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18TH YEAR--WHOLE NO. 5,515. WASHINGTON, D. C., WEDNESDAY EVENING, APRIL 14, 1886. PRICE TWO CENTS.

GOVERNMENT GOSSIP.

More Postoffice Nominations Sent to the Senate.

MR. MANNING'S CONDITION.

Proposed Improvement of the Special Delivery Service.

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

Postmasters—James P. Owen, Camden, N. Y.; Francis G. Boswell, Phelps, N. Y.; James F. Robertson, Culpeper, Va.; Frederick A. Ross, Tuscumbia, Ala.; Philip C. Spence, Newport, Ky.; W. H. Camp, Guthrie Centre, Iowa; John Shaw, Van Wert, O.; Jacob P. Herlin, Warren, Ill.; William B. Beck, Tekamah, Neb.; H. C. Briley, Dell Rapids, Dak.

Not Yet Through.—The Navy Board of Examination has not yet concluded the case of Commodore Wm. K. Mayo, who is under examination for promotion to rear-admiral.

Virginia Postmasters.—The following were to-day appointed postmasters in Virginia: L. E. Mumford, Cape Charles, Worthington County; Mrs. Lizzie A. Deitrick, Peach Grove, Rockingham County, and T. J. Wiles, Rugby, Grayson County.

General Grant's Tomb.—Captain Geo. W. Crabb, Fifth Artillery, with Battery I, has been ordered to proceed from Fort Hamilton, New York Harbor, to Camp Grant, Riverside Park, New York, on Friday to relieve Major John R. Brinckle, with Battery I, as guard over the tomb of General Grant.

The President's Callers.—Among the President's callers to-day were Senators Cockrell, Harris and Manderson, Representatives Matson, Gilfillan, Henderson, Curtin, Richardson, Pettibone, Sayers, Dowdney, Merriman, T. J. Campbell, Viele, Dorsey, Walt, and Campbell of Ohio; Consul Hughes at Birmingham, Rev. L. L. Bullock, Rev. R. F. Sample and Colonel Bryant Waters of North Carolina, who states on his card that he is 95 years of age and a veteran of the War of 1812.

An Old British Claim.—The claim of the representatives of Hon. Jas. Crooks, a British subject, for $5,000 compensation for the capture of the schooner Lord Nelson in 1812, has been submitted to Congress by Secretary Bayard, with the statement that "the fact that a long period has elapsed since this claim originated should not prejudice its full and careful consideration, inasmuch as this Government constantly has occasion to press upon the consideration of the British and other foreign governments just claims equally old."

The Special Delivery Service.—The Special Delivery Service has generally worked satisfactorily. It is still necessarily experimental; but experience has shown that there are many possibilities of widening its usefulness. Therefore the Department approves the bill introduced in the House to extend the delivery to all classes of mailable matter, instead of confining it to letters, and extending the service to every town having 4,000 inhabitants, instead of limiting it to the larger cities. Mr. Madison Davis, who has direct charge of the service, thinks that it is capable of being broadened into a most valuable branch of our postal facilities.

Treasury Coin and Bullion.—The United States Treasurer has prepared statements showing that the net gold coin and bullion in the Treasury April 10 was $153,320,858, an increase of $27,242,263 since July 31, last; also, that the amount of standard silver dollars in circulation April 10 out of a total coinage of $326,946,121 was $552,264,396. On July 31 last the amount in circulation was $39,284,433 out of a total coinage of $205,784,381. The coinage during the first ten days of the present month amounted to $464,000, and during the same period the increase in circulation was $1,194,666.

Secretary Manning Better.—Secretary Manning's physicians think that the Secretary will be able to resume his duties at the Treasury Department immediately after a summer vacation, as the Secretary is making such rapid progress towards recovery. The fact that the Secretary has lost considerable flesh is a source of satisfaction to his physicians, as this is considered favorable to his general health. As Mr. Manning convalesces he is to be given a treatment of the Swedish movement cure and horseback riding, and a careful regulation of the diet for about two or three months will be the means used to promote his rapid recovery.

Why the Fee Bills are Larger.—There is one rather interesting reason why the expenses for witness and juror fees have been so much greater during the present fiscal year than heretofore. It hinges on a decision of the U. S. Supreme Court. Until that decision was rendered it was held that a person could be indicted and tried upon information and sentenced to serve a term in the penitentiary at hard labor without the formality and consequent expense of a grand jury and witnesses. But the Supreme Court held that such a sentence was for an infamous crime, and that therefore, according to law, the indictment had to be made regularly through a grand jury. An official of the Department of Justice to-day told THE CRITIC reporter that under the decision of the Supreme Court a number of men who had been sentenced without the preliminary grand jury indictment in the class of cases mentioned have been released on habeas corpus writs before serving out their terms, but that some had served out their terms before that decision was rendered, notwithstanding the fact that their sentences were illegal.

