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CONDITION OF BUSINESS.

FEATURES OF THE PAST WEEK IN TRADE CIRCLES.

A General Improvement Noted. Although some uncertainty still exists as to the immediate monetary future.

New York, March 31.—R. G. Dun & Co.'s Weekly Review of Trade will say: The fact of largest influence in the record of the past week has been the increased distribution of goods which appears with better weather at nearly all points. The strengthening effect is already felt in some wholesale trades, and even in some manufactures, building materials and in steel, and paints and glass are helped, as well as many forms of textile and leather products. Collections already improve at many points, though still generally rather behind, and especially at Philadelphia and other eastern points.

The stringency often seen about April 1st does not appear here, while for other money markets, the close pressure some weeks ago has led to adequate preparation. But while imports greatly exceed exports, it is not safe to calculate that outgoes of gold will not again disturb confidence. Hence the break in important speculations has its hopeful side.

Instead of rising, after the close of the Lancashire strike, cotton fell three-eighths, which may accelerate exports, though stocks of American cotton in Europe are still a third larger than usual at this season.

Exports in four weeks at New York have been \$5,115,000 less than last year, indicating total for the month not far from \$76,000,000, while the increase in imports at New York alone has been about \$11,000,000 indicating a total for the month of more than \$97,000,000. This great excess in imports, following the excess of \$36,000,000 in January and February, is the basis of doubt about the immediate monetary future.

The situation in the great industries is distinctly improving, regardless of speculative uncertainties. Legitimate business shows no unsoundness, caution having largely prevailed, and the volume is the largest ever known for the season. Failures in the first quarter of the year, 3,202 in number, were fewer than in either of the past three years, and though the amount of liabilities was larger, the average of liabilities is still quite low, less than \$14,800.

Iron and steel business is a shade firmer, with improved demand for bar plates and structural forms; and though rails do not sell, Bessemer iron is firm and steel stronger.

Nearly all Southern points report some improvement, and at Nashville no disturbance results, the banks being fortified. At Galveston a large increase in cotton is noted, but timidity of capital and smaller loans than usual. At New Orleans lumber, material for building, etc., are strong and active and other trade fair, with money in ample supply.

The business failures the last week number for the United States 166; and for Canada 28; total 194.

Bradstreet's Observations.
NEW YORK, March 31.—Bradstreet's to-morrow will say: Cooler weather generally has improved the prospect for spring trade, but without increase in distribution. Throughout the Eastern New England States trade is quieter, due to reflection of late interruptions to business North and South. In the Central Western States a fair movement of merchandise is reported, and although the prospects are improved, Northwest business continues retarded there. In the South it remains quiet, with fair demand for drygoods, hardware and plantation supplies at Memphis, and satisfactory trade at Houston and good demand for lumber at Galveston. Business is slow at Charleston, where rice merchants are steadily reducing stocks. Manufacturers at Atlanta report trade satisfactory, but retail dealers say they are behind in sales, owing to scarcity of ready money at the interior. Rosin is firm, but turpentine is relatively slow at Savannah, where business is quiet.

The close of the month brings a falling off in volume in goods distributed from New Orleans, where cotton and rice are depressed, while sugar is active and buoyant. The prospect is still for a larger cotton acreage, but a reduced rice acreage is promised.

The recent excitement at Nashville due to the embarrassment of the banks there has subsided, and country banks are depositing at Nashville again, where every arrangement is made to provide for the financial needs of merchants. Some reports telegraphed regarding the situation have been misleading. Trade there is generally quiet and collections fair.

Shot His Son and Killed Himself.
FAYETTEVILLE, N. C., March 31.—Henry Collins, a well-known colored truck farmer, in a fit of insanity today shot his son, the ball striking the ear, but not seriously wounding him, and then committed suicide by horribly butchering himself with an axe. He had accumulated considerable property, and was much esteemed by the community.

Tennessee is in a bad way. Judge DuBose has been impeached. One of the charges against him is that he used his official position to assault women who visited him to secure his influence in having their relations or friends released from penalties and prisons. If the reports are true his conduct was infamous.—Spartan.

