

GOVERNMENTAL GOSSIP.

Events of Interest in and About the Departments.

GENERAL SPARKS'S SUCCESSOR

Mr. Stockslager Appointed Commissioner of the General Land Office.

The President today sent the following nominations to the Senate:

Thomas J. Anderson of Iowa to be Assistant Commissioner of the General Land Office.

Thomas H. B. Jones of Dakota to be agent for the Indians of Fort Berthold Agency, Dakota.

District Patents Issued.—Levi S. Bacon, rubber-typing attachment for pencils; W. H. McDonald, filtering faucet; T. R. Finley, heat and power supply system, and H. W. Wilson, lamp.

General Bartlett Better.—General Bartlett, Deputy Pension Commissioner, who will from now on be known as General Bartlett, seems to be somewhat better to-day. Though delirious a part of the time, his mind is sometimes clear.

At the White House.—Among the President's callers to-day were Representatives Anderson of Illinois, Gear of West Virginia, and Holman and Holman of Pennsylvania and Hill of Ohio.

Mrs. Cleveland to Visit New York.—A fair is to be given in New York Friday evening for the benefit of the Fifty-ninth Street Working Girls' Club, and Mrs. Cleveland is expected to be present. She and Mrs. Whitney are patronesses of the affair.

The Trouble at Tangier.—The State Department has been informed that the details of the trouble at Tangier had been settled, and would probably reach here next Tuesday.

Reduced Cost of Revenue Collection.—Secretary Fairchild has determined upon a reduction of the cost of collecting the revenue from customs, and will cut down expenses to \$400,000. This action is rendered necessary by the condition of the general appropriation, which will not stand the expense conducted on the present basis.

Mr. Stockslager's Successor.—Major Thomas J. Anderson of Iowa, who was today appointed Assistant Commissioner of the General Land Office, to succeed Mr. Stockslager, the successor of Commissioner Sparks, resides at Knoxville, Iowa, and is an old and well-known member of the Senate.

Minor and Personal.

A second dividend of 25 per cent, making in all 70 per cent, has been declared in favor of the stockholders of the Stafford National Bank of Stafford Springs, Conn., which failed Oct. 12, 1887.

The Army and Navy.

Paymaster Charles A. McDaniel has been ordered to return to the Aspinwall by steamer from New York.

Fifty recruits have been assigned to the Department of the Plate for assignment to the Seventh and Tenth regiments.

The leaves of absence granted First Lieutenant William C. Mullenberg, Second Infantry, has been extended six months.

Rear Admiral Letourneur telegraphs to the Navy Department that the Richmond will sail from Colon for Key West, by way of Georgetown, to-day.

Cutting off the Water.

The water will be cut off from the high service at 8 o'clock to-night for the purpose of connecting the new engine at the pumping station on U street, near Sixteenth street. Captain Symons suggests that people supplied from this service lay in a supply before 8 o'clock. He thinks that the connection can be made to-night, and very little inconvenience will be felt from the short service of the water supply. Hereafter the water supply in this section will be largely increased.

Death of Mrs. F. H. Finley.

The wife of Mr. Frank H. Finley, the well-known importer of beverages, died this morning at his residence, No. 323 C street. She had been ill for some time prior to her death.

A Nolle Prossu Entered.

A nolle prossu was entered to-day, with the consent of the court, in the case of Jos. S. Kidwell, on the charge of assault.

The crime in collecting and saving money (i. e., boxes of Turkish Cigarettes) is assuming vast proportions. The largest number of boxes of the "Sons of Co." First Avenue and Twenty-ninth street, New York. Save your folding cards from these boxes until you accumulate a number of them, and send a beautiful souvenir album, which contains complete collection of Bute's, Coat-of-Arms and Flags of every nation in the world.

THE G. P. O.

The Investigation Continues of Mr. Benedict's Methods.

At the investigation of the Government Printing Office yesterday the cross-examination of G. D. Parsons was continued by Mr. Gallinger. During the course of his testimony he said that the old Bullock press that had been discarded by Mr. Parsons and re-erected by Mr. Benedict, was in many respects, far superior to the new Bullock. In answer to a question from Mr. Gallinger, the witness said he could remedy the defects in the new Bullock press, so that it would be as good as the old one. But, as he was not paid to remedy the defects, he could not touch the new Bullock. He worked according to the salary received. He had heard the contributions for political purposes last fall; had seen no subscription paper, however.

The next witness examined was Mr. H. F. J. Drake, assistant foreman of the Second-Order Division. Mr. Drake said he had been in the Government Printing Office six years. He was on the record when Mr. Parsons became Public Printer, and he had seen the establishment of the W. H. Gill, deceased, had been promoted to the position of assistant foreman. When Mr. Benedict came in there were four men in the Second-Order Division 16 men; now there were only seven or eight. He maintained that the machinery of the press was in better condition than it was when Mr. Parsons was in charge, and that the seventy-eight used did as much work as the 100 did formerly. He said he had seen nothing of anything of the kind of the press. The men did better work than when Mr. Parsons was in charge, and he had seen nothing of anything of the kind of the press. The men did better work than when Mr. Parsons was in charge, and he had seen nothing of anything of the kind of the press.