Government's Power to Vacate Patents.—There were submitted to the House Judiciary Committee yesterday two reports by the minority of the committee appointed to inquire into the power of the Government to institute suit at the instance of private corporations to annul patents. One report recommends the enactment of a bill conferring the necessary power upon the Attorney-General to bring suit at the request of the Secretary of the Interior, in which no issue shall be litigated that can be determined in a private suit. Messrs. Ranney and J. W. Stewart submit another report, holding that there is no authority for a suit in the name of the United States, brought for the purpose of vacating a patent for an invention, except when it is based upon a state of facts which cannot be regarded by the court and made available in an infringement suit, and that in no case can the name of the Government be lent to the aid of a suit in the interests only of private parties. A patent for an invention may be vacated in a suit brought by the Government in the interest of the general public when obtained surreptitiously or by fraud.

Marriage Licenses.

Marriage licenses have been issued as follows:

Charles E. Heiss and Eva Glock, both of Chicago, Ill.; John T. Shepherd of Northampton, Mass., and Elizabeth McKenzie of Connecticut; Jas. R. Wellington and Anna R. Burrell; Todd Johnson and Susie Wilkins; John M. Anderson of Ireland and Agnes Annie Fairly of Bennings, D. C.; Grauville Madison and Elizabeth Smith; E. B. Dolin of Roanoke City, Va., and Birdie J. Bray of Augusta County, Va.

Miss J. Mellie Lewis and H. J. Brown have been permanently appointed clerks-in-ships in the Postoffice Department.

THE LOCAL OFFICES.

Commissioner Ludlow Says That Changes Will Not be Hastily Made.

Engineer Commissioner Ludlow, who has just returned from Philadelphia, stated to a CRITIC reporter that he was familiar with Washington, having been stationed here in 1882 and 1883 in connection with the Lighthouse Board. "I am extremely glad to get back," he said, "for Washington is the finest place to live that I know of." When asked if he was in favor of making any changes in the force employed by the District Government, he said: "The Commissioners will proceed with great deliberation in that respect, and will make changes only when they will be advantageous to the interests of the District and the District Government. No changes will be made simply for the purpose of making changes or to give places to people. The complexion of the Government is nonpartisan, and for that reason there should be no unnecessary changes."

He added that after talking the matter over with his colleagues he was certain they were of the same opinion as himself

"How do you like our form of government?" inquired the reporter.

"I think it is the best and offers opportunities for a model for others. I think it stands highest. I am tolerably informed on the government of other cities, and they are handicapped by unnecessary complexities and complications. The sort of a government that a city wants is the simplest form with the responsibility in the fewest hands. This is necessary, to find out where the responsibility of any neglect or fault belongs. The executive should be clearly removed from the legislative to avoid confusion."

He said the Commissioners invited criticism by the press, but they expected fair and impartial criticism.

THE ARMY AND NAVY.

Orders, Furloughs, Leaves, Courts-Martial and Personal Notes.

Fifty recruits have been ordered to Texas for the Eighth Cavalry.

First Lieutenant Ira MacNutt, Ordnance Corps, is ordered from Frankford Arsenal, Philadelphia, to Troy, N. Y., to inspect powder.

Representative Charles H. Gibson of Maryland has appointed William Beck of Chestertown, Kent County, Maryland, to the Naval Academy.

Major Amos S. Kimball, quartermaster, was relieved from duty at Vancouver April 3, under his orders to duty at San Antonio, Texas, as chief quartermaster.

Post Chaplain Malnor C. Blaine, U. S. Army, has been ordered from Fort Spokane to Sprague, Washington Territory, as witness before a civil court. He will report May 3.

Companies A (Bainbridge's) and H (McConihe's), Fourteenth Infantry, have been ordered back to Vancouver Barracks from detached service at Seattle, Washington Territory.

The Coast Survey steamer Arago, which was put in commission last week at the Norfolk Navy-Yard, with Lieutenant Geo. H. Peters in command, will be employed in resurveying Chesapeake Bay.

A battalion of the Second Cavalry, consisting of Troops E (Huggins'), F (Swigert's) and G (Whelan's), will leave Fort Walla Walla, W. T., next Thursday for a summer scouting campaign in the field.

Captain Julius H. Patzki, assistant surgeon, has been relieved from duty at Jackson Barracks, New Orleans, and ordered to Mount Vernon Barracks, Alabama, to relieve Captain Richards Barnett as post surgeon.

Army Furloughs Authorized.—Sergeant W. H. Jennings, troop H, Sixth Cavalry, Fort Stanton, New Mexico, two months. Sergeant W. S. Tompkins, Company K, Twenty-second Infantry, Fort Lewis, Colorado, three months.

A general court-martial will convene today at Fort Wayne, Detroit, Mich., of which Captain George M. Randall will be president and First Lieutenant Charles H. Heyl, judge-advocate. Both these officers and all of the members except Captain Marlborough C. Wyeth, assistant surgeon, are of the Twenty-third Infantry.