He Loved Ostrich.
CHARLESTON, April 1.—The will of the late John Thomson was admitted to probate today. The testator, after devising sundry real estate to friends in this city, \$10,000 to distant relatives in Scotland and \$20,000 to his executors, leaves the remainder of his estate to the city of Charleston. No trusts are created, the city is simply made his residuary legatee. It is thought that the estate will be worth about \$150,000 after all bequests are paid. The deceased was a well known seedsman and gardener, who came here from Scotland a half century ago and acquired wealth.

THE GATE CITY BANK.

Attorney General Olney Will Probe the Affair to the Bottom.

WASHINGTON, March 31.—Capt. Henry W. Jackson, of Atlanta, special United States Attorney in connection with the Redview defalcation in the Gate City Bank, whose presence in Washington at this time has excited a good deal of interest has this to say on the subject:

"It is an error to suppose that my presence in Washington has anything to do with the Gate City Bank affairs. I have three cases before the United States Supreme Court, and as in a body that waits for no man, I was forced to be here. Knowing that Attorney General Olney had ordered a temporary cessation of the investigation of the bank's affairs, the people of Atlanta connected my departure with that fact. I would have come anyhow, and my coming would have stopped the investigation anyhow. I have seen the Attorney General, but am not at liberty to state what passed between us. The information will have to come from the Department of Justice. I will state, however, that it is his intention to probe the affair to the bottom. There will be serious developments, of course. It is no secret in Atlanta that I have prepared several papers for presentation to the grand jury. I leave for New York to-night, and will spend Saturday and part of Sunday at Cambridge. I have a son at Harvard. I will be in Washington on Monday, and I hope to leave on Wednesday next. I presume that the investigation will be resumed as soon after my arrival in Atlanta as possible."

Joseph James, recently appointed attorney for the Northern District of Georgia, was with the Attorney General yesterday morning, but Mr Olney gave him no instructions in regard to the Gate City bank matter. It was not mentioned.

Butler's Game.
Senator Butler's course does not seem to be gaining him many friends. In fact, some of his warmest supporters seem to be falling away from him, since he took up Cal Caughman and Ben Perry. The *Winnsboro News and Herald*, which has always been a Conservative journal, says:

"Senator Butler is doing himself great injustice. It is stated in the newspapers that he endorsed Perry before he was fully informed of his conduct in this State and before he had full knowledge of the truth of the charge. It was the Senator's duty to inquire. Now it is stated that he endorsed Judge Townsend thinking that he was endorsing Attorney General Townsend. Really we can't excuse such ignorance on the part of our senior Senator as to his home people. The truth is, the Senator had better consult his constituents a little more. We don't like some of the company about him—men if such company is necessary to backfillman. The Senator may lose more friends than he will make by alliances with Caughman and Perry. We didn't like the letter that the Senator wrote last year, in which he appeared exceedingly anxious to know exactly where the majority was. The Conservatives of this State like a man to stand firmly by a principle."

This is a significant utterance. The Conservative papers are not over much pleased to see Butler affiliating with Perry and Caughman.

It appears that Butler is simply taking Perry and Caughman away from Tillman, and that as soon as he has done that he will flip them aside as a small boy throws away an orange skin after he has extracted the juice.

QUAKER CITY MOONSHINERS.
An Illicit Rum Distillery Captured in a Brewery.
PHILADELPHIA, March 31.—In the Delaware Collector Brooks today seized the brewery of Philip Klein & Son, Wallace street, as the result of a discovery made yesterday that an illicit molasses rum distillery of 1,200 gallons capacity was being conducted therein. The discovery was made by Revenue Collector E. A. Alexander, of this city, and General Deputy Collector A. V. Mason, of West Virginia, who have been working on the case for four months, and who forcibly entered an upper room. A small quantity of warm rum spirits was found, and it was evident that a larger quantity had been run into a sewer through a rubber hose, which appliance was kept in readiness in case of discovery.

The plant is valued at \$75,000, and the illegal distillery is one of the largest ever unearthed.

Philip Klein, Jr., the son, was held in \$1,500 bail by United States Commissioner Bell for a further hearing tomorrow.

Maxwell Getting in His Work.
WASHINGTON, April 1.—Fourth Assistant Postmaster General Maxwell to-day appointed 107 fourth-class postmasters. Of this number fifteen were in Indiana, fourteen in Kentucky, ten in Virginia, ten in Maine, eleven in Illinois and nine in Georgia.

