

GOVERNMENT GOSSIP.

No Truth in the Rumor of Mr. Manning's Resignation.

THE SECRETARY IMPROVING.

Nominations by the President to-day—General and Personal.

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

Postmasters—Joseph Hopkins, Glen Allen, Va.; J. H. Beldier, Mount Palank, Ill.; John Seaman, Denison, Iowa; William Lavelle, Santa Barbara, Cal.

Public Debt Reduction.—The public debt statement for April shows that the receipts from the treasury were \$231,200,217, and expenditures \$21,039,879.83.

Mr. Manning Convalescent.—Secretary Manning, accompanied by Mrs. Manning and his sister, Miss Manning, took a long drive yesterday.

Minor and Personal.—Comptroller Tremblay was the President's only caller this morning.

The matter of the San Francisco Public Land grant was argued before the Interior and Assistant Secretary Jenks to-day.

Postmaster-General Vilas and Chief Clerk Nash of the Postoffice Department were at their desks to-day, the former having returned from his trip to Virginia, and the latter from his visit to Wisconsin.

DISTRICT GOVERNMENT NEWS.

Matters Under Consideration by the Commissioners.

Thomas White has asked the Commissioners to have a gas lamp erected at Twelfth street and Park row northwest.

A bar-room license has been granted to John T. Hoffman, of 431 Pennsylvania street, and to A. O. Thacker, of 344 M street.

J. W. Thomas of Hackettstown, New Jersey, has applied to the commissioners for a position in the public schools as instructor of languages.

Pickering Lodge has requested permission for the erection of a building to anchor a floating club-house in the river at the foot of Twenty-seventh street.

The Commissioners have notified Nicoll Buchanan, of the city, to permit to erect a storehouse on Canal street southeast, that the law will not permit more than 500 gallons of oil to be stored in one place in the city.

CITY HALL NOTES.

James Johnston, by his will filed with the Mayor to-day, leaves his property to his wife.

Catherine G. Smith complains that her husband, J. Henry Smith, has deserted her, and she wishes to have him declared dead.

Justice Merrick to-day granted Louis T. Bridwell divorce from the bonds of matrimony with Allyn Bridwell, the charges being desertion and adultery.

In the case of Lewis T. Starr of Chicago against Mary J. Treanick, the former claiming to be the father of the child, the late John W. Starr, Justice Merrick to-day, decided that the complaint was the son of John W. Starr and an appeal was taken to the Court in General Term.

General Miles' Preparations.

General Nelson A. Miles, when he assumed command in Arizona, issued complete instructions for a thorough patrol of the whole territory infested by the hostile Apaches.

Information is being constantly furnished to the general by scouts, and the camps of injury will be used in constant hunting through the mountains, occupying passes, etc.; a sufficient number of reliable Indians will be retained for trailers.

Cavalry will be used in the scouting, with sufficient force always ready for instant vigorous pursuit to overcome the hostile advantage in relay horses. Commanders will be instructed to keep their men and their lightest and best riders in pursuit till all their animals are worn out.

His command would, in a few hours, reach the hostiles or drive them 150 or 200 miles into country favorable for cavalry, both on foot and on horseback.

Commanding officers will thoroughly learn the topography of the section under their charge and will be held responsible for the Indians are captured or until a sure, fresh command is on their trail.

All camp movements will be concealed as far as possible, to prevent the hostiles getting information. Every cartridge will be accounted for and all empty shells destroyed.

The Peoria "Head Chief." Mr. Robert T. Arbutnot, the Cheyenne delegate, now in this city, informs that Chief Currier, now in this city, who claims to be the "head chief" of the Peoria band of Indians, is not entitled to that distinction, but is a white man and a citizen of the United States.

THE FREE BRIDGE.

The Commissioners Unanimous in Their Determination to Have It.

The present Board of Commissioners are evidently more thoroughly in earnest than their predecessors about securing a free bridge across the Potomac above Georgetown and another bridge across the Eastern Branch.

Every member of the board is anxious that these bridges should be built at the earliest day. They say the exorbitant tax on wagons coming into the city from Virginia, by way of the Aqueduct Bridge, keeps out an immense amount of trade and produces a loss to the city.

Mr. Webb told a Critic reporter that the Commissioners wanted a bridge without delay, and if they could not get the kind of a bridge they wanted they would not fight about it, because they did not believe in waiting ten years to get just exactly what they demanded.

They are equally as anxious to have the Aqueduct Bridge rebuilt across the Eastern Branch at the foot of Pennsylvania avenue. The Anacostia Bridge is not sufficient for the farmers in the county adjoining the city and those who come in from Maryland.

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IN CONGRESS TO-DAY.

Senator Riddleberger Rises to a Personal Explanation.

THE MATTHEWS NOMINATION.

A Favorable Report on the Inauguration Day Resolution.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE HOUSE.

Senator Riddleberger rose to a question of personal privilege to-day to deny a paragraph in the Washington Post quoting him as saying that Mr. Ingalls asked him to attend a meeting of the District Committee to secure a quorum to dispose of the Matthews nomination, and that he refused on the ground that he would not in any way co-operate in an effort to put a colored man in office in opposition to the wishes of the people most interested.

Mr. Riddleberger said that he took exception only to the reference to colored men. The question of color had never been mentioned or considered in connection with the Matthews case, and had not influenced himself nor any other member of the committee in opposing the nomination.