Navy Orders.—Lieutenant A. M. Knight, to continue on duty at the ordnance proving ground, Annapolis, until January 15, 1887; Lieutenant H. R. Tyler, to the Alliance; Lieutenant Edwin L. Reynolds, resigned to take effect April 18; Lieutenant Walter McLean, from the Vermont to the Alliance; Carpenter H. M. Griffiths, to the League Island Navy Yard; Carpenter Henry Williams, from League Island to the Naval Asylum; Ensign T. C. MacNutt, resigned to date June 30 and granted leave until that date; Ensign Wm. Braunersreuther, to examination April 16 for promotion; Ensign H. M. Hodges, to examination April 16 for promotion.

Army Leaves Granted.—Captain Thomas F. Quinn, Fourth Infantry, Fort Omaha, until April 30. Captain Richards Barnett, assistant surgeon, Mount Vernon Barracks, Alabama, two months. First Lieutenant Quincy O. M. Gilmore, Eighth Cavalry, Hillsboro', New Mexico, twenty days. First Lieutenant John W. Wilkinson, adjutant Seventh Cavalry, Fort Meade, Dakota, one month extension. First Lieutenant Philip G. Wales, assistant surgeon, Fort Cœur d'Alene, Idaho, two months' extension. First Lieutenant Edwin F. Glenn, Twenty-fifth Infantry, Fort Snelling, Minn., one month extension. Captain John Van Rensalaer Hoff, assistant surgeon, Fort Leavenworth, eleven months' extension, with permission to go abroad.

The New Library Site.

Says the Washington correspondent of the Baltimore *Sun*: "Two of the largest property-holders in the square proposed to be acquired as a site for the Congressional Library building are Mr. Justice Field of the United States Supreme Court and Judge Advocate-General McKee Dunn. The residences of both these gentlemen are comfortable and commodious, that of Justice Field particularly so. It was a part of the old Capitol building, but since its possession by Judge Field he has remodeled and extensively improved it. Capitol Hill is no longer a fashionable place of residence, and the two houses at private sale would not bring half as much as if located in the West End. They are not, however, the less prized by their owners, as neither of them is anxious to move up town. It is reported that Judge Field thinks $75,000 is not too much to induce him to give up the home which has for so long a time been a great pleasure to him, and that $60,000 is General Dunn's figure. This would make these two pieces of property aggregate about one-fourth of the entire amount set apart for the site, and the commission having the matter in charge will have to 'beat down' the Judge and the General. Mr. Smithmeyer, the architect, under whose designs and superintendence the building is to be constructed, is losing no time in preparing his work."

The Ohio Democrats.

The Ohio Democratic Association will hold its regular meeting this evening at its headquarters, corner of Pennsylvania avenue and Ninth street. It will be addressed by Hon. Wm. McAdoo of New Jersey and General Charles M. Anderson of Ohio.

Senator Gorman's Candidate.

Senator Gorman and Hon. Barnes Compton of Maryland saw the Commissioners of the District this morning and filed papers for the appointment of Dr. C. M. Hammett for the position of Health Officer.

Mr. Evarts Appointed Guardian.

Justice Cox to-day appointed William M. Evarts guardian to May Bell Gwin, fixing bond at $3,000.

IN CONGRESS TO-DAY.

Senator Butler in Opposition to Secret Executive Sessions.

PROCEEDINGS IN THE HOUSE

An Hour's Speech by Mr. Hurd in Behalf of His Claim to a Seat.

VARIOUS CAPITOL NOTES.

The Chair laid before the Senate a letter from Senator Jackson saying he had accepted a Circuit Judgeship, and that his seat in the Senate had therefore become vacant. He requests the Governor of Tennessee to be so informed.

The Chair also laid before the Senate a memorial from the Wool Growers' Convention, held at St. Louis, complaining of the proposition to place wool on the free list.

Mr. Gorman reported favorably a bill to construct a first-class light-ship for the entrance to Chesapeake Bay, at a cost of not over $60,000, with a steam fog signal, and to be built in an American ship-yard. The bill was at once passed.

Mr. Butler took up the warfare on secret sessions and followed Senator Platt's line of argument.

At 2 o'clock the Senate took up the Cullom Interstate Commerce bill.

The House.

Mr. Morrison, from the Committee on Rules, reported a resolution granting leave to the Committee on Public Lands at any time after the morning hour to call up bills reported from that committee for the forfeiture of land grants to railroad and other corporations; to prevent speculation in the public lands and for their reservation for the benefit of bona fide settlers, the same not to interfere with prior special orders, or with revenue and appropriation bills. Adopted.

The House then resumed consideration of the Hurd-Romeis contested election case.

When Mr. Hurd was admitted to speak on his claim for a seat the galleries were crowded. His review of the subject was thorough, and held the attention of the House throughout the hour.

The principal speech of the day in support of Mr. Hurd's claim was made by Mr. Breckenridge of Kentucky. Mr. Hall of Iowa did not think there had been a legal election in the district.

