

GOVERNMENTAL GOSSIP.

Events of Interest in and About the Departments.

APPOINTMENTS AND PROMOTIONS.

New Fourth-Class Postmasters--General and Personal Mention.

UNDER MARCHING ORDERS--Instructions have been sent from the War Department placing two troops of the Second Cavalry, now stationed at the Presidio, San Francisco, and a detachment of the same regiment stationed at Benicia under marching orders. The proposed destination of the troops is some point in Arizona along the Mexican border line.

MOVING THE INDIAN OFFICE--The present office of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Interior Department, will be removed to the first of this week to the Second National Bank building on Seventh street, where the clerks are now quartered. This will be much more convenient for the Commissioner. General Upshur, acting commissioner, will be in the building until Colonel Atkinson's successor is appointed. In the new quarters the Commissioner will have two rooms at his disposal.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT CHANGES--Ulysses W. Whipple of Georgia, having served a satisfactory probationary term of six months, has received an absolute appointment to a clerkship in the \$800 class, under the provisions of the general law of the Life-Saving Service. Promotions: P. J. Gallagher of Pennsylvania from class 2 to class 1 in the Office of the Second Auditor; Oscar M. Child of Ohio from class 1 to class 3 in the Office of the Treasurer of the United States; Wm. F. Gatchell of Ohio from class 2 to class 1 in the Office of the Inspector-General of Steam Vessels, and Miss Bertha E. Edwards of the District of Columbia to \$800 in the Office of the Treasurer of the United States.

DEPARTMENT PERSONALS.

Mr. Lothrop, the American Minister to St. Petersburg, is on his way home, accompanied by his family and Baron Hulke, who is engaged to Mr. Lothrop's daughter.

W. L. Bancroft, General Superintendent of the Railway Mail Service, is the proudest and most stately-looking old gentleman in the Postoffice Department, and bears a striking resemblance to the late President, Thomas A. Hendricks.

THE IMMIGRATION QUESTION.

Chairman Ford Reports Great Violations of the Law--The special committee appointed to investigate violations of immigration laws, came on from New York Saturday night and reported to the House this morning. He said to a CRITIC reporter that already enough evidence had been taken to show the grossness of the violations, and that thousands of foreigners had been permitted to land upon our shores in defiance of all restrictions. He came over to secure the necessary testimony to be presented to the committee to have printed the testimony taken in New York. Mr. Ford said he had been so busy that it was impossible for him to learn anything of the case until he returned to the Empire State. He returned to New York this afternoon.

THE ARMY AND NAVY.

The cruiser Baltimore will probably be launched at Philadelphia August 28.

Commodore Nelson, Chief of the Bureau of Construction and Repair, is in Pennsylvania with his family.

A general court-martial met at Fort Reno, Indian Territory, to-day, and another is ordered to meet at Fort Sill on Thursday, August 16.

Lieutenant David G. McHittchell, on the retired list of the Navy, died at Wicameet, Me., Saturday, aged 58 years. He entered the service as an acting midshipman in 1851, and was retired as a lieutenant in 1878.

Naval Orders--Naval Cadets George F. Cooper and Harold K. Hines, to the Boston; Naval Cadets Joseph W. O'Connell and Friend W. Jenkins, to the United States; and the squadron boatman John Sutton, from the receiving-ship Vermont and ordered to the Lancaster, August 18; Lucian Flynn, from the Portsmouth and placed on waiting orders.

THE LAWYERS' FEES.

Ward H. Lamson's Case Comes Up Before Justice Merrick.

A case of Ward H. Lamson and others against Henry W. McKee and others (attorneys' fees on Choctaw claims case) came up before Justice Merrick in the Equity Court to-day. Chief Justice Bingham had ordered that Mr. McKee pay the costs of the case, but Mr. McKee refused to do so, and the court ordered that the case be continued until the 15th of September.

Letters and telegrams were received by his counsel in this city which explained the necessities of the case. He then read from a letter from Mr. McKee which stated that the circumstances attending the case were such that he was unable to attend to matters for the Choctaw, which he could not postpone.

Mr. McKee's counsel, who had been ordered to him at Fort Smith, Ark., would reach him as quickly as any other way. He did not regard the presence of the Choctaw people in the court of the court as rendered, as of any consequence.

He stated that he could give the bond, but said that if it could not wait it would have to wait. Mr. Weed then stated that Mr. McKee cannot get back before the first of September next.

Mr. Coleman, for the other side, said that Mr. McKee merely appeared to be somewhere in Arkansas where even his attorneys cannot find him.

The motion for extension of time was denied. This decision of the Court compels Mr. McKee to pay the sum of \$136,500 into court "forthwith."

