Cabi-

C. J. Cassimus, a wealthy retired fruit dealer, was run over and killed by a street car in North Montgomery Wednesday. Eye-witnesses say the man deliberately walked upon the tracks. The bedy was horribly man-

At the request of the Governor of Virginia, Colonel Charles A. Dempsey, United States army, retired, has been ordered to Richmond for duty with the organized militia of that State for a period of 4 years, unless sooner reliev-

A dispatch from Mexico City says: Louis Mazzantine, the noted Spanish bull-fighter, and his brother, Thomas, will soon arrive here, where they will give one of their last performances. Louis intends leaving the profession after returning to Spain shortly to kill his last bull in honor of the Queen.

At Chapel Hill, N. C., Wednesday the one hundred and ninth anniversary of the opening of the State University was celebrated. Dr. Venable of the University, reported the institution in excellent condition and then introduced the orator of the day. Dr. C. Alphonso Smith, who delivered an address on 'The Literature of the South."

A special from Montgomery, Alabama, says: Attorney General Wilson has filed impeachment proceedings with the Supreme Court against Sheriff A. D. Rodgers, of Madison county. He is charged with neglect of duty in not protecting the negro. Horance Maples, who was lynched in Huntsville, on the night of September 7th. The hearing has been set for November 24th.

#### Washington Happenings.

The War Department has just received the report of the Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Park Commission submitted for the commission by General H. V. Boynton, chairman. The commissioners state that during the year monuments were erected and dedicated by the States of Maryland, Ohio and Penusylvania.

# In the North

Senator Fairbanks spent the day

peaking at points in Nebraska. Ex-President Cleveland will preside and make a speech at a general Democratic mass-meeting in Carnegie Hall. New York, October 21.

Frank De Peyster Hall, a wealthy nember of a prominent New York family, committed suicide as a result f charges of disgraceful practices made against him.

Thirty-three persons were killed and many injured by a collision between a passenger train and a freight on the dissouri Pacific railroad near Warrensourg. Missouri.

At St. Louis Wednesday night, Grant Eby, of New York, who holds the championship medal, defeated Benjamin R. Brumby, of Atlanta, Ga., in the third championship pool tourney game, the score being 125 to 27. Eby's playing was brilliant throughout, Brumby had several hard luck breaks when his turn came to play.

#### Foreign Affairs,

At least 15 persons were killed by falling walls at Santiago, Chile.

Jews desiring to emigrate from Russia were granted reduced rallway rates within the empire.

Earl Grey advises that a conference of Englishmen and Americans be held a deal with the race problem in South

It is expected in St. Petersburg that General Kuropatkin's advance will be strongly resisted by the Japanese in a

#### Miscellaneous Matters.

A number of new plays were proluced in New York and other cities. Court-martial trials in the army dereased nearly 20 per cent, last year. John Alexander Dowle, the "first

high priest on earth," in a "sermon" at

Zion eulogized Roosevelt and denounc-

ed Parker and the Democrats as the

gerum of the earth." Henry C. Frick was elected a direcor of the Reading Company and of the Philadelphia and Reading Coal and

fron Company.

The death is announced of Mrs. John Angeli, who sued for a share of the state of the late Jay Gould, alleging she was his widow.

Robert J. Wynne, First Assistant Postmaster-General, was appointed to succeed the late Henry C. Payne as a

Perhaps the most remarkable old man in the world is stationed at For-George, Calcutta, India. His name is Salkah Imamudda, regimental chap lain to the 18th Native Bengal in an try. He is 130 years old, and atill eads without spectacles.

Secretary Hay and the Chinese Minlater will draft a new and more liberal Chinese exclusion treaty.

# NEWS TRROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY CATAWBA HEARING

South Carolina Institutes Proceedings Against Railroad

South Carolina Railroad Com Takes Evidence at Columbia-Gov-Heyward Appoints

Treasurer for Lee County.