There is prospect of reaching a final vote before adjournment this evening.

PACIFIC RAILWAY AFFAIRS.

The House Pacific Railroads Committee to-day heard an argument by Delegate Voorhees in support of his resolutions alleging inadequate mail facilities and unfair discriminations on the Northern Pacific Railroad. Messrs. Bliss, Cabell, Everhart, Holmes and Hayden were appointed a subcommittee to consider and report upon the resolutions. Messrs. Dunn, Richardson and Hanback were designated a sub-committee to report upon the bill to authorize the Union Pacific Railway Company to make running and working arrangements with the Cheyenne and Northern Railway Company of Wyoming.

THE DEMOCRATIC COMMITTEE.

When the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee met last night, Mr. Gardner was chosen to represent the District of Columbia, Mr. Cassidy the State of Nevada and Mr. Charles Voorhees the Territory of Washington. The executive committee will not be selected until the vacancies existing on the general committee are filled. Messrs. Wilkins, Lore and Murphy were appointed a committee to nominate representatives on the committee from those States and Territories that have no Democratic Representatives in Congress.

THE TRACTION RAILWAY.

The proposed substitute for the bill to incorporate the Washington Traction Railway provides for altering the route so that instead of passing through the grounds of the Army, Navy and State Departments, the track will be laid along B street, south of the grounds; and instead of passing from C street by Seventh street to Pennsylvania avenue, and along Pennsylvania avenue to Ninth street, it will only touch the Avenue by crossing it at Ninth street.

SALES STANDS AT THE CAPITOL.

The House Committee on Ventilation is considering means for securing better fresh air circulation for the House of Representatives. It will be recommended that the position of the ventilators in the floor of the House be so changed as to prevent accumulations of debris, and that the stands and booths be removed from the north corridor so that the windows from the chamber may be opened.

The occupants of the stands are taking steps to so modify the obstructions as to escape the threatened edict.

Capitol Notes.

Senator Frye proposes to increase the appropriation for foreign mail transportation to $1,000,000.

The House continued the discussion of the Hurd-Romeis contested election case yesterday until adjournment at 5 o'clock.

The Senate Postoffice and Post-Roads Committee to-day referred the Brazilian mail subsidy proposition to Senators Wilson and Colquitt for report.

The Senate yesterday confirmed General John A. McClernand of Illinois to be a member of the Utah board of election; also forty-eight postmasters and a number of naval promotions.

It is stated at the Chinese Legation that there can be no question that the new Chinese Embassy was detained for an hour or more at San Francisco under the provisions of the restriction act. This is deemed a discourteous reception, and called for the presentation of a complaint, but the intention to take any further action is disclaimed.

The Senate late yesterday afternoon adopted the Frye resolution declaring it to be the sense of the Senate that there should be no commission appointed to negotiate with Great Britain concerning our fishing rights in Canadian waters. The vote was 35 yeas to 10 nays, the latter being the votes of Democrats, while 26 of the affirmative votes were of Republicans.

Imposing on General Roseeranz.

Mrs. L. L. Foster, a well-dressed white woman, is detailed at the Fifth Precinct on a charge of passing a bogus check for $30 on General Roseeranz, Register of the Treasury. She is said to belong in California.

B. H. Hill's Will.

The will of the late B. H. Hill has been admitted to probate, and letters testamentary issued to George E. Hamilton and Susan Ann Hill on filing bond for $70,000.

Parental Restrictions.

Fond mother—No, I am not going to allow Nellie to come out in society until she can do it well. She must have the best debut or none at all.

Father—Well, I'll see how debuts are quoted this morning; but I can tell you this much—this will be the first, last and only debut I'll ever buy for her.—[Tid-bits.

JUDGE BAXTER'S SUCCESSOR

Why the President Decided to Select Senator Jackson.

The following is the text of President Cleveland's letter to Senator Jackson, written on last Sunday, in reference to the appointment to the judgeship vacated by Judge Baxter's death:

"MY DEAR SIR: The applications on behalf of so many people to fill the place made vacant by Judge Baxter's death come in so fast that the matter promises to degenerate into a most unseemly scramble. To avoid this, I have determined to send the name of Judge Baxter's successor to the Senate tomorrow, and in the interest of this most important service, and in a very clear conception of my duty in the matter, I now write to say to you that you must abandon all the scruples that you entertain and permit me to nominate you to the vacant place. Your reluctance to consent to this nomination, growing out of consideration for other people in your State who desire the place does you great credit and increases my estimate of your value, but you have no right to attempt to control my action or limit my selection in this way and I am quite willing that all other aspirants and their friends should know that your nomination is my act and the result of a conviction of what ought to be done, from which I could not be moved by your arguments or by your presentation of the claims of any other man. Fully expecting that you will not be insubordinate in the face of a plain duty, I am, yours truly,

GROVER CLEVELAND."