The complaints, by Messrs. Coleman and Stafford, were filed in a motion to lay Mr. McKee arrested and punished for contempt of court. It has not yet been determined whether the latter motion will be granted.

Mr. McKee telegraphed to the court to ask Steven B. Elkins to be surety on any bond that might be required.

Boston Not His Centre.

A party of summer tourists in the White Mountains of New Hampshire in their rambles the other day came across an old hermit. He gave the party information concerning the mountains, then asked them where they had come from.

"We are from Boston," said one of the party. "Boston," said the old man; "I never heard of that place. How far is it to Boston?" "About 200 miles," was the reply. "Good Lord!" exclaimed the old hermit. "How can ye bear to live so far off?" (Detroit Free Press.)

GENERAL SHERIDAN'S WILL.

A Petition Filed in the Court This Afternoon.

To the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia, special term for Orphans' Court business, a petition was filed this afternoon by Frederick Jackson Sheridan, eldest son of General Sheridan, for letters of administration of the estate of the late General Sheridan.

After stating the fact of the General's death at Nonquitt on the 18th instant, and that the General left a last will and testament, dated May 25, 1888, and a codicil of the same date; that he left a widow and four children, all twelve years old; Irene and Louise, eleven, and Philip Henry, seven; that at the time of his death he left property as follows: \$3,721 in money; \$100,000 in bonds; \$100,000 in real estate, worth \$8,000, and various relics, etc., worth \$5,000, a horse and carriage worth \$500, and \$300 worth of furniture in the Nonquitt cottage, the petition asks that letters of administration be granted.

General Sheridan's will was filed last night. General Sheridan's wife bequeathed one-third of his real estate for life except the Ohio homestead and one-third of all personal property.

To Mrs. Kate Sheridan he bequeathed the Ohio homestead and one-third of all personal property. The trustees of the will, including the reversion in his wife's one-third interest, bequeaths to his wife, Colonel Sheridan and his children, and their heirs, trustees for his children during their minority.

GENERAL SHERIDAN'S ESTATE.

Mrs. Sheridan Left With But a Moderate Income.

Washington speaks to the New York Herald. General Sheridan had always supported both his mother and married sister out of his pay. The widow and four children will therefore inherit only what the husband and father has saved from the rest of his salary and what had been presented to him by appreciative friends.

His estate is stated with probably great exactness as follows: His home, at the corner of Seventh and Rhode streets, Washington, D. C., was purchased by Chicago friends at a cost of \$43,000. These gentlemen were 25 or 30 in number and included Marshall Field, J. & C. Mackay, and the late John G. Fairbank, the noted produce broker of Chicago; the late Samuel Johnson, James McKay, General William Stewart, George Wheeler, and a score or more of other prominent business men of the Western metropolis. This was at about the time when General Sheridan came here to take command of the army upon the retirement of General Sherman. He had also a three-story brick house on Michigan avenue, Chicago, and some unimproved property in the West. The latter included his cottage at Nonquitt, a small affair, not yet fully paid for, and he had a small interest in a Western ranch. He carried out \$200,000 of insurance on his life, \$15,000 of which was placed by his old army associate, General Franklin, in Hartford companies, and \$3,000 in a local property. His personal property consisted of some unproductive mining stocks, some real estate, and some other property which may be received from the investment of his insurance money, which, at four per cent, would be \$800 per annum, she has received from the estate of her late husband, but she receives no pension by law, her husband not having died from wounds or diseases contracted in the service.

As Lieutenant-General it was \$11,500, but the General was exceedingly hospitable, and the demands of his position were many. It is estimated that he had \$13,000, which was paid this for only about three months. Unless, as in all probability will be the case, General Sheridan's estate is not a large one, Mrs. Sheridan will be compelled to rent the General's former residence in this city and occupy a smaller house.

GENERAL SHERIDAN'S LAST WORK.

The Preparation of His Personal Memoirs.

The last work of General Sheridan, upon which two years of his life had been spent, was nearly completed at the time of his death--that of the preparation of his personal memoirs. The work was finished by his last illness, and he worked of revision and going over proofs had occupied his time, when strength would permit, almost to the end of his life. He had been able to give a little time to the consideration of proofs which had been sent to him by Charles Scribner & Co. of New York, who are the publishers.

Last Friday he had completed a dozen or so of the proof sheets. The handwriting of the memoirs is done in his own hand, and the General would soon pass away, and believed that he was improving. More progress had been made than he had expected. General Sheridan had nearly completed his task and very few proofs remained for revision. His interest in the memoirs was so great, and he believed in the desirability of finishing the memoirs before death, that he was to be published. His friends suggested the idea of his writing an autobiography, and he was very much interested in the idea, and the interest grew with each day.