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IN CONGRESS TO-DAY.

The Confederate Soldier Creates a Breeze in the Senate.

MR. BLAIR'S BILL DISCUSSED

Proceedings of the House—The New Tariff Bill to be Reported This Week.

In the Senate to-day the reply of Secretary A. H. Rehnold to the resolution of inquiry as to the cost of the Fish Commission in connection with the naval service was received. The reply states that fifty naval officers and 155 men are detailed to service in connection with the Fish Commission, and the cost approximately \$100,000. The establishment of the commission has been \$93,000.

The reply to the resolution of inquiry as to the feasibility of the adoption of electric motor power for street railroads was received from the District Commissioners.

At the meeting of the comprehensive and detailed report of the Fish Commission, the House Appropriations Committee to-day heard Colonel Fred Douglas and four colored men from Georgia in behalf of an appropriation of \$50,000 for a colored expedition to Africa.

Mr. Reed today on the floor of the House this morning that the Ways and Means Committee had been considering the tariff bill under the eight-hour law, and that the committee had been in doing business, and five hours in refusing to do business.

The Senate Finance Committee to-day authorized a favorable report on the bill to refund the public debt, which was introduced by Mr. Aldrich, in connection with the history of the invention and development of electric railroads, and, taking into consideration the experience of all the cities where the electric motor has been applied, proves that it is entirely feasible and that its advantages are generally superior to those of horse or cable systems. The conclusions of the report are favorable to its adoption in the bill proposed to apply to the Confederate soldiers.

Mr. Aldrich, from the Committee on Finance, reported favorably the bill to authorize the Secretary of the Treasury to negotiate a loan on Government bonds.

The "bloody shirt" was again introduced in reference to the bill directing that in making civil appointments of any persons who were discharged during the late war, the preference should be given to honorably discharged soldiers and sailors of the Confederacy.

Mr. Hale said it was apparent that the bill proposed to apply to the Confederate soldiers a preference which is now given by law to the loyal veterans of the late war, and he could not condescend to such legislation.

Mr. Platt said that the purpose of the bill was to recognize service in the Confederate States, and he was unwilling to vote on any proposition avowedly favoring the Confederate soldiers.

Mr. Berry stated that the Confederate soldiers had never asked this or any recognition of their sufferings or needs. The measure under discussion must be acknowledged by Confederate veterans as a generous one.

He replied that it was time to protect when the announcement was made in the Senate that the Confederate veteran was on a par with the Union veteran in respect to land and love of country. Their love of country was measured by their efforts at its destruction.

Mr. Blair said he introduced this bill on his own responsibility, and he believed it to be a simple measure of justice. He was satisfied that in making appointments of honorably discharged soldiers, justice had not been done to the wounded veterans.

Mr. Hoar opposed the bill as a step in a wrong direction, and he believed it would be a simple measure of justice. He was satisfied that in making appointments of honorably discharged soldiers, justice had not been done to the wounded veterans.

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of not more than \$1,000 and by imprisonment of not more than three years.

NEW BRIDGES DESIRED.

The Senate Commerce Committee has reported that additional legislation is not deemed necessary in reference to the regulation of the general investment of the erection of bridges over navigable waters. It is deemed advisable to allow the construction of such bridges under State laws, subject to Federal intervention only when navigation is obstructed.

DEFERRED FOR MRS. STONE.

Senator Cameron to-day reported favorably a bill to grant a pension at the rate of \$600 per annum to the widow of General Charles F. Stone.

THE AUSTRIA EXPEDITION.

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REPT. HOUSES IN COMMITTEE.

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REFUNDING THE PUBLIC DEBT.

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THE SENATE YESTERDAY.

Five bills were passed in their order upon the agenda. The first was a bill appropriating \$100,000 for a monument, to be erected under the direction of the Library Committee, in the grounds between Howard University and the Freedmen's Hospital, to commemorate the brave soldiers who lost their lives in the Union cause. Senator Vest demanded the yeas and nays so that his vote might be recorded in the negative. The bill was passed by a vote of 31 to 19.

When the bill to secure better and cheaper fuel for the Confederate soldiers was introduced, Mr. Cameron objected to its consideration, and it went over. When the Rock Creek Railroad bill was reached, Mr. Merrill objected to its consideration, and it went over.

Mr. Blair reported favorably from the Committee on Patents, reported favorably the International Copyright bill.

Mr. Blair reported favorably from the Committee on Claims, reported favorably the bill to provide for the preference of persons who served in the Confederate States during the war of the Rebellion, and who were disabled therein, and were unable to obtain land or love of country. The bill simply provides that when any appointment is to be made to the civil service, preference shall be given to one who had an honorable record in the Confederate States.