THE PRESIDENT'S POSITION.

How Lawrence Barrett Was Impressed by a Call on Mr. Cleveland.

Mr. Lawrence Barrett, the tragedian, who has been making a Southern tour, is reported in the Augusta (Ga.) *Chronicle* as giving a rather pathetic picture of President Cleveland. The following is Mr. Barrett's language:

"I spent a day with him a short time ago when I was in Washington, and really he presents a pathetic picture—a strong man fighting alone a great battle to which he is pledged; ridiculed by his enemies and doubted by his friends. He feels his position keenly. He said to me: 'I have made mistakes; I see them, many of them, and could kick myself when I think about them; but I am only human, and am as liable to err as other men. But I get no generous sympathy and honest patriotic council. All I hear is bickering and strife and faultfinding among scheming politicians, who have no aim but to get themselves and friends in office. But for the occasional wave of popular indorsement that breaks its way over the reef of office-seekers and politicians that hedge me about and comes to me like a season of refreshing and a cry of God speed fresh from the people, I should break down, heartsick and discouraged.'"

Reception to Indians.

A meeting of the executive committee of the National Indian Defense Association was held last evening at their headquarters, the *Council Fire* office, Rev. Byron Sunderland, D. D., vice-president of the association, in the chair. The various Indian delegates now in the city were present by invitation. On motion of Dr. Bland the meeting was converted into an informal reception to the visiting Indians and the evening was spent in short speeches. Chief Keokuk of the Sac and Fox Nation made an eloquent speech through his interpreter, Rev. Mr. Harr, an Otoe Indian. Chief Journey-Cake of the Delawares gave a brief history of the trials of his people from the time of their treaty with William Penn in Pennsylvania. They then numbered about one hundred thousand, and owned a large country. Now they number only 771 and own a small tract of land in the Cherokee Nation in Indian Territory. Ex-Governor Ward Couchman of the Creek Nation and Mr. Wardsworth of the Peoria tribe spoke of the numerous bills in Congress to break up the Indians, and all of the Indian speakers expressed gratitude to the association for its defense of the Indians. Responses to the Indian speakers were made by Rev. Alexander Kent, Hon. A. J. Willard, Professor Bernard T. Janney and Dr. T. A. Bland.

PERSONAL MENTION.

Washington People, Visitors and Prominent Hotel Arrivals.

—MISS MILDRED LEE of Virginia is at Wormley's.

—GENERAL JOHN B. TURCHIN of Racine, Wis., is at the Ebbitt House.

—MR. JOSEPH B. HUGHES, U. S. Consul at Birmingham, England, is at the Ebbitt.

—GENERAL HAZEN, Chief Signal Officer, leaves to-morrow night for Fort Monroe.

—MR. W. R. HERBERT, book-keeper at Brentano's, is confined to his bed with sickness.

—MRS. LOUISE CHANDLER MOULTON of Boston, and F. E. Louis of Braddock, Pa., are at Welcker's.

—H. B. BLACK of Portland, Me.; H. H. Meacham of New York, and Robert Bernan of Richmond are at the National.

—REV. WALTER H. ROBERTSON of Virginia, L. G. Fauteaux of Boston and Walter Beall of Maryland are at Willard's.

—CAPTAIN RICHARD W. MEADE, U. S. N., of the steel dispatch vessel Dolphin, is in the city from the Norfolk Navy-Yard.

—E. A. HILDRETH, Harvard, Mass.; C. W. Button of Lynchburg, and Patrick H. Henry of Vicksburg are at the Metropolitan.

—MADAME FURSCH-MADI of the Boston Symphony Company, Charles Y. Fox and Leon Dobson, jr., of Philadelphia are at the Riggs.

—MR. EDGAR A. ROBBINS, author of the "American Method of Harmony," is visiting the city, a guest of Mrs. La A. Allyn of 1534 I street.

—MAJOR WM. M. MAYNADIER, paymaster U. S. A., and Miss Maynadier arrived at the Ebbitt last night from St. Louis to remain a week.

—THE New York Seventh Regiment will attend the performance of Frank C. Bangs in the "Silver King" at Albaugh's on next Tuesday evening.

—MR. J. F. BUNNY, who made a hit in "In the Ranks," has repeated his success this week in the leading comedy part in "Lynwood" at Herzog's.

—MR. AND MRS. R. M. FAIRBANKS and daughter of Plainfield, N. J.; Wm. Doud of New York, and T. T. Chadbourne of San Francisco are at the Arlington.

—MR. G. BURDICK of Hartford, Conn., secretary of the Phœnix Insurance Company, has been visiting his brother, Rev. F. H. Burdick, on B street southwest.

—MR. LEONARD W. JEROME of New York, who recently returned from a visit to his daughter, the wife of Lord Churchill of the British Parliament, is at Chamberlin's. Mr. Lawrence R. Jerome of New York, a friend and advocate of the Knights of Labor, is also at Chamberlin's.