Won First Prize.
J. D. Hinnaat, a Spartanburg boy, won first prize, \$100 in gold, at a telegraphers' contest in New York city last Monday. The prize was offered by John W. Mackay, the millionaire cable owner of California, and open to the world.

OUR FIRST AMBASSADOR.

MR. BAYARD GOES TO THE COURT OF ST. JAMES.

The President Also Appoints Ministers to Japan, Chile, Peru, And Central American Republics and a Number of Consuls.

WASHINGTON, March 30.—The President to-day sent the following nominations to the Senate:

Thomas F. Bayard, of Delaware, ambassador to Great Britain.
Envoys Extraordinary and Ministers Plenipotentiary of the United States:

James D. Porter, of Tennessee, to Chile.
James A. McKenzie, of Kentucky, to Peru.
Lewis Baker, of Minnesota, to Nicaragua, Costa Rica and Salvador.
Pierce M. B. Young, of Georgia, to Guatemala and Honduras.
Edwin Dun, of Ohio (now secretary of the Legation at Japan), to Japan.
Consuls of the United States:

L. M. Shaffer, of West Virginia, to Stratford, Ontario.
Harrison P. Williams, of Missouri, to Vera Cruz.
M. P. Pendleton, of Maine, to Ptolema.
Theodore M. Stephen, of Illinois, to Annaburg.
William T. Townes, of Virginia, to Rio de Janeiro.
Claude Meeker, of Ohio, to Bradford.

Newton B. Eustis, of Louisiana, Second Secretary of Legation of the United States at Paris.
John B. Reynolds, of Pennsylvania, Assistant Secretary of the Interior, vice Cyrus Bussey, resigned.
Lawrence Maxwell, Jr., of Ohio, Solicitor General, vice Charles H. Aldrich, resigned.
John F. Hall, of Georgia, Assistant Attorney General, vice Geo. H. Shields, resigned.

WHO THEY ARE.
Some of the Gentlemen Honored by Mr. Cleveland.
WASHINGTON, March 30.—First on the list of nominations to-day, and first in distinction in long public service and in diplomatic experience, was Thomas F. Bayard, and it was by unanimous opinion declared fitting that he should be the first of the ambassadors created by the last Congress.

JAMES A. MCKENZIE, who goes as Minister to Peru, was one of the coterie of inimitable Kentucky humorists, which included Proctor Knott and Joe Blackburn, who represented that State in the Forty-seventh Congress. He is fifty-three years of age, and while he was educated as a lawyer, he saw fit to follow the primitive occupation of a farmer. But he has managed to find time to dabble extensively in politics, and besides representing his State in Congress, he has been a delegate to the last two National Democratic conventions.

It was McKenzie who made the celebrated humorous speech at the St. Louis convention, wherein he likened Cleveland to a thoroughbred Kentucky horse, ready for victory. At the Chicago convention he broke away from Henry Watterson's lead, and by another timely and flowery speech carried a number of his fellow delegates over to the Cleveland line.

JAMES D. PORTER, nominated to be Minister to Chile, to succeed Patrick Henry Egan, is a resident of Paris, Tenn., where he is at present engaged in the practice of law. He has also served with distinction upon the bench, and enjoys the reputation of being one of the ablest lawyers in his State. Under the previous Democratic administration Mr Porter was Assistant Secretary of State under Mr Bayard, and from 1874 to 1876 he was Governor of Tennessee.

PIERCE M. B. YOUNG, of Georgia, nominated to be Minister to Guatemala, was a major general of cavalry in the Confederate army and was distinguished for his services in that cause. He was the commanding officer at the battle of Brandy Station, one of the principal cavalry battles of the war, and the engagement in which Gen Butler was wounded. Gen Young was educated at West Point, but was born and has lived all his life in the South, and is a large plantation owner. He served in the Fortieth, Forty-first, Forty-second and Forty-third Congresses. Under Cleveland's former administration he was sent to St Petersburg as Consul General, but not liking the place, resigned and came home. He succeeds Gen. Pacheco, formerly a Representative from California.