Mr. Platt objected to a bill of Mr. Hoar, which was introduced on the calendar, and it was laid over. The bill introduced by Mr. Frye to apply the laws of the United States to the sale of distilled and fermented liquors when they have been imported, as well as when manufactured in the United States, was passed.

Mr. Hoar reported favorably from the Committee on the Judiciary. Two minority reports were also presented. The majority report was on the right of a State to adopt police regulations not to be infringed by the Federal Government. Mr. Hoar reported favorably from the Committee on the Judiciary. Two minority reports were also presented. The majority report was on the right of a State to adopt police regulations not to be infringed by the Federal Government.

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MR. WEBB'S STATEMENT.

No Order by the Commissioners in the North Capitol Street Case.

A Circuit reporter called the attention of Commissioners Webb and Wheatley to the fact that the bill before the committee in the North Capitol street extension matter, reported in the press as corroborating the statement of Colonel Ludlow, was something of a surprise to the public.

Both gentlemen denied that their testimony corroborated that of Colonel Ludlow, and said that they were not properly reported in the press. "We did not go there," said Mr. Webb, "to say anything about Colonel Ludlow, however."

The facts of the case are, that on the 7th of December last, the subpoenaed and restraining order, in connection with the extension of this street through the cemetery, were served on me. I sent them, as a Circuit reporter, to the attorney. The office record shows this. That was on Saturday. On the 20th instant Mr. Webb reported to me that the testimony of Colonel Ludlow, which explained the whole situation.

There was no order of the Board of Commissioners directing the work to be done, nor was any such order filed by Colonel Ludlow with the committee. The committee, however, directed the work to be done, and the attempt of Colonel Ludlow to open the road was unauthorized.

THE TAX REPORT.

Mr. Davis Confident that the Date Will be Changed.

Assistant Attorney for the District H. E. Davis, who was instructed by the Commissioners to take out a writ of mandamus against Recorder Trotter, as reported in this paper, stated to-day that he was confident that the date of the writ would be changed to a later date.

ELLISSON'S CASE.

The Grounds of the Motion for a New Trial.

A motion for a new trial in the case of James Ellison, the Georgetown postoffice clerk, convicted of tampering with the mails, was filed in the Criminal Court to-day by his counsel, T. F. Miller and C. M. Matthews. The motion is based on the ground that the verdict is contrary to the law and the evidence; that the court erred in the law; that new and material evidence has been discovered, and that there was misbehavior on the part of the jury.

A LITERARY FEAST.

Some of America's Leading Authors Read Their Own Writings.

The Authors' Readings at the Congregational Church last night attracted a large and fashionable audience, and notwithstanding the curtain did not ring down until 11 o'clock, the interest, except in a few sporadic cases, did not languish. The new star-shining last night were Editor Bunker of Peck, Charles Dudley Warner, Richard Maloum Johnson, Thomas Nelson Page, Frank J. Webb, and John G. Saxe.

Mr. Bunker's first selection was good. His second found its chief merit in the fact that it was his. Mr. Webb's selection was a poem, which he caught at long range from a speaker's desk; its delicacy demands that it be presented. The new star-shining last night were Editor Bunker of Peck, Charles Dudley Warner, Richard Maloum Johnson, Thomas Nelson Page, Frank J. Webb, and John G. Saxe.

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GENERAL TELEGRAMS.

The Discontent Among the Western Railway Engineers.

ENGLISH LOCAL GOVERNMENT

The Bill Introduced in Parliament Generally Approved.

SEATTLE, Mo., March 20.—The Grievance Committee of the Gould System has last night indicated that the Missouri Pacific engineers want to amend the strike, B. W. Yelder of this city is chairman of the committee, and he was in Chicago in consultation with Chief Arthur, ten days ago. He and several other members of the committee have been in Kansas City for several days, and they are now in St. Louis, where they are being interviewed, and they say in substance that they know of no grievance against the Missouri Pacific, and do not believe that a strike will be ordered.

DAYTON, O., March 20.—Yesterday morning the engineers and firemen on the Dayton, Fort Wayne and Chicago road quit work and decided to remain until their wages were forthcoming. The engineers, however, have returned to work, and the firemen have not yet returned. The strike is now in its second week, and the engineers are being interviewed, and they say in substance that they know of no grievance against the Missouri Pacific, and do not believe that a strike will be ordered.

THE OLDEST EX-SENATOR.

Death of John P. King of Georgia at the Age of Eighty-nine.

ACQUITA, Ga., March 20.—John P. King, the oldest ex-United States Senator, died at his home, near this city, yesterday afternoon. He was 89 years of age and was a member of the Senate from 1837 to 1857. Mr. King was a native of Kentucky, but removed to Georgia early in life, was admitted to the bar in 1819, and completed his education in Europe. He was a member of the Georgia Constitutional Convention in 1833, and in a controversy there with the late William H. Crawford he came prominently before the country. Several times he was sent to the United States Senate. For opposing some measures of the Van Buren Administration he was expelled by the house, and resigned his seat in disgust and retired to private life. He was president of the Georgia Railroad and Banking