Pension Office Frauds.

The Pension office investigation was continued to-day, and the case of Second Lieutenant Jesse Eastwood of the Twenty-second Kentucky militia was taken up, which General Black said was one of evident fraud. The applicant had seen but twenty days of service and claimed total disability, resulting from rheumatism caused by sleeping in the open air. His pension of $15 per month was granted upon totally inadequate evidence and rapidly increased to the highest rate of $72, the payments aggregating $10,000. Upon investigation General Black became convinced that there was no evidence that the disability had been incurred in service, and the pension was ordered stopped. He said the case was presented by an attorney who was a prominent Kentucky Republican.

Closing the Colored Schools.

The Commissioners have ordered the colored schools closed on Emancipation Day.

TWENTY-ONE YEARS AGO.

The Assassination of Abraham Lincoln April 14, 1865.

Twenty-one years ago to-day John Wilkes Booth, a handsome young man—his face was as classical as that of the young Augustus—was in the city of Washington walking the streets and calling upon friends. He was an accomplished actor, though like some of his ancestors, a little eccentric. He was polished and winning where woman was concerned. In less than twelve hours those who had met him on that day immediately came to the imaginative conclusion that he had acted nervously. But this brilliant and hot-blooded young man was naturally of a nervous temperament. He was not downcast; he was not sombre, as is usual with the man who contemplates the doing of some dreadful deed. He was nicely dressed, and his bright eye was active and alert. He was confident. He regarded himself as the head of a great and well-planned conspiracy. He had mimicked tragedy; now he was to really enact it. At 8 o'clock that evening he sauntered into Ford's old theatre on Tenth street. Once before during the day had he visited that place of amusement. Upon the latter occasion J. Harry Ford told him that President Lincoln and General Grant would be at the evening's performance, and said, laughingly, that he would have those two distinguished men in a box on one side of the stage and General Lee in an opposite box. Booth burst forth into an angry denunciation of Lee for having given up the sword which he "had promised never to surrender." On his evening's visit to the theatre Booth acted in a nonchalant manner. He walked up to the box office and chatted for a few minutes with its occupants, prefacing his gossip by laying the stump of a cigar on the ledge in front of him and saying:

"He who would this stump displace,
Must meet Bombastes face to face."

Mr. Harry Ford and Mr. J. S. Sessford, both now residents of this city, were in the office. Booth had the run of the house. He was well-known to every employe of the theatre and would not have been interfered with, no matter to what part of the theatre he might direct his steps. Not an indication did he give to those who saw him that he was anything but the debonair and self-possessed actor, John Wilkes Booth. The play was "Our American Cousin," and Miss Laura Keene was taking the leading part. At about 9:00 o'clock a shot was heard. Those in the box-office thought it was the accidental discharge of the pistol which one of the characters, *Sir Edward Trenchard*, in the progress of the play, puts to his head with suicidal intent. For a few minutes after the shot was fired there was perfect silence. There was no sign of any one who had used a pistol. The curtain was down at the time and the space on the stage in front of it was vacant. But some one soon appeared there. A lithe form sprang from the box in which President Lincoln was. It was that of a man who wore spurs. It was Booth. The spur on his right foot caught in the folds of the flag which draped the box and the man fell in a crouching attitude upon one knee. Then springing up he drew a bowie knife and brandishing it above his head made a theatrical strike. With his pale face, the features of which were as set as if cut in stone, and glaring eyes, he exclaimed twice, defiantly: "Sic semper tyrannis." He walked diagonally across the stage and escaped to the alley at the rear, and mounting his horse there waiting him, commenced that flight which a broken ankle made torture to him, and which wound up by his death in the barn, where, like a wild beast, he was shot by Boston Corbett. Among his last words were curses upon his cowardly companion, Herold, who was in the barn with him and surrendered when called upon to do so.

The people in the theatre recovered from the consternation in which they had been thrown when they saw Mrs. Lincoln appear at the front of the box and wildly beckon with her hands. It was soon known that the President had been shot. Booth had coolly walked into the box, and with the pistol near the martyr's head, fired the bullet, from the effects of which President Lincoln died in the house across the street the following morning at 7:22 o'clock. The news of the shooting spread rapidly all over the country. The excitement was intense here. No man was without suspicion. Widespread conspiracies were thought to be in the air. Never had a nation been torn by such an excitement. It seemed that chaos had come again. The others attempted assassinations, the wild demand for vengeance—well, it is all an old story. And the baby boy who was born twenty-one years ago last night is to-day a qualified voter in any State or Territory, without regard to section. There is no talk or fear of anarchy now. Truly, tempora mutantur.

MR. KELLOGG'S DISTINCTION.

He Holds the Last Civil Commission Signed by President Lincoln.