Columbia, S. C., Special.—A hearing; was had before the railroad commission Tuesday in the matter of the double wreck on the 9th of September at Catawba bridge on the Seaboard, when a number of lives were lost by reason of the passenger train leaving. the bridge, shortly after midnight, and a freight train following 10 minutes later, falling in on the wreckage. On the part of the railroad, the witnesses were examined by Mr. J. L. Glenn, of Chester, district attorney for the Seaboard, and Chairman Garris conducting the examination for the State. Among the spectators was Mr. John Earle, of Greenville, commissioner-elect. Commissioner Caughman's report was read, in which he pointed out the possible cause of the wrock being the breaking of the bolt retaining the front trucks of the passenger engine. In this broken. bolt he had detected an old crack. He also criticised the road for having the second train run so close as to render its flagging impossible. He thought a speed of 40 miles an hour too great for

this bridge. In reply to this, General Superintendent Huger read his report of the accident to President Barr, in which he discovered that the catastrophe was probably due to a rail being unspiked, the retaining bors of the next rail being found unbroken and their bolts discovered in good condition nearby. In the circumstances there was no time to flag the second train and for that reason it was impossible to prevent the louble wreck. The physical condition of the bridge, which was only two years old, was perfect, as was admitted, and Mr. Huger would not hesitate to run a passenger train over such a bridge at a

rate of 60 miles an hour. These witnesses were sworn for the railroad: B. F. Luther, master chanic; A. L. Monroe, inspector of engines; James Durkin, inspector of bridges; General Superintendent Huger; R. F. West, conductor on wrocked passenger train; Pink Carpenter, colored, flagman; G. H. Meares, engineer; T. C. Link and J. J. Duncan, of freight

crew; P. K. Sanders, train master. The witnesses for the State were Commissioner Coughman and two citizens of Reddy, a station near the scene of the accident, R. W. Patton and T. K. Geddys

The testimony was all one way and proving that the accident was probably due to a rail being unspiked. Disinter-cated witnesses testified that they found angle bars and bolts untapped and unbroken on the ground just beneath the first break in the trestle. that the threads in the bolts were unbroken and that a number of unben; spikes were found near the same spot.

#### Gasoline Engine Explodes.

Ashoville, Special.-A gasoline engino used in pumping water at the residence here of President R S Howland, of the Atlantic and North Carolina Railroad, exploded Tuesday afternoon, painfully miuring an emplove named Carner about the hands and arms. Mr. Howland said tonight that he did not know whether it was carelessness on the part of the em plove or a defect in the engine that caused the explosion. Garner was given medical attention, and it is no thought that his hurts will seriously. It is said that a heavy woolen shirt worn by Garner was re sponsible for his comparatively slight injuries; that otherwise his clothing would have probably ignited and he would have been burned to death.

#### Russian Fleet to Leave.

Copenhagen, By Cable. The Associsted Press learns from an excellent source that the Russian Baltic fleet will leave Liban October 14 and pass through Danish waters Ocytober 16. High Russian naval officers have arrived here and will investigate the Danish waters before the passage of

#### the fleet. A Divorce Discussion.

Boston. Special .-- A proposed change in the canons of the Episcopal Church, whereby clergymen are forbidden to re-marry any person who has been divorced was discussed for two hours by the House of Dep uties at Tuesday's session of the Episcopal General Convention. The House of Deputies was sitting as a committee of the whole, and the consideration of the subject, regarded as one of the most important to come before the present convention, will be taken up from time to time, until the matter is finally disposed of. For some time there has been a

strong sentiment in the church that the elergy should not marry the inno-

#### cent party. Losses Heavy on Both Sides.

Tokio, By Cable.-Tokio is eagerly walting tidings of the peristently rumored engagement south of Mukden. It is reported that the Russians as suming the offensive, crossed the Hun river and attacked General Kuroki's forces, capturing a position which the Japanese, being strongly re-inforced, re-captured and re-occupied. The Jap anese, it is reported, have checked the Russian advance. It is said that the losses on both sides were heavy. No confirmation of these reports can ke