The book is intensely interesting, according to those who have seen it, and it is thought, will have a large sale. It is a history of Sheridan's life, including his military career, and his personal life. It is given in a readable and interesting manner, and is a valuable war map and several portraits. It will be issued in two volumes, one of which is now printed, and the last pages of the second volume are being prepared. The work will be hurried forward, so that the book will be ready for sale early in the fall, probably during the first days of September. The volume is to be published by Scribner's.

THE FALL OF SENATOR HOAR.

During Mr. Gray's speech in the Senate this afternoon, Mr. Hoar was leaning back in a tilting chair reading a paper. Whether it was the ponderous oratory of Mr. Gray, a starting passage in the paper, or the effect of a good lunch at any rate, the venerable Senator lost his equilibrium and over the railing, landing in a heap between the desks of the clerks. He was promptly rescued by Captain Isaac Bassett. The Senator smiled audibly, Mr. Gray passed in his address, and the incident looked like a comedy. Mr. Hoar, resuming his wonted posture in another chair, the proceedings of the Senate went on uninterrupted.

CAPITOL NOTES.

Congressman Catechou of Michigan, who was taken suddenly ill last Thursday, has gone to Deer Park. He may not return to Congress any more.

Mr. Tallie of Kentucky, who has been seriously ill for the past six weeks, was on the floor to-day. He says he will not return to the fifty-first Congress.

Political Points.

Four hundred war veterans have organized a Cleveland Club for congressmen, bridges, and other public works.

Gilmer S. Kendall, Democratic candidate in the First Virginia district, is about 35 years old, a lawyer by profession and at present clerk of the courts in that State.

Hon. Martin L. Chazy will be renominated for Congress, will be re-elected and will be an efficient public servant for another term. (St. Louis Republic.)

Ex-Congressman W. E. (Richelieu) Robinson of Brooklyn has fully made up his mind to retire from public life.

Congressman Anderson of Illinois retires to private life at the close of this Congress.

The story that Hon. Tom Reed of Maine will retire from politics at the end of this Congress is a good deal exaggerated. It is believed that he will reside in New York city and devote himself to his law.

Congressman Folk Lafoon of Kentucky will not be a candidate for congress next year, says an agent of the party.

Under the present Democratic Administration 488 Republican bridges have been built and in their places 733 Democrats have been appointed. (N. Y. Tribune.)

Extensive preparations are being made at Augusta, Me., for Mr. Blaine's reception to-morrow evening.

Delagued by Rain.

KANSAS CITY, Mo., Aug. 13.--Saturday night the heavy rain storm of this month began and continued until 7 o'clock yesterday morning. Little damage was done in the city, but the roads were washed out. The Mill Creek bridge on the Hannibal and St. Joe Railroad, the scene of two fatal wrecks this year, was again washed out. It was discovered in time to prevent accident.

IN CONGRESS TO-DAY.

The Senate Wants to Know About Those Overhead Wires.

INFORMATION WANTED IMMEDIATELY.

The Rock Creek Park Bill Antagonized in the House.

In the Senate to-day Mr. Faulkner asked that the adverse report made last Friday upon the bill increasing the pay of attendants at the Insane Asylum be reconsidered and the bill recommitted to the Committee on the District of Columbia.

Mr. Edmunds suggested consideration and adoption of a resolution calling upon the Commissioners to inform the Senate at once whether any permits had been issued since January 1 for the erection of overhead electric wires in the District, and if so, upon what authority.

Mr. Edmunds stated that his attention had been called by several articles in the newspapers the past few days regarding a permit which the Commissioners had issued for overhead wires in the District, and he was under the impression that it was clearly the wish of Congress that all overhead wires, and especially those of a sectional line, should be powerful current should go, and this resolution was to stop any further step in this direction.

Mr. Edmunds took occasion to explain the resolution offered by him last week calling for certain correspondence between the Attorney-General and the supervisor of electrical lines in New York City, in which he understood the Department of Justice had given the supervisor to understand that although he had ten days before the statute in question, the registration he could receive pay for only five days. If this were true Mr. Edmunds wanted to know by what authority such a notification had been issued.

The Senate then went into open executive session upon the Fisheries treaty, and Mr. Jackson of Pennsylvania was opposed to the ratification.

HOUSE.

Mr. Lawler of Illinois introduced a bill in the House to-day to amend the Interstate Commerce act.

Mr. Holman, a resolution to discharge the War Claims Commission from further consideration of the bill to equalize soldiers' bounties and setting a day for its consideration.

Mr. Ford, a resolution to appropriate \$5,000 out of the House contingent fund for the use of the special committee charged with the immigration investigation. Referred to the Committee on Accounts.