In connection with this anniversary it will be interesting to know that one of the very last official acts of President Lincoln was the selection of Hon. William Pitt Kellogg, ex-Governor of Louisiana, to fill a Federal position, and that the commission of Governor Kellogg was the last official civil document of the kind that Mr. Lincoln signed. On the 13th of April, 1865, Governor Yates of Illinois and Mr. Kellogg called by appointment upon President Lincoln, who had on Tuesday night made a speech at a serenade, in which he spoke of the rehabilitation of the Southern States, especially of Louisiana. When his visitors called upon him he was considering the matter of appointments in Louisiana, the first made in the South after the secession. The appointment as collector of the port of New Orleans was tendered to Mr. Kellogg and accepted by him. It was desirable that Mr. Kellogg should get to his post of duty as early as possible, and Secretary McCulloch decided that his bond could be given here. Governor Yates, Wilson Shaffer of Illinois, who was afterwards Governor of Utah, and King Cutler of New Orleans, were Governor Kellogg's sureties. The bond was acknowledged before Mr. Nicholas Callan, the venerable notary public of this city, and went through the several processes of inspection and signature in the Treasury Department. Several visits were made to the White House to hurry the document up so that it might be attested. It was signed by the President and attested by Secretary McCulloch April 14. The President also signed a large number of other commissions on that day, but they were naval and military commissions, which required the attestation of the Secretary of State or Acting Secretary. Secretary Seward was confined to his bed. His son, F. S. Seward, Acting Secretary, was at his father's house when Payne, one of the conspirators, came to assassinate the Secretary. He encountered Payne and was by him disabled. It was decided that Chief Clerk Hunter could not act as Secretary of State, and, therefore, could not attest those commissions signed by Mr. Lincoln and which required the attestations of the Secretary. Thus Mr. Kellogg, who was afterwards elected Senator from Louisiana in 1868, and served for two terms, served under the last civil commission signed by President Lincoln. He has from time to time had letters from historical and other societies asking him to part with that commission, but he still has it in his possession.

Entertaining the Seventh.

Colonel Moore, commanding the Washington Light Infantry Corps, has issued a general order in connection with the entertainment of the Seventh New York Regiment next week. The arrangements decided upon were published by THE CRITIC yesterday.

AN OBSTINATE WITNESS

Mr. Van Benthuysen Before the Pan-Electric Committee.

MR. RANNEY NON-PLUSSED.

The Witness Refuses to be Catechised on His Private Affairs.

Mr. Van Benthuysen of New Orleans continued his testimony before the Pan-Electric Telephone investigating committee, and was cross-examined by Mr. Ranney. He stated that the insinuations of Mr. Ranney that a partial record of the proceedings in the Interior Department had been entered as a full and true copy in the suit of the witness against the Bell Company in New Orleans was untrue. Witness also denounced the intimation that he had imposed a false and fradulent copy of documents or a partial copy on the court at New Orleans, and, becoming somewhat goaded by questions of Mr. Ranney, he indignantly remarked:

"I have no objection to answering questions, but I do object to making a record here about entirely irrelevant matters—a record for the Bell Telephone Company to be used outside of this investigation. Who lugged this New Orleans suit in here? Where did it come from, Mr. Chairman?"

The witness was told that it was referred to early in the investigation, and then the inquiries went on. Mr. Ranney asked if some extra pages had not been inserted in the New Orleans record as a true copy of the record before the Interior Department. With considerable feeling the witness denied that any insertions or tamperings had been made, and then added: "If there had been changes made in that record it would not be any body's business. It has nothing to do with this case.

To another question the witness replied: "I shan't answer that. It is none of your business. If you are making a record here for some one, you cannot have my assistance. I don't want any of your insinuations, either."

"I am not making insinuations," retorted Mr. Ranney.

"The Court has already passed upon this case, and you cannot make anything for your company," said the witness, in heat. "You have no right to ask me these questions, Mr. Ranney, and you only ask them to benefit the Bell Company."

Again the question was read.

"I won't answer that question if the whole Congress demands me to, and I have great respect for Congress, with a few exceptions," said the witness, bringing down his fist on the table and looking firmly at his questioner. Mr. Ranney made no objection to the manner of the witness, and a question was asked about a suit at Pittsburg, which was dismissed in this style: "I shall not burden this record with anything of this kind and I will not answer you. I have a suit against the Bell Company in New Orleans; a suit is coming on by the Government in which I propose to take an interest, and I will not make a record here for the Bell Company to be used in these suits. You come here, Mr. Ranney, with a bag full of Bell Telephone Company papers, I recognize them, and I shall hereafter decline to answer your questions about my private business."

Mr. Hale, a member of the committee, spoke up and said he indorsed the refusal of the witness to answer the questions.

The cross-examination proceeded at some length in this way, the witness steadily refusing to answer. He subsequently made a long statement concerning alleged falsifications of court records by the Bell Co.s attys., giving about half a dozen specifications. When he had finished Mr. Ranney inquired: "Is that all, Mr. Witness?" The witness created a great deal of laughter by gazing intently and with an astonished look at Mr. Ranney for sometime and then exclaiming: "Well, is not that enough?"