JOHN D. HALL, nominated to be Assistant Attorney General, is a member of the law firm of Hall & Hammond, with offices in Atlanta and Griffin, Ga., the latter place being his residence. Mr Hall is said to be one of the leading lawyers of his State, a man of great force of character and acumen. When but a young man he was made judge of the circuit court. Although never a candidate for place, he has frequently been elected as a member of the State legislature, and when so elected has always served as chairman of the judiciary-committee. He is about fifty years old, and full of mental and physical vigor.

EDWIN DUN, nominated as Minister to Japan, is a citizen of London, Ohio. His nomination is in the nature of a promotion, for he is a hold-over from the previous

BLACK CLOUDS OF DEATH.

CHOLERA MAKES ITS APPEARANCE AGAIN IN EUROPE.

All Reports Show that the Dreaded Disease is Now Rampant in Many Parts of the Czar's Great Empire—The Disease Creeping Over the Frontiers.

LONDON, April 1.—The Easter vacation has begun in the shadow of an approaching cholera epidemic. In Russia the authorities have been forced to acknowledge the presence of the disease in several cities and provinces, which according to all former official reports have been unaffected since December 15. German and Austrian physicians returning from tours of the provinces in question, however, state that there has not been a day since last June when there was the slightest evidence that cholera was suppressed in any government south of St Petersburg. In fourteen Governments of Southern, Southeastern, Eastern and Northeastern Russia the deaths have been numbered by the score every week for the last six months. These Governments include within their boundaries most of the black earth region, lands which are known as the granary of Russia, hence to the horrors of the epidemic has been added the appalling prospect of a return of the famine, with typhus and other fevers in its wake.

An examination of the manner in which Europe has been lulled into a feeling of comparative security by false official reports is found in the recent conditions in the Government of Podolia. The Government has maintained persistently that Podolia was entitled to a clean bill of health. Three Buda Pesth physicians who have just returned from that Government, which they visited in a semi-official capacity, report that the number of deaths from cholera in January was between 800 and 400, and in February somewhat more than 600. The deplorable results of the Russian system of deception in health reports become suddenly apparent. In eight Galician villages, near the Russian frontier, the cholera has already shown itself, and in four more suspicious cases of choleric diseases have been isolated.

All twelve villages have been frequented during the winter by Russian peasants, who cross the border to work in the Galician forests. The strictness of the watch on the border had been relaxed in view of untrustworthy assurances of the Russian authorities, and therefore these men from the infected districts found little difficulty in their migration, which never would have been permitted had the fact of a continued spread of the disease been known to the health office in Vienna.

The latest advices from East Prussia indicate that the Germans were deceived by false accusations of Russia and had abated the administrative severity of regulations prescribed by Berlin sanitary officials. Two villages near Thorn are believed to be infected. In Thorn two suspicious cases have been isolated. Bulgaria also is in danger, for two cases of cholera were discovered in Ruteschuk on Wednesday.

Physicians in Vienna and Berlin are already prophesying that within four weeks all Central Europe will be obliged to revive the active campaign of last summer against the epidemic.

GREAT CYCLING FEAT.
A Complete Tour of the World in Three Years.
St. LOUIS, March 31.—This morning Thomas G. Allen, of Ferguson, Mo., and Will L. Satchleben, of Alton, Ill., rolled into St. Louis on their bicycles, having completed a tour of the world in three years. Both young men graduated from Washington University in 1890, and undertook the trip to improve their education.

In their tour the cyclers crossed the Chinese Empire, from east to west, a distance of 3,200 miles, and are the only white men who have accomplished this feat since Marco Polo in the thirteenth century.

The representatives of the St. Louis cycling clubs met the tourists outside the city and escorted them to the clubhouse, where they were given an enthusiastic reception.

SUICIDE OR MURDER.
The Mysterious and Tragical Death of Mitchell Pool.
WAGENER, S. C., April 1.—News reached here late this afternoon that a dead man was found lying by the roadside near Horses Bridge in the eastern part of this county. Judge Baltzger empaneled a jury and proceeded to the spot to hold the inquest. On their arrival they found it to be the body of Mitchell Pool, lying on his back, with a pistol ball shot through his neck. His hands, face and neck had been blackened with burnt cork. His pistol was by his side, with two empty chambers. The woods had been set on fire, no doubt to make known the deed. The jury has not returned with their verdict, and nothing definite can be learned, but it is generally believed that he shot himself.