The rules of the Senate prevented him from revealing the real character of his opposition and he must content himself with alleging that the term of the Effitts Committee should let the justice and propriety of his objections.

Senator Ingalls rose and stated that he had not been previously aware of the prohibition of the paragraph read. He had never held such a conversation as that reported with Senator Riddleberger or anybody else.

Mr. Hoar reported favorably the joint resolution proposing to extend the present Presidential term until April 30, 1886, instead of March 4, and providing that the term of the Effitts Congress be also extended to that date.

Mr. Dolph reported an original bill repealing all laws for the pre-emption of the lands and entries for timber culture.

Senator Cockrell introduced a petition from the Missouri Board of Health, asking for liberal appropriation to establishing a National Institute of Health to provide against the outbreak of epidemics.

The Senate, at 1 o'clock, resumed the consideration of the Postoffice Appropriation bill, Senator Vest making a speech in opposition to subsidies.

THE HOUSE.

The conference report on the Indian Appropriation bill was submitted by Mr. Welborn and similar reports on various bridge bills were adopted by the House to-day.

Mr. Richardson of Tennessee then submitted the conference report on the 4th of July Claims bill.

The resolution reported from the Committee on rules that after Monday morning the House shall meet at 11 a. m. and adjourn at 5 p. m., was adopted by a decided vote.

The House then began the call of States for bills.

Three have passed the House and are in the Senate committee, District and Agricultural, the Indian bill has passed both houses.

The Postoffice bill is now before the Senate. The River and Harbor bill is unfinished business in Committee of the Whole House.

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APPRECIATIVE VETERANS.

Mr. George Wagner Presented With a Case for His Services.

The Veterans of the Eighth Battalion, District of Columbia Volunteers, held a special meeting at Comptroller Hall last evening, at which several pleasant incidents formed a fitting conclusion to the recent successful celebration of the twenty-fifth anniversary of their "muster-in."

The first one was the presentation of a beautiful gold watch to Mr. George Wagner, the late chairman of the committee of arrangements, to whose energy, devotion and unceasing labors the success achieved was principally due.

The watch is a model of fine workmanship and was procured from the establishment of Mr. J. H. Carr, of the city, and presented to Mr. Wagner by the Eighth Battalion, D. C. Volunteers, twenty-fifth anniversary, April 11, 1886.

It was presented with a suitable address by Mr. John Argeman on behalf of the Battalion, and Wagner, in return, expressed his surprise and pleasure expression in a neat, short speech, thanking his comrades warmly for the honor bestowed upon him.

The second presentation was made to the two drummers who have been in the city for twenty years ago at the time of the muster-in, Messrs. Daniel and J. K. Pfeil, to whom handsomely-framed photographic pictures were presented.

Mr. Riddleberger said that he took exception only to the reference to colored men. The question of color had never been mentioned or considered in connection with the Matthews case, and had not influenced himself nor any other member of the committee in opposing the nomination.

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PERSONAL MENTION.

Washington People, Visitors and Prominent Hotel Arrivals.

—ROBERT G. INGERSOLL is at Welcker's.

—MR. STILSON HUTCHINS is in New York.

—JEROME NIDLOCK of Indiana is in the city for a brief visit.

—JOHN JOY KNOX, ex-Comptroller of the Currency, is in the city.

—MR. J. F. OLMEAD has returned from a fortnight's visit to New York.

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MR. DOUGLASS' REMOVAL.

An Interesting Letter From the Late Recorder of Deeds.

In answer to a letter from his old friend, and the prominent Republican leader, Mr. F. W. Bird of East Walpole, Mass., requesting information as to his removal from the office of Recorder of Deeds of the District of Columbia, Mr. Frederick Douglass writes as follows.

The correspondence appears for the first time in the Boston State of Saturday:

WASHINGTON, April 6, 1886.

TO THE HON. F. W. BIRD.

My dear friend, I am obliged by your note of yesterday requesting me to state the facts connected with my removal from the office of Recorder of Deeds for the District of Columbia.

I was under no special obligations to me whatever, yet I held the office of Recorder nearly a whole year, and during that time I was under no special obligations to me whatever, yet I held the office of Recorder nearly a whole year, and during that time I was under no special obligations to me whatever.

My resignation was simply asked me to tender it, but it was not until the time arrived I sent in my resignation. My resignation was simply asked me to tender it, but it was not until the time arrived I sent in my resignation.

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FOR SHORTER HOURS.

The Cessation of Work To-day Less Than Was Expected.

EVERYTHING ORDERLY.

The Condition of Affairs Among the Different Trades Throughout the Country.

STRIKES IN EVERY LARGE CITY FOR REDUCED TIME.

GENERAL LABOR NEWS.

For a city visited by a gigantic labor demonstration Washington is the most quiet place on earth. It is true that there are to be seen on the streets knots of men, whose bearing and dress stamp them as workmen, and it is true that the fact that they are so assembled indicates that they are out of employment.

There are 300 strong recruited by various contingents. It is not to be found. It cannot be said that more than 500 men were not given eight hours a day. All is quiet. There have been meetings in different parts of the city, but they were meetings for general conference rather than for taking action.

In fact there was no action to be taken. At none of the meetings were there reported any union men who had made "scabs" of themselves.

The bricklayers. At one meeting there was reported a case of union bricklayers, who refused to go to work this morning on the eighth hour, because they had no work. They were not union men. These men had mortar on their heads, ready for work, when the non-union character of the bod-carriers was ascertained.

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