Then in another form Mr. Ranney put a question which had been asked some time before and refused answer.

"I admire your pertinacity in searching for answers to questions, but you can't catch me by coming back and around to questions in other forms which I had refused to answer. You can't pounce down on me, as it were, and, taking me unawares, secure information I don't wish to give. I remember the points I refuse to answer, and you needn't come back to them," said the witness.

"Did you have anything personally to do with procuring the affidavit of Mr. Wilbur, a late examiner in the Patent Office, concerning the procuring of the Bell patents?" Mr. Ranney asked.

"Yes, sir," replied witness, "and I am glad that you have asked me. The affidavit was given in my room in my presence. Without being requested to do so, Mr. Wilbur stated to me in the presence of several gentlemen that he showed a copy of the Gray caveat to Bell and his attorneys before it was filed or entered of record, and gave precedence to the Bell application. The only money I gave Wilbur was $2 to pay the notary for taking the acknowledgment of the oath."

THE WATERWORKS EXTENSION.

Captain Hoxie Objects to the Way in Which the Tunnel Is Being Built.

Mr. Wilson of West Virginia, the chairman of the District Sub-Committee of the House Appropriations Committee, has received a letter from Captain Richard L. Hoxie, formerly Assistant Engineer Commissioner, and designer of the scheme for the local water-works extension, criticising adversely the present mode of operations on the tunnel. The letter alleges that the method of tunnel construction is unnecessarily expensive, and the deficiency appropriation now asked twice as great as will be necessary if the method of lining be changed. The letter also criticises the fact that the tunnel has been excavated through defective rock, when it is believed that hard rock could have been found throughout its length. The sub-committee hopes to pass upon the water-works appropriation this week.

Vitriol Not Used.

Ellen Vogler of 617 K street was charged before Judge Snell this morning with simple assault on Henry Vogler, her husband, and Mary McCarty. The case went over indefinitely until the defendant can be examined by a board of physicians as to her sanity, it being alleged that she is insane.

The charge against her consists in placing a handkerchief, saturated with some drug, in the tailor shop of her husband where he or the girl could get it. A young man, named Charles Boswell, yesterday picked up the the handkerchief and got his hand burned. It has been stated that Mrs. Vogler was jealous of her husband and placed the handkerchief saturated with vitriol on the the table. She stated to a CRITIC reporter at the Police Court this morning that there was no vitriol on the handkerchief. She said she put something that she found in a bottle on it just for fun. She spoke in a disconnected way and appeared to be deranged. Physicians say that vitriol would have consumed the handkerchief.

GENERAL LABOR NEWS.

Evidences That the Strikers Have Not Quit the Fight.

CHATTANOOGA, TENN., April 14.—The Knights of Labor who claim that Thomas Hewlett, leader of the posse of deputy sheriffs at East St. Louis, was responsible for the occurrence there last week, are concentrating their efforts to prosecute him. Yesterday the local assembly of knights received directions from the executive board to hunt up Hewlett's record. He was at one time United States Deputy Marshal in North Alabama, and while in that position is said to have shot a negro at Huntsville, for which he was tried, but acquitted. He was afterward chief detective of the Alabama Great Southern Railroad and succeeded in hunting down a notorious train wrecker, who was lynched and his body riddled with bullets. Hewlett is charged with heading the party of lynchers. Evidence in both these affairs is being accumulated and will be forwarded to St. Louis.

The Strikers Still Active.

ST. LOUIS, MO., April 14.—An Eastbound freight on the Cairo Short Line found a crowd of fifty or more strikers in waiting at the depot when Belleville was reached about 6 o'clock last evening. When the train stopped they surrounded the engine and caboose and tried to coax and then to pull the engineer, fireman and conductor off the train. The train was cut in two and one of the strikers, named Ohl, was arrested by a deputy sheriff for uncoupling cars. He was rescued, however, by his comrades, and the strikers had things all their way for a time. The conductor, an old employee, Francis Whelan, was fearfully beaten, but the engineer and fireman escaped unhurt. It was at first reported that Ohl had been shot, but that is uncertain. He has disappeared and cannot be found.

The Strikers Firm as Ever.

ST. LOUIS, MO. April 14.—The situation at the various freight yards in East St. Louis has improved slightly since yesterday, although the railroad companies are still confronted by the same drawbacks—the difficulty of getting men to work for them. Rumors that the old men are going back to work have no foundation. The strikers are as firm as ever.

Street-Car Strike in Baltimore.

BALTIMORE, MD., April 14.—The drivers on the North Baltimore Passenger Railroad Company lines, otherwise known as the Frick line, struck to-day at noon for $2 a day. The lines employ no conductors and the drivers are employed on the trip system. The men claim that they cannot make more than from $1 to $1.50 a day.

Telegraph Boys Dissatisfied.

ST. LOUIS, MO., April 14.—The check boys in the Western Union Tel