HUSTLING MR. TRAXLER.

The State Commissioner Held at Work. He Gives His Bond.

The work of preparing for the opening of the South Carolina Dispensary is certainly being rushed by the business-like and energetic State Commissioner, Mr. Traxler. He is moving things on a quick schedule and is not wasting a moment.

Yesterday he filed his \$10,000 bond and it was approved by the State bond commission. The signatures appearing on the bond are as follows: D. H. Traxler, G. C. McEachern, Charles T. Hayrill, James C. Byrd, Mary Byrd, E. C. Hudson and R. P. Byrd. The bond was given in Florence county. Mr. Traxler has not yet arranged to move his family to Columbia, but says he will remain here almost constantly from this time on.

Yesterday he awarded the first two contracts. One is to J. H. Howie, and is for the repairing and remodeling of the Agricultural Hall property, the putting in of new windows, erection of the commissioner's office, and all other work of a like character. The contract requires all this work to be done immediately. Mr. Traxler expects to get into his new office to-morrow afternoon.

The other contract was awarded to Superintendent Neal of the penitentiary. It is for the opening of the cellar walls, cementing of the floor, etc., of the cellar, in order to make it into a first-class stone cellar. This contract also calls for the erection of new fencing around the Agricultural Hall premises.

All the insurance policies on the Agricultural Hall building expired yesterday and Mr. Traxler boasted himself renewing them.

Mr. Traxler says he is getting in samples of jugs, flasks and packages just as fast as possible. Some good samples of jugs arrived yesterday from Anderson. He will also get samples of liquids, and prices are very various dealers.

Mr. Traxler says he will not make any of his appointments till about June 15.

Mr. Traxler has as yet been unable to secure an interview with Revenue Collector Webster about the taking out of licenses for the dispensary.—The State, 31st of March.

BITTEN BY A MAD DOG.
A Marion Man Hastening to the Pasteur Institute.
DILLON, S. C., March 28.—Mr. Asbury B. Betha, a citizen of Marion county and a resident of Latta, passed through this town to-day, en route to New York, where he hopes to be aided by the Pasteur remedy for hydrophobia. Mr. Betha was bitten by a mad dog, and fears the terrible consequences. The facts are these: He was on the banks of the Great Pee Dee fishing. While thus engaged a large dog came along, and on being spoken to by Mr. Betha, viciously attacked him and painfully bit him on the right arm and hand. A fierce fight between the man and beast followed, and resulted in the escape of the dog, which went to another vicinity. Everything in the beast's way was attacked. Several dogs, numerous cats and a negro woman are on the list of the victims. It is also stated that a tramp came in the dog's way and was also bitten. Mr. Cash Elerbe finally met the beast and killed him.

Mr. Betha is hurrying to New York with all possible speed, and is considerably excited in anticipation of the result.—The State.

MRS. DAVIS APPROVES.
The Arrangements for the Removal of Her Husband's Remains.
RICHMOND, Va., April 1.—Mayor J. Y. Ellison, president of the Jefferson Davis Monument Association, returned to the city to-night from New York, where he had been to have a conference with Mrs. Davis relative to the removal of the remains of her husband from New Orleans to Richmond for reinterment. Mrs. Davis expressed satisfaction with all that has been done thus far, and approves of the suggested halt of the funeral train at Montgomery, Ala., and Atlanta, Ga. Her daughter, Miss Winnie Davis, and Mrs. Hayes will go to New Orleans, and accompany the remains to this city. Mrs. Davis will meet the body here.

The itinerary of the route will not be made out for several days.

Slandereous Editors Thraashed.
SHELL LAKE, Wis., April 1.—G. L. Jones and J. E. Jones, editors of the Shell Lake Watchman, were thrashed last night in a public caucous and before five hundred people by Dr. Wm. Beck, a young physician of this city. Dr. Beck was chairman of the caucous, and publicly demanded apologies for numerous alleged slanders published weekly for the year past. They refused to apologize, and each of the Jones drew heavy steel bars from under their coats, prepared to make an assault. Beck wrenched the steel bar from the younger Jones and pounded them both unmercifully. Public opinion is greatly with Beck, as the editors have been severe in their attacks upon Beck as well as other citizens.