Mr. Buchanan had read an extract from the New York Herald regarding the administration with importing from England betting for printing purposes. He introduced a resolution directing the Committee on Printing to investigate the matter.

Several other bills and resolutions of minor importance were introduced and referred, after which Mr. Hoar, chairman of the District Committee, was recognized.

The first bill called up was the bill to condemn land on Rock Creek for park purposes. Mr. Jackson of Pennsylvania was opposed to the bill.

Mr. Henniphal and Mr. Heard both explained the bill, and Mr. Hoar, chairman of the District Committee, was recognized.

Mr. Cannon antagonized the measure vigorously. It would result in the expenditure of \$2,500,000 to \$3,000,000. The District had plenty of parks. He favored liberal appropriations in beautifying the city, but thought the time had come when the streets in the eastern and western sections of the city should be improved. Parks outside the city could be dispensed with for a while longer.

Mr. Atkinson made a strong plea in favor of the bill.

Mr. Stockdale opposed the bill, but was inclined to favor the Zoological Garden proposed by the Senate.

Particulars, was finally recommitted at Mr. Henniphal's request.

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THE AMERICAN PARTY.

The First National Convention to be Held To-morrow.

The first national convention of the new American party will be held to-morrow in the G. A. R. Hall on the Avenue, opposite Willard's. It is expected that 400 delegates will be in attendance. The headquarters of the California delegation are in room 12 at Willard's. The first American party platform for California. The following California delegates arrived at the Edgett last night: J. M. Monday, Victor G. Johnson, C. N. Wilson, Dr. Henry L. Curtis, Dr. L. S. Rogers, J. M. Cunniff, and C. M. Brewster.

As fast as the delegates arrive they report to the office of the Executive Committee, 215 F street.

It is the intention of the new party to nominate a National ticket, and to accept one place in the field electoral tickets in every State. The leaders claim that the American party will draw largely from both parties and will wipe out the sectional line.

All that is expected this year is a mere showing of hands. Four years from now they hope to do better.

Senator Stanford, General Negley and Senator Hearst are spoken of as possible nominees, but the name of Mayor Hewitt of New York is the most prominent. Mr. Wigginton remarked in discussing the matter that Mr. Hewitt had written when asked if he would accept of any office of any office, and that he would not accept of any office, and that he would not accept of any office, and that he would not accept of any office.

The one plank favored above all by the Californians is in effect that no non-resident alien can own property in the United States, and that no one shall be allowed to accept one within certain prescribed limits. It is said that one-eighth of Texas, one-sixth of Colorado, more than one-tenth of Wyoming and about one-fourth of Utah are now owned by Englishmen. One hundred and twenty-five thousand acres of the richest land in the world is owned by Englishmen. It is said that one-eighth of Texas, one-sixth of Colorado, more than one-tenth of Wyoming and about one-fourth of Utah are now owned by Englishmen.

There is no intention to interfere with any one's right to own property, but to stop the wholesale immigration of those whose presence will be a positive burden and detriment to the country.

The restriction of undesirable immigration. The amendment of the Constitution of the United States restricting the elective franchise to white males, which began in the East the work of the American party, has issued the following declaration of principles: "We believe in the right of every citizen to stop the wholesale immigration of those whose presence will be a positive burden and detriment to the country."

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A TERRIBLE ACCIDENT.

Two Trains Ditched Near Port Jervis, New York.

VALUABLE HORSES BELONGING TO MRS. LANGTRY AND FRED. GETHARD BURNED.

PORT JERVIS, N. Y., Aug. 13.--A washout occurred on the Erie Railroad, near Washout, at an early hour this morning. An eastbound freight was wrecked and the cars smashed. The engine, Mr. Price, and the fireman, G. Hoggan, sustained injuries in the head, and the conductor, Fred. Long, in the back. The westbound express train came along about the same time and was thrown down an eighty-foot embankment. Efforts were made to flag the train, but proved unsuccessful. The cars caught fire and were totally burned. The fireman's express train and the narrow-gauge train was caught in the wreck and burned. Many of the passengers sustained injuries. They are: KILLED.

ALEXANDER NEWMAN, fireman, burned to death.

JOHN KINSELLA, engineer, believed to be fatally injured.

JOHN GANSON, one of the crew, badly cut.

A. C. BOYNTON, mail clerk, slightly injured.

J. B. BROWN, mail clerk, slightly injured.

JAMES MONTAGNA, fireman, serious injuries about head.

THOMAS DECKER, broken leg.

JOHN JACKSON, brakeman, badly injured.

THOMAS MCCLELLON, slightly injured.

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MRS. HANNA SLATER, slightly injured.

MRS. PAULIN, injured about face and legs.

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